

21 August 2013

Maria Averbakh
Festival Director
St. Petersburg International Film Festival

c/o Elena Baranova
Right Magic Films Inc.
6715 Hollywood Blvd. Suite 210
LA, CA 90068

Re: St. Petersburg International Film Festival / "Guest of Honor" Invitation

Dear Ms. Averbakh:

Thank you for your kind invitation. As someone who has enjoyed visiting Russia in the past and can also claim a degree of Russian ancestry, it would make me happy to say yes.

However, as a gay man, I must decline.

I am deeply troubled by the current attitude toward and treatment of gay men and women by the Russian government. The situation is in no way acceptable, and I cannot in good conscience participate in a celebratory occasion hosted by a country where people like myself are being systematically denied their basic right to live and love openly.

Perhaps, when and if circumstances improve, I'll be free to make a different choice.

Until then.

Wentworth Miller

Member, **HRC**
Member, **GLAAD**
Member, **The ManKind Project**

cc. Tammara Billik, **HRC**
Megan Townsend, **GLAAD**
Seth Adam, **GLAAD**
Jennifer Allen, **Viewpoint**
Joanne Wiles, **ICM Partners**