Summer Guide

Russian Art Week, London ■ 01 - 08 June 2018

The Royal Ballet's Swan Lake 17 May – 21 June
Live Cinema screening Tuesday 12 June at 7.15 pm

www.roh.org.uk
Russian Sale
Icons, Fine Art and Antiques

AUCTION IN COPENHAGEN
FRIDAY 8 JUNE AT 2 PM

PREVIEW IN LONDON
Shapero Modern
32 St George Street
London W1S 2EA

1 JUNE: 1 – 6:30 PM
2 JUNE: 10 AM – 4 PM
3 JUNE: 10 AM – 4 PM
4 JUNE: 10 AM – 5 PM

For more information please contact
Martin Hans Borg on +45 8818 1128
or russian@bruun-rasmussen.dk
WELCOME
By Natasha Butterwick .................................. 3

RA+C SALES PREVIEW JUNE 2018
By Simon Hewitt............................................ 4

AUCTION SALES
Christie’s, Sotheby’s ........................................ 12
MacDougall’s, Bonhams ................................. 13
Bruun Rasmussen ............................................. 14

THERE IS A GREAT DEAL OF MY OWN SELF IN MY CHARACTERS
Interview with Natalia Osipova. By Natasha Butterwick and Irene Kukota................................. 16

EVENTS............................................................ 20

CABINET OF WONDERS
This exhibition is part of the RA+C collaboration with Maxim Boxer........................................... 36

WE RECOMMEND ........................................... 38

IF I HAD A LITERARY TALENT, I WOULD WRITE
Interview with Oscar Rabin.
By Irene Kukota................................................ 43

BBC PROMS 2018
A selection of all Russian events at Proms 2018. By Olga Jegunova.......................... 46

INFORMATION
Partners & Advertising........................................ 50

Above: Gor Chahal, Snow Pyramid 2014. Multimedia, digital photography, plastic shaping. 20 × 60 cm. 1/1
Russian Art at Sotheby’s
Auctions London 5 June 2018

Russian Pictures and Russian Works of Art, Fabergé & Icons
Viewing 1–4 June

34–35 NEW BOND STREET, LONDON W1A 2AA
ENQUIRIES +44 (0) 20 7293 5673 RETO.BARMETTLER@SOTHEBYS.COM
SOTHEBYS.COM/RUSSIANPICTURES
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As an apolitical organisation, we keep hold to the belief that art, and love of the arts, transcends international standoffs and perhaps, naively, see Russian Art Week as providing some background for détente. Such a concentration of Russian art in one place gives art-lovers the chance to come together and discuss aesthetics whilst forgetting the all-pervading negativity of the political climate.

This June 2018 week has highlights and talking points aplenty. MacDougall’s head the impressive cast with possibly their strongest selection. Masterpieces by Shishkin, Rublev, Nivinsky and Somov brush shoulders with non-conformist jewels such as Krasnopevtsev Stove. Sotheby’s have an array of avant-garde works by such luminaries as Malevich, Stepanova and Ermilov. Christie’s and Bonhams too present strong selections, the latter with an exceptional still life by Feshin. Meanwhile, our newest advertisers, Bruun Rasmussen have some superb works of applied art. Simon Hewitt will, as always, provide his inimitable guide to all the forthcoming auctions.

RA+C is also muscling on to this already-crowded territory, setting up a new consultancy business from June – the aim of which will be to source any work, not just that of the Russian School, provide access to the best experts and generally help and advise collectors, both established and budding.

In our Summer booklet, we are delighted to present exclusive interviews with the prima ballerina Natalia Osipova and veteran non-conformist artist Oscar Rabin, continuing a feature that has proved so popular with readers in the last three issues.

In thanking you for your continued support I also wish to convey my prolonged enthusiasm for all things Russian and the privilege I feel in being able to promote such a vivid school of art and culture.

Natasha Butterwick
natasha@russianartandculture.com
Our International Editor Simon Hewitt surveys the anticipated highlights.

Over a frenzied 56-hour period from June 4-6 Christie’s, Sotheby’s, MacDougall’s and Bonhams will be holding their usual spate of Russian sales – and hoping to pursue the market-upturn discernible last November. One difference this time out: MacDougall’s viewing and auction will take place at The Mall Galleries near Admiralty Arch, as their King Charles II Street premises are being redeveloped. Meanwhile Bruun Rasmussen will again be adding a continental take by staging their own Russian Sale in Copenhagen on June 8.

WORKS OF ART

Top price during Russian Week could be generated by a pair of ormolu-mounted, flared Imperial Porcelain vases moulded with raised, neo-classical leafy friezes and painted with landscape views by Kornilov & Stoletov. They were made in St Petersburg in 1825 and will be offered at Sotheby’s for a substantial seven-figure sum (est. £1-1.5m).

Along with a glitter of icons de-acquisitioned from New York’s Metropolitan Museum of Art, Sotheby’s also showcase a silver-gilt and enamel triptych icon by Savelev Bros from Kostroma. This was sent to Nicholas II and Alexandra by the City of Kostroma as a wedding gift in 1894. The central icon replicates the Feodorovskaya Mother of God in Kostroma – patron icon of the Romanov Family (est. £80,000-120,000).
AUCTION HIGHLIGHTS

Christie’s have a Gold Medal (c.1855) for Service In The Tsar’s Personal Escort (est. £100,000 - 150,000), plus an Imperial porcelain platter (1906) with Soviet propaganda decoration applied in 1923 (est. £12,000 - 18,000). Bonhams offer a large silver-gilt kovsh by Yakov Maslennikov in Moscow, presented in February 1763 to Cossack commander Starshin Dyak Ivan Artemev by Catherine II, whose profile appears on the side (est. £40,000 - 60,000). Maslennikov established his workshop in 1758 and worked for Empress Elizabeth before Catherine the Great; his craftsmanship can be admired in the Kremlin and the Hermitage.

Then there’s an ormolu-mounted malachite Perpetual Calendar (c.1855) thought to hail from the Peterhof Imperial Lapidary Works, with architectural mounts by Nichols & Plinke (est. £12,000 -15,000); and a 13-inch 1870s Imperial Porcelain vase painted with musical cupids after a model by August Spiess (est. £20,000 -25,000).

Bruun Rasmussen continue their interest in icons with an 18th century example depicting the prophet Elijah in his chariot of fire (est. £25,000). They also have their own presentation kovsh, in the form of a St Petersburg parcel-gilt silver kovsh gifted by Tsaritsa Anna to Ataman Ekim Petrov of the Astrakhan Voisko on 9 April 1737 (est. £45,000 -60,000). Ivan Kovshenkov’s 16-inch patinated bronze Cossack from Sevastopol (1856), commemorating Crimean War heroics, comes with a charming provenance,
A Fabergé Easter egg by Henrik Wigström, decorated with salmon pink translucent enamel on a guilloché ground and set with four rose-cut diamonds, could fetch £10,000.

Pricier Fabergé is to be found at Christie’s and Sotheby’s, who have a jewelled gold and enamel box from 1897 (workmaster Michael Perchin) whose lid is adorned with the diamond-studded cypher of Nicholas II on a ground of translucent red enamel over sunburst engine-turning within an openwork panel chased with two sword-wielding griffins rampant (est. £150,000-200,000).

Bruun Rasmussen propose several items once owned by Nicholas I’s grand-daughter Grand Duchess Anastasia Mikhailovna (1860-1922), a colourful blueblood who grew up in the Caucasus and survived a lifeless marriage to a German toff to bear a child by her Personal Secretary, then ramp up the fun on the Riviera before her demise in Lausanne.

Nastya’s trinkets include two Easter egg pendants (c.1900) – in agate and rhodonite – and a wooden ‘shrine’ decorated with Russian folk scenes, destined to house Osman cigarettes (Petrograd 1914-17). Each item is expected to bring around £1250.

So is a Fabergé tie-pin (workmaster Andrei Goryanov) decorated with a stylized poppy and set with faceted rubies and rose-cut diamonds (St Petersburg 1896-1903).

Two Easter egg pendants in agate and rhodonite, circa 1900
£10,000-12,000
‘acquired by the present Danish owner from another Dane, who bought the sculpture in an antique shop in Murcia, Spain’ (est. £20,000-25,000).

Christie’s centre-stage with a jewelled Fabergé Chimpanzee (c.1915) made from petrified wood (est. £100,000-150,000), and with a pottery bowl in the form of a duck, produced at the Stroganov School and embellished with silver Fabergé mounts (est. £120,000-150,000).

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19TH CENTURY PAINTINGS

MacDougall’s are hoping to set the pace here with their habitual Shishkin: this time, a 1897 Pine Forest Yelabuga. (advertised on the back cover). This large (147 x 97cm) and attractive work (est. £800,000-1.2m) was exhibited at the St Petersburg Academy in 1898 and last seen at Sotheby’s London in November 2012. Ivan Khrutsky’s elegant 1840 Still Life with Fruit & Honeycomb is floated at an ambitious £350,000-500,000.

Ivan Khrutsky
Still Life with Fruit and Honeycomb, 1840
£350,000-500,000

Sotheby’s have a minor Aivazovsky: his 1851 Chapel by the Coast on a Moonlit Night (est. £180,000-250,000), owned by the same family since the First World War, having been acquired by the North Norwegian entrepreneur Jacob Andreas Whist. He moved to Russia in 1901, aged 16, to join his brothers’ trading post in the Kola Peninsula. He later settled in St Petersburg, but fled Russia after being briefly arrested by the Bolsheviks – sending his art collection to safety via Murmansk, where his brother Ole had it shipped on to Oslo.

Bonhams parade a couple of Levitans: a pastel Meadow in the Snow (est. £80,000-120,000) from the 1890s, whose ‘resonant silence, heavy in the damp air of a frosty day’ (declare Bonhams dreamily) ‘suggests a sense of isolation and a weighty loneliness’; and a small oil study of a Field of Rye (1883) – possibly a sketch for a youthful competition entry. This should bring around £30,000-40,000.

20TH CENTURY ART

An early Figurative Malevich, The Secret of Temptation (1908) from his religious-oriented Yellow Series, stars at Sotheby’s. Its mystical landscape features naked young girls whose
‘carnal characteristics’ (report Sotheby’s racily) offer ‘a direct infringement’ of artistic propriety. A staider portrait of Malevich’s mate Kliun graces the back. The estimate reads £250,000-350,000.

So it does for Pavel Tchelitchew’s Excelsior, painted at West Dean in Sussex – the home of Surrealism collector Edward James – in Summer 1934. This triplicate portrait (with a fourth, obscured figure) (advertised on page 4) evokes a game of blind-man’s buff, complete with butterfly blindfold. The first and probably second figure are modelled on the artist’s new lover, Charles Henri Ford; the third is thought to represent Parker Tyler, the American author of the then-scandalous gay chronicle The Young And Evil.

Vasily Shukhayev’s Russian Landscape, completed in Paris after he arrived in 1921 from a year in Finland awaiting a visa, comes with a similar estimate. Shukhayev’s friend Yakovlev is represented by a 1922 Harlequin (est. £150,000-200,000) that evokes the Pierrot & Harlequin double self-portrait the pair daubed in 1914 Petersburg while students at the Mikhailovsky Academy.

Vladimir Stozharov’s 1964 depiction of Bolshaya Pyssa, a village on the banks of the River Mesen east of Arkhangelsk, is predicted to bring £150,000-200,000. So is a 1925 Konchalovsky view of SS Boris & Gleb Novgorod, originally owned by Vasily Tikhomirov, head of the Bolshoi from 1924-37. Vera Yermolayeva’s 1920 Suprematist Façade Design (est. £30,000-50,000) is claimed by Sotheby’s as her most important surviving work.
Suprematist work. Vera adopted Suprematism after Malevich’s arrival in Vitebsk in November 1919, a few months after her own: she was dispatched to the eastern Belarus outpost by the People’s Commissariat of Education in April 1919 to assist Chagall at his People’s School of Art. The design was part of her programme for May Day street decorations in the town; the façade is thought to be that of Vitebsk Theatre (destroyed in World War II).

Vasily Yermilov’s 1934 Design for a Recreation Room in the Kharkov Palace of Pioneers & Octobrists has a vibrant colour scheme chosen, speculate Sotheby’s, to appeal to children. From the collection of the former Sotheby’s owner, Alfred Taubman it carries an estimate of £40,000-60,000. One of Sotheby’s contemporary highlights promises to be a Weisberg Still Life with Eleven Test Tubes (1975), included in his solo show at the Galerie Gorky Basmadjian in Paris in 1984 (est. £40,000-60,000).

Soviet Art is represented by Rublev’s 1933 Klopovo Village (est. £120,000-180,000); Deineka’s 1955 Woman a in Yellow Dress (est. £300,000-500,000); Nissky’s Reclining Nude (c.1959, est. £180,000-300,000); and a late, 1973 Pimenov, Wet Posters (est. £150,000-200,000).

Other post-war works include Tselkov’s 1974 Portrait of Maya Lugovskaya (est. £50,000-70,000); Krasnopevtsev’s 1960 Stove (est. £25,000-40,000); and Tatiana

A Kuznetsov Fountain (c.1904, est. £200,000-500,000) and Nikolai Krymov’s 1911 Before the Rain (est. £250,000-300,000) set the 20th century pace over at MacDougall’s – along with Larionov’s small pink nude, Nu aux Contours Roses (c.1909), shown at both the 1925 Salon de Tuileries and the Larionov show at New York’s Acquavella Galleries in 1969 (est. £80,000-120,000).
AUCTION HIGHLIGHTS

**Nazarenko’s 2007 Bathers in the Village Pond** (est. £8,000-12,000).

**Christie’s Modern Art** includes two works by Boris Grigoriev: his 1924 *La Mère Aguatte* (est. £250,000-350,000), and his 1920 *Masked Woman*, a smaller work in pencil and gouache (est. £15,000-20,000). A large Annenkov view of the Arc de Triomphe in Paris is touted at £100,000-150,000 and Stelletsky’s four-part *The Hunt* at £40,000-60,000.

**Bonhams** highlight should be Leon Gaspard’s large *Siberian Sleighriders* (1921) from the Arizona estate of swashbuckling Midwest middleman Russ A. Lyon Jr., shown at New York’s Berry-Hill Galleries in 1986 (est. £250,000-450,000). Both a Serebriakova *Self-Portrait with Brushes* (Paris 1945) in watercolour, gouache and oil on paper, and an atypical Fechin *Still Life with Daisies* thought to date from his time in, New Mexico, come with estimates of £100,000-150,000.

**Oleg Tselkov**
£50,000-70,000

**Boris Grigoriev**
*La Mère Aguatte*, 1924
£250,000-350,000
Another work with American roots is Nikolai Roerich’s *The Tower*, a stage design in tempera for *Princess Maleine* (1913) that was snapped up by the Art Institute of Omaha in 1921 but decommissioned in 1972 (est. £120,000-180,000).

A Kyrgyz *Man* (1973) by Uzbek artist Chinghiz Akhmarov, renowned for his monumental 1940s decoration at the Tashkent Opera, should yield £7,000-9,000.

The main Russian picture at *Bruun Rasmussen* is Feodor Sychkov’s *Russian Village in Winter* (1934), starring cheerful girls in colourful shawls. This turned up at auction in Rødovre (a suburb of Copenhagen) in 1975, when it sold for DKK 2,700. The estimate today reads £35,000-50,000... equivalent to a hundred-fold increase.

Art, even Russian, knows no boundaries and a small 1904 *Russian Woman in a Colourful Headscarf* by Arkhipov (est. €7,000-10,000) has done the rounds. It was first owned by Danish businessman Johan Poul Quaade (1888-1958), branch manager of the Siberian Company in Minusinsk from 1911-16 then company director in St Petersburg. Quaade quit Revolutionary Russia for Istanbul in 1919, settled in Riga in 1925 and only made it back to Denmark in 1938.
RUSSIAN ART AUCTIONS

CHRISTIE’S

RUSSIAN ART
4 JUNE | 10:30 & 14:00

VIEWING:
31 May 9:00 - 16:30
1 June 9:00 - 16:30
2 June 12:00 - 17:00
3 June 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

RUSSIAN PICTURES
5 JUNE | 10:00

RUSSIAN WORKS OF ART, FABERGÉ & ICONS
5 JUNE | 14:30

VIEWINGS:
1 June: 9:00 - 16:30  3 June: 12:00 - 17:00
2 June: 12:00 - 17:00  4 June: 9:00 - 16:30

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

MacDougall’s, Mall Galleries, The Mall (nr Admiralty Arch), London SW1
Tel: +44 (0) 20 7389 8160 Website: www.macdougallauction.com

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

MacDougall’s, Mall Galleries, The Mall (nr Admiralty Arch), London SW1
Tel: +44 (0) 20 7389 8160 Website: www.macdougallauction.com

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

www.russianartandculture.com
RUSSIAN ART AUCTIONS

RUSSIAN SALE
8 JUNE | 14:00

VIEWINGS IN LONDON:
1 June: 13:00 - 18:30
2 June: 10:00 - 16:00
3 June: 10:00 - 16:00
4 June: 10:00 - 17:00
Shapero Modern, 32 St George Street, London W1S 2EA

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

DESCRIBE THE NIGHT

BY RAJIV JOSEPH  DIRECTED BY LISA SPIRLING

Pulitzer Prize finalist Rajiv Joseph’s darkly comic rhapsody on Russian themes explores the blurred lines between lies, fiction and conspiracy theories, as it tracks back and forth across 90 years of Soviet and post-Soviet history in search of the genesis of the post-truth world.

30 APRIL – 9 JUNE  TICKETS FROM £18
020 7722 9301  hampsteadtheatre.com
🌐 Swiss Cottage, Jubilee Line
RUSSIAN ART
Wednesday 6 June 2018, 10:30

PREVIEW: 31 May–5 June 2018, 11:00–18:00
Mall Galleries, The Mall (near Admiralty Arch), London SW1

K. Сомов, «Свидание в парке», 1919
K. Somov, Meeting in the Park, 1919
£500,000–700,000

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**Natalia Osipova:** There is a great deal of my own self in my characters

- Natasha Butterwick, Irene Kukota

*Natalia Osipova,* Principal Dancer of the Royal Ballet at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, needs no introduction. We were extremely lucky to catch her between rehearsals and talk about her work and personal interests.

**Q:** Natalia, are you a person who can easily be carried away?

**A:** Oh, very much so! I can make a snap decision within two seconds, but it must be something extraordinary. When something clicks within me, I can be one of those people who may in a second decide to leave everything behind and travel to the other end of the world. I can be very sensitive to emotions and swayed by my feelings. However, the people or events that prompt me to act in such a way are quite rare.

**Q:** How did you manage to dance Kitri in Don Quixote with such abandon, with such a charge of emotional energy?

**A:** Well, the intensity of emotions was so great that I simply could not contain it. I do not know whether I am temperamental or not, but I believe that artists who have their own strong internal core must always follow their character...
and their inner self. And this is exactly what makes the artist special, unlike anyone else. I do not really like it when people attempt to “sanitize” or “smooth out” my performance by pointing out to me how it should look, or how I should feel.

While working on my character, I always ask: “Show me the movements, tell me everything about the character”. I will always take up the cues and perhaps, after some soul searching, will find these qualities within myself. However, when it comes to getting into the character and the emotional charge it carries, I must do my own work, because I will never look convincing or natural if the role is forced upon me.

It is true that my roles are consistent with who I am. I have been mostly playing myself. And I am not ashamed to confess this. Maybe I am not an actress, maybe I am a bad actress, but there is a great deal of my own self in my characters.

**Q:** Which role is your all-time favourite?

**A:** I have several. I like to dance Juliette in MacMillan’s version. And I enjoy dancing Tatiana in Onegin in John Cranko’s production.

Certainly, Giselle is my most successful classical performance: it is very versatile and can be interpreted in a variety of ways. Sometimes the performance turns out well and sometimes, like the recent performances at the Royal Opera House, it can become intense. Not every role is as well suited to my own personality as Giselle. And thus, of the whole classical repertoire, these three are the closest to me.

**Q:** Did you join the Royal Ballet after you left the Bolshoi Theatre?

**A:** No, I first received the invitation from the Mikhailovsky Theatre in St. Petersburg and our partnership lasted for about a year and a half: I would arrive, rehearse, perform and leave. It was the time when I was, literally, crisscrossing the globe: I had many contracts and a lot of work in New York, in Milan at La Scala; I even went to perform in Australia.

One day I had a call from Covent Garden, and was invited to perform in Swan Lake as a guest artist. So, I came to London and stayed for two months. And for the first time in my life I began to think that this was the only place where I would like to stay and, miraculously, the director of the Royal Ballet Kevin O’Hare invited me to join the Company soon afterwards.
I accepted without hesitation – and thus I stayed in London.

**Q:** Which British choreographer is your favourite?

**A:** Undoubtedly, Kenneth MacMillan. I am excited about the opportunity to explore his choreography within the Royal Ballet – the company where he staged his ballets and where all the nuances and movements are handed down to dancers very accurately, exactly as they had been originally conceived. I also love Frederick Ashton, who is very hard to perform, especially for Russian dancers. As they have different training, mastering Ashton is like learning a new language. Naturally, there are wonderful contemporary choreographers, such as Christopher Wheeldon or Wayne McGregor with whom I have worked. They are regaled as the best choreographers in the world. Sadler’s Wells also offers opportunities to work with such outstanding contemporary choreographers as Russell Maliphant, Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui, Arthur Pita.

**Q:** Please tell us about your upcoming Sadler’s Wells programme.

**A:** This project is scheduled for September. It is a contemporary programme with two pieces staged for me by two choreographers, the Israeli Roy Assaf and the Portuguese Iván Pérez. When all the dancers are classically trained, the choreographers attempt to adapt to them. However, I would rather adapt to the choreographers, because I wish to learn something new and perform this piece as the choreographer had originally intended. I am also looking forward to a new piece by Alexei Ratmansky which we were planning to perform with David (Hallberg). I hope this is going to happen soon.

**Q:** We heard of a new version of Swan Lake scheduled for this May-June. Have you already begun rehearsing?

**A:** Yes, we have. Liam Scarlett, the young choreographer, who recently staged Frankenstein at the ROH, came up with the idea and I will be working with him for the first time. The new version, as I understand, will still retain a lot of the traditional classical production but the choreographer is planning slightly to shift the focus of the performance and change the last scene. Whilst there will be new
costumes and decorations, Liam is very careful in his treatment of classical choreography, keeping the famous black pas de deux and the white scene virtually intact.

The Royal Ballet’s Swan Lake
17 May – 22 June,
Live Cinema screening 12 June
www.roh.org.uk

Ballet Natalia Osipova
12 - 16 September
Sadler’s Wells
www.sadlerswells.com

Read the whole interview on:
www.russianartandculture.com
EVENTS

UNTIL 6 JUNE | EXHIBITION
REDISCOVERED MASTERPIECES FROM THE RUSSIAN OPERA. Alexander Golovin’s designs for Igor Stravinsky’s opera Rossignol, Bonhams, 101 New Bond Street, London W1S 1SR
Tickets: Free
Website: www.bonhams.com

UNTIL 21 JUNE | BALLET
SWAN LAKE
Production and additional choreography by Liam Scarlett and designs by John Macfarlane. With Natalia Osipova
Royal Opera House, Bow Street, London WC2E 9DD
Times: Times vary Tickets: £7 - £133 Website: www.roh.org.uk

1 JUNE | CLASSICAL MUSIC
KIRILL PETRENKO CONDUCTS BAYERISCHES STAATSORCHESTER
Mahler 7th Symphony
Barbican Hall, Silk Street, London EC2Y 8DS
Times: 19:30 Tickets: £15 - £55 Website: www.barbican.org.uk

2 - 8 JUNE | EXHIBITION
CABINET OF WONDERS, Private exhibition
Shapero Rare Books
32 St George Street, Mayfair, London W1S 2EA
Times: Monday - Friday: 9:30 - 18:30, Sat 13:00 - 17:00
Tickets: Free Website: www.flyinginn.ru
2 JUNE | JAZZ
TIGRAN HAMASYAN WITH SPECIAL GUEST NILS PETTER MOLVAER. A blend of his own solo piano and choral works
Barbican Hall, Silk Street, London EC2Y 8DS
Times: 19:30 Tickets: £20 - £35
Website: www.barbican.org.uk

2 JUNE | CLASSICAL MUSIC, LITERATURE
CHEKHOV’S GRAND PIANO. An evening of music by Prokofiev, Tchaikovsky, Rachmaninov and Le Page, with readings from the
The Seagull, Ivanov, The Cherry Orchard and The Three Sisters
Craxton Studios, 14 Kidderpore Ave, London, Hampstead NW3 7SU
Times: 19:30 Tickets: £20
Website: www.craxtonstudios.org.uk

3 JUNE | CLASSICAL MUSIC
I MUSICANTI. Alexandra & the Russians, Sunday at St John’s
Prokofiev Quintet in G minor Op. 39, Dmitri Smirnov Dialogues in the Dark, Alexandra Harwood New Work, Glinka Septet
St John’s Smith Square, London SW1P 3HA
Times: 15:00 Tickets: £10 - £16
Website: www.sjss.org.uk

5 JUNE | CLASSICAL MUSIC
YUJA WANG IN RECITAL
Playing Chopin, Scriabin and Prokofiev
Barbican, Silk Street, London EC2Y 8DS
Times: 19:30 Tickets: £10 - £45
Website: www.barbican.org.uk
6 JUNE | FILM SCREENING
IS IT EASY TO BE YOUNG (1987) BY JURIS PODNIEKS
Kino Klassika
Regent Street Cinema, 309 Regent Street, Marylebone, London W1B 2UW
Times: 19.30  Tickets: £7 - £12
Website: www.regentstreetcinema.com

6 JUNE | CLASSICAL MUSIC
WÜRTH PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA with John Lill, piano. Vaughan Williams’ Fantasia on a Theme by Thomas Tallis, Rachmaninov’s Second Piano Concerto and Elgar’s Enigma Variations
Cadogan Hall, 5 Sloane Terrace, Belgravia, London SW1X 9DQ
Times: 19.30  Tickets: £18 - £42  Website: www.cadoganhall.com

6 JUNE | TALKS AND EVENTS
CAUCASUS ALL FREQUENCY: In conversation with Mountains of Tongues. Celebrate the music and culture of the Caucasus at the launch party for this new music journal
Calvert22, 22 Calvert Avenue, London E2 7JP
Times: 19:00  Tickets: Pay what you wish  Website: www.calvert22.org

7 JUNE | BOOKS
THE 6TH PUSHKIN HOUSE ANNUAL BOOK PRIZE
AWARD CEREMONY & DINNER
Pushkin House, 5A Bloomsbury Square, London WC1A 2TA
Times: 19:00 - 22:00  Tickets: £100
Website: www.pushkinhouse.org
8 JUNE | MUSIC
NOSTALGIC CABARET WITH ALEXIA MANKOVSKAYA
Music of the beginning of the XX century, featuring Spanish and Russian tango tunes. Tabernacle Theatre Notting Hill, Powis Square, London W11 2AY
Times: 17:30 Tickets: £33 - £87
Website: www.tabernaclew11.com

9 JUNE | CLASSICAL MUSIC
ROYAL ORCHESTRAL SOCIETY
A concert featuring young Israeli-Russian pianist Boris Giltburg
St John’s Smith Square, London SW1P 3HA
Times: 19:00 Tickets: £8 - £18
Website: www.sjss.org.uk

10 JUNE | BALLET SCREENING
BOLSHOI BALLET ON BRITISH CINEMA SCREENS
COPPÉLIA
In cinemas across the country
Website: www.bolshoiballetcinema.co.uk

10 JUNE | CLASSICAL MUSIC
PUSHKIN HOUSE MUSIC SALON
Tchaikovsky And Chopin By Leeds Competition Winner, Anna Tsybuleva
Pushkin House, 5A Bloomsbury Square, London WC1A 2TA
Times: 16:00 - 18:00 Tickets: £20 Website: www.pushkinhouse.org
11 JUNE | TALKS AND EVENTS
ARTEMY TROITSKY ON VIKTOR TSOY: NOSTALGIC SYMBOL OR FUTURE HERO? A talk with Artemy Troitsky, journalist, culturologist and personal friend of Tsoy’s.
Pushkin House, 5A Bloomsbury Square, London WC1A 2TA
Times: 19:00 Tickets: £10 - £12 Website: www.pushkinhouse.org

12 JUNE | TALKS AND EVENTS
RED CARD! GENDER AND SEXISM IN RUSSIAN FOOTBALL - An Insider’s View. Talk by academic and LGBT activist Ira Roldugina
Pushkin House, 5A Bloomsbury Square, London WC1A 2TA
Times: 19:00 - 21:00 Tickets: £10
Website: www.pushkinhouse.org

13 JUNE | FILM SCREENING
ASSA (1987) BY SERGEI SOLOVEV
Kino Klassika
Regent Street Cinema, 309 Regent Street, Marylebone, London W1B 2UW
Times: 19:30 Tickets: £7 - £12
Website: www.regentstreetcinema.com

14 JUNE | EVENTS
WINE AT THE TIME OF PUSHKIN
Pushkin House Wine Club
Pushkin House, 5A Bloomsbury Square, London WC1A 2TA
Times: 19:00 Tickets: £20
Website: www.pushkinhouse.org
BORIS KOSAREV (1897-1994)

Communal Flat, 1921
Pencil on paper, 22 x 22.5 cm

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15 JUNE | CLASSICAL MUSIC
RAZUMOVSKY ACADEMY YOUNG ARTISTS RECITAL
Pre-concert Event
Wigmore Hall, 36 Wigmore Street, Marylebone, London W1U 2BP
Times: 18:00 Tickets: £5
Website: www.wigmore-hall.org.uk

15 JUNE | CLASSICAL MUSIC
RAZUMOVSKY ENSEMBLE
Schubert and Shostakovich
Wigmore Hall, 36 Wigmore Street, Marylebone, London W1U 2BP
Times: 19:30 Tickets: £15 - £38
Website: www.wigmore-hall.org.uk

16 JUNE | FILM SCREENING
LIVING (2011) BY VASILIY SIGAREV
ARCC Russian Film Studies
Sands Films, 82 St. Marychurch Street, London SE16 4HZ
Times: 18:00 Tickets: £7
Website: www.sandsfilms.co.uk

17 JUNE | CLASSICAL MUSIC
YULIA CHAPLINA AND JONATHAN DEAKIN -
French Music: Debussy, Bizet, Saint-Saens, Ravel
Pushkin House, 5A Bloomsbury Square, London WC1A 2TA
Times: 13:00 Tickets: £16 - £18
Website: www.pushkinhouse.org
19 JUNE | FILM SCREENING
LOVELESS BY ANDREY ZVYAGINTSEV
Wimbledon Film Club, hmvcurzon, 23 The Broadway, Wimbledon SW19 1RE
Times: 10:30 Tickets: Tickets on sale from 12 June
Website: www.wimbledonfilmclub.com

19 JUNE - 20 JULY | OPERA
LA BOHEME
Russian soprano Ekaterina Siurina
Royal Opera House, Royal Opera House, Bow Street, Covent Garden London WC2E 9DD
Times: Times vary Tickets: £7 - £230 Website: www.roh.org.uk

20 JUNE | FILM SCREENING
THE NEEDLE (1988) BY RASHID NUGMANOV
Kino Klassika
Regent Street Cinema, 309 Regent Street, Marylebone, London W1B 2UW Times: 19:30 Tickets: £7 - £12
Website: www.regentstreetcinema.com

21 JUNE | TALKS AND EVENTS
THE ROMANOVS & THEIR TZARINAS
A talk by Irena Lingard about the Romanov family and Russian culture
The Spout Yard Park Gallery, Ludgate, Louth LN11 0NW
Times: 18:00 - 20:00 Tickets: £5
EVENTS

24 JUNE | CLASSICAL MUSIC
SHOSTAKOVICH VIOLIN CONCERTO with Nicola Benedetti
London Symphony Orchestra/ Gianandrea Noseda
Barbican Hall, Silk Street, London EC2Y 8DS
Times: 19:00 Tickets: £16 - £55
Website: www.barbican.org.uk

27 JUNE | FILM SCREENING
LITTLE VERA (1988) BY VASILI PICHUL
Kino Klassika
Regent Street Cinema, 309 Regent Street, Marylebone,
London W1B 2UW Times: 19:30 Tickets: £7 - £12
Website: www.regentstreetcinema.com

30 JUNE | BALL
THE 23RD ANNUAL RUSSIAN SUMMER BALL
Guests of honour: H.H Princess Olga Andreevna of Russia and
HH Prince Rostislav Rostislavovich of Russia.
10-11 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1Y 5AH
Website: www.russiansummerball.com

1 JULY | CLASSICAL MUSIC
STONELEIGH YOUTH ORCHESTRA
Rachmaninoff Symphony No. 2 in E minor Op. 27, Wagner Lohengrin
Prelude to Act III, Bruch Violin Concerto No. 1 in G minor Op. 26
St. John’s Smith Square, London SW1P 3HA
Times: 19:30 Tickets: £5 - £10 Website: www.sjss.org.uk
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"Russian Mind" magazine is the oldest Russian-language publication in Europe. Throughout its history such prominent Russians as Anton Chekhov, Fyodor Dostoevsky, Ivan Bunin, Alexandr Herzen, Alexandr Solzhenitsyn, Joseph Brodsky, Serge Gainsbourg, Alexandr Sakharov and others, have been authors of articles in "Russian Mind" magazine.

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EVENTS

1 JULY  |  CLASSICAL MUSIC
STRAVINSKY’S: LES NOCES AND WORK BY CARL ORFF:
Carmina Burana by Crouch End Festival Chorus
Queen Elizabeth Hall, Southbank Centre, Belvedere Road,
Lambeth, London SE1 8XX  
Times: 15:00  
Tickets: £12.50 - £28  
Website: www.southbankcentre.co.uk

3 JULY  |  CLASSICAL MUSIC
MAXIM VENGEROV (VIOLIN)
And The Soloists of the Oxford Philharmonic
Sheldonian Theatre, Oxford, South-East OX1 3AZ
Times: 19:30  
Tickets: £12.5 - £35  
Website: www.admin.ox.ac.uk/sheldonian

7 JULY  |  CLASSICAL MUSIC
ROYAL PHILARMONIC ORCHESTRA PRESENTS
SYMPHONIC RUSSIA
Royal Albert Hall, Kensington Gore, London SW7 2AP
Times: 19:30  
Tickets: £20 - £65  
Website: www.royalalberthall.com

8 JULY  |  CLASSICAL MUSIC
TWICKENHAM CHORAL SOCIETY
Stravinsky, Symphony of Psalms, Barber, Adagio for Strings, and
Vaughan Williams, A Sea Symphony
St John’s Smith Square, London SW1P 3HA
Times: 19:30  
Tickets: £10 - £22  
Website: www.sjss.org.uk
16 JULY | FILM SCREENING  
THE CUCKOO (2002)  
by Alexander Rogozhkin. ARCC Russian Film Studies  
Sands Films, 82 St. Marychurch Street, London SE16 4HZ  
Times: 18:00  
Tickets: £7  
Website: www.sandsfilms.co.uk

17 JULY | CLASSICAL MUSIC  
SERGEI BABAYAN PIANO  
Ryabov, Rameau and Mozart  
Wigmore Hall, 36 Wigmore Street, Marylebone, London W1U 2BP  
Times: 19:30  
Tickets: £15 - £38  
Website: www.wigmore-hall.org.uk

21 JULY | CLASSICAL MUSIC  
IGOR LEVIT PIANO  
Brahms, Busoni, Schumann and Liszt  
Wigmore Hall, 36 Wigmore Street, Marylebone, London W1U 2BP  
Times: 19:30  
Tickets: £15 - £40  
Website: www.wigmore-hall.org.uk

18 AUGUST | FILM SCREENING  
KIN-DZA-DZA! (1986)  
by Georgiy Daneliya. ARCC Russian Film Studies  
Sands Films, 82 St. Marychurch Street, London SE16 4HZ  
Times: 18:00  
Tickets: £7  
Website: www.sandsfilms.co.uk
22 - 26 AUGUST | BALLET
SWAN LAKE
St Petersburg Ballet Theatre
London Coliseum, St. Martin's Lane, London WC2N 4ES
Times: Time vary Tickets: £20 - £95
Website: www.londoncoliseum.org

23 AUGUST | MUSIC
PUSSY RIOT: RIOT DAYS – CARDIFF
Tramshed Cardiff
Clare Road, Cardiff CF11 6QP
Times: 19:00 Tickets: £18.70
Website: www.tramshedcardiff.com

SEPTEMBER (DATES TBC) | FILM SCREENING
NEVALAND: ST PETERSBURG ON FILM
Curated by Professor Catriona Kelly of Oxford University
Kino Klassika Foundation, First Floor, South Rosebery House, 4 Farm Street, London W1J 5RD
Website: www.kinoklassikafoundation.org

12 - 16 SEPTEMBER | BALLET
NATALIA OSIPOVA - PURE DANCE
Sadler’s Wells, Rosebery Avenue, London EC1R
Times: 19:30
Tickets: £12 - £60
Website: www.sadlerswells.com
CABINET OF WONDERS

EXHIBITION 2 - 8 JUNE 2018

The library becomes a shelter where one can indulge into unhurried reflection and plunge into thoughts about the past and future, about the virtual and the wonderful.

At Shapero Rare Books
32 St George Street
Mayfair, London W1S 2EA

This exhibition is part of the Russian Art + Culture collaboration with Maxim Boxer

Ivan Samarine  + 44 207 582 5577  www.russianartconsultancy.com
15 SEPTEMBER | FILM SCREENING
ARCC Russian Film Studies
Sands Films, 82 St. Marychurch Street, London SE16 4HZ
Times: 18:00 Tickets: £7
Website: www.sandsfilms.co.uk

16 SEPTEMBER | OPERA
RUSSIAN STATE OPERA PRESENTS CARMEN
Cadogan Hall, 5 Sloane Terrace, Belgravia, London SW1X 9DQ
Times: 18:00
Tickets: £30 - £38
Website: www.cadoganhall.com

16 SEPTEMBER | CLASSICAL MUSIC
TCHAIKOVSKY GALA
London Concert Orchestra
Royal Festival Hall, Southbank Centre, Belvedere Road, Lambeth, London SE1 8XX
Times: 15:00 Tickets: £16.50 - £46
Website: www.southbankcentre.co.uk

26 - 30 SEPTEMBER | FILM SCREENING
GENERATIONS. RUSSIAN CINEMA OF CHANGE
Season of cult and landmark films charts an extraordinary century of political change in Russia.
Barbican, Silk Street, London EC2Y 8DS
Website: www.barbican.org.uk
Russian Art and Culture is delighted to announce the launch of their art consultancy service.

Covering a range of disciplines, we can provide clients with access to leading private collectors, dealers, art foundations and museums.

Although we specialise in the 19th and 20th century Russian schools, Russian Art and Culture can provide a free-of-charge valuation of any work of art.

For further details, contact Natasha Butterwick
natasha@russianartandculture.com
CABINET OF WONDERS

This exhibition is part of the Russian Art + Culture collaboration with Maxim Boxer

Evgeny Semyonov, *From the Angry Birds Have Flown* project. New look, 2014

Now, perhaps, there are no sciences or arts, but there is a history of these disciplines. It seems to me that this study is inherently erroneous. Because if the text is good, it does not matter if it was written this morning, twenty centuries ago, or remains to be written someday. Jorge Luis Borges. From an interview with Antonio Carrizo / Jorge Luis Borges


This exhibition offers us alternative authors’ worlds which are unfolding in the space of the Library-Universe.

Here you can find the image of the new flag of Russia - a canvas with a red background and large white polka-dot pattern (Sergey Shutov), a photographic postcard with a snow pyramid (Gor Chakhal), the documentation of physical experiments with invisible substances (Vladislav Efimov), fragile mysterious heads through which light passes (Alexander Ney) and a scene of the organized installation of the black flag of chaos (Leonid Tishkov).

All these items are artefacts from various worlds in which fiction and the artists’ subtle observations of everyday life are mixed.


www.russianartandculture.com
If museums make things sacred by taking them out of the context of everyday life, turns them into cult objects and condemns them to an eternal, or timeless, life, then library space frees objects from the need to be built into the context of the history of art and embeds them with new conceptual connections that arise among the objects, the interior, the lives of readers and book narratives.

It was the idea of creating a worldwide library, an open archive for any inhabitant of the planet, that laid at the origins of cybernetics and of what is now called “virtual space”.

The word virtuality comes from the Latin virtualis, which means possible - that is, hypothetical or non-existent; something that might happen. However, the Internet and Digital technologies are more of a supplement to our reality, its expansion, but not an alternative to it. In addition, computer networks have rather precise physical and mathematical boundaries. At the same time, a language opens space for almost limitless manipulation, games and creative variations.

We suggest looking at a library not as a space for escapism, but as an area where many potential stories and even cultures unfold. While the online space requires constant presence from us, it intensifies the experience of being in the here and now and demands accelerated perception and reaction, the library becomes a shelter where one can indulge into unhurried reflection and plunge into thoughts about the past and future, about the virtual and the wonderful.
UNTIL 10 JUNE | EXHIBITION
OCEAN LINERS: SPEED & STYLE
Discover the romantic and remarkable age of ocean travel
Victoria & Albert Museum, Cromwell Road, Knightsbridge, London SW7 2RL
Time: Daily: 10:00 - 17:45, Friday: 10:00 - 22:00
Tickets: £18
Website: www.vam.ac.uk

UNTIL 29 JULY | EXHIBITION
MONET & ARCHITECTURE. This exhibition shows how Monet used architecture to create his compositions.
The National Gallery, Trafalgar Square, London WC2N 5DN
Time: Daily: 10:00 - 18:00, Friday: 10:00 - 21:00
Tickets: £20 - £22
Website: www.nationalgallery.org.uk

UNTIL 29 JULY | EXHIBITION
RODIN AND THE ART OF ANCIENT GREECE
A selection of Rodin’s works - including his iconic sculptures
British Museum, Great Russell Street, London WC1B 3DG
Time: Daily: 10:00 - 17:30, Friday: 10:00 - 10:30
Tickets: £14 - £17
Website: www.britishmuseum.org

UNTIL 5 AUGUST | EXHIBITION
JOAN JONAS
Mythic féminine identity
Tate Modern, Bankside, London SE1 9TG
Time: Daily: 10:00 - 18:00, Friday - Saturday: 10:00 - 22:00
Tickets: £10 - £13
Website: www.tate.org.uk
UNTIL 12 AUGUST | EXHIBITION
HOPE TO NOPE: GRAPHICS AND POLITICS 2008-2018
Design Museum
224-238 Kensington High Street, Kensington,
London, W8 6AG
Time: 10:00 - 18:00, Tickets: £6.50 - £12
Website: www.designmuseum.org

UNTIL 27 AUGUST | EXHIBITION
ALL TOO HUMAN
Francis Bacon & Lucian Freud
Tate Britain, Millbank, London SW1P 4RG
Time: 10:00 - 18:00, Tickets: £17 - £19.50
Website: www.tate.org.uk

UNTIL 9 SEPTEMBER | EXHIBITION
PICASSO 1932 - LOVE, FAME, TRAGEDY
The EY Exhibition
Tate Modern, Bankside, London SE1 9TG
Time: Daily: 10:00 - 18:00, Friday - Saturday: 10:00 - 22:00
Tickets: £10 - £22, Website: www.tate.org.uk

UNTIL 7 OCTOBER | EXHIBITION
AZZEDINE ALAÏA: THE COUTURIER
First UK solo exhibition of his work
Design Museum, 224-238 Kensington High Street,
Kensington, London W8 6AG
Time: 10:00 - 18:00
Tickets: £8 - £16, Website: www.designmuseum.org
UNTIL 4 NOVEMBER | EXHIBITION
THE FUTURE STARTS HERE
100 projects shaping the world of tomorrow
Victoria & Albert Museum, Cromwell Road, Knightsbridge, London SW7 2RL Time: Daily: 10:00 - 17:45, Friday: 10:00 - 22:00 Tickets: £15 Website: www.vam.ac.uk

UNTIL 27 JANUARY 2019 | EXHIBITION
FASHIONED FROM NATURE. Showcasing the ways in which fashionable dress has drawn on the natural world
Victoria & Albert Museum, Cromwell Road, Knightsbridge, London SW7 2RL Time: Daily: 10:00 - 17:45, Friday: 10:00 - 22:00 Tickets: £12 Website: www.vam.ac.uk

5 JUNE - 16 SEPTEMBER | EXHIBITION
AFTERMATH: ART IN THE WAKE OF WORLD WAR ONE
Exploring the impact of World War One on British, German and French art
Tate Britain, Millbank, London SW1P 4RG Time: 10:00 - 18:00 Tickets: £15 - £18 Website: www.tate.org.uk

15 JUNE - 7 OCTOBER | ARCHITECTURE
SERPENTINE PAVILION DESIGNED BY FRIDA ESCOBEDO
Serpentine Gallery, Hyde Park, London W2 Tickets: Free admission Website: www.serpentinegalleries.org
WE RECOMMEND

16 JUNE - 4 NOVEMBER | EXHIBITION
FRIDA KAHLO: MAKING HERSELF UP. Perspective on Kahlo’s compelling life story through her most intimate personal belongings
Victoria & Albert Museum, Cromwell Road, Knightsbridge, London SW7 2RL
Time: Daily: 10:00 - 17:45, Friday: 10:00 - 22:00
Tickets: £15
Website: www.vam.ac.uk

17 JUNE | CLASSICAL MUSIC
PARISIAN SUMMER NIGHTS
Magical French music for a midsummer’s evening
Cadogan Hall, 5 Sloane Terrace, Belgravia, London SW1X 9DQ
Time: 19:00
Tickets: £15 - £35
Website: www.cadoganhall.com

19 JUNE - 9 SEPTEMBER | EXHIBITION
Serpentine Gallery, London, W2
Time: Tuesday - Sunday 10:00 - 18:00
Tickets: Free admission
Website: www.serpentinegalleries.org

21 JUNE - 29 SEPTEMBER | THEATRE
THE KING AND I MUSICAL
London Palladium, 8 Argyll Street, Soho, London W1F 7TE
Tickets: £29 - £125
Website: www.kingandimusical.co.uk
28 JUNE - 21 OCTOBER | EXHIBITION
MICHAEL JACKSON: ON THE WALL. Exploring the influence of Michael Jackson on the leading names in contemporary art.
National Portrait Gallery, St. Martin’s Pl, London WC2H 0HE
Time: Daily: 10:00 - 18:00, Friday: 10:00 - 21:00
Tickets: £15.50 - £22 Website: www.npg.org.uk

30 JUNE | MUSIC
CHARLES AZNAVOUR
Charles Aznavour returns once more to become the oldest artist to ever headline the Royal Albert Hall
Royal Albert Hall, Kensington Gore, London SW7 2AP
Time: 19:30 Tickets: £53 - £299 Website: www.royalalberthall.com

12 JUNE — 19 AUGUST | EXHIBITION
ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS 250TH SUMMER EXHIBITION
The Royal Academy, Burlington House, Piccadilly, Mayfair, London W1J 0BD
Tickets: £11 - £18
Website: www.royalacademy.org.uk

3 JULY - 8 SEPTEMBER | CLASSICAL MUSIC
BBC PROMS. An eight-week summer season of daily orchestral concerts and other events
See a selection of all Russian events on page 46
Royal Albert Hall and other locations
Website: www.bbc.co.uk/proms
INTERVIEW

OSCAR RABIN: IF I HAD A LITERARY TALENT, I WOULD WRITE
- Irene Kukota

One of the forefathers of Russian non-conformism, leading member of the Lianozovo group and organiser of the famous 1974 Bulldozer exhibition, Oscar Rabin celebrated his 90th birthday in January. To mark this anniversary, collector Mark Ivasilevitch and the founder of the AZ Museum, Natalya Opaleva joined forces and organised Rabin’s jubilee exhibition at the Grand Palais during the Paris Art Fair this April. We could not pass up the opportunity to interview the artist, a person who radiates wisdom, congeniality and calm.

Q: Oscar Yakovlevitch, are you pleased with the exhibition?
A: Yes, I am very pleased. I had many exhibitions in Paris, but never one on such a grand scale. It is the most significant gift for my 90th birthday.

Q: Can you say that France and Paris have become your home?
A: I do not have any other one, as you understand. I am not sure if I can call France my own country, but I have no other. If I go somewhere, I have nowhere else to return but to Paris. And nowhere else do I feel needed as much as here. And I need Paris, too.

Q: And what about the restoration of your Russian citizenship, then?
A: Well, this is another Russia. I left the Soviet

Oscar Rabin, Terminal Pere Lachaise, 2007-2018
Union. I was born there, lived there, and left the same Soviet Union. So, when they ask me if I am a French or a Russian artist, I reply that I am actually a Soviet artist. I neither knew nor saw the old Russia. Neither do I know the new one: I have visited it for a few weeks, but that does not mean that I now know the country. Many things are still the same and yet, this is not my Russia. But please, do not think that I was a fan of the Soviet Union. I hated that system.

**Q:** How could you characterise your work in your own words?

**A:** My paintings are the life that surrounds me. It is everything what is happening to me or my loved ones, my relatives. And by saying “relatives”, I am using the word in the broad sense: this can mean the country, as well. It is my inner life captured in paintings. I would like my work to find an response in the hearts of other people. I am not interested in anything other than this.

**Q:** And which of the recent paintings is most dear to you?

**INTERVIEW**

Oscar Rabin, *The Abandoned Train Station. St Michel, 2012*
A: The Abandoned Train Station. St Michel. It is a forsaken provincial railway station. A quiet, modest picture. It is about loneliness. Even though we are leading an extremely busy and noisy life here on earth, many of us experience this feeling. And not just the people, but the objects as well.

Q: Please, could you tell us a bit about your latest painting, Gare Père Lachaise. Terminal, which you have been working on for 10 years and which is the highlight of the exhibition?
A: It is the one about me, about my life. I have lived a long life: there was youth, love, and children. Everything that a person requires, I had. Sorrows too, and joys. And I even possess old age, which is also believed to be something good!

I was simply hoping to make a painting which could somehow capture my life in Paris. And you know, no matter how hard I thought or tried, nothing would work for me. And then I realized that the most important thing which exists in my life, is that I have two homes. One home is where I now live in Paris. And my second home, where my son and my wife are, is awaiting me, too. They were buried here. And this is the most important thing that has happened to me over the 40 years spent here.

Q: You seem to have a preference for certain images recurring in your paintings. What are they? Archetypes of Russian life?
A: Somehow, am trying to capture my life, express my feelings about what I am experiencing. A herring in Russia (and those who lived there would know) is practically the equivalent of the bottle of vodka. Well, perhaps not entirely, but I like the appearance of the herring and its shape. As an object. I call such an image a character, a personage. And in the same manner, the icon is a character, likewise the crucifixion. I use them to convey what I want to express.

I am not an abstractionist, I cannot tell the whole thing through light alone. It will help, no doubt enhance the mood and yet, I believe, that if I had any literary talent, I would write. Since I am completely devoid of any literary abilities, I narrate through my paintings by trying to bring all these objects together.

You can read the whole interview on: www.russianartandculture.com
BBC Proms is one of the biggest classical music festivals in the world. This year it will take place between 13th July and 8th September and will offer more than 90 concerts. Olga Jegunova of Russian Art + Culture prepared a selection of all Russian events at Proms 2018.

BBC Proms main home remains the Royal Albert Hall but concerts and events will also take place in Cadogan Hall, The Roundhouse, Lincoln Drill Hall, Alexandra Palace, Hyde Park, Imperial College Union, BBC Broadcasting House and BBC Maida Vale Studios.

THE MAIN THEMES THIS YEAR ARE:
- Leonard Bernstein’s 100th anniversary
- 100 years since the end of the First World War
- Women composers

At www.bbc.co.uk/proms you can find an event that suits you. There is a full selection of musicians, composers, free and family events, TV concerts, late concerts, etc.

The Russian repertoire features large at the festival: Glinka, Mussorgsky, Prokofiev, Rachmaninov, Scriabin, Shostakovich, Stravinsky and Tchaikovsky will be performed by the greatest contemporary Russian musicians, Bychkov, Currentzis, Ibragimova, K. & V Petrenko, and Vedernikov.

Regarding tickets, I would recommend “promming” to those who don’t mind standing during concerts. There are areas of the Royal Albert Hall specially for “prommers” - the Arena, the large space in the centre of the auditorium directly in front of the stage and the Gallery at the very top of the hall. All these places are unreserved and will cost you £6 but bear in mind that for the most popular concert you might need to queue as these tickets are released only prior to the event.

If you would like to book in advance, go to the website: www.bbc.co.uk/proms

Following is a detailed list of events:
16 JULY – PROMS TALK
Time: 17:45
Venue: Imperial College Union
Presenter and writer Anastasia Belina will talk about Shostakovich’s Leningrad Symphony.

16 JULY – PROM 4: SHOSTAKOVICH’S ‘LENINGRAD’ SYMPHONY
Time: 19:30 Venue: Royal Albert Hall
BBC Philharmonic and conductor Juanjo Mena will perform music by Lindberg and Shostakovich’s Leningrad Symphony. This Symphony No 7, finished in 1941 is dedicated to the city of Leningrad, the premiere of which took place with the city under the siege.

21 JULY – PROMS AT THE ROUNDHOUSE
Time: 15:00 Venue: The Roundhouse, Camden
The London Sinfonietta and conductor George Benjamin will perform Stravinsky’s Symphonies of Wind Instruments alongside music by C. Ives and O. Messiaen.

26 JULY – PROM 16: STRAVINSKY, DEBUSSY & WAGNER
Time: 19:30 Venue: Royal Albert Hall
The Hallé and conductor Mark Elder will perform music by Wagner, Debussy and Stravinsky’s 1914 operetta Song of the Nightingale and The Firebird.

28 JULY – PROM 18: CURRENTZIS CONDUCTS BEETHOVEN
Time: 19:30 Venue: Royal Albert Hall
Ensemble Music Aeterna and Theodor Currentzis will perform two Beethoven symphonies: No 2 in D Major and No 5 in C minor.

2 AUGUST – PROM 25: TCHAIKOVSKY, GLINKA & JOBY TALBOT
Time: 19:00 Venue: Royal Albert Hall
BBC Symphony Orchestra and conductor Alexander Vedernikov will perform Glinka, Talbot and Tchaikovsky.

Mikhail Glinka (1804-1857) was the first Russian composer to gain worldwide recognition and is often regarded as a figurehead of Russian classical music. The orchestra will perform Spanish Overture no 2 Summer Night in Madrid and Tchaikovsky’s Nutcracker Act I.

4 AUGUST – PROMS AT … LINCOLN DRILL HALL
Time: 15:00 Venue: Lincoln Drill Hall
Hebrides Ensemble and conductor William Conway will perform Stravinsky’s The Soldier’s Tale. Composed in 1918, this First World War musical theatre piece tells a story of a young man who sells his soul to the Devil.
4 AUGUST – PROM 28: NYO PERFORM MUSSORGSKY, LIGETI & DEBUSSY

Time: 19:30  Venue: Royal Albert Hall
The National Youth Orchestra and conductor George Benjamin will perform music by Mussorgsky, Benjamin and Ravel.

Mussorgsky’s Night on the Bare Mountain is a 12-minute piece that was orchestrated by Rimsky-Korsakov. Composed in 1886, it was initially written for piano and orchestra and later rewritten as an orchestral piece. It tells a story about a mystical life of witches and ghosts that gather on the top of a mountain.

6 AUGUST – PROM 32: INSIDE SHOSTAKOVICH

Time: 22:15  Venue: Royal Albert Hall
An evening dedicated to Shostakovich: Pianist Denis Kozhukhin will perform Shostakovich’s Piano Concerto No 2 in F-Major with the Aurora Orchestra. Led by conductor Nicholas Collon, the Orchestra will also perform Shostakovich’s Symphony No 9 in E-Flat Major.

14 AUGUST – PROM 43: DANIEL BARENBOIM & WEST–EAST DIVAN ORCHESTRA

Time: 19:30  Venue: Royal Albert Hall
West-East Divan Orchestra and Daniel Barenboim will perform Brahms (with violinist Lisa Batiashvili), Coleman and Scriabin.

16 AUGUST – PROM 45: ORCHESTRE DE LA SUISSE ROMANDE & JONATHAN NOTT

Time: 19:00  Venue: Royal Albert Hall
Geneva’s Orchestre de la Suisse Romande and conductor Jonathan Nott will perform music by Debussy, Ravel (together with violinist Renaud Capuçon) and Stravinsky’s Petrushka (1911 version), one of his best-loved pieces. Initially performed by Diaghilev’s Ballets Russes in Paris, it tells a story of the loves and jealousies of three puppets.

17 AUGUST – PROM 47: ELGAR, PROKOFIEV & VENABLES

Time: 19:30  Venue: Royal Albert Hall
BBC Symphony Orchestra and conductor Sakari Oramo will perform music by Elgar, Venables-Bartok (with violinist Pekka Kuusisto) and Prokofiev. Prokofiev’s Symphony No 5 in B-flat major was composed in 1944 and resonates with the composer’s statement about music: “A hymn to free and happy Man, to his mighty powers, his pure and noble spirit”.

19 AUGUST – PROM 49: CHOPIN & TCHAIKOVSKY

Time: 11:00  Venue: Royal Albert Hall
European Union Orchestra and conductor Gianandrea Noseda will perform music by Zubel, Chopin (together with pianist Seong-Jin Cho) and Tchaikovsky.
27 AUGUST – PROM 60: MARIN ALSOP & BALTIMORE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Time: 20:00 Venue: Royal Albert Hall
Baltimore Symphony Orchestra and conductor Marin Alsop will perform music by Bernstein (together with pianist Jean-Yves Thibaudet) and Shostakovich. Shostakovich’s Symphony No 5 in D minor (1937) was premiered in Leningrad and received an ovation that lasted well over half an hour. It quotes Pushkin’s poem Vozrozhdenie that talks about rebirth.

31 AUGUST – PROM 65: STRAVINSKY, RAVEL & BERIO

Time: 19:00 Venue: Royal Albert Hall
BBC Symphony Orchestra, London Voices and conductor Semyon Bychkov will perform music by Ravel, Berio and Stravinsky.

1 SEPTEMBER – PROM 66: BERLIN PHILHARMONIC & KIRILL PETRENKO (I)

Time: 19:30 Venue: Royal Albert Hall
Berliner Philharmoniker and conductor Kirill Petrenko will perform music by Dukas, (with pianist Yuja Wang), Schmidt and Prokofiev’s Piano Concerto No 3 in C Major - one of the most technically challenging pieces written for piano.

2 SEPTEMBER – PROM 68: BERLIN PHILHARMONIC & KIRILL PETRENKO (II)

Time: 20:00 Venue: Royal Albert Hall
Berliner Philharmoniker and Kirill Petrenko will perform music by Strauss and Beethoven. Kirill Petrenko is a Russian-Austrian conductor who will become chief conductor of the Berlin Philharmonic for the 2019-2020 season.

3 SEPTEMBER – PROM 69: BOSTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA BERNSTEIN AND SHOSTAKOVICH

Time: 19:30 Venue: Royal Albert Hall
Boston Symphony Orchestra and conductor Andris Nelsons will perform music by Bernstein (together with violinist Baiba Skride) and Shostakovich.

Teodor Currentzis, © Frol Podlesmy
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