

## Past Future Perfect

by Chris Osburn

### *Past Future Perfect*

#### Calvert 22

22 Calvert Avenue, , London E2 7JP, United Kingdom

13 May 2009 - 16 June 2009

Calvert 22, London's first not-for-profit foundation specializing in Russian and Eastern European art, recently opened with *Past Future Perfect*, an exhibition which brings together selected works by five of Russia's leading contemporary artists: Alexander Brodsky, Pavel Pepperstein, Haim Sokol, Leonid Tishkov, and Stanislav Volyaslovsky. Despite differences in style and media, the artists represented in this inaugural exhibition appear to draw inspiration from a common desire to excavate all collective past while plunging head first into fantastic and refreshingly improbable futures reserved solely for individuals.



Of all the impressive works in the show, I was drawn most to the graphic-rich comic book-y "Dabloids" of Leonid Tishkov. I also really appreciated Pavel Pepperstein's *Swastika and Pentagon* series (especially No. 22 which features a kneeling Nazi officer giving a BJ to a stoic Russian Orthodox priest). But to be honest, all the pieces in this excellent collection were well worth a look, and I was genuinely touched by all the pieces I viewed.

**Calvert 22** is located at 22 Calvert Avenue (E2 7JP) and is open 10am to 6pm Wednesday to Saturday and on Sundays from 11am - 5pm.

-- Chris Osburn

All Images Courtesy the Artists and Calvert 22, London

Images from Top to Bottom: ( Installation View of Past Future Perfect, Calvert 22, Photo by: Stephen White; Leonid Tishkov, *The Knitting*, 2002, Photo by: Franc Herfort, © The Artist.)