

MEDIA RELEASE
September 17, 2007

KLOMPCHING
GALLERY

Motherland Simon Roberts

October 24–December 23, 2007

GALLERY LAUNCH & OPENING RECEPTION:

Wednesday, October 24th, 6pm–9pm

KLOMPCHING GALLERY is pleased to announce its upcoming launch with *Motherland*, an exhibition of photographs by UK photographer, **Simon Roberts**.

Motherland is a remarkable photo-essay about contemporary Russia, photographed by Roberts when he undertook a year-long journey across the country between July 2004 and August 2005. Photographed fifteen years after the collapse of the Soviet Union, *Motherland* is a comprehensive project that presents an intimate portrait of a unique and complex country.

This is a significant and resolved body of work, in which the clichéd view of a poverty-stricken post-communist Russia is dispelled. Roberts presents a diversity of people, united in a shared confidence in their future against a backdrop of awe-inspiring landscapes. He successfully employs traditional documentary values with a contemporary approach to his image making. *Motherland* is, ultimately, an important photographic record about a place and people at a very particular point in time.

Simon Roberts has been widely published, including *Details*, *Esquire*, *The Guardian*, *Le Monde*, *Time*, *Der Spiegel* and *The Sunday Times*. In December 2006



Motherland No. 2, Identical Twins, Elena and Vera Karnova, Magadan, Far East Russia, August 2004. © Simon Roberts

he was listed by the *Independent Magazine* as one of the UK's rising stars for 2007. Roberts is the recipient of several awards including the Magenta Foundation Bright Spark Award (Toronto 2006), a Getty Images Photojournalism Award (2006), *PDN's 30* (2004) and the Ian Parry Scholarship (London, 1998). His work has been exhibited at Paris Photo, Photo London and Lianzhou Photo Festival in China. Collections holding his work include the Deutsche Borse Art Collection.

A monograph of *Motherland* was published by Chris Boot in March 2007.

For orders visit www.chrisboot.com

Copies will be available for sale in the gallery.

An in-conversation between Simon Roberts and **Darius Himes**, Editor of *photo-eye Booklist*, will take place on November 1st, at 6pm.

For more information or for press images, please contact Debra Klomp Ching

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KLOMPCHING GALLERY will be open Wednesday–Saturday, 11am–6pm.

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