

Contents

Act I: Reality Show Russia

- A City Living in Fast-Forward 3
- No Complexes 9
- A Hero for Our Times 22
- Russia Today 41
- Hello-Goodbye 60
- The Heights of Creation 76

Act II: Cracks in the Kremlin Matrix

- Then You Wake Up and My God
You're a Convict 93
- Another Russia 123
- Initiations 136
- Midsummer Night's Dreams 151

Act III: Forms of Delirium

- The Lost Girls 165
- A Brief History of Sects in Post-Soviet
Russia 208
- The Call of the Void 223
- Offshore 237
- Nothing Is True and Everything
Is Possible 268

Acknowledgements 283