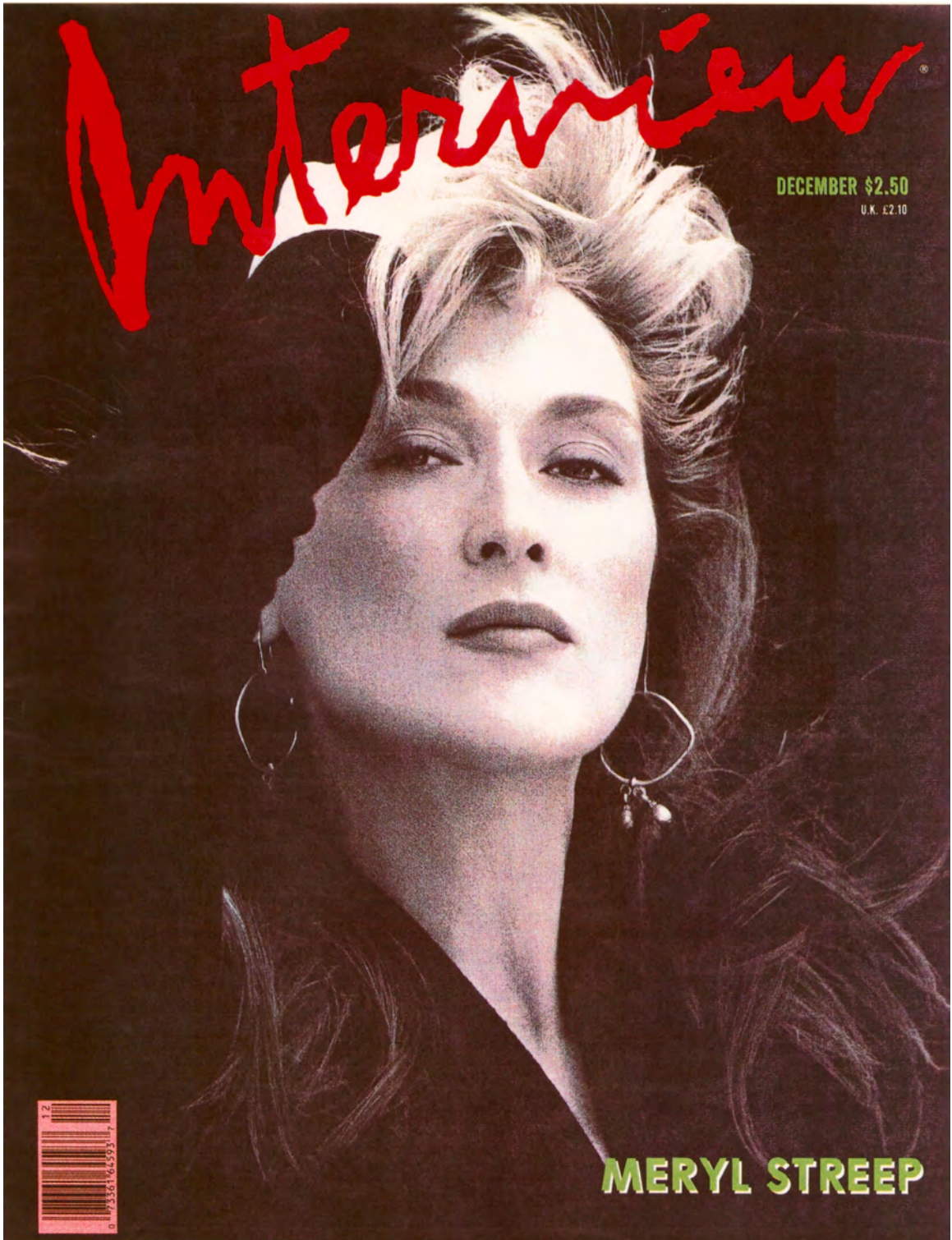


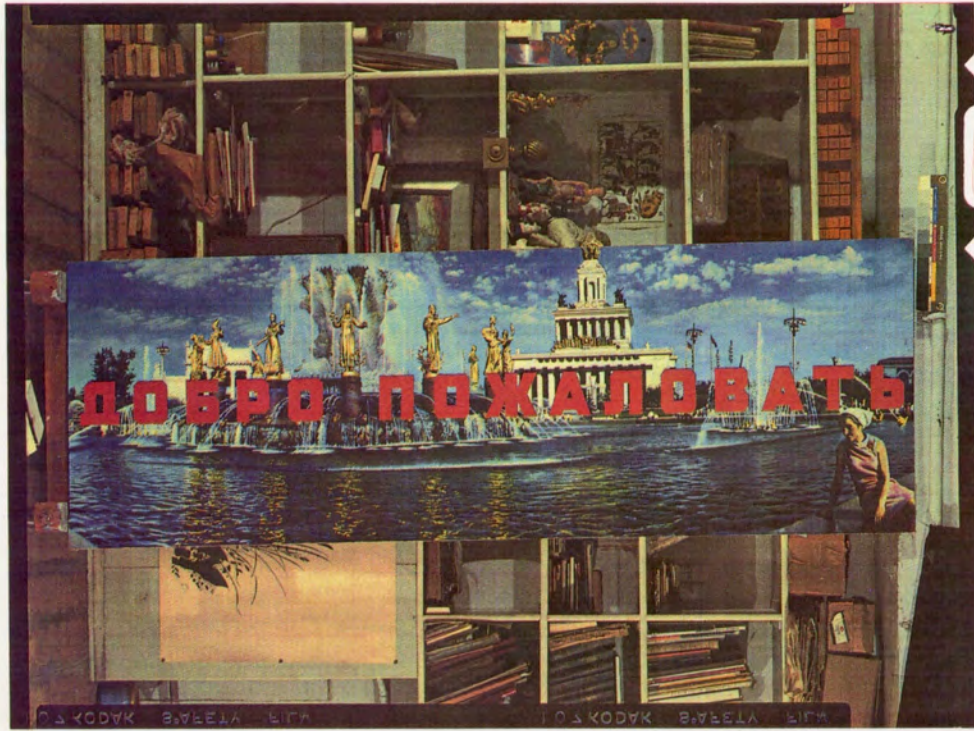
Interview

DECEMBER \$2.50
U.K. £2.10



MERYL STREEP





Erik Bulatov, *Billowere*, 1973-74, oil on canvas, courtesy of Phyllis Kind Gallery, New York

erik bulatov

Born 1933 in Sverdlovsk; graduated 1958 from Surikov Fine Arts Institute; lives and works in Moscow. The Russian Ruscha, Bulatov often combines landscapes with large, bold lettering. Leading practitioner in Moscow of "Sots art" ("Sots" is short for Socialist) by exposing the ambiguity of an ideological environment through direct repetition of its stereotypes and commonplaces. Many paintings are precise representations of streets, political leaders, and slogans—mere depictions of a reality immersed in ideology. Retrospective now touring Europe (Zurich, Frankfurt, Bonn, Amsterdam, Paris). At opening in Zurich—his first exhibit in the West—Bulatov commented with awe, "I've never seen so many of my paintings hanging together in one room."



Ivan Choukov, *Fragment No. 7*, 1982, oil on wood, courtesy of the artist.

ivan choukov

Born 1935 in Moscow; graduated 1960 from Surikov Fine Arts Institute; member of Artists' Union since 1968; lives and works in Moscow. Signature style is long-running series of *Fragments*, in which he quotes from art history, Socialist realist masterpieces, and own earlier works—focusing on small area of given work and then enlarging it many times on wood. In *fragment selected*, painting as painting is usually most prominent feature. He sees not the beauty in nature but the beauty in art. Choukov is one of very few Soviet artists who can explain the philosophical precepts of his art in good English.

eduard gorokhovskiy

Fifty-nine-year-old Ukrainian; graduate of Odessa Construction Institute, Architecture Department; lives and works in Moscow. Uses traditional Russian genre of family portrait in color etching technique synthesizes experiments of American photo-realists, elite European retro, and metaphysics of "Russian Idea." Manipulates turn-of-century photographs, in which personages become stewardesses, athletes, tins, airplanes, etc.; female portraits link him to philosophers and poets of Russia's Silver Age for ideal image of Eternal Femininity. Also executed series of pornographic etchings.



E. Gorokhovskiy, *Untitled*, 1983, oil on canvas, courtesy of Phipps Kinsal Gallery, New York

leonid purygin

Little is known about this artist, but Sotheby's saw fit to include him in their Moscow auction. His works are primitive, folkloric, iconographic, and mystical—in two words, very Russian. He is self-taught by necessity: "Eight times I tried to get into the 1905 Art School, and eight times I was turned down—but I have no regrets."



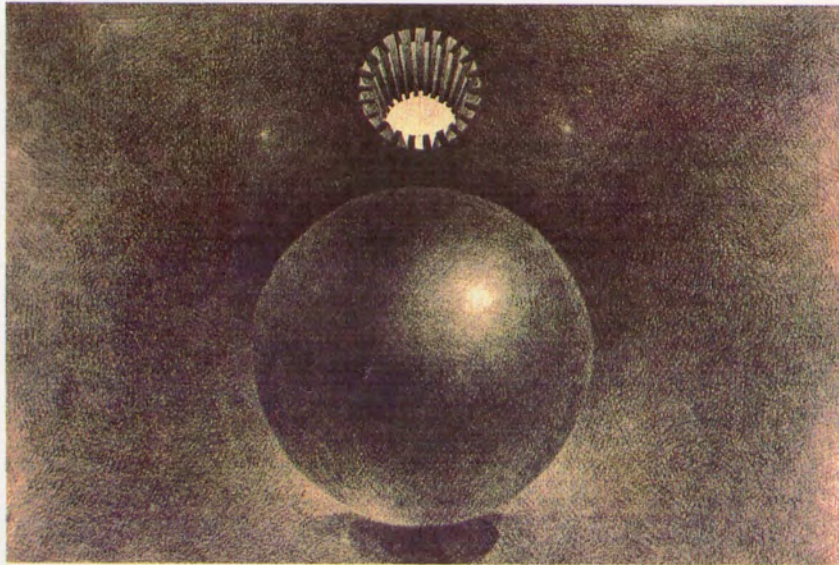
В том времени из жизни вышедшей женщины, которая была очень красивой, но в то же время была очень грубой и жестокой. Она была очень красивой, но в то же время была очень грубой и жестокой. Она была очень красивой, но в то же время была очень грубой и жестокой.

Leonid Purygin, *Pyro*, 1985, oil on canvas inscribed with a long text by the artist on the execution of this painting on the artist's own frame, courtesy of Sotheby's, New York



l'afrique

AFRIKA—REAL NAME, SERGEY BUGAEV—IS A PROMINENT FIXTURE IN LENINGRAD'S BURGEONING ART SCENE. A RENAISSANCE PUNK, AFRIKA NOT ONLY PERFORMS WITH POPULAR MECHANICS BUT ALSO HAS STARRED IN FILMS AND MADE A NAME FOR HIMSELF AS ONE OF THE COUNTRY'S YOUNG ARTISTS.



Dmitri Prigov, *Light and Darkness*, 1980, ink on paper, collection of the artist

dmitri prigov

Born in 1940. Grew up in Moscow; graduated in 1967 from Sculpture Department of Moscow Art Institute; member of Artists' Union since 1975; lives and works in Moscow. In 1987, series of thirty pen-and-ink drawings (*Bestiary*) exhibited at Chicago International Art Fair and purchased by Evehjem Museum at University of Wisconsin/Madison. Many of Prigov's works combine literature and visual arts, graphic poetry, manipulable objects, or poetic/musical performances. The most prolific living Russian poet—to date he has penned more than 11,000 poems. Favorite subjects: cockroaches, Soviet militiamen, and Ronald Reagan.



From Kozlovskii and Afrika, *A Painting of Exemplary Quality*, 1987, acrylic on canvas, courtesy of Red Wave, Los Angeles

africa (sergey bogaev)

Twenty-two-year-old from Novorossiisk; lives and works in Leningrad. As musician, actor, and artist Afrika is cynosure of Leningrad vanguard. Plays drums in rock group Popular Mechanics; had leading role in 1987 cinema hit *Assa* (word "Assa" has become password among Leningrad hipsters). These days Afrika is concerned mainly with painting. Believes that the time necessary for completing any artwork should be divisible by 60 seconds. Chairman of the Club of Friends of Mayakovsky, officer in New Artistic Association, and academician in the New Academy of Art.

igor kopystiansky

Born in Lvov, Ukraine, in 1954; graduate of Lvov Institute of Applied and Decorative Arts; lives and works in Lvov. Along with wife, Svetlana, who makes "text-objects," had first exhibition in United States at New York's Phyllis Kind Gallery, ending November 11. He creates destroyed pictures, restored pictures, diptychs, constructions, interiors, and compact exhibitions. The restored pictures recall the Starn Twins. Since he is off the beaten path in Lvov, is it possible that he knew about their work beforehand? Or did Kopystiansky and the Starns spontaneously combust simultaneously half-worlds apart? "I produce things out of items already fashioned. I create new contexts and play with art, which for me is a game of the spirit and intellect on the highest level."