Zoya Cherkassky | Soviet Childhood
4.10.18-10.11.18

Rosenfeld Gallery pleased to announce the opening of a solo exhibition and the launching of the book "Soviet Childhood" by Zoya Cherkassky. The exhibition and the book allow the viewer a glimpse into the social reality of the Soviet Union in its last years. The book includes about 100 paintings, in small formats on paper, created by Cherkassky during the last five years.

"I made a series of drawings on Soviet childhood while I was expecting the birth of my daughter Vera. As I thought about her, I recalled my own childhood. I wanted to express the most characteristic moments of everyday life situations, at a time when Soviet esthetics still dominated the public space and yet the "pernicious influence of the West" seeped profusely through the Iron Curtain. As a child, I was very attracted to unofficial culture like rock or punk. Some information about them became more or less available in the years of perestroika. My drawings often show the situation when Soviet culture meets Western culture and blends with it. Accuracy in every historic detail was very important for me, and I was glad to see people from the last generation of Soviet pioneers recognize themselves, their families, and things from their childhood. I considered it important to show the Soviet Union as I remember it and leave an evidence of the time that will never come back. (Zoya Cherkassky, 2018)"

"[...] The social-cultural puzzle, which her art skillfully depicts, is neither a blind idealization nor a blunt condemnation of Soviet civilization. Her sketches, rendered in a naive and cartoonish style that corresponds with the tradition of social realism, are straightforward,
sarcastic and colorful. The striking historical accuracy and incredible attention to the details of the artifacts reveals scrupulous and solid background research of the highest academic standard, which goes beyond personal memories. (Prof. Dmitry Adamsky, School of Government, Diplomacy and Strategy, IDC Herzliya)

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