The exhibition begins with a series entitled “Chronicles of Resistance.” In 2012, thousands of people turned up at rallies in Moscow to oppose the government, and Lomasko didn’t miss a single protest. At these events she executed “meeting portraits” on the spot, modeling her work on the graphic reportage of the first Russian Revolution in 1905.

The protests of 2012 ended in further government repressions, and numerous political trials took place between 2012 and 2014. Of these trials, the most talked about were the proceedings against Pussy Riot and the “Balotnoe delo,” in which charges were brought against 30 or so protesters selected at random from those who attended the massive anti-government demonstration in Bolotnaya Square, Moscow.

There are no professional courtroom sketch artists in Russia, so Lomasko took it upon herself to portray these and other political trials. Her drawings were then circulated by way of various social media networks as well as by the anarchist newspaper *Volya (Freedom)*. Lomasko also became the co-curator of “Drawing the Court,” a project that has created an archive of court sketches by artists working in the post-Soviet space.

In the Russia of 2015 and 2016, resistance tended to take place at a more local level. The most significant of these civil initiatives in Moscow were the encampments of long-distance truck drivers and the defenders of “Torfyanka Park.” You can learn about these protest actions in Lomasko’s illustrated newspaper, *Dal’noyobshchiki, Torfyanka i Dubki.*

This exhibition hopes to give at least a partial answer to the question of how a secular and democratic society—as Russia was in the 1990s—can descend into reactionary politics, and to suggest what might be done to reverse course.