RUSSIAN ART + CULTURE

WINTER GUIDE

RUSSIAN ART WEEK, LONDON ■ 22 -29 NOVEMBER 2019

Sotheby's EST. 1744

KONSTANTIN YUON
The Ancient Town of Uglich, 1913 (detail)
Estimate £600,000–800,000*

Property of an American collector
An important silver-gilt, cloisonné and pictorial enamel casket, Feodor Rückert, Moscow, 1908-1917
Estimate £100,000–150,000*

Russian Pictures
& Russian Works of Art, Fabergé & Icons
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* Buyers are liable to pay both the hammer price (as estimated above) and the buyer's premium together with any applicable taxes and Artist's Resale Right (which will depend on the individual circumstances). Refer to the Buying at Auction and VAT sections at the back of the catalogue for the relevant sale for further information.

RUSSIAN ART+CULTURE

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Above: *Boris Nikolaevich Ermolaev, Girlfriends, 1962, Lithograph from the Estorik collection, 44.5 x 55 cm*

Cover: *Maria Prymachenko, Poppies (detail), 1967, Gouache on paper, 62 x 86 cm*

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WELCOME

The 2019 winter auctions of Russian Art are, as always, something of a mixed bag. There is a stellar painting by Ivan Kliun at Sotheby's, Christie's are showing a first-class Roerich and Macdougall's have unearthed a superb oil by Boris Kustodiev.

The pickings are, regrettably, a little thin on the ground reflecting a period of stagnation in the market in Russia though not necessarily in the West. Sotheby's recent online sale of non-conformist art in New York was a runaway success and whilst demand is always there, supply is short. There are, of course, work by the 'usual suspects', Aivasovsky, Yuon and good non-conformist work but the market does appear slightly flat at present.

Nonetheless, we plough on and, to celebrate the opening of Russian Art week, we are putting on a joint exhibition with Malabart of the work of Maria Prymachenko, Grigor Kruk and Tetiana Yablonska at Shapero, our long-trusted friends. All three artists have the distinction of crossing the entire 20th century which has shaped their art in various forms. It could be argued that all are, or were at one time, revolutionary before the onset of a stricter world and the exhibition represents a good chance to view the work of three artists, relatively unknown outside their homelands, who deserve a wider audience.

As always, the period between June and November has flown by and the world of Russian Culture remains as vibrant as ever. It always staggers me the level of interest, and indeed attendance, of any ballet, opera, or theatrical event, be it Russian, be it Western by my countrymen and England has always provided such opportunities in spades.

Wishing you a wonderful and productive Russian Art Week.

Natasha Butterwick
natasha@russianartandculture.com

RUSSIAN ART+CULTURE
The world's leading platform for Russian art and cultural events.

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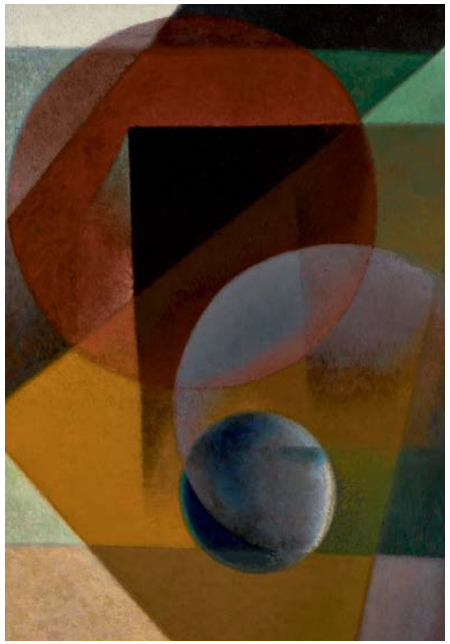
The contents of this guide are believed to be correct at the time of printing. Nevertheless, the authors, publishers and directors of **Russian Art + Culture** *shall not be liable for loss or harm of any kind which may arise or result from any errors, inaccuracies or omissions.*

RA+C SALES PREVIEW OCTOBER 2019 – James Butterwick

I have a Confession. I have sinned. I have erred from the woke like a lost sheep...

Whilst many of my ever-diminishing readership will think that I thoroughly deserve it, I have recently become a victim of the woke crowd and thus, from now on, all my reviews, utterances, even exclamations will be subject to the most rigorous censorship. Whilst this gives me the distinct advantage of finally knowing how felt a writer in (whisper it quietly, totalitarian) Soviet Russia in 1948, my rear quarters are still smarting. Someone old enough to be my great granddaughter brought me wailing before the Grand Vizier and I have been castigated. Luckily, I saw the error of my ways, have bent the knee before the baying crowd and am a changed man. Jollity begone! Forsooth flippancy! Bring on the grey, as many shades as you think appropriate which, as the sky outside is a bizarre slate colour, brings me conveniently onto this winter's auctions of Russian Art.

In truth, a concept with which I am clearly an ever-more distant relation, the auctions are about as grey as the skies outside though there is a light of such celestial brilliance that I struggle to find the mots justes. This winter, 2019, the London auctions of Russian Art are



I. Kliun
Spherical Suprematism
est. £2,500,000 - £3,500,000

headed by a Kliun from the Costakis collection. Actually, let me re-phrase that. This winter, 2019, the London auctions of Russian Art

are headed by Kliun of such mega, out-there brilliance, that we might as well all pack up and go home. Best picture to come up at Russian Art Week for years? Go on! Tell me I'm wrong!

Indeed, it's pretty difficult to find anything at the four auction houses that even holds a candle to this masterpiece. The summer was bad enough with the KPV going tonto, but this winter (do we still have a winter or are we heading into the dark abyss, taking Greta with us?) is worse. Far worse. At least we had a bit of padding in the summer but now.

Now...

I make no secret of my fondness for the Russian avant garde, a movement of utter brilliance that could, and should, have influenced Western European Art for centuries but the fact that **Sotheby's** have resurrected a major Kliun oil, last seen at auction in 1990, is a considerable coup. It has the required red-hot provenance, George Costakis and, purely visually, is one to treasure. The estimate £2,500,000-£3,500,000 is attractive, serious collectors will be lining up, but will it fetch as much as the KPV? I'm hedging my bets. Call Ladbrokes!

I also make no secret of my admiration for **Macdougall's** and how they have shaken up the market. They always seem to come up with one or two masterpieces though I don't always agree with their estimates. This winter their star painting is one of those evocative, autumnal landscapes of provincial Russia by Boris Kustodiev that one really should not like, but simply cannot help oneself. '*Autumn. The Student's Farewell*' is, for want of a better word, so blinking 'Russian'. Lyrical, poignant, you feel the student is off, not to some rosy future, but to an unstable world, a world of intellectual torpor and to a life untenable. It reminds me of a P.G. Wodehouse quote about Russian literature which I will not share in a family magazine such as this. The provenance rocks too. The Kapitsa Family. It is the Chelsea of Russian Art Week. The Kliun is Liverpool and Man City combined.

Kustodiev, Boris
Autumn. The Student's Farewell, signed and dated 1923.
est. £1,500,000 - £2,000,000

Macdougall's have always supported, much to their credit, the market for non-conformists and have sold a number of great works over the years, 15 to be precise, and are celebrating their anniversary. In offering written congratulations - I have always found

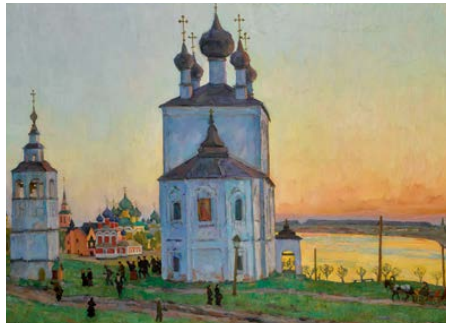
the Ice/Fire combo of Mr and Mrs MackyD. one to admire – I cannot but pass comment on a wonderful Oleg Vassiliev and a terrific Mikhail Shvartsmann that they are offering for sale. This market is so undervalued. Let's get it back!

Natalia Goncharova
Landscape Birch Trees,
est. £120,000 - £150,000

Other highlights include a large Goncharova of a Spanish woman that, in my opinion, carries too high an estimate. The painting lacks the panache of her earlier representations of Espagnoles, is too flat and slightly predictable. It is, on the other hand, a statement painting, enormous in size, 165 high, and certainly commercial. They are also selling a KPV oil, clearly not a patch on 'THE' still life but one that I remember from my days dealing in Moscow back in the 20th century.

Bonhams are unfortunate in being, essentially, last in the queue for Russian paintings but, nonetheless, one has to be objective. The early Goncharova landscape they are offering really is mega-dull, despite a glowing adjective of 'visionary' (in its Spinal Tap sense of the word?) attached to the artists' status in the Press blurb. It is, however, a veritable masterpiece when stood next to a Larionov portrait on offer which, regrettably, sits at the opposite end of the spectrum to the Kliun. I have had many a fierce debate with Russian friends as to the merits of these two artists, always coming down in favour of the female, but such debates turn nasty when I disparage Larry for turning thoroughly second-rate the moment he crossed the French border. Gonchy at least waited a few years before her output sank. There can be no greater evidence than the late Larionov at Bonhams. Depicting a lady who must be an Arsenal season-ticket holder, it is drab, depressing and, if anything, third-rate. The estimate is reassuringly low - watch it fly... I'm hardly accurate in my predictions...

M. Larionov
Landscape (The Orchard)
est. £400,000 - £600,000



K. Yuon
The Ancient Town of Uglich
est. £600,000 - £800,000

By way of a contrast, **Sotheby's** have an early Larionov 'Orchard' with a £400,000 - £600,000 estimate. It's in the sub-pointilliste style beloved of the artist's early work and has those qualities of movement and dynamism that can be a feature of the period. Sotheby's are also selling an important Yuon landscape of Uglich with all the bells and whistles. I counted 17 cupolas and 3 bell towers, all set on a golden, sunset background (God help me there are a lot of sunsets in Russian Art) which, taking into account the £600,000 - £800,000 estimate is roughly £35,295 quid a cupola. I may be strung up for saying so but, unlike the Kustodiev, I have to attach the 'kitsch' adjective to the picture - it's just too pretty.....here come the, 'he's not Russian, he doesn't understand', jibes.

We also have an Aivasovsky sunset at **Christie's** but then, where would Russian Art week be without an Aivasovsky sunset? This sunset has a very attractive £300,000 - £500,000 estimate for a painting 37 x 94.5 in size and would, Ladbrokes predict, come in at £650,000.

Our chums at Christie's, fresh from winning the Eurovision Song Contest, are selling a really superb vase of the Russian North from what looks like the late-1920's early-1930's. I feel I should keep quiet about this lot in order to myself put in a cheeky bid but my objectivity remains sacred and, as I wrote, my every word is now subjected to scrutiny. It is a piece that shows the growing tendency to realist, figurative art in Soviet iconography, before the full horrors of socialist realism and at £60,000-£80,000 is in the 'bargain' category. The wonderful jagged

Soviet Porcelain vase
By the State Porcelain Factory, Leningrad,
est. £60,000 - £100,000

Nicholas Roerich
The Call of the Sun
est. £1,500,000 - £2,000,000

edges of the icebergs are set against a cobalt blue background with the Soviet plane almost incidental top right. It looks like a Roger Dean poster 50 years before Roger Dean posters, or a Lord of the Rings landscape with a Bi-Plane a few years before LOTR.

I like it, I want it, I won't get it.

Christie's also boast a wonderfully sexy portrait by Feshin of, 'a Lady painting her nails. Portrait of Mademoiselle Zhirmeau' - even the title is sexy, as is the lady's pose, gesture, and features. She has a wonderfully feline expression and that knowing look, beloved of the female sex when they just know they are spectacular. Even though the estimate of £2,000,000 - £3,000,000 is less of a turn on, I think this one could hit the heights of the Sotheby's-sold Portrait of Nadezhda Sapozhnikova which sold for £3m back in 2012. If this portrait was a cat it would positively purr... then scratch your eyes out...

Christies also have a painting connected to the Arctic wastes, an important Roerich that, were I not a cynic, I would equate with being a first visual representation of Extinction Rebellion, but perhaps less annoying. Painted in 1919, the Call of the Sun is, without doubt, a major piece with a pretty hefty estimate, £1,500,000-£2,000,000, but such is the 'statement' of the painting, at 116 x 150 cm, that I can certainly foresee a few Rooskie chequebooks being waved in its general direction. £3,250,000 hammer? Why not?

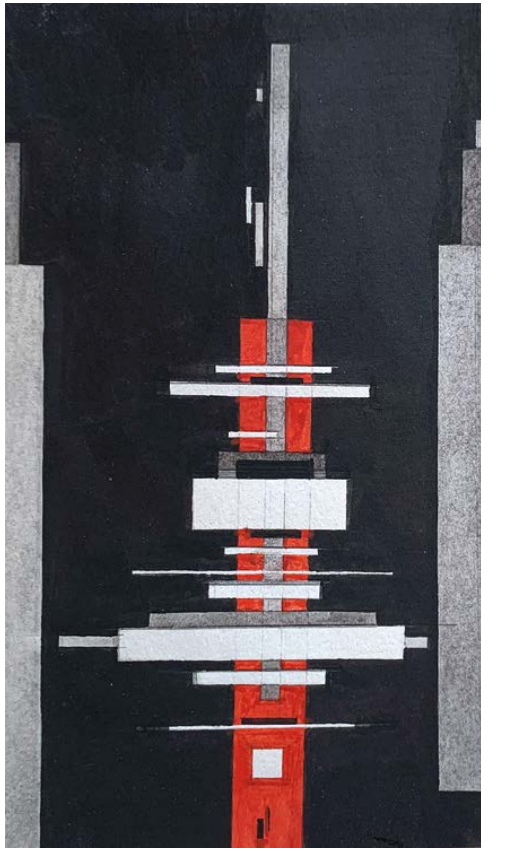
Bruun Rasmussen have an attractive vase from the Imperial Porcelain factory and a good quality sculpture of that paean to liberalism, Nicholas I. They also have a portrait by Alexei Kharlamov. The last sentence does, in effect, 'say everything' because, in my less than humble opinion, Alexei Kharlamov never painted a picture that rose above the 'total kitsch' category. Malevich claimed that art had reached the Year Zero with his Black Square. The same is true of any portrait by Kharlamov.

I have just realised that most of the above is a denial of an earlier statement that these auctions are lacking in quality, in itself a baseless sin... How I pray that Small Sister is not Watching... forgive me!

Ernest Julius Wilhelm Mehnert
Tsar Nicholas I of Russia (1796-1855)
est. €8,050 - €10,500

JAMES BUTTERWICK

RUSSIAN AND EUROPEAN FINE ARTS



Ilya Chashnik (1901-1929)
Architecton (1920's). Gouache on paper 15 x 8.2 cm

WE HAVE MOVED TO MAYFAIR

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RUSSIAN ART AUCTIONS

CHRISTIE'S

RUSSIAN ART
25 NOVEMBER | 10:30 AND 13:30

RUSSIA: IMPORTANT BOOKS AND MANUSCRIPTS
27 NOVEMBER | 13:00

VIEWINGS:
22 November: 9:00 – 16:30
23 – 24 November 12:00 – 17:00

Christie's, 8 King Street, St James's, London SW1Y 6QT
Tel: +44 (0) 20 7839 9060 **Website:** www.christies.com

Sotheby's EST. 1744

RUSSIAN PICTURES
26 NOVEMBER | 10:30
RUSSIAN WORKS OF ART, FABERGÉ AND ICONS
26 NOVEMBER | 14:30

VIEWINGS:
22 – 26 November: 9:00 – 17:00

Sotheby's, 34-35 New Bond Street, London W1A 2AA
Tel: +44 (0) 20 7293 5000 **Website:** www.sothebys.com

AUCTION SALES

RUSSIAN ART AUCTIONS

MacDougall's Fine Art Auctions

CONTEMPORARY RUSSIAN ART
25 NOVEMBER | 14:30
IMPORTANT RUSSIAN ART
27 NOVEMBER | 10:30

VIEWINGS:
23 – 26 November: 11:00 – 17:30
24 – 25 November: 11:00 – 17:30

MacDougall's, Asia House, 63 New Cavendish Street, London W1G 7LP
Tel: +44 (0) 20 7389 8160 **Website:** www.macdougallauction.com

Bonhams

THE RUSSIAN SALE
27 NOVEMBER | 15:00

VIEWINGS:
24 November: 11:00 – 15:00
25 – 26 November: 9:00 – 16:30
27 November: 9:00 – 12:00

Bonhams, 101 New Bond Street, London W1S 1SR
Tel: +44 (0) 20 7447 7447 **Website:** www.bonhams.com

RUSSIAN ART AUCTIONS

BRUUN RASMUSSEN
AUCTIONEERS OF FINE ART

THE RUSSIAN SALE
29 NOVEMBER | 14:00

VIEWINGS:
21 November: 15:00 – 18:00
22 November: 11:00 – 17:00
23 – 24 November: 11:00 – 16:00
25 November: 11:00 – 17:00

Bruun Rasmussen Auctioneers, Bredgade 33, Copenhagen, Denmark
Tel: +45 8818 1111 **Website:** www.bruun-rasmussen.com

MALAB ART RUSSIAN ART+CULTURE SHAPERO RARE BOOKS

ART IMPRESSION MALABART

The generation of artists born in the first decade of the twentieth century experienced a multitude of upheavals, all of which influenced or inspired their art. Monarchy, War, Revolution and, finally, the Soviet era forced artists to confront the realities of "Socialist Realism". This reality forced them to seek ways of surviving increased levels of ideological control in spite of a short period of political "thaw" in the late 1950's.

Ukrainian painting of the 1960s is characterised by the tendencies of social realism, of party dictates and propaganda which was intended to create a new socialist culture, a standardised and unified way of thinking. Thus, to all intents and purposes, the ideological beliefs of the creative intelligentsia were destroyed.

Maria Prymachenko (1908-1997)
Gorgove scarecrow , 1967

Tetiana Yablonska (1917-2005)
Carpathian village, 1963

Tetiana Yablonska (1917-2005)
Mother and child, 1964

Grigor Kruk (1911-1988)
Child's head

This credo, that art should be understood by the masses, resulted in heavy-handed and universal censorship. Creativity was crushed. However, among artists of that period there were creators, true to their art, whose works would become known beyond the borders of Ukraine.

Ukrainian émigré artists were, of course, free to express themselves and were not subject to the same types of psychological oppression as their counterparts in Ukraine. Despite distance from their homeland, many achieved a recognition far beyond its borders.

WINTER EVENTS

20 NOVEMBER - 22 DECEMBER
Lithography from Leningrad,
Exhibition, Eric Estorick's Adventure in Soviet Art
39 A Canonbury Square, London N12AN
Website: www.estorickcollection.com

Image Brodsky University

23 NOVEMBER - 20 DECEMBER
Recycling people
@ SAAS London
Solo exhibition of Masha Trotsky

21 NOVEMBER
Stage Russia: Count Orlov
@ Barbican Cinema
Film screening

23 NOVEMBER
Vassa
@ Almeida Theatre
New adaptation of Maxim Gorky's play

23 NOVEMBER
Uncle Vanya
@ New Wimbledon Theatre
A multi-disciplinary adaptation of Chekhov's play

23 NOVEMBER
Jamal Aliyev & Maria Tarasewicz
@ Regents Hall
Duo recital

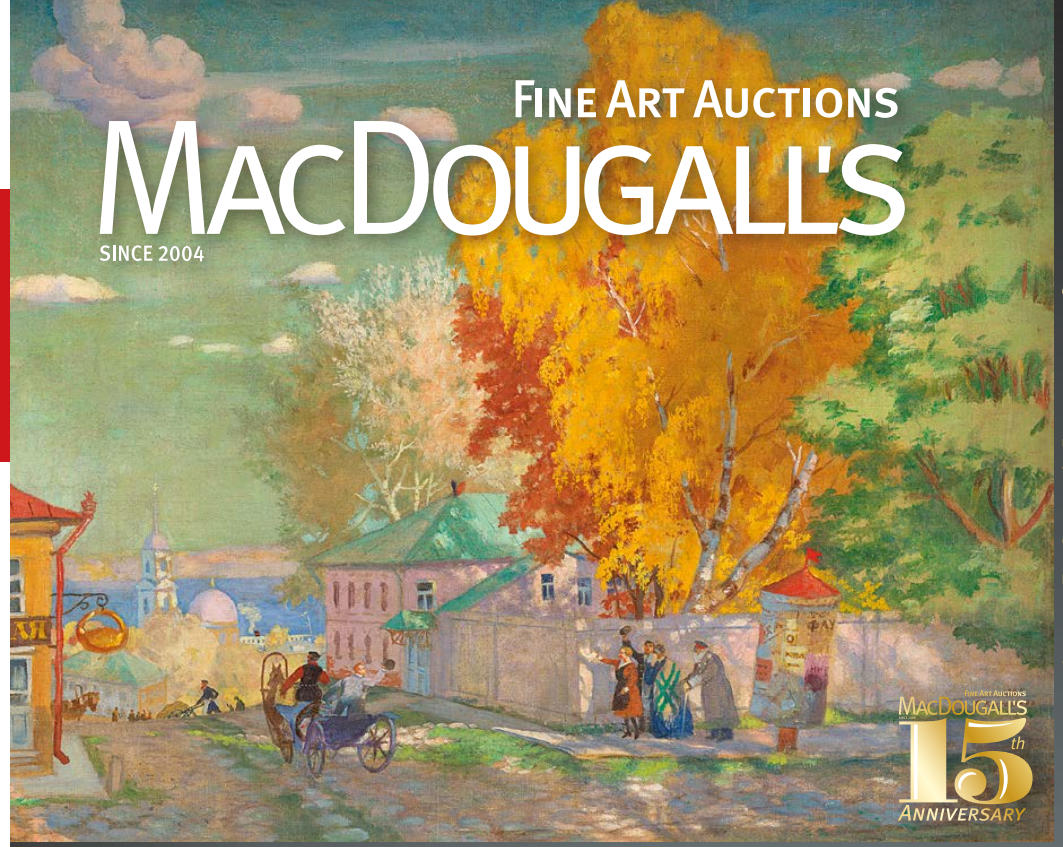
24 NOVEMBER
Forgotten gems of chamber music
@ Pushkin House
Concert by British cellist Ariana Kashefi presents sonatas by Mayakovsky and Shostakovich

24 NOVEMBER - 1 DECEMBER
Russian Film week & Golden Unicorn Awards
@ Cinemas across the UK
Film Festival showcasing the best of Russian cinema. www.russianfilmweek.org

26 NOVEMBER
An evening of Russian Sacred and Folk Music
@ Ayot St Lawrence Church
Traditional Russian choral music from St Petersburg's Voskresenye (Resurrection) Choir

Full list of events on: ***www.russianartandculture.com/calendar***

FINE ART AUCTIONS
MACDOUGALL'S
SINCE 2004



BORIS KUSTODIEV, *AUTUMN. THE STUDENT'S FAREWELL*, 1923, £1,500,000–2,000,000

CONTEMPORARY RUSSIAN ART AUCTION
25–27 NOVEMBER 2019
IMPORTANT RUSSIAN ART AUCTION

PREVIEW: 23–26 NOVEMBER 2019, 11:00–17:30
ASIA HOUSE, 63 NEW CAVENDISH ST., LONDON W1G 7LP

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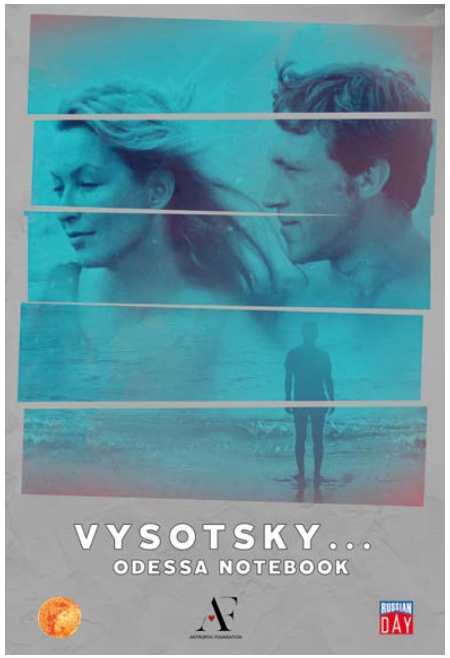
THE ANTROPOV FOUNDATION LAUNCHES ITS LONDON PREMIERE OF THE VYSOTSKY DOCUMENTARY... ODESSA NOTEBOOK

By Irene Kukota

On 30th November, *The Antropov Foundation* jointly with *Apollo Film and Russian Day*, launches its first London event – the premiere of the documentary film *Vysotsky. Odessa Notebook* directed by Anatoly Balchev and produced by Mark Ivasilevitch.

Despite the actor, poet and bard Vladimir Vysotsky enjoying a semi-mythical status in the USSR, he is relatively unknown in the West. This was in spite of marrying a French actress of Russian descent, Marina Vlady, and touring France, Poland, USA, Mexica, Canada and other countries. Nevertheless, with ever-increasing interest in his person and poetry in the UK, the organisers are hoping that the documentary, based on reminiscences of Vysotsky's friends and colleagues, will be enthusiastically received, especially as the launch, will be attended and inaugurated by his son Nikita Vysotsky.



The documentary will launch on 30th November, at 18.00 at the Mayfair Hotel Cinema Theatre, London

"I am ready to die here a hundred times and to be born a hundred times again", - said Vysotsky about Odessa. The subject for the film was chosen because, "for Vysotsky and his actress wife Marina Vlady, Odessa was the city of light, happiness and love", - commented producer Marc Ivasilevitch. Indeed, the city had a very special place in the artist's life and career: from 1966 onwards, he starred in iconic films shot at the Odessa Film Studios, such as the mountain climbing drama, *The Vertical*, the comedy, *Dangerous Tour* and the criminal detective tele - series, The *Meeting-Place cannot be changed*, for which Vysotsky was posthumously awarded the USSR State Prize for the role of Sharapov. It was in *The Vertical* that his songs were first performed as a film soundtrack and then released as his first solo record. Even when he did not reprise any roles at the Odessa Film Studios, Vysotsky would frequently compose songs or soundtracks for the films produced there, and a bronze monument of Vysotsky now stands in front of the Film Studios. Yet, despite all that, the role of the city in Vysotsky's career remains greatly underestimated and unexplored. The event organised by the *Antropov Foundation,* based in Monaco and London, intends to bridge this gap and introduce Vysotsky to London audiences.

To find out more about the upcoming premiere, we approached the founder of the *Antropov Foundation,* Alexey Antropov for a short interview.

Q: How did you come up with the idea of screening a documentary on Vysotsky in London?
A: For many people,including myself, Vysotsky remains the epitome of the Russian soul, with its breadth and depth, strengths and weaknesses, without hypocrisy. It is also for this reason that most of his poetry remains relevant today.

Q: What other projects were organised by the fund?
A: Recently, we held the first International Philanthropy Summit in Monaco, which focused on the issues of social responsibility. We held it for people who identify themselves as "citizens of the world."

Q: What prompted you to do charity work?
A: Many years ago, I met the Chilean philosopher and humanist, Darío Salas Sommer. His philosophy and books changed my whole life, communicated to it a sense of meaning and purpose, and prompted me to become involved in charity projects. Sommer's best-known book is the Morals of the 21st Century. By the way, from the whole range of Russian music, Sommer chose the songs of Vladimir Vysotsky and was an ardent admirer of the bard.

Q: How do you define the mission of your charitable foundation?
A: It seems to me that philanthropy as such is geared towards continually encouraging a person to develop and reveal his or her best qualities, while restraining base animal impulses. Therefore, the main mission of philanthropy is the social influence exercised upon an individual with the aim of making him or her more humane and ethical in their thoughts, words and actions.

Q: What are your immediate plans and projects after the screening in London?
A: We will continue to support the film projects of Anatoly Balchev and the art projects of sculptor Mikhail Shemyakin. The foundation also publishes an international periodical named Nachalo, which consolidates people who would like to exercise their critical thinking and reason. All these projects have a strong humanist component, and are meant to help people improve, even if only slightly.

More information about the upcoming premiere will be published on our website.
www.antropov-foundation.com

WINTER EVENTS

21 NOVEMBER - 20 DECEMBER
Andrew Gifford Baltic Journey
Exhibition @ John Martin Gallery, 38 Albemarle Street, London, W1S 4JE
Website: www.jmlondon.com

Andrew Gifford, Cathedral of St Peter & Paul
Oil on panel, 14¼ x 13½ ins (36 x 34 cms)

28 NOVEMBER
Russian Roots: Tchaikovsky's Fifth Symphony @ Barbican Hall
Part of the series from London Symphony Orchestra

3 DECEMBER
Ninotchka(U) + Q&A @ Curzon
Screening and Q&A of one of the Lubitsch's finest films

3 DECEMBER
Moisey Weinberg Centenary Concert @ Pushkin House
Concert- celebration of the Russian - Polish composer

3 DECEMBER
Yevgeny Sudbin piano recital of high musical emotion and drama @ SouthBank Centre
Yevgeny Sudbin piano recital

6 DECEMBER
Arcadi Volodos @ Barbican Hall
Programme of Schumann and Liszt traces a journey to the soul of 19th-century romanticis

10 DECEMBER
The new translation of Doctor Zhivago @ Pushkin House
Nicolas Pasternak Slater presents and reads extracts from his new transltion

11 DECEMBER - 5 JANUARY
The Nutcracker @ London Colliseum
The magical Christmas ballet for all the family.

14 JANUARY
The Parade of Planets by Vadim Abdrashitov (1984) @ Sand Films Cinema
Anglo-Russian Culture Club presents film screening of the surreal puzzler

Full list of events on: ***www.russianartandculture.com/calendar***

Russian Sale

Fine Art, Antiques and Icons

Auction 2-5 December in Copenhagen
Preview 21-25 November – or by appointment

For more information please contact our Russian Specialist Martin Hans Borg: +45 8818 1128 / russian@bruun-rasmussen.dk

BRUUN RASMUSSEN
AUCTIONEERS OF FINE ART

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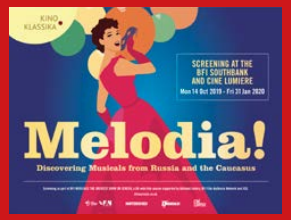
WINTER EVENTS



6 NOVEMBER - 20 DECEMBER

Inna's dream Exhibition
An installation by Varvara Shavrova
Patrick Heide Contemporary Art, 11 Church St, London, NW8 8EE
Website: www.kinoklassikafoundation.org

Melodia! Discovering Musicals from Russia and the Caucasus, Nine great classic musicals screening in partnership with the British Film Institute and Cine Lumiere

27 NOVEMBER - 12 DECEMBER

Bauhaus - 100
Maria Arendt exhibition (by appointment: curatorial@shtagergallery.co.uk)
Shatager Gallery, Studio 24 , 87 Crampton Street, SE17 3AZ, London
Website: www.shtagergallery.co.uk

"Bauhaus-100", By Maria Arendt. New Series, Shtager Gallery/Elephant&Castle Experimental Space RCVP: curatorial@shtagergallery.co.uk

14 DECEMBER
Tomasso Starace with Mechele di Toro and Yuri Golubev @ St Giles Church
Concert

15 DECEMBER
Eugene Onegin (encore)
@ Pushkin house
Stage Russia and Pushkin House present a screening of Eugene Onegin

20 OCTOBER - 20 DECEMBER
Raymonda Act III
@ Royal opera house
The final act of Marcus Petipa's grand ballet classic adapted by Rudolf Nureyev

31 DECEMBER
Nutcracker
@ Royal Albert Hall
The Birmingham Royal Ballet returns with their rendition of the Nutcracker

11 JANUARY
Children of the Sun
@ Pushkin house
A screening of multi-award-winning director Timofey Kulyabin's production, set in 1999

16 JANUARY
Sleeping Beauty
@ Royal Opera House
The Royal Ballet presents, with choreograhy by Marcus Petipa and a score by Tchaikovsky

18 JANUARY - 29 FEBRUARY
Onegin
@ Royal Opera house
John Cranko's Onegin score is an original arrangement by Kurt Heinz-Stolle

26 JANUARY
Russian icons Gala 2020
@ London Colliseum
The annual Ballet Icons Gala in London organized by Ensemble Productions

30 JANUARY
Swan Lake
@ Richmond Theatre
A Moscow City Ballet production of Swan Lake with Tchaikovsky score

6 FEBRUARY
Coppelia
@ The New Wimbledon Theatre
Russian State Ballet of Siberia, returns to the UK

7 FEBRUARY
Sleeping Beauty
@ The New Wimbledon Theatre
Russian State Ballet of Siberia. The classic ballet set to Tchaikovsky's score

8 FEBRUARY
Swan Lake
@ The New Wimbledon Theatre
Russian State Ballet of Siberia. The most well-known romantic ballet of all time

9 FEBRUARY
Rouvali conducts Russian Classic
@ Royal Festival Hall
Santtu-Matias Rouvali conducts the Philarmonia Orchestra

3 MARCH
Emin:World Tour
@ Troxy
Emin, the Azerbaijani-born and USA-raised Russian pop star makes a stop in London

5 MARCH - 5 MAY
Liam Scarlett's Swan Lake
@ Royal Opera House
Glorious Ballet production returns for its first revival. Faithful to the Marius Petipa/Lev Ivanov text, Scarlett's choreography and John Macfarlane's designs give it a new lease of life

Full list of events on: ***www.russianartandculture.com/calendar***

RUSSIAN COLLECTIONS

By Marina Maximova

Lydia Alekseevna Masterkova, Untitled, 1965. Oil and fabric collage on canvas

One does not need to have a Russian visa to see great collections of Russian Art. Interest in Russian art is booming all over the world, and numerous museums collect and display works by Russian artists outside of Russia. Natalia Goncharova's retrospective at Tate Modern may be over, but there is still a lot on offer in London. The Tate's holding of Russian Art is extensive, with current displays of particular interest to admirers of Russian conceptualism. There is documentation of Room No2, 1984, by Irina Nakhova, who worked with the concept of Total Installation before her arguably more famous fellow-artist, Ilya Kabakov. There are also some admirable paintings by Viktor Pivovarov from 1992-6, and two sculptures by Boris Orlov which mock the grandeur of Soviet imperial style. Those happy to skip the artistic experimentations of perestroika and the early post-Soviet years in favour of the early 20th century avant-garde should head to the Victoria and Albert Museum, where you can explore their collections of costume designs. Our personal favourites are Alexander Exter's designs from the early 1920's produced at the First Studio of the Moscow Art Theatre.

If you are not planning to stay in London and would rather explore Russian culture elsewhere, the opportunities in continental Europe and North America are endless, and two major Russian art museums have their outposts in Europe. A branch of the Russian Museum, St Petersburg opened in 2015 in a former tobacco factory in Malaga, Spain. The museum holds exhibitions, which are renewed annually, alongside temporary projects, which feature all periods of Russian art from Byzantium to 19th century, from avant-garde to Socialist Realism and from Revolutionary Art to post-WWII practices. Another destination is the Dutch branch of the Hermitage Museum located on the banks of the Amstel River, Amsterdam, which displays rotating selections of works and artefacts from its counterpart in Russia.

Evgenii Rukhin, (Untitled), 1975. Mixed media on canvas

Nice, France, has always been a popular destination for Russians of all sorts, including artists. It therefore comes as no surprise that the French Riviera has a museum devoted to a Russian artist. The Chagall National Museum opened in 1973 and among its treasures is a group of 17 paintings made in 1962-1967 depicting the Old Testament, which the artist and his wife Valentina gifted to the French government. Another popular holiday destination, spa town Baden-Baden, Germany, is home to one of the best museums of Fabergé. The museum was opened by the Russian collector Alexander Ivanov in 2009 with the intention of sharing his collection with the world. Among its 1500 items one can find four Imperial Easter Fabergé Eggs, the most valued creations of the famous jeweller. Another important private art collection

Alexandra Exter, Rasplyuev, 1921, body colours on paper

is in Thessaloniki, Greece. Moscow-born, George Costakis, began collecting Russian experimental artists of the early 20th century after World War II and gathered more than 1,200 works. It is now regarded as one of the most comprehensive collections of Russian avant-garde abroad. He moved to Greece in the 1970s and after his death, his collection was acquired by Thessaloniki State Museum of Modern Art.

There are plenty of opportunities to enjoy Russian Art in the USA. One of the prime destinations is the Zimmerli Art Museum in Rutgers University, New Jersey, home to the collection of Norton and Nancy Dodge.

This is one of the largest collections of Soviet non-conformist art of the late 20th century, donated in 1991. It now serves not only as a base for regularly changing displays, but also as a valued educational resource supporting Rutgers' research into Russian art and culture. The Museum of Russian Art (MORA) is located nearby, just across the river from Manhattan. Opened in 1980, it is also devoted to non-conformist art of 1950-1980s and has some gems in its collection, including works by Nikolai Ovchinnikov and Ernst Neizvestny. Minneapolis also has a Museum of Russian Art. Opened in 1991 by Raymond E. Johnson, it hosts a wide range of shows and displays, among them an overview of Soviet and Russian female artists organised in collaboration with the Kolodzei Collection. Finally, in Massachusetts is the Museum of Russian Icons, opened by the American businessman Gordon B. Lankton. His interest in Russian art and culture emerged during his first trip in Russia in 1989 and developed into a collection of more than 250 icons and a dedicated centre for icon studies.

This list can be extended, as gems of Russian art and culture can be found in public collections in all corners of the world. If you would like to stay updated make sure to regularly check our website ***www.russianartandculture.com***

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Tutankhamun: Treasures of the Golden Pharaoh
Sensational touring exhibition of 150 treasures from the Egyptian pharaoh's tomb
Saatchi Gallery, Duke of York's HQ, King's Rd, Chelsea, London SW3 4RY
Website: www.saatchigallery.com

UNTIL JANUARY 26 2020
Gauguin Portraits
@ National Gallery
First-ever exhibition devoted to the portraits of Paul Gauguin

UNTIL JANUARY 26 2020
Bridget Riley
@ Hayward Gallery
Major retrospective exhibition devoted to the work of the celebrated British artist

UNTIL JANUARY 26 2020
Lucian Freud: The Self-portraits
@ Royal Academy
One of the most influential painters of a generation

UNTIL FEBRUARY 2 2020
Rembrandt's Light
@ Dulwich Picture Gallery
Grand exhibition of works that mark 350 years since his death

UNTIL FEBRUARY 2 2020
William Blake: The Artist
@ Tate Britain
Visionary painter, printmaker and poet, creator some of the most iconic images in British art

UNTIL MARCH 1 2020
The Clash: London Calling
@ Museum of London
An exclusive display exploring the creation of the iconic album 'London Calling'

FEBRUARY 29 – JUNE 21 2020
Kimono: Kyoto to Catwalk
@ V&A Museum
Find out how the kimono has become the blueprint for an entire genre of fashion

MARCH 12 – JUNE 7 2020
Cecil Beaton's Bright Young Things
@ National Portrait Gallery
Explore the photographer's journey from suburban schoolboy to socialite star

Full list of events on: ***www.russianartandculture.com/calendar***

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MacDOUGALL'S
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pushkin
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MALAB ART
PUSHKIN HOUSE
Shtager Gallery

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mortons
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THE ELITE LONDON

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MacDougall's 15th Anniversary

Mikhail Shvartsman, *Krepost Glavy*, 1978–1987, £70,000–90,000

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MacDougall's
SINCE 2004

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Contemporary Russian Art Auction

25 November 2019, 14:30

Preview: 23–24 November 2019, 11:00–17:30

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