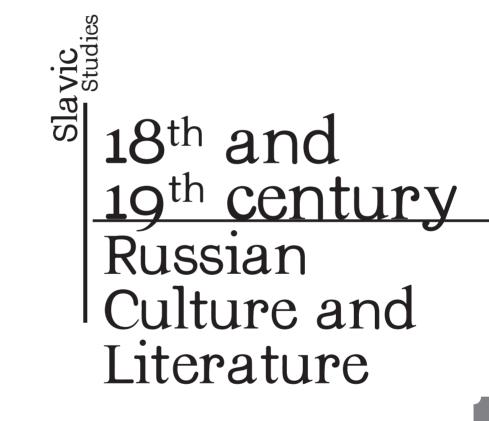
Slavic Studies

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 "TSAR AND GOD" AND OTHER ESSAYS IN RUSSIAN CULTURAL SEMIOTICS

> Victor Zhivov and Boris Uspenskij Translated by Marcus Levitt

August 2011

500 pages

- HistoryCultural Studies
- Semiotics

Cloth 978-1-936235-49-0 \$78.00 / £64.99

Featuring a number of pioneering essays by the internationally known Russian cultural historians Boris Uspenskij and Victor Zhivov, this collection includes a number of essays appearing in English for the first time. Focusing on several of the most interesting and problematic aspects of Russia's cultural development, these essays examine the survival and the reconceptualization of the past in later cultural systems and some of the key transformations of Russian cultural consciousness. The essays in this collection contain some important examples of Russian cultural semiotics and remain indispensable contributions to the history of Russian civilization.

Boris Uspenskij (PhD Moscow University) is a Professor at the Russian State University for the Humanities; Professor emeritus of the Oriental University of Naples (*Istituto Universitario Orientale*). His research in general linguistics defined his interest in semiotics with the special focus on the visual arts, especially the study of icon-painting. He has published numerous books and articles, including *The Semiotics of Russian Culture*. Ann Arbor, 1984 (with Yu. Lotman); *The History of the Russian Literary Language (XI—XVII centuries*). Muenchen, 1987 (in Russian); *Semiotik der Geschichte*. Wien, 1991; *Storia della lingua letteraria russa*. Bologna, 1993; *Linguistica, semiotica, storia della cultura*. Bologna, 1996; *Semiotics of Art*. Moscow, 1995 (in Russian); *Tsar and Patriarch*. Moscow, 1998 (in Russian); *«In regem unxit»: Unzione al trono e semantica dei titoli del sovrano*. Naples, 2001; *Cross and Circle: From the History of the Christian Symbolism*. Moscow, 2006 (in Russian); *Ego loquens: Language and Communicational Space*. Moscow, 2007 (in Russian); *Prospettiva divina e prospettiva umana: La pala di van Eyck a Gand*. Milano, 2010.

Viktor Zhivov (PhD Moscow University) is a Professor at UC Berkeley and Russian Language Institute of the Academy of Sciences, Moscow. His research interests include the history of the Russian language and Slavic literary languages, East Slavic and Byzantine cultural history, and Old and 18th Century Russian literature. His previous publications include: *Ocherki istoricheskoi morfologii russkogo iazyka XVII—XVIII veka*, 2004; *Razyskaniia v oblasti istorii i predystorii russkoi kul'tury*2002; *Jazyk I kul'tura v Rossii XVIII veka*, 1996; *Kul'turnye konflikty v istorii russkogo literaturnogo iaszyka XVII—nachala XIX veka* 1990; *Tsar i Bog. Semiotyczne aspekty sakralizacji monarchy w Rosji*. Warszawa, 1992 [written jointly with Boris Uspenskij]; and *Ocherki po sintagmaticheskoi fonologii*,1980.



Russians in State Service, Life, and Literature

Irina Reyfman

Rank and Style is a collection of essays by Irina Reyfman, a leading scholar of Russian literature and culture. Ranging from the eighteenth to the twentieth century, the essays focus on the interaction of life and literature. In the first part, Reyfman examines how obligatory state service and the Table of Ranks shaped Russian writers' view of themselves as professionals, raising questions about whether the existence of the rank system prompted the development of specifically Russian types of literary discourse. The sections that follow bring together articles on Pushkin, writer and man, as seen by himself and others, essays on Leo Tolstoy, and other aspects of Russian literary and cultural history. In addition to examining little-studied writers and works, *Rank and Style* offers new approaches to well-studied literary personalities and texts.

Irina Reyfman (PhD Stanford University) is a professor of Russian Literature at Columbia University. In her studies, Reyfman focuses on the interaction of literature and culture: how literature reflects cultural phenomena and how it contributes to the formation of cultural biases and forms of behavior. Reyfman is the author of *Vasilii Trediakovsky: The Fool of the 'New' Russian Literature* (Stanford, 1990) and *Ritualized Violence Russian Style: The Duel in Russian Culture and Literature* (Stanford, 1999; also in Russian, Moscow: NLO, 2002). She is also a co-editor (with Catherine T. Nepomnyashchy and Hilde Hoogenboom) of *Mapping the Feminine: Russian Women and Cultural Difference* (Bloomington, IN: Slavica, 2008).

June 2011 250 pages

> Cloth 978-1-936235-51-3 \$69.00 / £57.50

EPIC AND THE RUSSIAN NOVEL FROM GOGOL TO PASTERNAK

Frederick T. Griffiths and Stanley J. Rabinowitz April 2011 250 pages

Cloth 978-1-936235-53-7 \$69.00 / £58.50

Epic and the Russian Novel from Gogol to Pasternak examines the origin of the 19th century Russian novel and challenges the Lukács-Bakhtin theory of epic. By removing the Russian novel from its European context, the authors reveal that it developed as a means of reconnecting the narrative form with its origins in classical and Christian epic in such a way that expressed the Russian desire to renew and restore ancient spirituality. Through this methodology, Griffiths and Rabinowitz dispute Bakhtin's classification of epic as a monophonic and dead genre whose time has passed. The epic, argues Griffiths and Rabinowitz, is about heroes and the epic form itself as well as its durability and its unique contingence on earlier epics. Due to its grand themes and cultural centrality, the epic is the form most suited to newcomers or cultural outsiders seeking legitimacy through appropriation of the past. Through readings of Gogol's Dead Souls -a uniquely problematic work, and one which Bakhtin argued was novelistic rather than epic —, Dostoevsky's Brothers Karamazov, Pasternak's Dr. Zhivago and Tolstoy's War and Peace, this book redefines "epic" and how we understand the sweep of Russian literature as a whole.

ALSO OF INTEREST



The Marsh of Gold: Pasternak's Writings on Inspiration and Creation Angela Livingstone

Cloth 978-1-934843-23-9 \$50.00 / £41.99 Paper 978-1-936235-07-0 \$24.95 / £20.99

March 2011 250 pages

Cloth 978-1-936235-50-6 \$55.00 / £45.99

CREATING THE EMPRESS

Politics and Poetry in the Age of Catherine II

Vera Proskurina

In *Creating the Empress*, Vera Proskurina examines the interaction between power and poetry in creating the imperial image of Catherine the Great, providing a detailed analysis of a wide range of Russian literary works from this period, particularly the main Classical myths associated with Catherine (Amazon, Astraea, Pallas Athena, Felicitas, Fortune, etc.), as well as how these Classical subjects affirmed imperial ideology and the monarch's power. The book allows for the viewing of these themes and motifs not only in the immediate historical context of Catherine II's reign, but also in the context of the broader European symbolic traditions. Each chapter of the book revolves around the major events of Catherine's reign (as well as some major literary works) that give a broad framework to discuss the evolution of important recurring motifs and images.

Vera Proskurina (PhD Moscow State University) is a professor at Emory University, the author of two books and numerous articles on Russian literature and the intellectual history of Russia. Her first book, *Mikhail Gershenzon: his Life and Myth* (1998) was devoted to the Jewish Russian writer and thinker of the first decades of the 20th century. Her second book, *Myths of Empire: Politics and Literature in the Time of Catherine II*, first appeared in Moscow in 2006.

• REVIEW

"The strength of Proskurina's work lies in its detailed analysis of a wide range of Russian literary works from this period, particularly in highlighting the frequent use of Classical subjects or genres by authors to discuss the symbolic or analogous content of their writings. Similarly, she draws on an impressive range of English- and Russian-language scholarship to emphasize the need to view these Classical themes and motifs in the context of wider European symbolic traditions, as well as the immediate historical context of Catherine II's reign."

> — Paul Keenan, Department of International History, London School of Economics and Political Science, in *Kritika: Explorations in Russian and Eurasian History*, Volume 10, Number 1, 2009, 179-182

ALL THE SAME THE WORDS DON'T GO AWAY

Essays on Authors, Heroes, Aesthetics, and Stage Adaptations from the Russian Tradition

November 2010 450 pages

Caryl Emerson

Cloth 978-1-934843-81-9 \$75.00 / £62.50

All the Same the Words Don't Go Away brings together twenty-five years of essays and reviews, linked loosely by three themes. First is the creative potential inherent in transposing classic literary texts into other genres of media (operatic, dramatic) and the responsibilities, if any, that govern the transposer, audience, and critic. The practice of transposition, however, gives rise to a creative conflict: is there a limit to the amount of ornamentation, pressure, or dilution to which the "mediated" word can be subject? Finally, the more polemical of the essays included here are structured on the Bakhtinian notion of co-existing "plausibilities" and points of view. What a carnival approach can uncover in Pushkin that might have surprised and even pleased the poet, what a libretto or play script brings out that the "true original" hides: here the work of the creator and the critic can overlap in thrilling ways that respect the competencies of each. The book includes an original Preface written by renowned Slavic scholar, David Bethea.

Caryl Emerson (PhD University of Texas at Austin,) is A. Watson Armour III University Professor of Slavic Languages and Literatures, Chair of the Slavic Department and Professor of Comparative Literature at Princeton University. She is the author of The Life of Musorgsky (Cambridge University Press, 1999) and numerous articles on Russian 19th-century prose, the Russian critical tradition, Pushkin as prosewriter and playwright, Russian music and opera, Eastern and Central European prose, and Russian spiritual philosophy.

A "LABYRINTH OF LINKAGES" IN TOLSTOY'S ANNA KARENINA

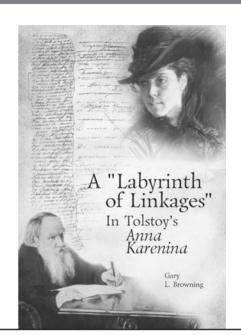
Gary L. Browning

August 2010 132 pages

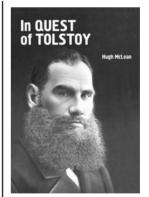
Cloth 978-1-936235-18-6 \$39.00 / £32.50 Paper 978-1-936235-23-0 \$19.00 / £15.99

The renowned Russian writer Leo Tolstoy created a realistic masterpiece in Anna Karenina (1878). In the same work, moreover, he utilized allegory and symbol to an extent and at a level of sophistication unknown in his other works. In Browning's study, the author identifies and analyzes previously unnoticed or only briefly mentioned "linkages and keystones" found in two highly developed clusters of symbols, arising from Anna's momentous train ride and peasant nightmares, and of allegories, rooted in Vronsky's disastrous steeplechase. Within this labyrinth of symbol and allegory lies embedded much of the novel's most significant meaning. This study will be of particular interest to students and scholars of Russian literature, Tolstoy, symbol, allegory, structuralism, and moral criticism.

Gary Browning (PhD Harvard University) is Professor Emeritus at Brigham Young University. He is the author of *Boris Pilniak: Scythian at a Typewriter* (Penguin Group, 1985) and *Leveraging Your Russian with Roots, Prefixes, and Suffixes* (Slavica, 2001).



ALSO OF INTEREST



In Quest of Tolstoy Hugh McLean

Cloth 978-1-934843-02-4 \$75.00 / £62.50 Paper 978-1-936235-08-7 \$29.00 / £24.50

THE SUPERSTITIOUS MUSE

Thinking Russian Literature Mythopoetically

David Bethea

November 2009 432 pages

Cloth 978-1-934843-17-8 \$80.00 / £66.99



For several decades David Bethea has written authoritatively on the "mythopoetic thinking" that lies at the heart of classical Russian literature, especially Russian poetry. His theoreticallyinformed essays and books have made a point of turning back to issues of intentionality and biography at a time when authorial agency seems under threat of "erasure" and the question of how writers, and poets in particular, live their lives through their art is increasingly moot. The lichnost' (personhood, psychic totality) of the given writer is all-important, argues Bethea, as it is that which combines the specifically biographical and the capaciously mythical in verbal units that speak simultaneously to different planes of being. Pushkin's Evgeny can be one incarnation of the poet himself and an everyman rising up to challenge Peter's new world order; Brodsky can be, all at once, Dante and Mandelstam and himself, the exile paying an Orphic visit to Florence (and, by ghostly association, Leningrad). It is this sort of metempsychosis, where the stories that constitute the Ur-texts of Russian literature are constantly reworked in the biographical myths shaping individual writers' lives — that is Bethea's primary focus. This collection contains a liberal sampling of Bethea's most memorable previously published essays along with new studies prepared for this occasion.

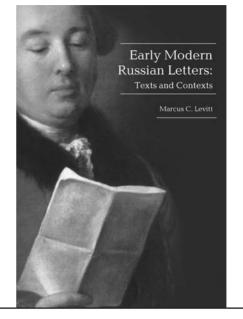
> **David Bethea** (PhD University of Kansas) is a Vilas Professor of Slavic Languages, University of Wisconsin-Madison. Research interests include: Pushkin and his era, modern Russian poetry (esp. Khodasevich and Brodsky), Russian religious thought and cultural mythology, Russian emigre literature, Anglo-American vs. Russian modernism, 20th century Russian/Slavic literary theory (esp. influence studies), biography. Among his books are: *Joseph Brodsky and the Creation of Exile* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1994), and *Realizing Metaphors: Alexander Pushkin and the Life of the Poet* (Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, 1998).

"...indispensable to scholars specializing in eighteenth-century Russia." — Amanda Ewington, The Russian Review



Texts and Contexts

Marcus Levitt



October 2009 440 pages

Cloth 978-1-934843-68-0 \$59.00 / £49.50

Early Modern Russian Letters: Texts and Contexts brings together twenty essays by Marcus C. Levitt, a leading scholar of eighteenth-century Russian literature. The essays address a spectrum of works and issues that shaped the development of modern Russian literature, from authorship and philosophy to gender and religion in Russian Enlightenment culture. The first part of the collection explores the career and works of Alexander Sumarokov, who played a formative role in the literary life of his day. In the essays of the second section, Levitt argues that the Enlightenment's privileging of vision played an especially important role in eighteenth-century Russian self-image, and that its "occularcentrism" was profoundly shaped by Orthodox religious views. Early Modern Russian Letters offers a series of original and provocative explorations of a vital but little studied period.

Marcus C. Levitt (PhD Columbia University) is an associate professor in the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures, University of Southern California. Dr. Levitt is known for both his work on eighteenth-century Russian culture and on Pushkin. His major publications include: *Russian Literary Politics and the Pushkin Celebration of 1880* (Cornell University Press 1989), *Early Modern Russian Writers, Late Seventeenth and Eighteenth Centuries*, (Volume 150) in the series *The Dictionary of Literary Biography* (1995; Editor and contributor) and *Making Russia Visible: The Status of the Visual in Eighteenth-century Russian Literature* (forthcoming).

REVIEWS

"This volume will become indispensable to scholars specializing in eighteenth-century Russia... Levitt's collection weaves a rich tale about eighteenth-century Russia's linguistic development, the rise of its literary institutions, and the complex interplay of Orthodoxy, westernizing secularization, and the heretofore overlooked dominance of the visual. Levitt writes lucidly and without jargon, making his ideas accessible and engaging for specialists and newcomers alike,"

— Amanda Ewington, The Russian Review

"Professor Marcus Levitt, a leading scholar of eighteenth-century Russian literature, crowns years spent studying poet and playwright Alexander Sumarokov with a new collection of articles, some now made available in English for the first time. Containing a series of engaging essays on various aspects of Sumarokov's oeuvre together with a variety of other studies concerning Russian culture, literature, history and philosophy, this volume will serve as an indispensable quide to all those studying eighteenth-century Russia for many years to come."

> - Mark Altshuller, Professor Emeritus of Slavic Languages & Literatures, University of Pittsburgh

"The volume of articles by Marcus Levitt, a well-known expert of early modern Russian literature, embodies his pioneering work in this field. Levitt closes a glaring gap in the history of eighteenth-century Russian literature by providing a wealth of material and ideas about playwright and poet Alexander Sumarkov. Levitt goes on to offer an innovative approach to some of the most important questions of Russian eighteenthcentury literature and culture. It is a pleasure to see the works by an admired colleague so handsomely presented in this thoroughly put together collection."

- Irina Reyfman, Professor of Slavic Languages & Literatures, Columbia University

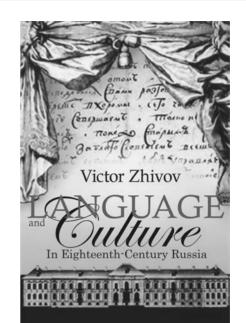
Classic text on the Russian literary language and the genesis of modern Russian culture

LANGUAGE AND CULTURE IN EIGHTEENTH CENTURY RUSSIA

Victor Zhivov Translated by Marcus Levitt

June 2009 524 pages

Cloth 978-1-934843-12-3 \$78.00 / £64.99



Victor Zhivov's Language and Culture in Eighteenth-Century Russia is one of the most important studies ever published on eighteenth-century Russia. Historians and students of Russian culture agree that the creation of a Russian literary language was key to the formation of a modern secular culture, and this title traces the growth of a vernacular language from the "hybrid Slavonic" of the late seventeenth century through the debates between "archaists and innovators" of the early nineteenth century. Zhivov's study is an essential work on the genesis of modern Russian culture; the aim of this translation is to make it available to historians and students of the field.

Viktor Zhivov (PhD Moscow University) is a Professor at UC Berkeley and Russian Language Institute of the Academy of Sciences, Moscow. His research interests include the history of the Russian language and Slavic literary languages, East Slavic and Byzantine cultural history, and Old and 18th Century Russian literature. His previous publications include: *Ocherki istoricheskoi morfologii russkogo iazyka XVII—XVIII veka*, 2004; *Razyskaniia v oblasti istorii i predystorii russkoi kul'tury*, 2002; *Jazyk I kul'tura v Rossii XVIII veka*, 1996; *Kul'turnye konflikty v istorii russkogo literaturnogo iaszyka XVII—nachala XIX veka*, 1990; Tsar i Bog. Semiotyczne aspekty sakralizacji monarchy w RosjiWarszawa, 1992 [written jointly with Boris Uspenskij]; and Ocherki *po sintagmaticheskoi fonologii*,1980.

OTHER BOOKS BY VICTOR ZHIVOV

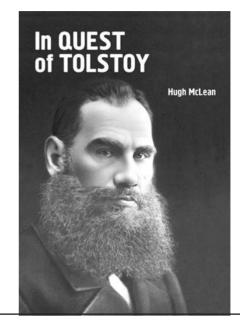
"Tsar and God" and Other Essays in Russian Cultural Semiotics

Cloth 978-1-936235-49-0 \$78.00 / £64.99

"The volume is an invaluable companion both for readers of Tolstoy and for long-time fans of McLean's meticulous and thought-provoking work... Through his masterful command of Tolstoy's writings, McLean seems to lead the reader right into Tolstoy's mind." — Robin Feuer Miller, Brandeis University



Hugh McLean



March 2008 256 pages

Cloth 978-1-934843-02-4 \$75.00 / £62.50 Paper 978-1-936235-08-7 \$29.00 / £24.50

Lev Tolstoy has held the attention of mankind for well over a century. A supremely talented artist whose novels and short stories continue to entrance readers all over the world, he was at the same time a fearless moral philosopher who explored and challenged the fundamental bases of human society— political, economic, legal, and cultural. Hugh McLean, Professor Emeritus of Russian literature at the University of California, Berkeley, has been studying and writing about Tolstoy for many years. In these essays he investigates some of the numerous puzzles and paradoxes in the Tolstoyan heritage, engaging both with Tolstoy the artist, author of those incomparable novels, and Tolstoy the thinker, who, from his impregnable outpost at Yasnaya Polyana, questioned the received ideas and beliefs of the whole civilized world. In two concluding essays, "Tolstoy beyond Tolstoy," McLean deals with the impact of Tolstoy on such diverse figures as Ernest Hemingway and Isaiah Berlin.

Hugh McLean (PhD Harvard University) taught at Harvard, the University of Chicago, and the University of California, Berkeley, where he is now Professor Emeritus. He is the author of *Nikolai Leskov, the Man and His Art*, and edited *In the Shade of the Giant: Essays on Tolstoy*

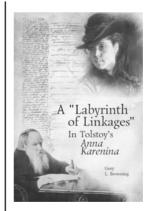
REVIEWS

"Reading this collection convinces me that Professor McLean is the most modest, appreciative, and penetrating critic of Tolstoy I've ever read."

--- Bob Blaisdell, Kingsborough Community College, City University of New York, in *The Tolstoy Studies Journal*

"...this book is an important contribution to Tolstoy studies and will be surely of interest not only to specialists in Tolstoy or Russian literature and culture but to the general reader as well, largely thanks to its accessible, unpretentious and engaging style... In addition to its scholarly, informative, and pragmatic value, McLean's book can be a source of genuine emotional and intellectual pleasure: one leaves it with a sense of having held an illuminating conversation with a very intelligent reader of Tolstoy and a passionate admirer of this great talent."

> ---- Valeria Sobol, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, in *Slavic and East European Journal*



A "Labyrinth of Linkages" in Tolstoy's Anna Karenina Gary L. Browning

Cloth 978-1-936235-18-6 \$39.00 / £32.50 Paper 978-1-936235-23-0 \$19.00 / £15.99

ALSO OF INTEREST

20th century Russian Culture and Literature

July 2011 350 pages, 100 illus.

Paper 978-1-934843-77-2 \$75.00 / £62.50

A CENTURY OF RUSSIAN ART, 1900-2000

John E. Bowlt

A Century of Russian Art, 1900-2000 focuses on the artists, ideas and movements which contributed to Russia's cultural renaissance during the first years of the twentieth-century and continued to provide Soviet and then post-Soviet art with its distinguishing characteristics. Through comparative essays regarding the Silver Age, the avant-garde, or Constructivism and the applied arts, in addition to appreciations of individual artists such as of Chagall, Filonov, Kandinsky, Malevich, Miasoedov, Nikritin, Popova, Rodchenko and Tatlin, A Century of Russian Art describes the principal semaphores of modern Russian art, concentrating on Symbolism and the plastic arts, the move towards abstract painting, the time of Revolution, the ascendancy of Socialist Realism, and the non-conformist trends.

John E. Bowlt (PhD University of St. Andrews, Scotland) is Professor in Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures and Director, Institute of Modern Russian Culture at the University of Southern California, Los Angeles. His book *Moscow and St. Petersburg, 1900-1920. Art, Life and Culture* (Thames and Hudson) was published in 2008.

20th century Russian Culture and Literature



KEYS TO THE "GIFT"

A Guide to Vladimir Nabokov's Novel

Yuri Leving

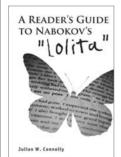
February 2011 350 pages

Cloth 978-1-934843-11-6 \$40.00 / £33.50 Paper 978-1-934843-97-0 \$21.00 / £17.50

Yuri Leving's Keys to "The Gift": A Guide to Vladimir Nabokov's Novel is a new systematization of the main available data on Nabokov's most complex Russian novel, The Gift (1934-1939). From notes in Nabokov's private correspondence to scholarly articles accumulated during the seventy years since the novel's first appearance in print, the work draws from a broad spectrum of existing material in a succinct and coherent way, as well as providing innovative analyses. The first part of the monograph, "The Novel," outlines the basic properties of The Gift (plot, characters, style, and motifs) and reconstructs its internal chronology. The second part, "The Text," describes the creation of the novel and the history of its publication, public and critical reaction, challenges of English translation, and post-Soviet reception. Along with annotations to all five chapters of The Gift, the commentary provides insight into problems of paleography, featuring unique textological analysis of the novel based on the author's study of the archival copy of the manuscript.

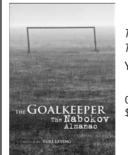
Yuri Leving (PhD The Hebrew University of Jerusalem) is involved in research on visual arts at the University of Southern California, Los Angeles. He has taught at The George Washington University and is now at Dalhousie University. His main field of interest is Russian literature, culture and film. Leving is the author of Train Station - Garage - Hangar: Vladimir Nabokov and Poetics of Russian Urbanism (2004, Short-listed for Andrey Bely Prize). He also co-edited two volumes of articles, Eglantine: Collection of Philological Essays to Honor the Sixtieth Anniversary of Roman Timenchik (2005) and Empire N. Nabokov and Heirs (2006).

ALSO OF INTEREST



A Reader's Guide to Nabokov's "Lolita" Julian W. Connolly

Cloth 978-1-934843-65-9 \$40.00 / £33.50 Paper 978-1-934843-66-6 \$21.00 / £17.50



The Goalkeeper: The Nabokov Almanac Yuri Leving

Cloth 978-1-936235-19-3 \$39.00 / £32.50

20th century Russian Culture and Literature

"I AM TO BE READ NOT FROM LEFT TO RIGHT, BUT IN JEWISH: FROM RIGHT TO LEFT"

The Poetics of Boris Slutsky

Marat Grinberg

Boris Slutsky (1919-1986) is a major original figure of Russian poetry of the second half of the twentieth century whose oeuvre has remained unexplored and unstudied. The first scholarly study of the poet, Marat Grinberg's book substantially fills this critical lacuna in the current comprehension of Russian and Soviet literatures. Grinberg argues that Slutsky's body of work amounts to a Holy Writ of his times, which daringly fuses biblical prooftexts and stylistics with the language of late Russian Modernism and Soviet newspeak. The book is directed toward readers of Russian poetry and pan-Jewish poetic traditions, scholars of Soviet culture and history and the burgeoning field of Russian Jewish studies. Finally, it contributes to the general field of poetics and Modernism.

> Marat Grinberg (PhD University of Chicago) is an assistant professor of Russian and Humanities at Reed College in Portland, Oregon. His recent essays include "'The Problem of Evil': an Exchange with Tony Judt" (The New York Review of Books, 2008); "All the Young Poets have Become Old Jews': Boris Slutsky's Russian Jewish Canon" (East European Jewish Affairs, 2007) and "The Midrash from Joseph: 'Isaac and Abraham' as Brodsky's Ur-Text." Poetics. Self. Place: Essays in Honor of Anna Lisa Crone (Bloomington, Slavica, 2007).

January 2011

• Poetry 400 pages

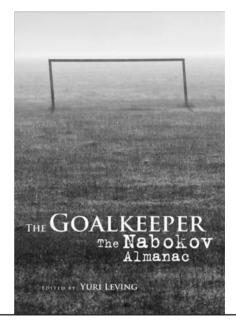
Cloth 978-1-934843-73-4 \$65.00 / £54.50



THE GOALKEEPER

The Nabokov Almanac

Edited by Yuri Leving



December 2010 250 pages

Cloth 978-1-936235-19-3 \$39.00 / £32.50

"The Goalkeeper" is a new scholarly almanac devoted to the art of Vladimir Nabokov. Himself an ardent goalkeeper, the author of *Lolita* viewed soccer as more than a game: "I was less the keeper of a soccer goal than the keeper of a secret" (Speak, Memory). The inaugural collection features contributions from two dozen leading Nabokov scholars worldwide, including academic articles (Neil Cornwell, Gerard de Vries, Samuel Schuman, and others); roundtable discussions (Brian Boyd, Jeff Edmunds, Priscilla Meyer, David Rampton, Leona Toker); interviews (Dmitri Nabokov, Alvin Toffler); archival materials; the Kyoto Nabokov conference report; and book reviews (Pekka Tammi, Zoran Kuzmanovich, Galya Diment). The Nabokov Almanac, edited by Yuri Leving, is affiliated with the Nabokov Online Journal, published since 2007.

Yuri Leving (PhD The Hebrew University of Jerusalem) is involved in research on visual arts at the University of Southern California, Los Angeles. He has taught at The George Washington University and is now at Dalhousie University. His main field of interest is Russian literature, culture and film. Leving is the author of *Train Station — Garage — Hangar: Vladimir Nabokov and Poetics of Russian Urbanism* (2004, Short-listed for Andrey Bely Prize). He also co-edited two volumes of articles, *Eglantine: Collection of Philological Essays to Honor the Sixtieth Anniversary of Roman Timenchik* (2005) and *Empire N. Nabokov and Heirs* (2006).

OTHER BOOKS BY YURI LEVING

Keys to the "Gift": A Guide to Vladimir Nabokov's Novel Yuri Leving

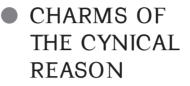
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Cloth 978-1-934843-65-9 \$40.00 / £33.50 Paper 978-1-934843-66-6 \$21.00 / £17.50

20th century Russian Culture and Literature



Tricksters in Soviet and Post-Soviet Culture

December 2010 250 pages

Cloth 978-1-934843-45-1 \$65.00 / £54.50

Mark Lipovetsky

The impetus for Charms of the Cynical Reason is the phenomenal and little-explored popularity of various tricksters flourishing in official and unofficial Soviet culture, as well as in the post-soviet era. Mark Lipovetsky interprets this puzzling phenomenon through analysis of the most remarkable and fascinating literary and cinematic images of soviet and post-soviet tricksters, including such "cultural idioms" as Ostap Bender, Buratino, Vasilii Tyorkin, Shtirlitz, and others. The steadily increasing charisma of Soviet tricksters from the 1920s to the 2000s is indicative of at least two fundamental features of both the soviet and post-soviet societies. First, tricksters reflect the constant presence of irresolvable contradictions and yawning gaps within the soviet (as well as post-soviet) social universe. Secondly, these characters epitomize the realm of cynical culture thus far unrecognized in Russian studies. Soviet tricksters present survival in a cynical, contradictory and inadequate world, not as a necessity, but as a field for creativity, play, and freedom. Through an analysis of the representation of tricksters in soviet and post-soviet culture, Lipovetsky attempts to draw a virtual map of the soviet and post-soviet cynical reason: to identify its symbols, discourses, contradictions, and by these means its historical development from the 1920s to the 2000s.

Mark Lipovetsky (PhD Ural State University) is a professor in the Department of Germanic and Slavic Languages and Literatures and joint faculty member at the Comparative Literature Program at the University of Colorado-Boulder. His most recent book, *Paralogies: The Transformations of (Post) Modern Discourse in Russian Culture of the 1920s-2000s* (Moscow: Novoe Literaturnoe Obozrenie), was published in 2008.

20th century Russian Culture and Literature

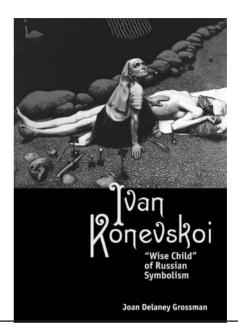
Comprehensive account of the tragic poet-mystic-thinker's life, thought, and accomplishments



IVAN KONEVSKOI

"Wise Child" of Russian Symbolism

Joan Delaney Grossman



March 2010 276 pages

Cloth 978-1-934843-89-5 \$59.00 / £49.50

Ivan Konevskoi: "Wise Child" of Russian Symbolism is the first study in any language of Ivan Konevskoi— poet, thinker, mystic—for many decades the "lost genius" of Russian modernism. A fresh and compelling figure, Konevskoi plunged deeply into the currents of modern mystical thought and art in the 1890s. A passionate searcher for immortality, he developed his own version of pantheism meant to quard his unique persona from dissolution in the All-One. The poetry of Tiutchev, Vladimir Soloviev and Rossetti, William James's psychology, paintings of Pre-Raphaelites and Arnold Boecklin, Old Russian historical myth, the Finnish Kalevala: all engaged him during his brief life. His worldview grew more audacious, his confidence in the magical power of the word grew more assured. Drowning in 1901 at 23, Konevskoi left a legacy unfinished, rich, and intriguing.

> Joan Delaney Grossman (PhD Harvard University) is Professor Emerita of Slavic Languages and Literatures at University of California at Berkeley. Her publications include Edgar Allan Poe in Russia (1973), Valery Bryusov and the Riddle of Russian Decadence (1984), co-editing Creating Life (with Irina Paperno, 1994) and William James in Russian Culture (with Ruth Rischin, 2003).

REVIEWS

"Ivan Konevskoi (1877-1901) strove throughout his tragically brief earthly life to "abolish death" by penetrating the mystic core of the universe. His earthly survival has now been notably enhanced by Joan Grossman's splendid book, a comprehensive account of the poet's life, thought, and accomplishments. Deeply sympathetic but always clear-eyed and sensible, Grossman's narrative is exhaustively researched but never pedantic, engagingly written and rich in illuminations derived from the author's lifelong study of Russian poetry, especially of the Symbolist era."

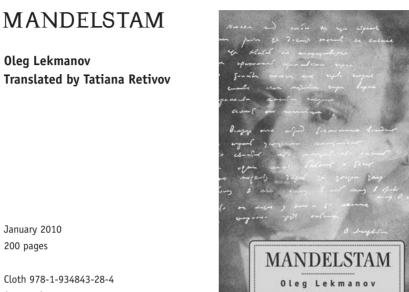
- Hugh McLean, Professor Emeritus, University of California, Berkeley

"Joan Grossman's spiritual biography of "poet-mystic-thinker" Ivan Konevskoi (Oreus) fills a large gap in the scholarship on early Russian modernism. Although never entirely forgotten, Konevskoi was largely ignored by scholars in both Russia and in the West, before the appearance of this substantial monograph. With the superb knowledge of her subject-matter that years of painstaking and engaged research have given her, Grossman guides us through the poet's short but intense quest for immortality through his own brand of pantheism. As Grossman shows, Konevskoi's spiritual journey, which ended prematurely by accidental drowning, has many intriguing stops along the way. Grossman makes this journey entertaining and informative. This is a major work by a distinguished scholar, which is bound to stimulate further research of this elusive poet."

— Irene Masing-Delic, Ohio State University and author of *Exotic Moscow under Western Eyes*

20th century Russian Culture and Literature

"Lekmanov makes an important contribution to [our] understanding and appreciation of Mandelstam's life -V. D. Barooshian, CHOICE, September, 2010 and work.



January 2010 200 pages

Cloth 978-1-934843-28-4 \$32.00 / £26.99

Now available for the first time in English, Oleg Lekmanov's critically acclaimed Mandelstam presents the maverick Russian poet's life and work to a wider audience and includes the most reliable details of the poet's life, which were recently found and released from the KGB archives. Through his engaging narrative, Lekmanov carries the reader through Mandelstam's early life and education in pre-revolutionary Petersburg, at the Sorbonne in Paris, and in Heidelberg and his return to revolutionary Russia. Bold and fearless, he was quoted as saying: "Only in Russia do they respect poetry. They even kill you for it." Osip Mandelstam compared a writer to a parrot, saying that once his owner tires of him, he will cover his cage with black cloth, which becomes for literature a surrogate of night. In 1938, Mandelstam was arrested and six months later became a statistic: over 500,000 political prisoners were sent to the Gulags in 1938; between 1931 and 1940, over 300,000 prisoners died in the Gulags. One of them was the poet Osip Mandelstam. This is the tragic story of his life, pre-empted by the black cloth of Stalinism.

> **Oleg Lekmanov** is a professor at Moscow State University. His main interest has focused on Russian poetry of the twentieth century. Dr. Lekmanov has authored over two hundred articles and his latest papers explore the creative writings of O. Mandelstam, A. Akhmatova, and A. Solzhenitsyn. He is the author of Book on Akmeism (2000) and Sergei Esenin (2007, with Michail Sverdlov).

THE SUPERSTITIOUS MUSE

Thinking Russian Literature Mythopoetically

David Bethea

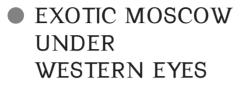
November 2009 432 pages

Cloth 978-1-934843-17-8 \$80.00 / £66.99

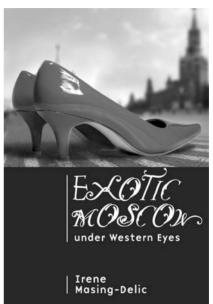


For several decades David Bethea has written authoritatively on the "mythopoetic thinking" that lies at the heart of classical Russian literature, especially Russian poetry. His theoreticallyinformed essays and books have made a point of turning back to issues of intentionality and biography at a time when authorial agency seems under threat of "erasure" and the question of how writers, and poets in particular, live their lives through their art is increasingly moot. The lichnost' (personhood, psychic totality) of the given writer is all-important, argues Bethea, as it is that which combines the specifically biographical and the capaciously mythical in verbal units that speak simultaneously to different planes of being. Pushkin's Evgeny can be one incarnation of the poet himself and an everyman rising up to challenge Peter's new world order; Brodsky can be, all at once, Dante and Mandelstam and himself, the exile paying an Orphic visit to Florence (and, by ghostly association, Leningrad). It is this sort of metempsychosis, where the stories that constitute the Ur-texts of Russian literature are constantly reworked in the biographical myths shaping individual writers' lives — that is Bethea's primary focus. This collection contains a liberal sampling of Bethea's most memorable previously published essays along with new studies prepared for this occasion.

> **David Bethea** (PhD University of Kansas) is a Vilas Professor of Slavic Languages, University of Wisconsin-Madison. Research interests include: Pushkin and his era, modern Russian poetry (esp. Khodasevich and Brodsky), Russian religious thought and cultural mythology, Russian emigre literature, Anglo-American vs. Russian modernism, 20th century Russian/Slavic literary theory (esp. influence studies), biography. Among his books are: *Joseph Brodsky and the Creation of Exile* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1994), and *Realizing Metaphors: Alexander Pushkin and the Life of the Poet* (Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, 1998).



Irene Masing-Delic



March 2009 264 pages

Cloth 978-1-934843-40-6 \$59.00 / £49.50

This collection of essays on Turgenev, Goncharov, Conrad, Dostoevsky, Blok, Briusov, Gor'kii, Pasternak and Nabokov represents diverse voices but is also unified. One invariant is the recurring distinction between "culture" and "civilization" and the vision of Russia as the bearer of culture because it is "barbaric." Another stance advocates the synthesis of "sense and sensibility" and the vision of "Apollo" and "Dionysus" creating a "civilized culture" together. Those voices that delight in the artificiality of civilization are complemented by those apprehensive of the dangers inherent in barbarism. This collection thus adds new perspectives to the much-debated opposition of vital Russia and a declining West, offering novel interpretations of classics from *Oblomov* to *Lolita* and *The Idiot* to *Doctor Zhivago*.

Irene Masing-Delic (PhD University of Stockholm) is a professor at The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, and the author of *Abolishing Death* (1992).

OTHER BOOKS BY IRENE MASING-DELIC

From Symbolism to Socialist Realism: A Reader

Cloth 978-1-936235-42-1 \$59.00 / £49.50

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Pasternak's Writings on Inspiration and Creation

Edited, translated, and introduced by Angela Livingstone

September 2008 330 pages

Cloth 978-1-934843-23-9 \$50.00 / £41.99 Paper 978-1-936235-07-0 \$24.95 / £20.99



Major statements by the celebrated Russian poet Boris Pasternak (1890-1960) about poetry, inspiration, the creative process, and the significance of artistic/literary creativity in his own life as well as in human life altogether, are presented here in his own words (in translation) and are discussed in the extensive commentaries and introduction. The texts range from 1910 to 1946 and are between two and ninety pages long. There are commentaries on all the texts, as well as a final essay on Pasternak's famous novel, *Doctor Zhivago*, which is looked at here in the light of what it says on art and inspiration.

Although universally acknowledged as one of the great writers of the twentieth century, Pasternak is not yet sufficiently recognized as the highly original and important thinker that he also was. All his life he thought and wrote about the nature and significance of the experience of inspiration, though avoiding the word "inspiration" where possible as his own views were not the conventional ones. The author's purpose is (a) to make this philosophical aspect of his work better known, and (b) to communicate to readers who cannot read Russian the pleasure and interest of an "inspired" life as Pasternak experienced it.

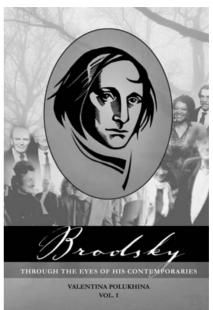
Angela Livingstone (PhD Cambridge University), after one book on a German literature topic (*Lou Andreas-Salome: Her Life and Writings*), went on to focus on Russian literature of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. As a researcher, Dr. Livingstone has specialized mainly in the work of Boris Pasternak, Marina Tsvetaeva and Andrei Platonov. For more than thirty years she taught in the Department of Literature at the University of Essex, Colchester, U.K. with which, though now retired, she is still closely affiliated, holding the title of Research Professor.

BRODSKY THROUGH THE EYES OF HIS CONTEMPORARIES, Volume I

Valentina Polukhina

November 2008 360 pages, 15 illus.

Cloth 978-1-934843-15-4 \$60.00 / £49.99 Paper 978-1-936235-05-6 \$24.95 / £20.99



This book is a fascinating record of conversations with poets of various nationalities about Joseph Brodsky: Czeslaw Milosz, Roy Fisher, Lev Loseff, Bella Akhmadulina, Natalia Gorbanevskaya, Tomas Venclova, Viktor Krivulin, Alexander Kushner, and Elena Shvarts. In comparison with the first edition of this volume (1992) this new, second edition is enlarged with three new interviews and a series of previously unpublished unique photographs from the personal archives of the author and the interviewees.

The collection combines biographical details with a new and authoritative interpretation of the poetics, style, and ideas of one of the most influential poets to emerge in post-Stalinist Russia. As a poet, essayist, and playwright, Brodsky is widely known and read throughout the English-speaking world. This book is a superb guide to further study of Brodsky's work both for specialist scholars and for general readers who are intoxicated by poetry.

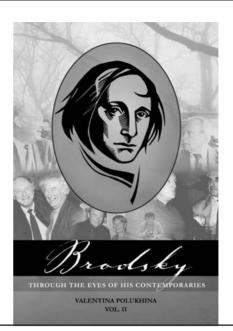
20th century Russian Culture and Literature

BRODSKY THROUGH THE EYES OF HIS CONTEMPORARIES, Volume II

Valentina Polukhina

November 2008 604 pages, 71 illus.

Cloth 978-1-934843-16-1 \$70.00 / £58.50 Paper 978-1-936235-06-3 \$29.95 / £24.99



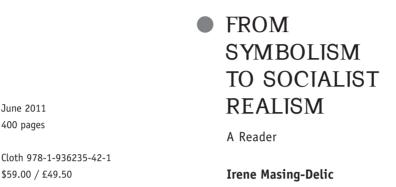
This new volume of interviews draws on eye-witness accounts of Joseph Brodsky's friends and family members, publishers, editors, translators, students, and fellow poets: John Le Carre, Oleg Tselkov, Petr Vail, Bengt Jangfeldt, Susan Sontag, Seamus Heaney, Derek Walcott, and others.

This collection of 40 interviews illuminates an intriguing contemporary phenomenon and affords a fascinating insight into the American literary scene. Continuing the discussion begun in Vol. 1, this series of interviews contains important discussions on the style, ideas, and personality of one of the most brilliant and paradoxical poets of our time. Subtle, incisive, and rigorous in its critical evaluation, each discussion significantly advances our understanding of Brodsky's complex poetic world. All discussions are linked by core questions that are carefully and sometimes provocatively formulated. The interviews are published together with many unique photographs from the private archives of the author and the interviewees.

Valentina Polukhina is Professor Emerita of Russian Literature, Keele University, England, and is the author of several major studies of Brodsky: *Joseph Brodsky: A Poet for Our Time* (CUP, 1989), *Brodsky Through the Eyes of His Contemporaries*, Volume 1, (St Martin's Press, 1992) which was published in Russia as *Brodskii glazami sovremennikov* and *A Dictionary of Brodsky's Tropes* (Tartu University Press, 1995). She is the editor of a collection of Brodsky's interviews," *Large Book of Interviews* (*Bol'shaya kniga intervyu*) (2000, 2005, 2007) with Lev Loseff. Among her articles we can find essays on Akhmatova, Pasternak, Tsvetaeva, Khlebnikov, Mandelshtam, Shcherbina, Gorbanevskaya, etc. She had edited bilingual collections of Olga Sedakova (1994), Oleg Prokofiev (1995), Dmitry Prigov (1995), and Evgeny Rein (2001). Recently a second volume of *Brodsky through the Eyes of his Contemporaries* was republished in St Petersburg (SPb, Zvezda, 2006).

Anthologies and Companions to Russian Literature of 19th and 20th Century

Anthologies and Companions to Russian Literature of 19th and 20th Century



June 2011 400 pages

Developed as a reader for upper division undergraduates and beginning graduates, From Symbolism to Socialist Realism offers a broad variety of materials contextualizing the literary texts most frequently read in Russian literature courses at this level. These approaches range from critical- theoretical articles, cultural and historical analyses, literary manifestos and declarations of literary aesthetics, memoirs of revolutionary terrorism and arrests by the NKVD, political denunciations and "literary vignettes" capturing the spirit of its particular time in a nutshell. The voices of this "polyphonic" reader are diverse: Briusov, Savinkov, Ivanov-Razumnik, Kollontai, Tsvetaeva, Shklovsky, Olesha, Zoshchenko, Zhdanov, Grossman, Evtushenko and others. The range of specialists on Russian culture represented here is equally broad: Clark, Erlich, Falen, Grossman, Nilsson, Peace, Poznansky, Siniavskii, Volkov and others. Together they evoke and illuminate a complex and tragic era.

> Irene Masing-Delic (PhD University of Stockholm) is a Professor at The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio; author of Abolishing Death (1992).



OTHER BOOKS BY IRENE MASING-DELIC

Exotic Moscow under Western Eyes

Cloth 978-1-934843-40-6 \$59.00 / £49.50

Anthologies and Companions to Russian Literature of 19th and 20th Century

THE RUSSIAN AVANT-GARDE AND RADICAL MODERNISM

An Introductory Reader

Dennis G. Ioffe and Frederick H. White April 2011 350 pages

Cloth 978-1-936235-29-2 \$59.00 / £49.50 Paper 978-1-936235-45-2 \$29.00 / £24.50

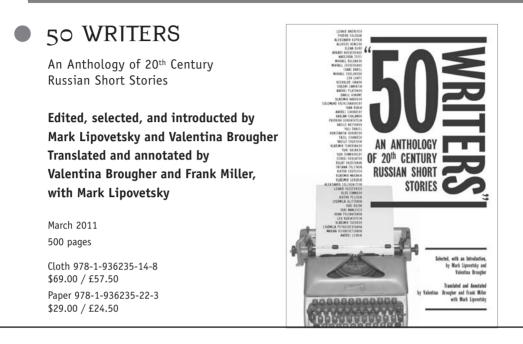
The Russian avant-garde was a composite of antagonistic groups who wished to overthrow the basic aesthetics of classical realism. Modernism was the totality of these numerous aesthetic theories, which achieved a measure of coherence immediately after the First World War. This collection of essays by leading scholars examines the major figures, movements and manifestos of the period. Scholarly attention is given to literature, visual arts, cinema and theatre in an attempt to capture the complex nature of the modernist movement in Russia. This book would be especially relevant for university courses on the Russian twentieth century as well as for those looking for a comprehensive approach to the various movements and artistic expressions that constitute the Russian avant-garde.

Frederick H. White is Associate Dean in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences at Utah Valley University. In 2006, he published *Memoirs and Madness: Leonid Andreev through the Prism of the Literary Portrait* (MQUP). Dr. White has recently completed a second book manuscript, *Neurasthenia: Constructions of Madness in the Life and Narratives of Leonid Andreev.*

> **Dennis Ioffe** received his PhD from the University of Amsterdam, where he currently serves as an affiliated researcher. During the past years he has edited and co-edited two book-length collections of research articles devoted to various problems in Russian modernism and cultural history (published in Moscow and in Amsterdam). During the past five years he has worked as the founding editor of the scholarly periodical *Amsterdam Journal of Cultural Narratology* (AJCN), which has produced 5 volumes (about 2000 pages).

Anthologies and Companions to Russian Literature of 19th and 20th Century

The most comprehensive anthology of 20th century Russian short stories



The largest, most comprehensive anthology of its kind, this volume brings together significant, representative stories from every decade of the 20th century. It includes the prose of officially recognized writers and dissidents, both well-known and neglected or forgotten, plus new authors from the end of the 20th century. The selections reflect the various literary trends and approaches to depicting reality in the 20th century: traditional realism, modernism, socialist realism, and post-modernism. Taken as a whole, the stories capture every major aspect of Russian life, history and culture in the 20th century. The rich array of themes and styles will be of tremendous interest to students and readers who want to learn about Russia through the engaging genre of the short story.

Valentina Brougher (PhD University of Kansas) is Professor Emerita, Department of Slavic Languages, Georgetown University. Her articles on 20th century Russian writers have been published in major academic journals, and her translations of 20th century prose have appeared in anthologies and special editions.

> **Mark Lipovetsky** (PhD Ural State University, Russia) has lived in the USA since 1996 and is an associate professor of Russian Studies at the University of Colorado-Boulder. He is the author of six monographs, numerous articles in major American and Russian journals, and recipient of many grants and fellowships, including a Fulbright, SSRC, and Leverhulme (UK).

> > **Frank Miller** (PhD Indiana University) is a professor of Slavic Languages at Columbia University and coordinator of the Columbia-Barnard College Russian language program. He is the author or coauthor of several widely-used Russian textbooks and translator of Russian prose.

ALSO OF INTEREST



The Russian Twentieth Century Short Story: A Critical Companion Lyudmila Parts

Cloth 978-1-934843-44-4 \$49.00 / £40.99 Paper 978-1-934843-69-7 \$24.95 / £17.50

Anthologies and Companions to Russian Literature of 19th and 20th Century

February 2011 350 pages

Cloth 978-1-934843-11-6 \$40.00 / £33.50 Paper 978-1-934843-97-0 \$21.00 / £17.50

KEYS TO THE "GIFT"

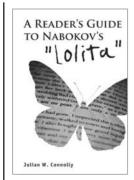
A Guide to Vladimir Nabokov's Novel

Yuri Leving

Yuri Leving's *Keys to "The Gift": A Guide to Vladimir Nabokov's Novel* is a new systematization of the main available data on Nabokov's most complex Russian novel, *The Gift* (1934–1939). From notes in Nabokov's private correspondence to scholarly articles accumulated during the seventy years since the novel's first appearance in print, the work draws from a broad spectrum of existing material in a succinct and coherent way, as well as providing innovative analyses. The first part of the monograph, "The Novel," outlines the basic properties of *The Gift* (plot, characters, style, and motifs) and reconstructs its internal chronology. The second part, "The Text," describes the creation of the novel and the history of its publication, public and critical reaction, challenges of English translation, and post-Soviet reception. Along with annotations to all five chapters of *The Gift*, the commentary provides insight into problems of paleography, featuring unique textological analysis of the novel based on the author's study of the archival copy of the manuscript.

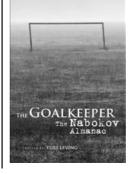
Yuri Leving (PhD The Hebrew University of Jerusalem) is involved in research on visual arts at the University of Southern California, Los Angeles. He has taught at The George Washington University and is now at Dalhousie University. His main field of interest is Russian literature, culture and film. Leving is the author of *Train Station—Garage—Hangar: Vladimir Nabokov and Poetics of Russian Urbanism* (2004, Short-listed for Andrey Bely Prize). He also co-edited two volumes of articles, *Eglantine: Collection of Philological Essays to Honor the Sixtieth Anniversary of Roman Timenchik* (2005) and *Empire N. Nabokov and Heirs* (2006).

ALSO OF INTEREST



A Reader's Guide to Nabokov's "Lolita" Julian W. Connolly

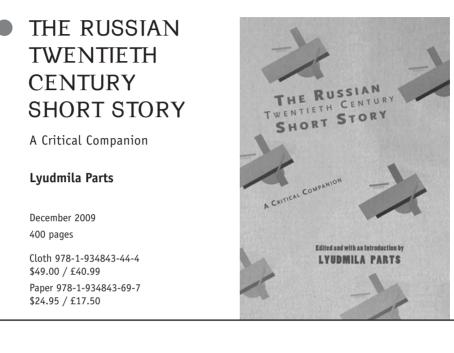
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The Goalkeeper: The Nabokov Almanac Yuri Leving

Cloth 978-1-936235-19-3 \$39.00 / £32.50

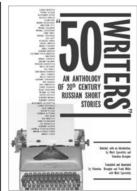
Anthologies and Companions to Russian Literature of 19th and 20th Century



The Russian Twentieth Century Short Story: A Critical Companion is a collection of the most informative critical articles on some of the best twentieth-century Russian short stories from Chekhov and Bunin to Tolstaya and Pelevin. While each article focuses on a particular short story, collectively they elucidate the developments in each author's oeuvre and in the subjects, structure, and themes of the twentieth-century Russian short story. American, European and Russian scholars discuss the recurrent themes of language's power and limits, of childhood and old age, of art and sexuality, and of cultural, individual and artistic memory. The book opens with a discussion of the short story genre and its socio-cultural function. This book will be of value to all scholars of Russian literature, the short story, and genre theory.

Lyudmila Parts (PhD Columbia University) is an associate professor at the Department of Russian and Slavic Studies at McGill University. Her book *The Chekhovian Intertext: Dialogue with a Classic* (2008) explores the intersection of intertextuality, cultural memory, and cultural myth. She has published articles on Dostoevsky, Chekhov, Tolstaya, Petrushevskaya, P'etsukh, and Pelevin.

ALSO OF INTEREST



50 Writers: An Anthology of 20th Century Russian Short Stories

Cloth 978-1-936235-14-8 \$69.00 / £57.50 Paper 978-1-936235-22-3 \$29.00 / £24.50

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Anthologies and Companions to Russian Literature of 19th and 20th Century

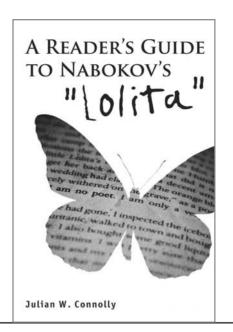
"...fresh and accessible interpretation of the novel." — Jason Merrill, The Russian Review

A READER'S GUIDE TO NABOKOV'S "LOLITA"

Julian Connolly

September 2009 208 pages

Cloth 978-1-934843-65-9 \$40.00 / £33.50 Paper 978-1-934843-66-6 \$21.00 / £17.50



One of the most fascinating and controversial novels of the twentieth century, Vladimir Nabokov's *Lolita* is renowned for its innovative style and notorious for its subject matter and influence on popular culture. *A Reader's Guide to Nabokov's* "Lolita" guides readers through the intricacies of Nabokov's work and helps them achieve a better understanding of his rich artistic design. The book opens with a detailed chronology of Nabokov's life and literary career. Chapters include an analysis of the novel, a discussion of its precursors in Nabokov's work and in world literature, an essay on the character of Dolly Haze (Humbert's "Lolita"), and a commentary on the critical and cultural afterlife of the novel. The volume concludes with an annotated bibliography of selected critical reading. The guide should prove illuminating both for first-time readers of Lolita and for experienced re-readers of Nabokov's text.

Julian Connolly (PhD Harvard) is a professor of Slavic Languages and Literatures at the University of Virginia. He is the author of *Nabokov's Early Fiction: Patterns of Self and Other* (1992) and editor of *Nabokov and His Fiction: New Perspectives* (1999) and *The Cambridge Companion to Nabokov* (2005). He has published over sixty articles on Russian Literature.

REVIEW

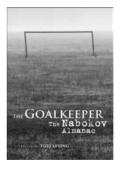
"The importance of this book lies in the way it succinctly summarizes critical viewpoints yet provides a fresh and accessible interpretation of the novel."

— Jason Merrill, *The Russian Review*

ALSO OF INTEREST

Keys to the "Gift": A Guide to Vladimir Nabokov's Novel Yuri Leving

Cloth 978-1-934843-11-6 \$40.00 / £33.50 Paper 978-1-934843-97-0 \$21.00 / £17.50



The Goalkeeper: The Nabokov Almanac Edited by Yuri Leving

Cloth 978-1-936235-19-3 \$39.00 / £32.50

Anthologies and Companions to Russian Literature of 19th and 20th Century

A COMPANION TO ANDREI PLATONOV'S *THE FOUNDATION PIT*

Thomas Seifrid

April 2009 204 pages

Cloth 978-1-934843-08-6 \$40.00 / £33.50 Paper 978-1-934843-57-4 \$21.00 / £17.50



A Companion to Andrei Platonov's The Foundation Pit

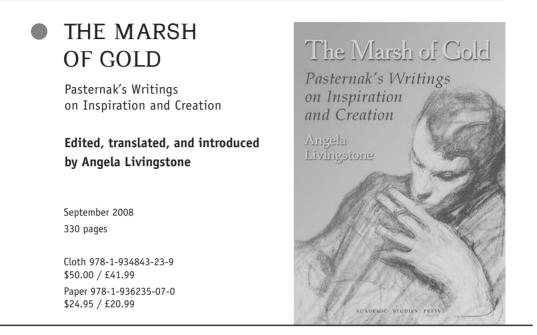
by Thomas Seifrid

Written at the height of Stalin's first "five-year plan" for the industrialization of Soviet Russia and the parallel campaign to collectivize Soviet agriculture, Andrei Platonov's *The Foundation Pit* registers a dissonant mixture of utopian longings and despair. Furthermore, it provides essential background to Platonov's parody of the mainstream Soviet "production" novel, which is widely recognized as one of the masterpieces of twentieth-century Russian prose. In addition to an overview of the work's key themes, it discusses their place within Platonov's oeuvre as a whole, his troubled relations with literary officialdom, the work's ideological and political background, and key critical responses since the work's first publication in the West in 1973.

> **Thomas Seifrid** (PhD Cornell University) is a professor of Slavic Studies, University of Southern California. He is the author of *Andrei Platonov*. *Uncertainties of Spirit* (Cambridge University Press, 1992), *The Word Made Self: Russian Writings on Language*, *1860-1930* (Cornell University Press, 2005), and numerous articles on Russian literature and culture.

Anthologies and Companions to Russian Literature of 19th and 20th Century

"Lucid and full commentaries are interspersed between the pieces, making this an indispensable volume for any student of Pasternak or early twentieth-century Russia." — Sasha Dugdale, Times Literary Supplement, May 8, 2009



Major statements by the celebrated Russian poet Boris Pasternak (1890-1960) about poetry, inspiration, the creative process, and the significance of artistic/literary creativity in his own life as well as in human life altogether, are presented here in his own words (in translation) and are discussed in the extensive commentaries and introduction. The texts range from 1910 to 1946 and are between two and ninety pages long. There are commentaries on all the texts, as well as a final essay on Pasternak's famous novel, Doctor Zhivago, which is looked at here in the light of what it says on art and inspiration.

Although universally acknowledged as one of the great writers of the twentieth century, Pasternak is not yet sufficiently recognized as the highly original and important thinker that he also was. All his life he thought and wrote about the nature and significance of the experience of inspiration, though avoiding the word "inspiration" where possible as his own views were not the conventional ones. The author's purpose is (a) to make this philosophical aspect of his work better known, and (b) to communicate to readers who cannot read Russian the pleasure and interest of an "inspired" life as Pasternak experienced it.

Angela Livingstone (PhD Cambridge University), after one book on a German literature topic (Lou Andreas-Salome: Her Life and Writings), went on to focus on Russian literature of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. As a researcher, Dr. Livingstone has specialized mainly in the work of Boris Pasternak, Marina Tsvetaeva and Andrei Platonov. For more than thirty years she taught in the Department of Literature at the University of Essex, Colchester, U.K. with which, though now retired, she is still closely affiliated, holding the title of Research Professor.



East European — Jewish Studies

The long-awaited sequel to Shimon Redlich's widely acclaimed Together and Apart in Brzezany

• LIFE IN TRANSIT

Jews in Postwar Lodz, 1945-1950

Shimon Redlich

February 2011

• Memoirs • Polish Studies 325 pages

Cloth 978-1-936235-21-6 \$45.00 / £37.50

Life in Transit is the long-awaited sequel to Shimon Redlich's widely acclaimed Together and Apart in Brzezany, in which he discussed his childhood during the War and the Holocaust. Life in Transit tells the story of his adolescence in the city of Lodz in postwar Poland. Redlich's personal memories are placed within the wider historical context of Jewish life in Poland and in Lodz during the immediate postwar years. Lodz in the years 1945-1950 was the second-largest city in the country and the major urban center of the Jewish population. Redlich's research based on conventional sources and numerous interviews indicates that although the survivors still lived in the shadow of the Holocaust, postwar Jewish Lodz was permeated with a sense of vitality and hope.



Shimon Redlich (PhD New York University) served as Professor of Modern History at Ben-Gurion University until his retirement in 2003. For many years, he headed the Rabb Center for Holocaust Studies at BGU. Redlich has published many books and articles on the History of the Jews in the Soviet Union and on Ukrainian-Jewish relations, including *War, Holocaust and Stalinism: A Documented History of the Jewish Anti-Fascist Committee in the USSR* and *Together and Apart in Brzezany: Poles, Jews and Ukrainians, 1919-1945.*

OTHER TITLES IN THE SERIES



The Wartime Diary of Edmund Kessler Edmund Kessler

Cloth 978-1-934843-98-7 \$30.00 / £25.00 Paper 978-1-934843-99-4 \$19.00 / £15.99



A Partisan from Vilna Rachel Margolis

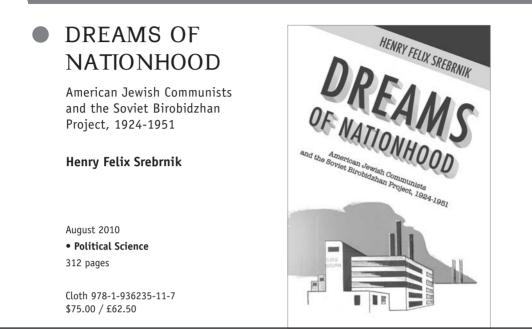
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Series: Studies in Russian and Slavic Literatures, Cultures and History

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East European — Jewish Studies

Detailed historical examination of American Jewish Communists led organizations, the ICOR and American Birobidzhan Committee



The American Jewish Communist movement played a major role in the politics of Jewish communities in cities such as Boston, Chicago, Los Angeles, New York, and Philadelphia, as well as in many other centers, between the 1920s and the 1950s. Making extensive use of Yiddish-language books, newspapers, periodicals, pamphlets, and other materials, *Dreams of Nationhood* traces the ideological and material support provided to the Jewish Autonomous Region of Birobidzhan in the far east of the Soviet Union by two American Jewish Communist-led organizations, the ICOR and the American Birobidzhan Committee. By providing a detailed historical examination of the political work of these two groups, the book makes a substantial contribution to our understanding of twentieth-century Jewish life in the United States.

Henry Srebrnik (PhD University of Birmingham, England) is a Professor in the Department of Political Studies, University of Prince Edward Island, Canada. His most recent books include *Jerusalem on the Amur: Birobidzhan and the Canadian Jewish Communist Movement, 1924-1951* (McGill-Queen's University Press, 2008) and London Jews and British Communism, 1935-1945 (London: Vallentine Mitchell, 1995) He also served on the editorial team for *De Facto States: The Quest For Sovereignty* (London: Routledge, 2004) with Tozun Bahcheli and Barry Bartmann.

REVIEWS

"Henry Srebrnik began his research of the place of Birobidzhan in the ideological space of American Jews over a decade ago. I believe I have read the majority of his publications on this fascinating and little-known topic, and this new book, Dreams of Nationhood, is the best among them."

--- Gennady Estraikh, New York University, author of In Harness: Yiddish Writers' Romance with Communism

"Dreaming of a better world during the Depression and World War II, American Jews and some non-Jewish activists supported the building of a Jewish refuge in the Soviet Union called Birobidzhan. Henry Srebrnik's well-researched book, Dreams of Nationhood, shows readers that although short-lived, the American campaign for Birobidzhan was more widespread and important than anyone today might believe. Its most important supporters were leftist, Communist activists in such groups as ICOR and Ambidjan. However, Srebrnik painstakingly shows that in the 1930s and 1940s, Birobidzhan was discussed in polite company as a real alternative to Palestine. The book features Communist activists like Moishe Olgin and B.Z. Goldberg, as well as some unusual suspects including senators, pastors, well-known rabbis, and Albert Einstein. Srebrnik forces the reader to ask whether this is a story of willful ignorance on the part of the Americans, who did not understand the violence of Stalin's Soviet Union, or whether the idea of utopia simply captivated a group of people far away from the turmoil of 1930s and 1940s Europe?"

— David Shneer, University of Colorado-Boulder, author of *Yiddish and the Creation of Soviet Jewish Culture*

East European — Jewish Studies

"A powerful, provocative, ultimately profound work of scholarship regarding the stereotypification of Poles and its implications not only for Polish-Jewish relations in the Old World and the New, but also for anyone wishing to fathom the interworkings of class and ethnicity in an America that has all too often fallen short of its promise." — James P. Learv, folklorist, University of Wisconsin

BIEGANSKI: The Brute Polak Stereotype in Polish-Jewish Relations and American Popular Culture Danusha V. Goska rute Polal Stereotype, Its Role in Polish-Jewish **Relations and American** Popular Culture July 2010 344 pages Danusha V. Goska Cloth 978-1-936235-15-5 \$65.00 / £54.50

In this controversial study, Goska exposes one stereotype of Poles and other Eastern Europeans. In the "Bieganski" stereotype, Poles exhibit the qualities of animals. They are strong, stupid, violent, fertile, anarchic, dirty, and especially hateful in a way that more evolved humans are not. Their special hatefulness is epitomized by their Polish anti-Semitism. *Bieganski* discovers this stereotype in the mainstream press, scholarship, film, in Jews' self-definition, and in responses to the Holocaust. Bieganski's twin is Shylock, the stereotype of the crafty, physically inadequate, moneyed Jew. The final chapters of the book are devoted to interviews with American Jews, which reveal that Bieganski— and Shylock— are both alive and well among those who have little knowledge of Poles or Poland.

Danusha V. Goska (PhD Indiana University in Bloomington) is an experienced teacher and award-winning writer of numerous articles, essays and fiction in Polish Studies.

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• REVIEWS

"Stereotypes of Poles have been commonplace in Western society. Danusha V. Goska presents a comprehensive overview of such images in a balanced fashion. She offers no apologetic for genuine instances of Polish anti-Semitism, but she also exposes those rooted in outright prejudice with no foundation in fact. An important contribution to improved Polish-Jewish understanding."

— John T. Pawlikowski, OSM, PhD, professor of Social Ethics, Director, Catholic-Jewish Studies Program Catholic Theological Union Chicago

"In this most important work, Dr. Goska's style incorporates those necessary ingredients that justify writing as an art form: her grammar is impeccable, even while the pathways of her sentences can be unpredictable. Her imagery is robust, yet never gets in the way of the underlying premises of her arguments. Moreover, her thinking is crisp, and her knowledge of this very sensitive topic is thoroughly evident. Indeed, the reader cannot help but be persuaded by the logical unfolding of the positions she brings to this necessary work.

Above all, she inspires that all-important trust in her readers: that while she may jostle their previously-held constructs, she will also protect them on a literary journey that could be harrowing and dangerous in lesser hands."

- Dr. Michael Herzbrun, Rabbi Temple Emanu-El, Rochester, NY

"Bieganski is a truly important book because it challenges and demolishes the widely held belief that Poles are nothing more than ignorant and brutish anti-Semites who played a central role in causing the Holocaust. Goska does a first-rate job of describing how Jews and Poles really interacted with each other over their rich history together. Let's hope that this book is widely read and helps change the conventional wisdom about Polish-Jewish relations."

> — John J. Mearsheimer, R. Wendell Harrison Distinguished Service Professor of Political Science, University of Chicago

"Danusha Goska's daring and far-reaching study examines the sources and prevalence of stereotyped images of Poles as brutal, subhuman creatures. Drawing on her extensive research in history, popular culture, and folklore, and also on interviews of Poles and Jews in America today, interviews of both stereotypers and victims of stereotyping, she teaches us all something profound about how the image of the Polak originated and why it continues to flourish."

> — John Guzlowski, author of *The Third Winter of War: Buchenwald* and *Lightening and Ashes*

East European — Jewish Studies

"... vivid and compelling account of the murder of Lithuania's Jews, and of the battle for survival and dignity amongst those who escaped."

- Mark Weitzman, Director of Government Affairs, Simon Wiesenthal Center

A PARTISAN FROM VILNA

Rachel Margolis Translated by F. Jackson Piotrow

April 2010 • Holocaust Studies 520 pages

Cloth 978-1-934843-91-8 \$40.00 / £33.50 Paper 978-1-934843-95-6 \$25.00 / £20.99



A Partisan of Vilna is the memoir of Rachel Margolis, the sole survivor of her family, who escaped from the Vilna Ghetto with other members of the FPO (United Partisan Organization) resistance movement and joined the Soviet partisans in the forests of Lithuania to sabotage the Nazis. Beginning with an account of Rachel's life as a precocious, privileged girl in pre-war Vilna, it goes on to detail life in the Vilna Ghetto, including the development and struggles of the FPO against the Nazis. Finally, the book chronicles the escape of a group of FPO members into the forest of Belarus, where Rachel became a partisan fighter. Rather than "keep house" back at their bunker like other female partisans, Rachel demanded assignments to active duty alongside the men. Going on military assignments, she burned down a bridge, blew up railroad tracks, and helped bring in food supplies for her fellow partisans. The book opens with an introductory essay by renowned historian Antony Polonsky.

Rachel Margolis received a Ph.D. in biology and taught until the late 1980's. She then co-founded Lithuania's only real Holocaust museum, the Green House in Vilnius. She is also responsible for the discovery and transcription of the Kazimierz Sakowicz diary, published in the US under the title *Ponary Diary: A Bystander's Account of Mass Murder* (Yale University Press, 2004).

REVIEWS

"One of the last surviving partisans of Vilna, Rachel Margolis has written a vivid and compelling account of the murder of Lithuania's Jews, and of the battle for survival and dignity amongst those who escaped. It is also a testament to those who in the midst of degradation and destruction continued to embrace the best ideals of humanity even as they determined to resist and fight back against the Nazis and their local collaborators. And, at the same time, it is an intimate portrait of a creative and vibrant community, the Jews of Vilna, as well as a deeply personal account of growth and maturity in the midst of that turbulent and tragic period.

This book serves as a stark reminder to those who would deny or trivialize the reality of the Holocaust in Lithuania and reminds us once again of the human dimension of that genocide. The questions that it raises about resistance and complicity, collaboration and betrayal, anti-Semitism and xenophobia, are questions that resonate even today. It is only by facing the past and that we can hope to build a better future. Rachel Margolis, through writing this memoir, as well as her other activities in Vilna, has helped set us on that path. We are all in her debt for doing so, and can only hope for the widest possible impact of this evocative, authentic and powerful memoir."

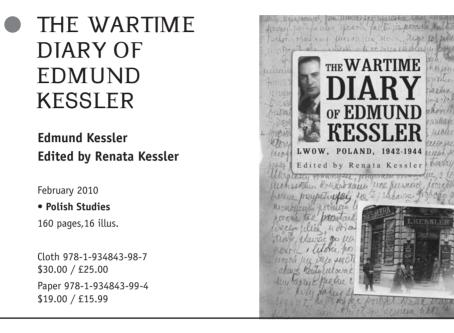
- Mark Weitzman, Director of Government Affairs, Simon Wiesenthal Center

"As if these issues were not sufficient to give the memoir significant importance, Margolis portrays with candor and considerable insight the tensions between Jewish Partisans and Soviet fighters, between Polish and Lithuanian forces and also the peasant population surrounding the woods. She does not portray herself as a hero, but as a person experiencing the ordinariness of everyday life under the most extraordinary of conditions. The result is a compelling, powerful and poignant memoir that takes us inside the ghettos and the bunkers, inside the woods and the dugouts, into the battles and the struggles for survival that shaped her young life."

 Michael Berenbaum, Director, Sigi Ziering Institute:
 Exploring the Ethical and Religious Implications of the Holocaust, Professor of Jewish Studies, American Jewish University

East European — Jewish Studies

"I owe my survival to the fact that admirable people still exist in the world." — Edmund Kessler



Dr. Kessler, a Jewish attorney from Lwow, Poland, gives an eye-witness account of the Holocaust through the events recorded in his diary between the years 1942 and 1944. In vivid, raw, documentary style, he describes his experiences in the Lwow Ghetto, the Janowska Concentration Camp, and in an underground bunker where he and twenty-three other Jews were hidden by a courageous Polish farmer and his family. The book includes a chapter written by Kazimierz Kalwinski, who, as a teenager, was a caretaker for the hidden Jews on his family's farm. Edmund's daughter, Renata Kessler, coordinated the book and has written an epilogue about her search for the story, which has taken her to Israel, Poland, and Lviv, Ukraine. Renowned scholar Antony Polonsky contributes an insightful historical overview of the times in which the book takes place. This volume is a tremendous resource for historians, scholars and those interested in the Holocaust.

Edmund Kessler attended the Jan Kazimierz School of Law in Lwow, Poland. He graduated with an Advanced Degree in law in 1931. He was registered with the Bar Association in Krakow and Lwow, Poland. After emigrating to America, he completed a Master's Degree in Business Administration from New York University in 1958. He worked as an accountant for the New York City Rent and Rehabilitation Commission until his retirement. Mr. Kessler began translating the diary himself shortly before his death. However, he was not able to finish the task, and it became his daughter's legacy.

REVIEWS

"The Wartime Diary of Edmund Kessler is a slim volume with considerable power. In prose and poetry, Kessler describes the conditions of Jewish life in the large but understudied ghetto of Lwow, Poland. His observations are keen, precise, his tone reserved and understated. He writes simply: "needless to say, conditions were difficult." Elsewhere he says: "I owe my survival to the fact that admirable people still exist in the world."

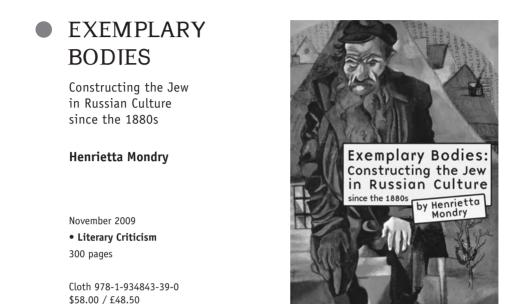
> — Michael Berenbaum, Director, Sigi Ziering Institute, Professor of Jewish Studies, American Jewish University (Los Angeles)

"The Wartime Diary of Edmund Kessler is not only a gripping account of the fate of Lwow Jewry during the war but also a unique mirror of the parallel perspectives of the rescued and their rescuers. This rich collection includes Kessler's wartime diary, his wartime poetry, and a 1998 memoir by Kazimierz Kalwinski, the son of the Polish couple who hid Kessler, his wife and 22 other Jews on their farm. Kessler was not what many regard as "a typical Polish Jew." He was an accomplished attorney who was, highly educated and spoke Polish as his first language. But in a way, Kessler was representative of a now-destroyed subculture, the rich world of pre-war acculturated middle class Galician Jewry, a world which combined a deep love of Polish culture with a strong devotion to Jewish identity. Kessler was both an attorney and a poet, a shrewd observer for whom the horrors that he was experiencing served as encouragement only encouraged him to reaffirm his humanity through poetry of witness. It is especially important that this collection includes Kalwinski's memoirs. To hide Jews in Germanoccupied Poland was to expose oneself and one's family to the risk of execution. It was not so easy to procure food and to secure a hiding place from the scrutiny of prying eyes at a time when Germans were conducting constant searches for food and for hidden arms. How does one do this for 24 people? This book is indeed an important addition to our knowledge of the Holocaust."

> — Samuel Kassow, Charles H. Northam Professor of History, Trinity College (Hartford, CT), author of *Who Will Write Our History*?

East European — Jewish Studies

"One of the most important books to appear in the burgeoning field of Russian-Jewish studies this decade." — Sander Gilman, author of The Jew's Body



This book explores the construction of the Jew's physical and ontological body in Russian culture as represented in literature, film, and non-literary texts from the 1880s to the present. With the rise of the dominance of biological and racialist discourse in the 1880s, the depiction of Jewish characters in Russian literary and cultural productions underwent a significant change, as these cultural practices recast the Jew not only as an archetypal "exotic" and religious or class Other (as in Romanticism and realist writing), but as a biological Other whose acts, deeds, and thoughts were determined by racial differences. This Jew allegedly had physical and psychological characteristics that were genetically determined and that could not be changed by education, acculturation, conversion to Christianity, or change of social status. This stereotype has become a stable archetype that continues to operate in contemporary Russian society and culture.

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Henrietta Mondry is Professor and Director of the Russian Program at University of Canterbury, New Zealand. Her recent books include *Populist Writers and the Jews: In the Footsteps of 'Two Hundred Years Together*,' St. Petersburg: Akademicheskii proekt, 2005 (in Russian); and *Pure, Strong and Sexless: Russian Peasant Woman's Body and Gleb Uspensky*, Amsterdam: Rodopi, 2006.

REVIEW

"Henrietta Mondry's Exemplary Bodies: Constructing the Jew in Russian Culture since the 1880s is one of the most important books to appear in the burgeoning field of Russian-Jewish studies this decade. Taking seriously the problematics of real Jews in the Russian-speaking lands, Mondry examines the fantasies about their bodies in writings from Anton Chekhov to the new Russian racial science of the 2000s. This is a readable and engaging study offering methodological and critical insights into anti-Semitism and its images. It provides the reader with a detailed understanding of the function of such images over the past century from Romanoff Russia through the short and bloody history of the USSR to Putin's Russia. It gives one pause about the continuities in Russian images of the Jew into the future."

- Sander Gilman, Author, The Jew's Body

Literary Biography

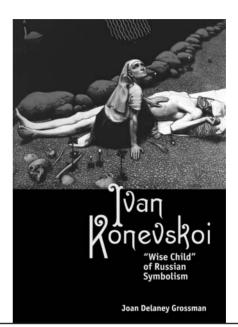
Literary Biography

Comprehensive account of the tragic poet-mystic-thinker's life, thought, and accomplishments



"Wise Child" of Russian Symbolism

Joan Delaney Grossman



March 2010 276 pages

Cloth 978-1-934843-89-5 \$59.00 / £49.50

Ivan Konevskoi: "Wise Child" of Russian Symbolism is the first study in any language of Ivan Konevskoi— poet, thinker, mystic— for many decades the "lost genius" of Russian modernism. A fresh and compelling figure, Konevskoi plunged deeply into the currents of modern mystical thought and art in the 1890s. A passionate searcher for immortality, he developed his own version of pantheism meant to guard his unique persona from dissolution in the All-One. The poetry of Tiutchev, Vladimir Soloviev and Rossetti, William James's psychology, paintings of Pre-Raphaelites and Arnold Boecklin, Old Russian historical myth, the Finnish Kalevala: all engaged him during his brief life. His worldview grew more audacious, his confidence in the magical power of the word grew more assured. Drowning in 1901 at 23, Konevskoi left a legacy unfinished, rich, and intriguing.

Joan Delaney Grossman (PhD Harvard University) is Professor Emerita of Slavic Languages and Literatures at University of California at Berkeley. Her publications include *Edgar Allan Poe in Russia* (1973), *Valery Bryusov and the Riddle of Russian Decadence* (1984), co-editing *Creating Life* (with Irina Paperno, 1994) and *William James in Russian Culture* (with Ruth Rischin, 2003).

REVIEWS

"Ivan Konevskoi (1877-1901) strove throughout his tragically brief earthly life to "abolish death" by penetrating the mystic core of the universe. His earthly survival has now been notably enhanced by Joan Grossman's splendid book, a comprehensive account of the poet's life, thought, and accomplishments. Deeply sympathetic but always clear-eyed and sensible, Grossman's narrative is exhaustively researched but never pedantic, engagingly written and rich in illuminations derived from the author's lifelong study of Russian poetry, especially of the Symbolist era."

- Hugh McLean, Professor Emeritus, University of California, Berkeley

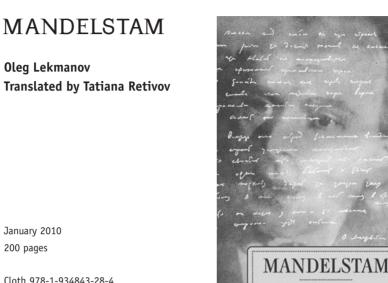
"Joan Grossman's spiritual biography of "poet-mystic-thinker" Ivan Konevskoi (Oreus) fills a large gap in the scholarship on early Russian modernism. Although never entirely forgotten, Konevskoi was largely ignored by scholars in both Russia and in the West, before the appearance of this substantial monograph. With the superb knowledge of her subject-matter that years of painstaking and engaged research have given her, Grossman guides us through the poet's short but intense quest for immortality through his own brand of pantheism. As Grossman shows, Konevskoi's spiritual journey, which ended prematurely by accidental drowning, has many intriguing stops along the way. Grossman makes this journey entertaining and informative. This is a major work by a distinguished scholar, which is bound to stimulate further research of this elusive poet."

— Irene Masing-Delic, Ohio State University and author of *Exotic Moscow under Western Eyes*

Literary Biography

Oleg Lekmanov

"Lekmanov makes an important contribution to [our] understanding and appreciation of Mandelstam's life -V. D. Barooshian, CHOICE, September, 2010 and work.



Oleg Lekmanov

January 2010 200 pages

Cloth 978-1-934843-28-4 \$32.00 / £26.99

Now available for the first time in English, Oleg Lekmanov's critically acclaimed Mandelstam presents the maverick Russian poet's life and work to a wider audience and includes the most reliable details of the poet's life, which were recently found and released from the KGB archives. Through his engaging narrative, Lekmanov carries the reader through Mandelstam's early life and education in pre-revolutionary Petersburg, at the Sorbonne in Paris, and in Heidelberg and his return to revolutionary Russia. Bold and fearless, he was quoted as saying: "Only in Russia do they respect poetry. They even kill you for it." Osip Mandelstam compared a writer to a parrot, saying that once his owner tires of him, he will cover his cage with black cloth, which becomes for literature a surrogate of night. In 1938, Mandelstam was arrested and six months later became a statistic: over 500,000 political prisoners were sent to the Gulags in 1938; between 1931 and 1940, over 300,000 prisoners died in the Gulags. One of them was the poet Osip Mandelstam. This is the tragic story of his life, pre-empted by the black cloth of Stalinism.

> **Oleg Lekmanov** is a professor at Moscow State University. His main interest has focused on Russian poetry of the twentieth century. Dr. Lekmanov has authored over two hundred articles and his latest papers explore the creative writings of O. Mandelstam, A. Akhmatova, and A. Solzhenitsyn. He is the author of Book on Akmeism (2000) and Sergei Esenin (2007, with Michail Sverdlov).

January 2011 • Poetry 400 pages

Cloth 978-1-934843-73-4 \$65.00 / £54.50 "I AM TO BE READ NOT FROM LEFT TO RIGHT, BUT IN JEWISH: FROM RIGHT TO LEFT"

The Poetics of Boris Slutsky

Marat Grinberg

Boris Slutsky (1919-1986) is a major original figure of Russian poetry of the second half of the twentieth century whose oeuvre has remained unexplored and unstudied. The first scholarly study of the poet, Marat Grinberg's book substantially fills this critical lacuna in the current comprehension of Russian and Soviet literatures. Grinberg argues that Slutsky's body of work amounts to a Holy Writ of his times, which daringly fuses biblical prooftexts and stylistics with the language of late Russian Modernism and Soviet newspeak. The book is directed toward readers of Russian poetry and pan-Jewish poetic traditions, scholars of Soviet culture and history and the burgeoning field of Russian Jewish studies. Finally, it contributes to the general field of poetics and Modernism.

> **Marat Grinberg** (PhD University of Chicago) is an assistant professor of Russian and Humanities at Reed College in Portland, Oregon. His recent essays include "'The Problem of Evil': an Exchange with Tony Judt" (The New York Review of Books, 2008); "'All the Young Poets have Become Old Jews': Boris Slutsky's Russian Jewish Canon" (East European Jewish Affairs, 2007) and "The Midrash from Joseph: 'Isaac and Abraham' as Brodsky's Ur-Text." Poetics. Self. Place: Essays in Honor of Anna Lisa Crone (Bloomington, Slavica, 2007).

Russian Philosophy

VLADIMIR SOLOVIEV AND THE SPIRITUALIZATION OF MATTER

November 2010 250 pages

Cloth 978-1-936235-17-9 \$59.00 / £49.50

Oliver Smith

While he is widely acknowledged as the most important Russian thinker of the nineteenth century, Vladimir Soloviev's place in the landscape of world philosophy nevertheless remains uncertain. Approaching him through a single synoptic lens, this book foregrounds his unique envisioning of the interaction between humanity and the material world. By investigating the development of a single theme in his work— his idea of the 'spiritualization of matter', the 'task' of humanity— Smith constructs a rounded picture of Soloviev's overall importance to an understanding of nineteenth-century thought, as well as to modern theology and philosophy. The picture that emerges is of a writer whose contribution to a Christian philosophy of matter resonates with many of the religious debates of modernity.

Oliver Smith (PhD University College London) is a lecturer in Russian at the University of St. Andrews in the United Kingdom. His research focuses on Russian intellectual tradition as it developed from the beginning of the nineteenth century. His recent publications include "The Ecology of History: Russian Thought on the Future of the World,", which appeared in *Ecological Awareness: Exploring Religion, Ethics and Aesthetics, Studies in Religion and the Environment*, 2009 and "Is Humanity King to Creation? The Thought of Vladimir Solov'ev in the Light of Ecological Crisis" published in the *Journal for the Study of Religion, Nature and Culture*, 2008.

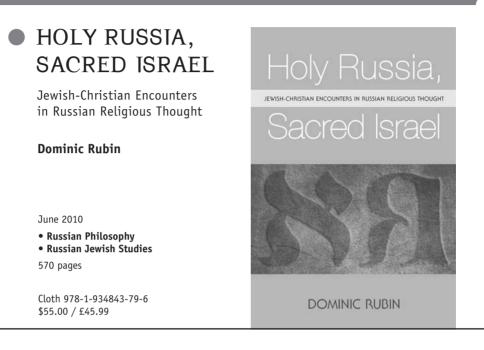
REVIEW

"Oliver Smith's Vladimir Soloviev and the Spiritualization of Matter is one of the best recent works in English about Soloviev—indeed, about Russian philosophy in general. It tackles complex philosophical concepts with unusual clarity, lucidity and cohesion, exploring the evolution of Soloviev's philosophical system and offering detailed and nuanced analyses of the relationships of Soloviev's ideas with those of his great predecessors (Plato, Descartes, Spinoza, Leibniz, Kant, Hegel, Jewish Kabbala, etc.)."

- Lazar Fleishman, Professor of Slavic Languages and Literatures, Stanford University

Russian Philosophy

"Dominic Rubin's Holy Russia, Sacred Israel is a formidable and profoundly impressive piece of research, which needed to be done, and I was very glad to see it. It is a major piece of work." — Most Reverend. Dr. Rowan Williams, Archbishop of Canterbury



Holy Russia, Sacred Israel examines how Russian religious thinkers, both Jewish and Christian, conceived of Judaism, Jewry and the 'Old Testament' philosophically, theologically and personally at a time when the Messianic element in Russian consciousness was being stimulated by events ranging from the pogroms of the 1880s, through two Revolutions and World Wars, to exile in Western Europe. An attempt is made to locate the boundaries between the Jewish and Christian, Russian and Western, Gnostic-pagan and Orthodox elements in Russian thought in this period. The author reflects personally on how the heritage of these thinkers, little analyzed or translated in the West, can help Orthodox (and other) Christians respond to Judaism (including 'Messianic Judaism'), Zionism, and Christian anti-Semitism today.

> **Dominic Rubin** (PhD in Linguistics, London University) is a lecturer in Philosophy, Biblical Hebrew, and Old Testament at St. Philaret's Orthodox Christian Institute and the Moscow Higher School of Economics.

REVIEWS

"Holy Russia, Sacred Israel is without a doubt a very important book and contribution to the field. With a deep and sympathetic understanding for both Judaism and Russian Orthodoxy, Dominic Rubin gives us new readings of some of the canonical figures of Russian thought: Soloviev, Florensky, Rozanov, Gershenson, Karsavin, and Fedotov, among others. This is an important book for Russian culture because the author has no axe to grind and is unafraid of telling truth to power, facing both past anti-Jewish agitation and propaganda, while at the same time never surrendering hope for a future Russian-Jewish philosophical dialogue. Each figure is judged primarily on the merits of their thinking as theology and as humane expression, in a way which displays erudition, tolerance and a love for both Russian and Jewish culture."

> - Brian Horowitz, Professor of Russian and Chair of Jewish Studies, Tulane University

"This is a truly exceptional book. I have reread chapters time and again. In these pages, there are so many things of immediate interest, mainly, I think, for Orthodox theologians and Church leaders. The presentation and commentary on landmark figures like Soloviev, Bulgakov, Berdyaev and Florensky will be of great benefit in helping Orthodox Christians in the twenty first century understand in depth the past relationship between Christianity and Judaism in the Orthodox context, during a period that was of crucial importance for both faiths. Very few people are aware of the details of this relationship, and this book is invaluable in assessing how today's Orthodox Christians can learn from the past."

> Fr. Vasile Mihoc, Professor of New Testament Studies, Lucien Blaga University of Sibiu, Romania

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