

St Petersburg  
August 22, 2019

**PRESS-RELEASE**

**Revision St. Petersburg Book Festival  
New Holland Island  
5–8 SEPTEMBER 2019**

From September 5 to 8, the second St. Petersburg international book festival, *Revision*, is taking place at New Holland Island. *Revision* is an intellectual literature fair and a big city celebration with an extensive events program. *Revision* is organized by the *New Holland: cultural urbanization project*.

This year, the fair of intellectual and children's literature from large and independent publishers is happening in the courtyard of the *Bottle House* and there will be a parallel educational program at various venues on the island. Among the key events at *Revision* are the premiere of the first documentary about Vladimir Sorokin *Sorokin Trip*, with the participation of authors Anton Zhelnov and Yuri Saprykin, and a speech from the leading French sociologist Luc Boltanski - *Reality against reality: a study of political metaphysics in the twentieth century*. Included in the festival's extensive program there are also round tables, lectures, poetry panels, film screenings, discussions, book presentations, meetings with authors and a series of discussions in the *Vodka Room*.

The second series of *Petersburg Text* books, which bring together St. Petersburg authors from different genres who have created the mythology of the city in the 20th century, are being printed especially for the festival. This year, among them will be the writer Leonid Dobychin, literary critic Tatyana Nikolskaya, as well as film critic Sergei Dobrotvorsky. Separately, a reference map of St. Petersburg bookstores and a book in Braille will be published in collaboration with the State Library for the Blind and Visually Impaired.

The theme of the second *Revision* festival is *Reality outside itself* and the return of magical consciousness to actuality. This process is associated with the crisis of big ideas, disappointment in the prospects of the future and a break with a centuries-old cultural tradition that can no longer describe the new world. The *Revision Festival* explores the cultural potential of this gap, which has its own distinct life: the metaphysical undercurrent of the modern world, which replaces religious and scientific traditions for new people.

The festival's mission is to create a platform for the first international book festival in St. Petersburg and bring together not only leading publishers of intellectual literature and independent bookshops, but also various city initiatives that work in cultural education and production.

*Curators of the festival: Konstantin Shavlovsky, Anna Izakar, Sasha Akhmadshchina.*

*Free admission. Additional information can be found at [www.newhollandsp.com](http://www.newhollandsp.com)*

*New Holland: Cultural Urbanization*  
New Holland Island  
Admiralteysky Canal 2  
St Petersburg  
[www.newhollandsp.com](http://www.newhollandsp.com)  
[info@newhollandsp.com](mailto:info@newhollandsp.com)  
+7 (812) 245 20 35

Instagram: @newhollandisland  
Facebook: @NewHollandSP  
Vkontakte: /newhollandsp

*\*Questions on cultural programme, project of island restoration and adaptation: [pr@newhollandsp.com](mailto:pr@newhollandsp.com),  
tel. +7 906 268 83 18*

*\*Questions on investment contract: John Mann at [john.mann@millhouse.ru](mailto:john.mann@millhouse.ru)*

ANO NEW HOLLAND  
190000, Russia, Saint Petersburg, Admiralteysky Canal Embankment, 2  
**[www.newhollandsp.com](http://www.newhollandsp.com)**

**NEW HOLLAND: CULTURAL URBANIZATION**

In 2010, *New Holland Development*, an affiliate of Roman Abramovich's company *Millhouse, LLC*, won the tender for the restoration and renovation of New Holland Island, with the goal of creating a mixed-use complex that will serve as one of the epicenters of cultural life not only for St Petersburg, but for Russia as a whole. To help determine the concept and creative direction of the island's development, *Millhouse* turned to the *Iris Foundation*, a non-commercial initiative for the support and advancement of contemporary culture and art, launched by Daria Zhukova. This collaboration resulted in *New Holland: Cultural Urbanization*, a fresh approach to the restructuring and modernization of the territory, a monument of cultural and national historical significance. Following the success of the seasonal programs, the project investors decided not to proceed with the original plan to clear the territory to construct a new building. Instead, they chose to organize a full-fledged city park, complete with a modern and convenient infrastructure, which each and every person could find his or her place. The island continues to host cultural programs as well as grand-scale civic initiatives. Future plans for the development of the territory include not only commercial enterprises, but also cultural and educational institutions, research laboratories, and exhibition spaces, whose programming will be overseen by emerging specialists. *New Holland: Cultural Urbanization* helps recruit a team of architects, designers, and urban planners, as well as provide the cultural content for the island's programming and participate in the selection of partners and operators. In August 2016, the first phase of the project came to completion, with the launch of New Holland's park zone, and the island begin to operate all year long. As of now, three historical buildings have been restored: the Foundry, the Commandant's House and the *Bottle House*.