STATUS

This is the forty-third biannual Newsletter of the IMRC and follows the last issue that appeared in August, 2001. The information presented here relates primarily to events connected with the IMRC during the fall and winter of 2001. For the benefit of new readers, data on the present structure of the IMRC is given on the last page of this issue.

Previous IMRC Newsletters (1979-2001) are now available electronically and can be requested via e-mail at imrc@usc.edu. A full run can also be supplied on a CD disc (containing a searchable version in Microsoft Word) at a cost of $25.00, shipping included (add $5.00 if overseas airmail). Enquiries should be sent to: IMRC, POB 4353, USC, Los Angeles, Ca. 90089-4353, USA; tel.: (213) 740-2735 or (213) 740-6120; fax: (213) 740-8550; e: imrc@usc.edu; website: http://www.usc.edu/dept/LAS/IMRC

RUSSIA

Among Russia’s most celebrated paintings is Il’ia Repin’s They Did Not Expect Him (1884) which, manifestly, tells the story of a political prisoner returning abruptly to the bosom of his middle-class family. Repin’s picture engages our attention not only by the human drama, but also by the capacious armchair which, heavy and imperious, is poised on the edge of the frame, about to fall off into the real world. Unexpectedly, this attribute of bourgeois comfort and solidity has strutted into the new Russia, and with an unprecedented arrogance and self-confidence -- for one of the most disconcerting developments in that society is the cult of furniture and fixtures. You are bombarded by advertisements for softer sofas, brighter chandeliers, larger closets, and quieter toilets, while everyday language revives concepts and images long forgotten -- the etazherka, the ekran, the pouffe, and the credenza -- that sound more at home in a Tolstoi novel than in the rush of downtown Moscow. What no-one expected is the speed and insistence with which these furnishings and appliances have entered the
Russian consciousness and how the Socialist consumer of abundant slogans has become the Capitalist consumer of global home improvement. Repin never suspected that his pictorial bid for political freedom would have been reduced to a billboard for material surfeit, but then, no-one ever expected that the palaces of the nobility would have become palaces of labor and that the palaces of labor would have become palaces of discount furniture.

**THE HOME FRONT**

Anna Bunina and Lorin Johnson have begun to construct a searchable database for the archival materials relating to Francisco Infante and other non-conformist artists in the IMRC Archive. This project is being co-funded by the Undergraduate Research Program at the University of Southern California. Some of this information will be used in the making of a website for an exhibition of Infante’s work planned for Italy and Russia later this year.

In conjunction with the opening of “The Bestiary of the Russian Cabaret: Flying Mice and Blue Birds, Black Cats and Stray Dogs. Designs and Documents from the Institute of Modern Russian Culture and Other Collections” to be held in the Doheny Library at the University of Southern California, Los Angeles, a performance commemorating the Russian cabaret will be held in the second week of April. Inessa Kouteinikova, recent recipient of the Russo-Australian Cultural Prize, will perform pieces for voice and piano by Alban Berg, Henriette Bosmans, and Reynaldo Hahn followed by two dance pieces which also reflect the cabaret experience of the 1910s and 1920s. Lorin Johnson, currently a graduate student in the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures at USC and former member of Baryshnikov’s American Ballet Theatre, will be staging the pas de deux “Melody” by the Russian avant-garde choreographer, Kas’ian Goleizovsky. In the 1910s Goleizovsky was dance director for “The Bat” cabaret and his future creativity within the lexicon of classical ballet was greatly influenced by his early experimentation. The pas de deux will be danced by Tanya Durbin, who has made guest performances with companies such as The New York City Ballet and Viktor Uygan, a former member of the Hartford Ballet. The second piece will be choreographed by Ruth Barnes, former member of the Merce Cunningham modern dance company and now a teacher and choreographer of international standing. Basing her performance on the dance aesthetic of the early Russian cabaret, Barnes will apply modern dance technique, enhancing the experimentation and improvisation that distinguished the early Russian cabaret.

**EXPERIMENT**

The eighth number of *Experiment* (spring, 2002), entitled “The Science of Art: (Vasili Kandinsky and Soviet Academic Institutions, 1917-21)”, is devoted to the artist’s theoretical legacy and contains a large number of archival materials, including a previously unpublished version of “On the Spiritual in Art”. *Experiment* No 8 (spring, 2003) will be devoted to the life and work of Pavel
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  "On the Spiritual in Art" (1918-21)

Free State Art Studios, Moscow (Svomas)
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  “Theses for Teaching” (1918-19)
  Pedagogical Materials (ca. 1920):
    A. “Green. Blue, and Yellow”;
    B. “The Development of the Painterly Idea in Contemporary Art”;
    C. “The Essence of Form and the Formal Element in Painting”.

Institute of Artistic Culture, Moscow (Inkhuk)
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  "Vasilii Kandinsky and the Section of Monumental Art at Inkhuk"
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"On a Method for Working with Synthetic Art" (March-summer, 1921)
"Plan for the Physico-Psychological Department of the Russian Academy of Artistic Sciences" (June, 1921)
"Work Plan for the Visual Arts Section of the Academy" (June, 1921)
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Letters to
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Back issues of Experiment (1995-2001) -- on the classical Russian avant-garde (No. 1), artistic movement in Russia in the 1910s and 1920s (No. 2), the Russian Academy of Artistic Sciences (No. 3), the Apocalypse (No. 4), the Khardzhiev archive (No. 5), Organica (No. 6), and Art Nouveau (No. 7) -- are available at a cost of $20.00 ($15.00 for IMRC members) per copy, shipping included if domestic (outside the US add $5 for overseas surface rate). Send orders and enquiries to: Institute of Modern Russian Culture, POB 4353, USC, Los Angeles, CA. 90089-4353; tel. (213) 740-2735 or (213) 740-6120; fax (213) 740-8550.

CONFERENCES OF INTEREST TO THE IMRC

1. The Galerie Gmurzynska, Cologne, organized a one-day symposium for Alexander Rodchenko on 29 August to mark the closure of the exhibition "Alexander Rodchenko and Naum Gabo: Spatial Constructions". For information contact Silvan Faessler, Galerie Gmurzynska, Goethestr. 65A, 50968 Köln, Germany; tel. (49) (221) 376440


3. The "Fifth Moscow Demidov Assembly" took place at the International Demidov Foundation, Nezhinskaia, d. 14, korp. 5, 119517 Moscow, on 21-23 September. For information contact the organizer, N.G. Demidova, at (7) (095) 4411182.
4. The International Roerich Center, Moscow, organized a conference on Nicholas Roerich on 9 October. For information contact Elena Yakovleva at elenayakovleva@hotmail.com

5. The Annual Russian Heritage Festival at Mission San Juan Capistrano included a benefit for the artist Leonid Steele on 13 October. For information contact www.missionsjc.com

6. Sergey Bobrov and Jennifer Jason Leigh presented the “New York Festival of Russian Films” on 14-21 October at various venues in New York, culminating in a benefit event for the Bulat Okudzhava Foundation. For information contact Sarah Miiller: binghammiller@mail.earthlink.net

7. The Museo delle Icone, Peccioli, Italy, organized a conference on “L’icona come segno di unità oltre le divisioni fra oriente e occidente” on 16-17 November. For information contact (390) (587) 672606.

8. The Museum of Fine Arts, Omsk, held the third “December Dialogues” on 19-21 December devoted to 20th century Russian art, cultural history, and museology. For information contact Alla Gumeniuk at vrubel@museum.omsk.su

9. The Radishchev Museum of Fine Arts, Saratov, will be holding its next Bogoliubov Readings in February and March in conjunction with the exhibition “Sharp Angles” (works of the Russian avant-garde from the Radishchev Museum and the Vol’skaia Picture Gallery). The events will focus on the activities of the Free State Art Studios in Saratov in the early 1920s. For information contact Liudmila Pashkova at (7) (845) 241209; fax 247259.

10. The State University of the Urals, Ekaterinburg, is hosting a conference on cultural interchange between center and periphery under the title “The Metropolis and the Provinces” on 14-17 March. For information contact gallery@library.uraic.ru or Lucia Tonini at steidl@tiscalinet.it

11. In connection with the exhibition, “Central European Avant-Gardes: Exchange and Transformation, 1910-1930” at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, the UCLA Center for European and Russian Studies and the Los Angeles County Museum of Art are organizing a conference on “Avant-Garde in Central Europe” for 9 March at UCLA. For information telephone (310) 825-6397

12. Dietrich Scheunemann is organizing a conference on the international avant-garde at the University of Edinburgh, Scotland, on 22-24 March. For information contact him at gerdfgss@srv0.arts.ed.ac.uk

13. The Museum of Modern Art, New York, is holding a symposium on 30 March in connection with its exhibition of Russian avant-garde books. For information contact Margit Rowell at Margitrowell@aol.com
14. The Centaur Company, St. Petersburg, is organizing a conference under the title “St. Petersburg—Window on the Future” as an International Architectural Forum on 11-17 May. For information contact www.architect.org

15. In connection with the exhibition of Far Eastern Modernism and Japan (April, 2002), Toshiharu Omuka of the Institute of Art and Design, University of Tsukuba, Japan, is organizing a symposium on the interchange of the Russian avant-garde, Japan, and the US on 9 July, 2002. For information contact him at the Institute of Art and Design, University of Tsukuba, Tsukuba-shi, 305 Japan; tel. (0291) 536343; omuka@geijutsu.tsukuba.ac.jp

16. The David Burliuk Foundation, Simferopol, Crimea, Ukraine, is hoping to organize an international conference and exhibition to coincide with Burliuk's 120th birthday in 2002 in Sumy, Ukraine. For information contact Aleksandr Kapitonenko, Fond D.D. Burliuka, 95000 Simferopol, Krym, ul. Rozy Liuksemburg 1, a/ya 1471, Ukraine; e: msv@pop.cris.net

17. Viktor Skvortsov hopes to organize a conference dedicated to the artistic and theoretical accomplishments of the painter Sergei Mikhailovich Romanovich (1894-1968) later this year. Contact Viktor Skvortsov, ul. Pavla Korchagina, d. 11, kv. 43, Moscow 129278; tel. (7) (095)

18. The Beinecke Library, Yale University, is sponsoring a celebration of St. Petersburg’s tercentenary with exhibitions, a concert, and a symposium on 23-25 October, 2003. For information contact Alexander Schenker at: amschenk@amschenk.mail.yale.edu

PUBLICATIONS, RECENT AND CURRENT

Note: The titles mentioned below are a single drop in the ocean of new books, brochures, and catalogs related to the Russian visual and performing arts and they supplement the lists in preceding IMRC Newsletters. (M=Moscow; SP=St. Petersburg). Date of publication is 2001, unless indicated otherwise.

N. Aleksandrova: Serebri'akova, M:
Belyy gorod

M. Allenov: Russkoe iskusstvo XVIII-nachala XX veka, M: Trilistik, 2000

N. Andreeva: Neulovimoe sozdanie, M: Sovpadenie, 2000


O. Bakich: Harbin Russian Imprints: Bibliography as History, 1898-1961, New York: Ross
N. Baranov: *Zametki o khudozhnikakh*, Vladimir: Kaleidoskop, 2000

S. Bekkerman: *Boris Anisf’el’d*, SP: Palace Editions


G. Bruskin: *Proshedshee vremia nesovershennogo vida*, M: Novoe literaturnoe obozrenie


M. Chegodaeva: *Dva lika vremeni. 1939. Odin god stalinskoi epokhi*, M: Agraf

A. Chepalov: *Sud'ba peresmeshnika ili novye stranstviia frakaka*, Kharkov: AVEK

I. Chizhova: *Sud’ba pridvornogo khudozhnika. V.L. Borovikovsky v Peterburge*, SP Leninzdat


G. Churak: *Ivan Aivazovsky*, M: Belyi gorod

O. Dobrovol’sky: *Savarasov*, M: Terra

P. Druzhinin: *Dvorets sovetov*, M: Druzhinin

E. Dukov, ed.: *Razvlekatel’naia kul’tura Rossii XVIII-XIX vv.*, SP: Bulanin

I. Evstaf’eva and A. Leikin: *A. Sofronova. Zapiski nezavisimoi*, M: RA

B. Fäthke: *Marianne Werefkin*, Munich: Hirmer


W. Gasperowicz and Michail Talalay: *Memorie del conte Michael Dmitrievitsch-Boutourline*, Lucaa (Italy): Fazzi, 2000

M. German, I. Karasik, and L. Gurevich: *Prostranstvo Sterligova*, SP: Palace Editions

A. Golovina, com.: *Peterburg. Khudozhestvennaia zhizn’ 1900-1816*.

I. Grabar': *Moia zhizn’*. *Avtomonografiia*, M: Respublika

A. Gracheva: *Alekssei Remizov i dreverusskaia kul’tura*, SP; Bulanin, 2000


T. Grodkova, ed.: *V.E. Borisov-Musatov i “Saratovskaia shkola”*, Saratov: Radishchev Museum


A. Gusarova: *Dobuzhinsky*, M: Belyi gorod

M. Hagemeister: *Materielen zu Pavel Florenskij*, Berlin: Kontext


L. Hanson and N. Kressel: *Eisenstein at 100: A Reconsideration*, New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press


M. Ivanov: *Zapiski i razmysleniiia*, M: Panton


N. Khrenov and K. Sokolov: *Khudozhestvennaia zhizn’ imperatorskoi Rossi*, SP: Aleteia


B. Kirillov: *Arkhiektura severnogo moderna*, M: URSS

V. Kirillov: *Arkhiektura Moskvy na putiakh evropeizatsii*, M: Editorial URSS, 2000

V. Kirsanova: *Vse shedevry russkoi zhivopisi*, M: Olimp-AST

B. Kolonitsky: *Simvoly vlasti i bor’ba za vlast’, SP; Bulanin
G. Kovalenko, ed.: Russkii avangard 1910-kh--1930-kh godov v evropeiskom kontekste, M: Nauka


A. Kuz’min and N. Rogulin: Suvorovskii muzei, SP: Komitet po kul’ture, 1999

O. Kuznetsova: Russkii modernizm. Sbornik statei, SP: Aleteiia

I. Kyzlasova: Aleksandr Ivanovich Anisimov (1877-1937), M: Moskovskii gosudarstvennyi gornyi institut, 2000

I. Kyzlasova: Istorii otechestvenoi nauki ob iskusstve Vizantii i Drevnei Rusi 1920-1930 gody po materialam arkhivov, M: Akademiia gornykh nauk, 2000


V. Ledzinsky and A. Telichko: Mir khudozhestvennogo metalla Moskvy XVII-XX vekov, M: Zhiraf, 2000


V. Manin: Konstantin Bogaevsky, M: Belyi gorod, 2000

N. Mamonova: Konstantin Yuon, M: Belyi gorod

L. Markina: Dmitrii Levitsky, M: Belyi gorod

P. Matveev: Atlanty i kariatidy Peterburga, SP: Iskusstvo

V. Nikitin: Modern-dzhaz tanets, M: GITIS, 2000

A. Pavlov: Khramy Sankt-Peterburga, SP: Lenizdat


O. Petrova: Simvolizm v russkom izobrazitel'nom iskusstve, SP: SPb gumanitarnyi universitet profoiuzov, 2000
A. Podpipsky: Vasil’kovye gody Marka Shagala ili Vitebsk v sud’ba khudoznika, Vitebsk: Sapunov Foundation, 2000


D. Roghich: Great-Martyr Tsar Lazar of Serbia, Platina: St. Herman Press

E. Rose: Nihilism, Platina: St. Herman Press

D. Sarab’ianov: Istoriia russkogo iskusstva kontsa XIX-nachala XX veka, M: Galart

D. Sarab’ianov: Modern, M: Galart

A. Shatskikh: et al.: Kazimir Malevich. Chernyi kvadrat, SP: Azbuka

M. Shishkin: Russkaia Shveitsariia, Zurich: Pano

N. Shumsky: Vrubel’. Zhizn’ i bolez’, SP: Akademicheskii proekt


N. Spirina and V. Larichev: Rerikhovskie chteniia, Novosibirsk: Siberian Roerich Society, 2000

I. Stalin: Iosif Stalin, SP: Olma


L. Tkachenko: Filonov: podstupdy k osmyshleniiu, SP: Znak, 2000

A. Trubacheva, ed.: Florensky. Istoriia i filosofiia iskusstva, M: Mysl’, 2000

O. Truevtseva: Muzei Sibiri vo vtoroi polovine XX veka, Tomsk: TGU, 2000

V. Turchin: Aleksandr I i neoklassitsizm v Rossii, M: Zhiraf

A. Turkov: Isaak Il’ich Levitan, M: Terra

E. Valkenier: Valentin Serov: Portraits of Russia’s Silver Age, Evanston: Northwestern University Press

D. Vapeeva: Iskusstvo Tatarstana (XX vek), Kazan: Turan, 1999

I. Vukcevich: Rex Germanorum, Populus Sclavorum, Santa Barbara:
University Center Press

E. Yakovleva: *Rerikh i teatr*, M: Mezhdunarodnyi tsentr Rerikhov, Odessa


S. Zagraevsky: *Spravochnik. Edinyi khudozhestvennyi reiting*, M: Professional’nyi Soiuz khudozhnikov


V. Zubov: *Russkie propovedniki*, M: URSS


For comprehensive information on new Russian publications, including reviews, see Ex Libris NG Online in Moscow; e: mia@mosinfo.ru

The Russian National Library of St. Petersburg also operates a useful site: http://www.rsl.ru

New journals concerning Russian visual and literary culture continue to appear, including:

*Diaspora* (Paris/SP, 2000 onwards; contact Diaspora at tel. [33] [1] 42884315);

*Novyi Mir iskusstva* (SP, 1998 onwards);

*Teatr/Theater* (No. 1, 2000; contact Charles Schlacks, tel./fax [909] 6594641; e: sch.slavic@idyllwild.com);

*Iskusstvoznanie* (latest issue is No. 2 for 2001; contact Iskusstvoznanie, Gosudarstvenyi Institut iskusstvoznanii, Kozitskii per., d. 5, Moscow 103009)

The regular bulletin issued by AIS (Association of Art Historians) in Moscow continues to be a valuable source of information on publications and exhibitions (AIS, Gogolevskii bd., d. 10, 121019 Moscow; tel. 2906463).

Mikhail Parkhomovsky announces that the first five volumes of *Evrei v kul’ture russkogo zarubezh’ia* are on sale at a substantial discount. Contact him at 648/4 Mishlat St., Bet-Shemesh, 99013 Israel; tel. 972 2 9917039; mipar@barak-online.net
A useful guide to Moscow's cultural scene is *Where Moscow*, edited by Yuliia Kartseva and Vera Shchukina, which appears every two months. For information contact the main office at ul. Kedrova 15, 117036 Moscow; tel. (7) (095) 1290777; fax (7) (095) 1291518; e: where@spn.ru

**SELECTED PUBLICATIONS SCHEDULED TO APPEAR IN 2002 AND BEYOND**


P. Debreczeny: *Isaak Levitan*


A. Nakov: *Malewicz*, Paris: Biro


A. Ruzhnikov, ed.: *Fabergé, Russian Silver*, Palo Alto, Ca.: Ruzhnikov

The Center for the Study of the Spiritual Culture of the GULAG and the Roerich Museum of Cosmic Art in Petrozavodsk have published numerous books on yoga, Islam, Judaism, eternity, the sphinx, the zodiac, the Russian avant-garde, cosmsism, etc. Contact Yuri Linnik, ul. Volodarskogo 1-58, 185005 Petrozavodsk.

The catalogs of the art exhibitions listed below are also important sources of information.

**EXHIBITIONS, RECENT OR CURRENT** (The period covered is the fall and winter of 2001, unless indicated otherwise) (TG=State Tretiakov Gallery, Moscow; RM=State Russian Museum, St. Petersburg)

"Vladimir Yankilevsky. La femme à côté de la mer" at Galerie Dina Vierny, Paris, May-September

“Alexander Rodchenko-Naum Gabo” at the Galerie Gmurzynska, Cologne, May-August

“Pastoral Paintings from Russia and the Ukraine” at International Images, Sewickley, June

“The Gift from Vera Georgievna Dulova” at TG, summer

"Prezioso Quotidiano. Tesori della vita russa" at the Palazzo Leoni Montanari, Vicenza, May-October
"1909-1944 Futurismo" at the Palazzo delle Esposizioni, Rome, July-October

“From the Collection of Il’ia Ostroukhov” at TG, fall

“Alexander Gradoboev. Deepblueroom” at Krokin Gallery, M, September
