



Romanov News Новости Романовых

By Ludmila & Paul Kulikovsky

№102

October 2016

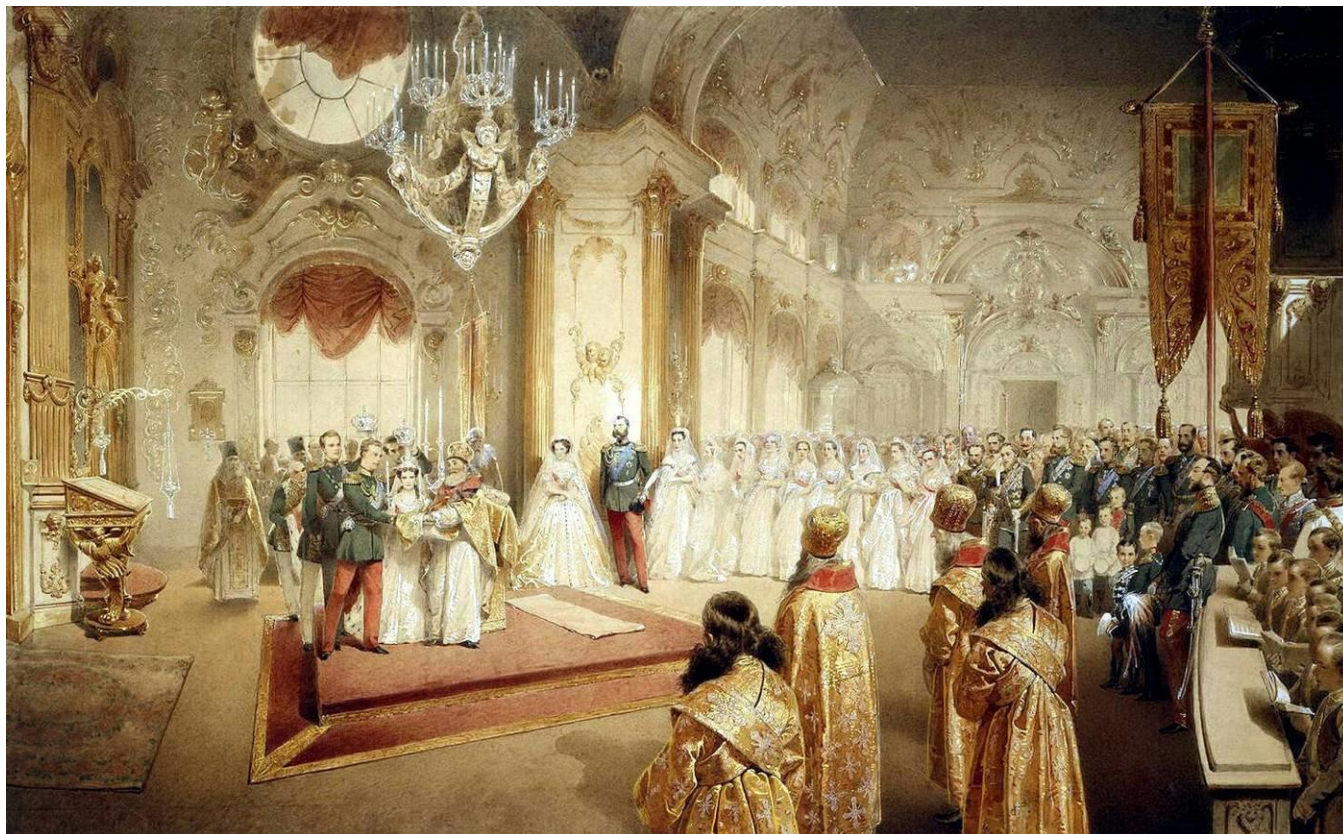


Grand Duchess Olga Alexandrovna and Nicholas Alexandrovich Kulikovsky

Upcoming wedding anniversaries

150 years wedding anniversary of Emperor Alexander III and Empress Maria Feodorovna

On 9 November (Old style 28 October) 1866 in the Grand Church of the Winter Palace in St. Petersburg, the Tsarevich Alexander Alexandrovich wed Princess Dagmar, who had converted to Orthodox Christianity and took the name Maria Feodorovna.



The event is celebrated in Denmark over two days. On November 4th a "Conference on Dagmar's life" was organized. The conference will take place in the Russian Cultural Centre in Copenhagen.

The next day, on November 5th in the Copenhagen Town Hall (Ceremonial Hall) will be a ball on the occasion of 150 years anniversary of the wedding of the Russian Emperor Alexander III and the Danish Princess Dagmar (Maria Feodorovna).



100 years wedding anniversary of Grand Duchess Olga Alexandrovna and Nicholas Alexandrovich Kulikovsky

"On November 17th (old style 4th) my present husband and I were married in the oldest church that exists in Russia. It had been built on the spot where there had previously stood a wooden image of the heathen god 'Perun'. When Kiev became Christian the inhabitants had thrown this figure down the hill into the Dnieper, and had founded the first church on the spot where it had stood for such a long time.

It was snowing hard on the day we were married. My brother-in-law drove me to church, and my mother followed in the next car with one of my favorite nurses. There were only a few guests in the church. Apart from them, only my mother's Cossack bodyguard Yachik, the colonel from my own regiment and one officer were present. The church lay in darkness except for the spot where we stood and where light fell from the candles. Up on the gallery a choir sang very beautifully filling the old church with their voices. After the ceremony we drove back to the hospital and all had dinner together. All my comrades, the doctors and nurses were so pleased for me and wished us happiness with all their hearts. We were so happy. Thus our greatest wish for thirteen years had been fulfilled."



"Commemoration of the Royal Family: Challenges and prospects. On the 100th anniversary of their death" - The "Elizabeth-Sergeivsky Reading" in Moscow Kremlin

November 1st, the Fund "Elisabeth Sergius Educational Society" had arranged the conference "XIX Elizabeth-Sergeivsky Reading", on the birthday of Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna, in the Chrism Chamber of the Patriarch's Palace of the Moscow Kremlin.



On the eve of the 100th anniversary of the tragic events and the 35th anniversary of the glorification of the Imperial family and the Alapayevsk Martyrs by the Russian Orthodox Church Abroad, many museum workers, historians, clergy, representatives of the authorities of Perm and Yekaterinburg, Tyumen and Sverdlovsk regions had gathered in the Moscow Kremlin to discuss how on the eve of the tragic death of the Royal family to tell the public about the facts that are silent or were forgotten altogether.

Now the obvious interest of Russian and foreign tourists and pilgrims will make them come to the places of memory of the Imperial family, and a coordination seems appropriate.

"We would like through the creation of museums, new exhibitions, Romanov pilgrimage tourist routes, publication of new books, guides and other information available to us, to convey to the Russians the truth about the Royal family. What kind of people they were, what they did for the Fatherland, and how tragically developed their fate", - explained the Chairman of the Supervisory Board of the Fund of assistance to revive the traditions of charity and philanthropy "Elisabeth Sergius Educational Society" Anna Gromova.

The conference started with greetings being read, from among many the Minister of Culture of Russia Vladimir Rostislavovich Medinsky, D.Sc., Chairman of the "Russian military-historical society" (RVIO); Metropolitan Krutitsy and Kolomna Juvenal, Chairman of the Board of Church and Society at the Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia, to perpetuate the memory of the martyrs and confessors of the Russian Church, announced by Archimandrite Nestor (Jiliaev), Provost of



churches in Odintsovo district of the Moscow diocese, rector of Our Saviour the Image cathedral in Usovo; Metropolitan Kirill of Yekaterinburg and Verkhoturye; Metropolitan Methodius of Perm and Kungur; Sergey Sobyanin, Mayor of Moscow, announced by Vitaly Suchkov, head of the national policy of the Department of Interregional Relations and Tourism of the City of Moscow; George S. Poltavchenko, Governor of St. Petersburg, announced by Vladimir G. Ivanov, Head of the Department for Relations with Religious Associations of the Administration of St. Petersburg Governor; Viktor Basargin, the governor of the Perm region, announced by Vladimir Konev, Head of the Administration of Religious Relations of the governor of the Perm region Department of Internal Policy; Liudmila Babushkina, Chairman of the Legislative Assembly of Sverdlovsk region; Vladimir Yakushev, governor of the Tyumen region, announced by Natalia Szewczyk, Deputy Governor of the Tyumen region and Elena Gagarina, General Director of Historical and Cultural Museum-Preserve "The Moscow Kremlin".



Greetings in person were from Archbishop of Geneva and Western Europe Michael; Bishop Tikhon of Yegoryevsky, vicar of His Holiness Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia, the governor of Sretensky Monastery, executive secretary of the Patriarchal Council for Culture; Vladimir Tolstoy, Russian President's Advisor for Cultural Affairs; Alexander Chubaryan, Doctor of Historical Sciences, Academician, Chairman of the National Committee of the Russian historian, scientific adviser of the Institute of General History, RAS; Andrei Yurasov, Ph.D., Deputy Head of the Federal Archival Agency (Rosarchiv); Vladimir Mazur, head of the

Administration of the city of Tobolsk; Andrey Batalov, Deputy Director General of the Moscow Kremlin; and Paul Kulikovsky, Honorary Member of the Romanov Family Association..



From left - Paul E. Kulikovsky, Archbishop of Geneva and Western Europe Michael, and Anna V. Gromova



"Understanding that trouble passing - that's your trouble, should be the highest principle of our lives today," - said adviser on culture of the Russian Federation President Vladimir Tolstoy.



"The most important thing - it is necessary to overcome the Bolshevik myth - says art historian, Deputy Director General of the Moscow Kremlin Andrey Batalov - First of all, to ensure that in the Russian Federation topography disappear regicides names immortalized in the names of streets. We find in many cities streets named after Kaliayev, Grand Duke Sergei Alexandrovich killer, we will find streets named after Karakozov, Sophia Perovskoy and a host of other regicides. Until we overcome the memory of them, we will not be able to perpetuate the memory of the Imperial family."

The Governor-General house in Tobolsk, where the Royal family lived before the execution, will become a full-fledged museum.

"There's has been a memorial room, but now a lot of rooms is done. In relation to find items, we addressed different people, who had objects of those times so we could restore all the rooms", - said the head of Tobolsk Vladimir Mazur.





The greeting of Paul Kulikovskiy:

"Bishops, Anna Vitalievna, brothers and sisters, Ladies and Gentlemen.

To be in the Moscow Kremlin is always special - I feel that my ancestors' spirit is still strong here, in the holy heart of Russia.

Today is indeed a special day, as it is the birthday of Saint Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna.

1st of November is also the day of repose of Empress Alexandra Feodorovna, the wife of Emperor Nicholas I. And of Emperor Alexander III, my great-great-grandfather - Memory eternal!

Being a descendant of the Romanov dynasty and the only one living in Russia, I am closely following everything that is happening here related to my family.

I am very concern about what the years 2017 and 2018 might bring. I see a Russian society, where some people think 1917 was great due to the revolution, while others think it was the most tragic event and Russia lost the entire 20 century.

Those people who are going to celebrate are already preparing clouds of misinformation, trying to hide the inconvenient truth.

Their kinship not only killed the Imperial family without a trail, but did it in a cowardly way. They knew it was wrong and tried to hide the remains. Did it badly and had to do it a second time. Denied their murderous action and instead spread lies about the Imperial family's escape.

They wanted to erased all memory of the Imperial family, so their sin might be forgotten by the people. But the truth will always surface sooner or later - and today we know it - the Royal Martyrs are not forgotten and never will be!

I completely agree with the organizers of this conference it is necessary to prepare for 2017 and 2018 now.

We need to blow these clouds of propaganda away, to allow the truth to shine through to as many people as possible.



One of the ways is to commemorate the Royal Martyrs and the Alapaevsk Martyrs, as much as possible, in as many places as possible and in as many different ways as possible. Maybe the task in front of us look enormous, but it is not impossible. The Elisabeth-Sergeivsky Educational Society have already been doing it during many years and I could add - with great success. But what can we do, what should we do and what will we do? I hope to hear many suggestions in this conference.

On my list of suggestions are - memorial services, charity events, new churches - like the one in Alapaevsk, new museums - like the Governor house in Tobolsk or the Field school in Alapaevsk, new parks, exhibitions, books, paintings, monuments, and movies.

Some of the more alternative suggestions are renaming street and squares - high on this list is to rename the Voikovskaya metro station.
To find the remains of Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich in Perm. To start a process of canonization of Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich.
To bury Lenin, and to return the eagles on the Moscow Kremlin towers.

However, the most important activity - the biggest wish of the Romanov family - will be to have the so called "Yekaterinburg remains"-case completed as soon as possible.
We are eagerly awaiting the result of the church's investigation, so the truth will be known to all and we'll get peace in our hearts.

Many thanks to the Elisabeth-Sergei Educational Society for arranging this conference. A low-bow to Anna Vitalievna and her team.
I welcome all of you here at the conference, and I wish you success in your work for the good of Russia. God will help us!"



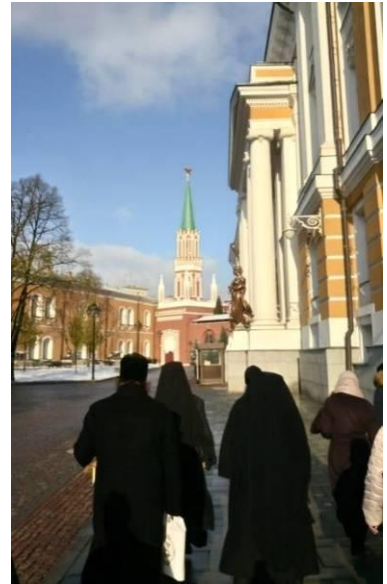
After a short break, a small group of the participants left the conference to attend the consecration of a stone in memory of Grand Duke Sergei Alexandrovich, while the conference continued with presentations of reports.

The consecration of a stone - the first step in recreating the cross in memory of Grand Duke Sergei Alexandrovich in Moscow Kremlin

Photos by Ivan Podyapolsky and Paul Kulikovsky.

In a restricted area in Moscow Kremlin, near the Nikolsky tower - as it is next to President Vladimir Putin's office - a small group of people gathered for the consecration of a small stone monument. The group included the Minister of Culture Vladimir Medinsky, Bishop Tikhon (Shevkunov), Archbishop Michael of Geneva and Western Europe, Anna V. Gromova, Chairman of the Supervisory Board of the Fund "Elizabeth-Sergievsky Educational Society", Kremlin Commandant Sergei Khlebnikov, a spokesman for the FSO Sergey Devyatov, a representative of the House of Romanov Paul Kulikovsky, his spouse Ludmila, and the Sretensky Monastery Choir under the direction of Amerkhanov.

The stone is located on the exact spot where Grand Duke Sergei Alexandrovich in 1905 was killed by a bomb, thrown by a terrorist. In 1908 on this site was erected a cross by his wife, Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna. The cross monument was demolished with the personal participation of Lenin and Sverdlov on 1st of May, 1918. Now the stone is on the same site - the first step in recreating the lost cross in memory of Grand Duke Sergei Alexandrovich. The original drawings by Viktor Vasnetsov have been found and will be used to make a one-to-one recreation of the original cross. Even the same type of material is going to be used, even if that means using a special stone from Kiev.



The sacrament of consecration foundation stone held Bishop Tikhon (Shevkunov), head of the Patriarchal Council for Culture.

"Today was a momentous event" - said Bishop Tikhon - "Russia, which has been designed to be Orthodox, in 1917 squinted doom. It is a cross of repentance. Cross of hope."



"At first criminals are committing a crime, and then try to hide traces of the crime" - reminded the Minister of Culture Vladimir Medinsky. - "The cross was demolished to hide the traces of a crime. The fact is that the Military Historical Society now restores the cross on the spot of death of the governor-general of Moscow, who did a lot for our capital, it is a good case. We are restoring the memory of those people who gave all his strength, mind, soul to our country and people".

"Every time I repeat the same thing: a monument - it is not about the word "good" or "bad" - said Medinsky - A monument is about the word "Memory". Whoever it was, no matter what it was, we must remember our history, we have to draw conclusions from it, to learn."

"Laying the foundation stone was the first step towards the preparation of the 100th anniversary of the memory of the Royal family, recreating the historical appearance of the Kremlin, and will serve to further restoration of historical justice" - said Anna Gromova, Chairman of the Supervisory Board of the Fund to promote the revival of the traditions of charity and philanthropy "Elizabeth-Sergievsky Educational Society".

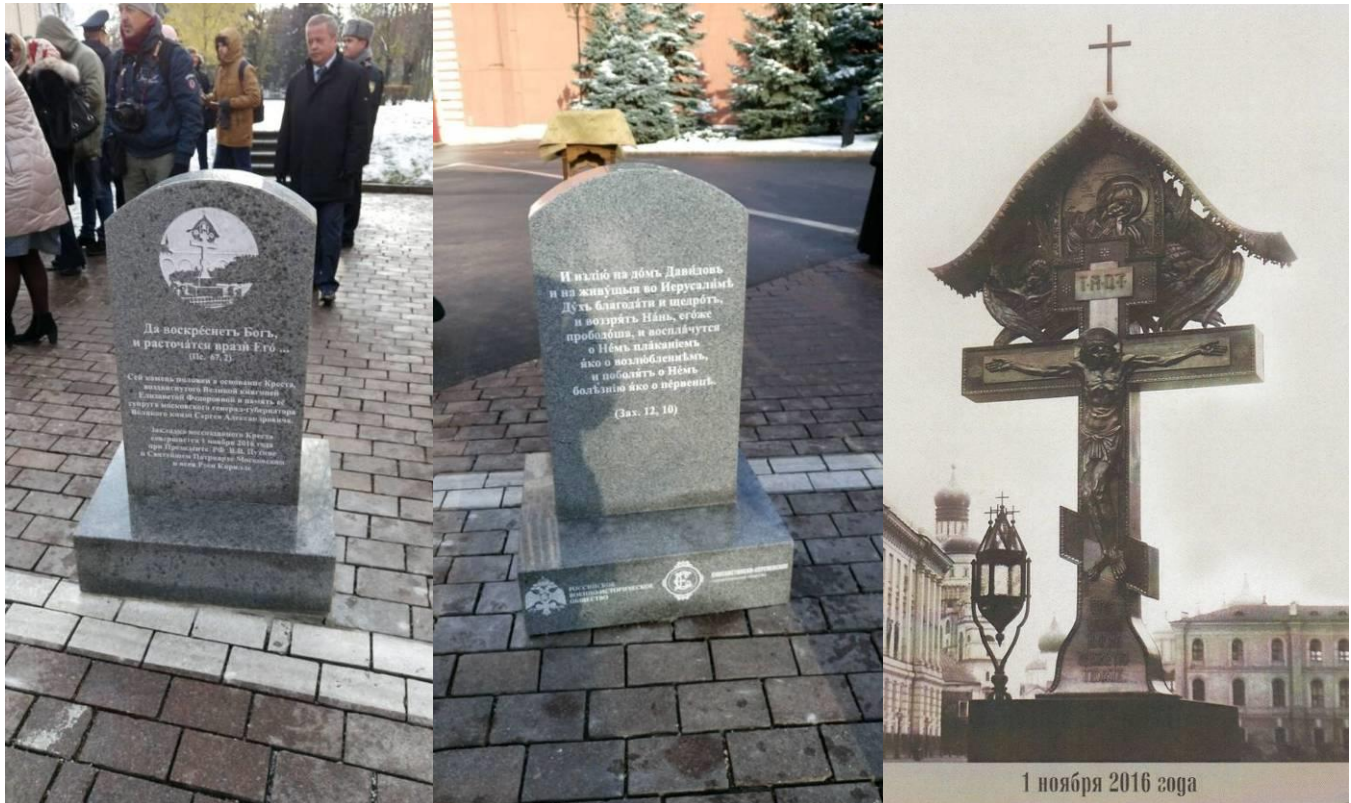
"Grand Duke Sergei Alexandrovich was killed for being a consistent conservative statesman. He stood for the protection of statehood and Orthodoxy. He until the end



of his life did not betrayed autocracy, Russia and the people. For us it is very important today to talk about all the periods of our history, and the complex and contradictory that someone wants to shut up, and some wants to falsify. I am pleased that we are working with RVIO in this common effort to return to the memory of our people, the more we know about these events, the happier, clearer and easier it is to understand, the better off we are in our future in a spiritual sense."

"We are delighted and happy that at this place a cross, perpetuating the memory of Grand Duke Sergei Alexandrovich will be erected," - said Archbishop of Geneva and Western Europe, Mikhail.

"I am sure that Saint Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna is today smiling in heaven. It is a wonderful birthday gift to her. On behalf of the Romanov family I would like to thank all who have been involved in organising it", - said Paul Kulikovskiy.



Last August, Russian President Vladimir Putin instructed to consider the re-establishment of the cross in Kremlin in memory of the tragic death of Grand Duke Sergei Alexandrovich and to install it on the very spot where he was killed.

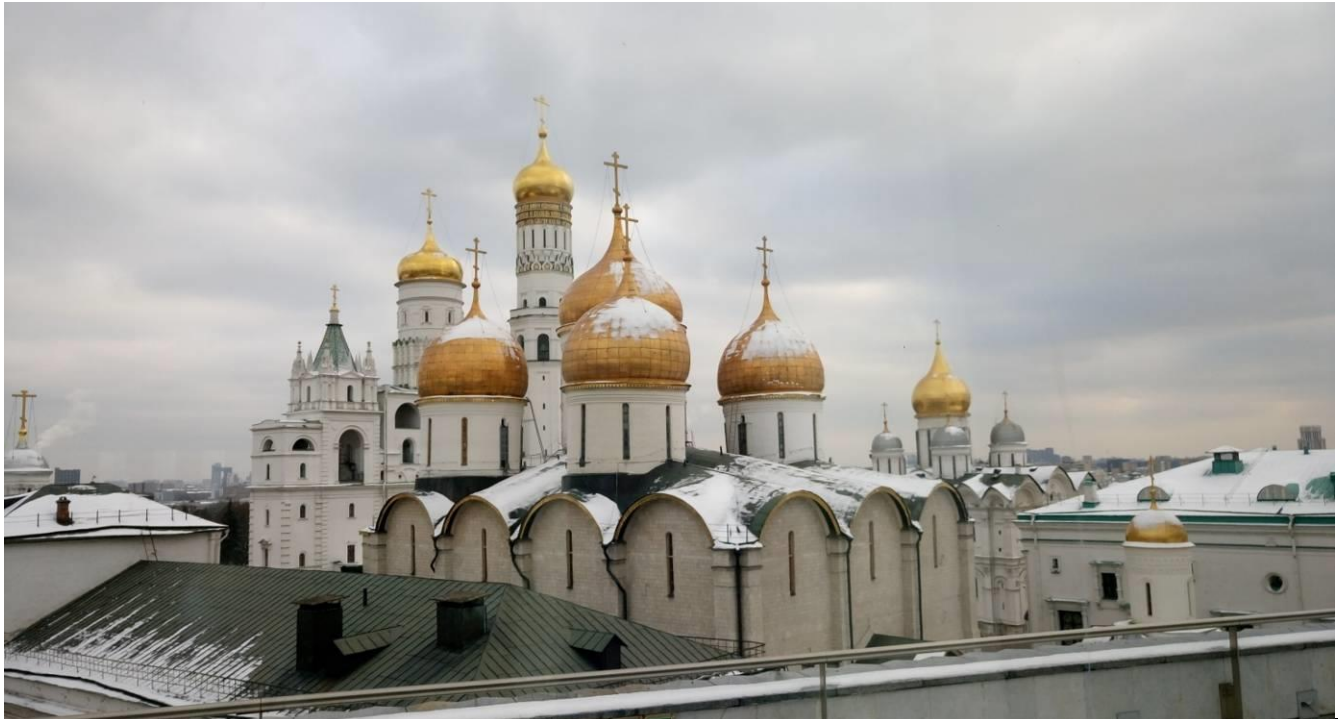
May 1, 2017 the memorial cross will appear near the Nikolskaya tower, returning Kremlin ensemble to its pre-revolutionary historical appearance.

Sessions in the conference

During this event the "Elisabeth-Sergeivsky readings" continued, included several interesting presentations: Igor A Gladnev, Minister of Culture of the Perm region talked about "Creating a memorial room of Grand Duke Mikhail Alexandrovich - the possibilities of museums, archives and libraries of Perm Region".

- Mikhail Gromov, Doctor of Philosophy., Professor, chief researcher of the Russian sector of the history of philosophy Institute of Philosophy - "The tragedy in Russia and the sanctity of the twentieth century".

- Sergey Kapnist, President of JSC "Russian Red Cross SO", a founding member of the Coordination Council of Russian Compatriots in France - "On perpetuation of the memory of noble families affected by the revolutionary events of the early twentieth century."
- Sergey Zhitenëv, advisor to the director of the Russian Research Institute for Cultural and Natural Heritage - "The perpetuation of the memory of prominent members of the Russian Imperial House of Romanov: scientific-educational and ideological problems".
- Galina Y. Golovina, Deputy Minister of Culture of the Sverdlovsk region - "On the interagency cooperation on museification of the Field School in Alapayevsk Sverdlovsk Region".



Lunch was in the Kremlin Palace (concert hall), which have a wonderful view to the Kremlin churches.

The afternoon session continued with presentations from:

- Alexander Renzhin, head of the "Canon" icon workshop - "About the exhibition of the A.V. Renzhin "The last three Emperors".
- Svetlana Sidorova, PhD, Director of "Tobolsk Historical and Architectural Museum-Reserve", Tyumen Region - "Creating a memorial House-Museum of the Imperial Romanov family in Tobolsk".



To the left, Svetlana Sidorova presenting the project of renovation of the Governor-house in Tobolsk

«Спальня великих княжон»



Внутренние
интерьеры дома
в период пребывания
в нем Царской семьи



Проект художественного
оформления помещений

Мемориальный
«Музей Царской семьи Романовых» в Тобольске

In the presentation was photos from the time of the Imperial family's stay in the Governor's house in Tobolsk and photos of the rooms after renovation. Above the bedroom of the Grand Duchesses and an illustration from the project design of the bedroom. Below the dining room and an illustration from the project design of the dining room.

«Столовая»



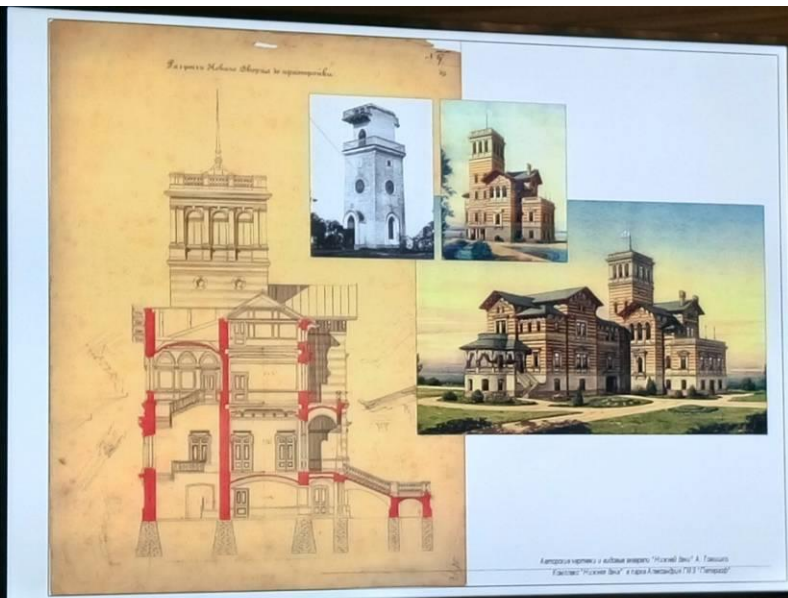
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- Sergey Pavlov, the chief architect of the State Museum "Peterhof" - "Personal residence of Emperor Nicholas II - The Lower cottage in Alexandra Park - The experience of studying and preservation of cultural heritage".



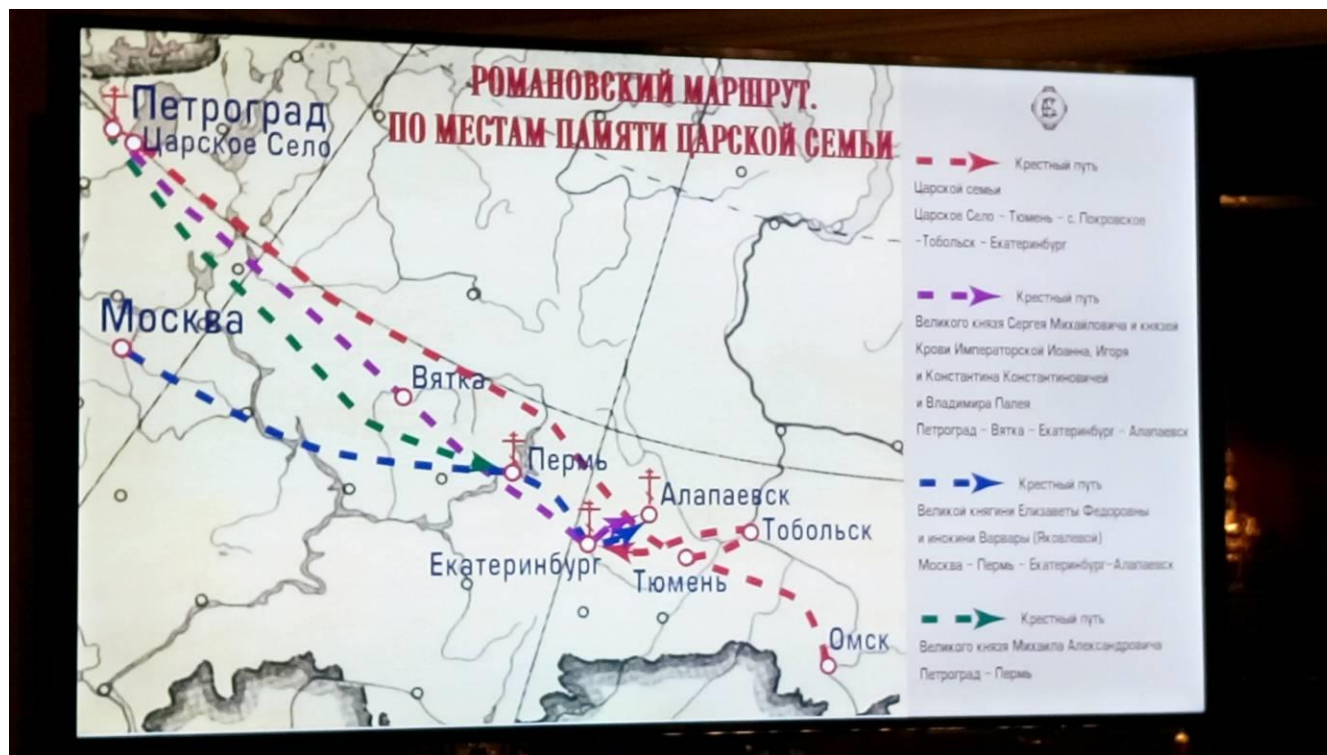
He presented photos of the Lower Dacha in plan drawings, illustrations and photos. The original plan drawings exist and do allow for a complete recreation of the house.

Photos from the interior do exist, but not many, as it was a (very) private house, were guests seldom arrived.



The Lower Dacha was badly damaged during the Second World War, but the walls were still standing, and like with many other palaces it could have been renovated. However after the Soviets later blew the ruin up from the inside, the task is now a recreation, with little of the original remaining.

- Yury Alexandrovich Zhuk, military historian, president of the Foundation for the Memory of the New Martyrs of the Romanov Imperial House - "Alapaevsky drama: Way of the Cross of the Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna".
- Irina Vladislavovna Plotnikova, head of the Church-Architectural museum in Novospassky Monastery - "Commemoration of Grand Duke Sergei Alexandrovich in Novospassky Monastery".
- Dmitry Mikhailovich Sofin, PhD, senior lecturer in modern history of the Faculty of History and Political Science PSNRU - "Perm as a memory space of the Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich"

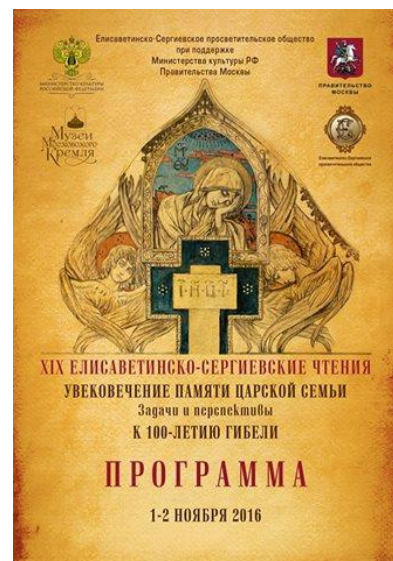


A map showing the different members of the Romanov family's route to Siberia and the place of murder.

- Red route is the Imperial family.
- The purple route is for Grand Duke Sergei Michailovich, Princes John Konstantinovich, Igor Konstantinovich, Konstantin Konstantinovich and Vladimir Paley.
- The blue route is Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna.
- And the green route is Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich.

The next day, on 2 November 2016 visits were organised to the Imperial estates "Ilinskoe-Usovo", where lived Grand Duchess Elizabeth and Grand Duke Sergei Alexandrovich, and to the Museum-Estate "Arkhangelsk", where lived the Yusupovs and which the Romanovs often visited.

- Videos - 1) http://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article_id/158495/
 2) http://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article_id/158455/
 3) <http://www.vesti.ru/doc.html?id=2817060#>
 4) <http://www.tvc.ru/news/show/id/103847/>



A descendant of Emperor Nicholas I Prince Dimitri arrives in Moscow

October 5, 2016. TASS - A descendant of Russian Emperor Nicholas I and the eldest in the Romanov family, Prince Dimitri Romanovich, and his wife, Theodora, have arrived in the Russian capital from Paris. In Moscow, the Prince will receive the Order of Saint Alexander Nevsky, a Russian state award, on October 6.

"I was very surprised to learn about the award," Prince Dimitri told TASS at the Sheremetyevo airport. He noted that he considers this to be a recognition and gratitude for 25 years of humanitarian work.

"When he learned this, a smile lit up his face. It was incredibly important for him," said Theodora Alexeevna.

On Thursday, October 6, Prince Dimitri Romanovich will receive the Order of Saint Alexander Nevsky at a solemn ceremony, in accordance with a decree issued by Russian President Vladimir Putin. The descendant of Emperor



Nicholas I will receive the award "for his great contribution to spreading abroad the knowledge of Russia's historical and cultural heritage and efforts to promote international humanitarian ties." Another highlight of this visit will be a meeting of the head of the Romanov family and Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Russia. On Saturday, October 8, the feast day of St. Sergius of Radonezh, they will visit the Trinity Sergius Lavra (Monastery) in Sergiev Posad near Moscow to venerate the saint's relics. On Sunday, October 9, Prince Dimitri Romanovich and his wife will return to Paris.

In an interview with a TASS correspondent Prince Dimitri Romanovich noted that he considers the awarding of the Order of Saint Alexander Nevsky a great honour. "This award symbolizes the grandeur and coherence of Russian history," he said. The Prince who turned 90 on May 17 added that the order is also very precious to him because "several generations of the Romanovs proudly worn this award." Those were the Prince's great-great-grandfather, Nicholas I, great grandfather, Field Marshal Nikolai Nikolaevich (Sr) and grandfather, engineer troops chief Peter Nikolaevich. Each of them, according to the oldest Romanov descendant, "placed Russia's interests above everything else." "In 1916, one hundred years ago, such order was awarded to my father, Roman Petrovich," he said.

Video - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JYtGOnHm6dI>

Prime Minister Medvedev presented the Order of Alexander Nevsky to Prince Dimitri Romanovich

6 October. Russia Today - Russian Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev presented the Order of Alexander Nevsky to Prince Dimitri Romanovich. The award marks a great contribution of a senior in the family Romanov in spreading abroad the knowledge of the historical and cultural heritage of Russia and the promotion of international humanitarian relations.

Dimitri Romanovich said that he adopts the high Russian award with deep appreciation. "Order of Alexander Nevsky symbolizes the greatness and unity of Russian history", - he stressed.

"The last time I was fortunate to visit many places connected with the life of the family - said the Prince. Last year, on the threshold of the 90th anniversary, I was able to visit the Crimea."

Video - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h-jKvuaeq4M>



The patriarch thanked the descendant of Nicholas I for the contribution to national history

8 October. TASS & ROC - On the day of memory of St. Sergius, the Patriarch met with Prince Dimitri Romanovich at the Trinity-Sergius Lavra, where they venerated the relics of the saint.

Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia Kirill expressed his gratitude to the descendant of Emperor Nicholas I Prince Dimitri Romanovich Romanov for his contribution to national history.

"Thank you for all the good that you are now doing, the most important thing is that your work connects history, with your unique identity and the uniqueness of the House of Romanov - The patriarch said - Alive people connect in their family tradition parts of our national history, torn by the tragic events of the early twentieth century."



About the examination of the remains of the children of Emperor Nicholas II, Tsarevich Alexei and Grand Duchess Mary, Patriarch Kirill said -

"You are interested in our attitude to the remains, which were discovered near Yekaterinburg. We have agreed with the authorities that have to re-do all the expertise, because, from our point of view, what happened in the 1990s, took place with violations. And for the Church to accept the result of the examination, the examination itself has to be perfect, there must be no suspicion, no one. Currently, these examinations are not completed, they are held in several laboratories abroad" - said the Primate of the Russian Church.

His Holiness said that currently the examination is to be completed, which take place in several laboratories abroad. "We respect and feel confident about our scientists, but in order to avoid any doubt, we decided to pass on such a difficult path. And most people who are close to this topic and who think it is important, share this approach," - said His Holiness Patriarch.

According to His Holiness, "remains encrypted" and none of the experts carrying out the examination, did not know what are in the vessel. "I have a list, drawn up in the presence of other people - we know, which remains are in any vessel", - said Patriarch Kirill, noting that the measures taken will help "to take this examination with confidence."

Patriarch Kirill also promised to inform Prince Dmitry Romanovich on the results of the examination. "I very much hope that all will end well. Of course, you will be notified in any case. You will get the results of these studies," - he said.

"I thank you for your attention to this issue - said His Holiness, referring to the guest. - Thank you for your love of our common homeland, to preserve the great traditions of the House of Romanov, and for your participation in the delivery of the remains of Maria Feodorovna and Nicholas."

The transfer from Denmark to Russia and the reburial of the remains of Empress Maria Feodorovna, the wife of Emperor Alexander III of, was held in September 2006. Memorable Patriarch Alexy II made litia before the burial of the remains of the Empress in the Peter and Paul Cathedral in St. Petersburg. The ceremony of reburial of Grand Duke Nicholas (Jr.), the grandson of Emperor Nicholas I, the supreme commander of all land and naval forces of the Russian Empire at the beginning of World War I took place April 30, 2015 at Bratsky military cemetery in Moscow with the participation of His Holiness Patriarch Kirill.

"Your work connected history. This is the uniqueness of your personality and uniqueness of all the House of Romanov - said His Holiness in conclusion.

The meeting was attended by Chairman of the Patriarchal Council for Culture, the governor of Sretensky Monastery in Moscow, Bishop Tikhon of Egoryevsky and wife of Prince Dimitri Romanovich Romanov Princess Dorrit.

Prince Dimitri Romanovich concerned about the fate of the remains, had previously written a letter to Patriarch Kirill. In an interview the Prince said that he hoped that in the near future the remains of his family are buried in the Peter and Paul Cathedral in St. Petersburg, in the tomb of many other members of the Royal family. He has been twice in Yekaterinburg on the place of execution of the Royal family and had seen the remains.

"It is unlikely that I will ever be able to forget history, connected with the remains of my ancestors. One of the most difficult in my life. I hope that soon it will end." - Prince Dimitri Romanovich said.

Video - <http://5-tv.ru/news/111163/>

Great-great-grandson of Alexander III: My move to Russia - a family return



20 October. MIR24 - Paul Kulikovsky is a man who personifies the very history of Russia. He has given a "Big interview" to TV channel "Mir 24".

Kulikovsky-Romanov family comes from the youngest daughter of Alexander III and Maria Feodorovna. Olga Alexandrovna is his great-grandmother. She left Russia during the revolution.

The very grandson of the Emperor was born in Canada, grew up and lived in Denmark. Now he "returned" to Russia in connection with work.

Interview by Maria Kroshkina, MIR24

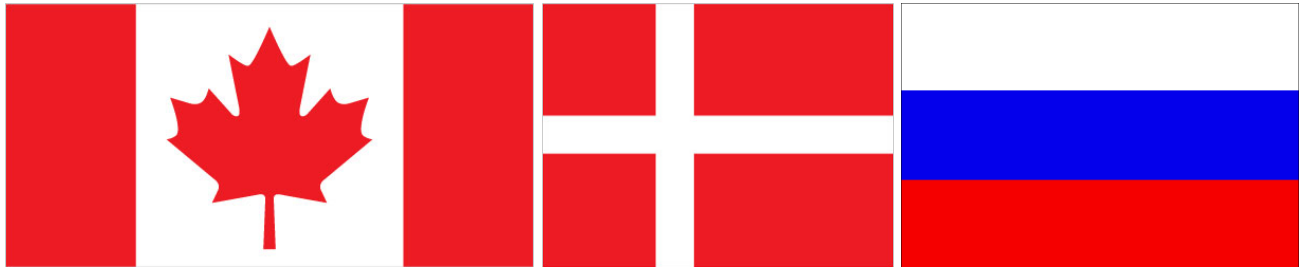
This is the program "The Big Interview". Today our guest is a man who personifies the very history of Russia - the great-great-grandson of Emperor Alexander III, Paul Eduardovich Kulikovsky-Romanov.

- Paul Eduardovich, good afternoon!

- Good afternoon!

- Your life can be characterized as emigration in reverse - Canada, Denmark, and then Russia. This is your conscious choice or just a coincidence?

- I understand what you mean, but it is not quite right to speak of returning literally. I was not born in Russia, but my family is originally from Russia, it comes from Alexander III and Maria Feodorovna's youngest daughter Olga Alexandrovna, my great-grandmother. During the Russian Revolution, she was under house arrest in the Crimea, but in the end she managed to escape to the Kuban, then to Denmark - home to her mother. There she lived from 1920 to 1948, then moved to Canada. She died in Canada in 1960, and I was born in Canada in 1960. But I lived there for less than a year, and we moved to Denmark. I always wanted to live in Russia. And when one of my Employers asked whether I would like to go to work here, I replied: "Yes!" This is kind of my return to Russia, not because I was there before, but because the family in my face returned to Russia. It turned out that the circle is closed. My great-grandmother lived in Russia, and then migrated to Denmark and died in Canada. I was born in Canada, lived in Denmark, and maybe I'll die in Russia.



- After a visit to Peterhof to a reporter's question about how do you feel here, you said "at home". This feeling is intensified today?

- I first came in Russia in 1992. And the first place I visited then was Peterhof, the birthplace of Grand Duchess Olga Alexandrovna. I certainly had to go back to where she was born. At this time some TV crew was in Peterhof. They were told who I was, and they wanted to interview me. Of course, they asked how I feel being in St. Petersburg, Peterhof, and I replied that I feel at home. It was a special moment of magic, such feelings I have never experienced before. And since then, I am in love with Russia.

- Descendants of the Romanov dynasty scattered all over the world. Is it difficult to get together, is it important for you to be together and to feel part of a big family?

- Members of the Romanov family really live all over the world: in the United States, in Europe, and I am here in Russia. Always a pleasure to communicate with the family, learn how they are doing what is going on. They, in turn, want to know what is going on here in Russia. Of course, there are some with whom you do not communicate, but there are those with whom you communicate a lot and become particularly close. I think this is true for any family. I try to keep in touch with all and informed them of what is happening in Russia. I'm doing a monthly newsletter. It is called the "Romanov News". It is about 80-100 pages of news from Russia, which means that a lot is happening here. I try to keep everyone up to date. Sometimes they have questions, they sometimes want to come to Russia and to take part in some activities, then we have a chance to meet. But it happens not so often, and it has happened mainly in connection with reburials, as was the case with the remains of Emperor Nicholas II, in 1998, and Empress Maria Feodorovna in 2006. We are now, of course, waiting for the reburial of the so-called "Yekaterinburg remains", which we believe are the remains of Tsarevich Alexei and Grand Duchess Maria. And I hope that the whole family again will meet here in Russia.

- You can be called an experienced editor. You never were thinking of becoming a writer? If I'm not mistaken, there is a very famous book "The Last Grand Duchess" written by Greek author. Have you ever wanted to tell the same story, but in your own words?

- Actually, I'm working on several books about Grand Duchess Olga Alexandrovna. Right now, I'm doing a project, which I hope will be completed in November. This is memoirs of Grand Duchess Olga Alexandrovna that we are preparing for publication. This is the Russian version. Danish was published in 2006, English - in 2010. I have many other projects related to the Grand Duchess, which I am planning to write myself. So, yes, I'm very busy. Not only for my journal, but also editing, writing books.

There are plenty of lies, myths, fraud in Russian history. That is why it is important to refer to the original documents, the testimony of people who actually survived that period, because for us today it is very difficult to understand what was going on then in reality. We did not live at that time. We did not meet with those people. Therefore, we need to hear the voices of those times, the voices from the past. That's what I want to do - tell the truth about what happened at the time that passed through the people who was there.



- You talk about the voices of the past and I would like to remember the words of your great ancestor Alexander III. He said that Russia should become strong inside. What do you think, how you feel, today is Russia stronger?

- Yes, Alexander III said a lot of bright things. One of his most famous quote is that Russia has only two allies - the army and navy. To some extent, I believe that this is true today. Is Russia strong today? Definitely today Russia is becoming stronger. But how strong it is hard to say, I am not an expert in military affairs, I am not an expert in politics. But I definitely see that Russia is growing. Yes, of course, now there is a small dip in the economy, due to the problem of sanctions. But I am sure Russia will overcome it all. It's just a matter of time. We have so much talents, so many intelligent and educated people. Russia has so much to achieve. It is obvious that Russia needs stability. That was the basic idea of Alexander III. If you have stability, you become strong inside, if you are internally strong, you will be respected. The point is that Russia must earn the respect. That should be worked on.

- If the entire Romanov family gather here, all the heirs, it will add strength Russia?

- I'm not sure that it will make Russia stronger in the literal sense, because today the Romanov family has no political power and not as wealthy as before. We cannot ourselves bring Russia investments and prosperity, but if some members of the Romanov family lived here in Russia and would have a certain status, they could attract more investment. They would be a symbol of stability, a symbol of future Russia. The name of the Romanovs still has a special magical power not only in Russia, but also abroad. I can judge it by the events that we attend. If it becomes known that it will be attended by members of the Romanov family, it just takes everything that happens onto a different level. In Russia, there is a lot of interest in the Romanov family, not only in the historical sense, but in terms of how we live today. Many want the Romanovs will return to Russia. Yes, there is a certain aura and atmosphere around the Romanov family, which I think could benefit Russia. What exactly it will be, only time will tell. But I am sure there is something in it.

- What do you think about living in Russia. It is difficult to live here, it's hard to work here, it is difficult to make business here?

- Of course, now in the period of sanctions it is challenging times for business in Russia, especially if what you do is connected with foreign companies. To attract investments from foreign companies to Russia is now quite difficult. On the other hand, I still truly enjoy life in Russia. To be here, to try to help, try to do something. I mean, you cannot just come to Russia, when everything is good, to be here as a tourist, enjoying an idle life. You have to be here when it is difficult. And that's exactly what I'm doing. I try to do everything that depends on me, to help people to develop their projects, try not to miss out on what can be done. Give advice when asked, at least to do something positive, albeit small. I believe that these little things, they are like a snowball, will transform later into something bigger. We do not know what will happen tomorrow, but we have to do at least something that will help Russia to become great.

- Have you got some sort of family heirloom, which is very dear to your heart?

- Of course, I have a few things that are very dear to my heart. I have a collection of paintings by my great-grandmother Olga Alexandrovna. One of them was from my mother, who gave it to me on my eighteenth birthday. Of course, it is very precious to me. Not only because it is a picture of my great-grandmother, but because it was my mother who gave it to me and on my eighteen years Birthday, a special day. I have a lot of other relics, which I can talk about for hours. Unfortunately, they are all now in Denmark, in a storage. I do not have them at home, they are all packed away, because it is very difficult to bring them to Russia. I'd really like to bring them here in the future and arrange an exhibition. It would be nice to show them to people, but it will have to wait a little longer.



- What do you think, how do you see the future of Russia? The future is a democratic Russia or the future is a monarchic Russia?

- Of course, coming from the Romanov dynasty, I cannot help but dream about the restoration of the monarchy. But I do not think it can happen, at least not in the near future. Russia is developing in a different direction. But I am very happy that both the Church and the Cossacks have been revived. Russia is now in a transition period. We should not forget that the Russian Federation is still a very young state. Of course, you need to learn from your mistakes, you need to take the best of the Soviet period and of the Imperial period and on this basis to build the future. If it is a democratic future, I will be happy, if a monarchy - I'll be even more happy.



Paul Eduardovich, thank you very much for your time.

- Thank you so much.

Video - http://mir24.tv/video_news/15214786/15214669

Pilgrimage to Pereslavl-Zalessky

"Pereslavl, which is located behind the woods", is an old town in Yaroslavl Oblast, located halfway on the main Moscow–Yaroslavl road and on the south-eastern shore of Pleshcheyevo Lake at the mouth of the Trubezh River.

Known as Pereyaslavl until the 15th century, chronicles say it was founded in 1152 by Prince Yuri Dolgoruky. In 1302, it became a part of the Grand Duchy of Moscow. Pereslavl-Zalessky was devastated numerous times by the Mongols between the mid-13th century and the early 15th century, and in 1611-1612, it suffered from the Polish invasion.

In 1688–1693, Peter the Great built his famous "fun flotilla" on Pleshcheyevo Lake for his own amusement, including the so-called Peter's little boat, which would be considered the forefather of the Russian fleet.

In 1708, the town became a part of Moscow Governorate.

The town is a part of the "Golden Ring" of Russia. Monuments of church architecture include six convents complex and nine churches. Notable historic buildings are: The white stone Savior's Cathedral (1152–1157), Church of Metropolitan Peter (1585), Trinity-Danilov Monastery (16th–18th centuries), Nikitsky Monastery (16th–19th centuries), Feodorovsky Monastery (16th–19th centuries), and Goritsky Monastery (14th–15th centuries).



The Goritsky monastery in bird's eye view, Pleshcheyevo Lake is behind it, and the St. Nicholas Gate Church - in the bottom corner.

On the invitation of (Senior Nun) Matuska Efrosinnya and arranged by Sister Irena (Fadeeva), Ludmila and Paul Kulikovsky went on a pilgrimage 15 - 16 of October to the Goritsky Monastery, with visits to the other historic holy places nearby.

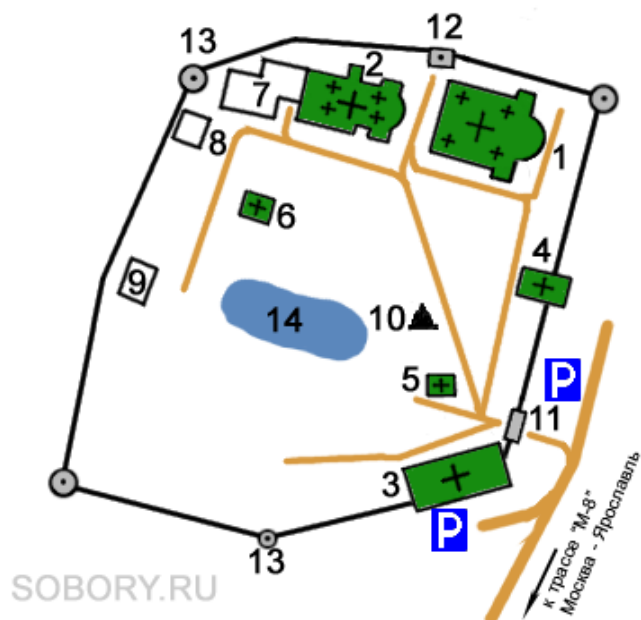
The Goritsky monastery was founded probably at the beginning of the XIV century during the reign of Ivan Kalita. In the Middle Ages, the monastery owned numerous villages in the area around it. Unfortunately, historical data about this monastery is very brief, fragmentary and unclear, because the monastery archives was lost during a fire June 12, 1722.

In the XV century, there lived (from 1470 to 1500) Saint Daniel, who then moved from Goritsky monastery and founded in another location in Pereslavl the Trinity Danilov monastery (in 1508).

In the Goritsky monastery, the Cathedral of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary and Gethsemane was constructed between 1753-1761, the bell tower of the church of the Epiphany in 1768-1777 and at the same time (instead of the old) part of the walls and tower was built again. In 1788 Pereslavl diocese was closed and the bishop's house was abolished.

In 1904 a description states - "the interior of the monastery presented a sad picture of desolation: the vast space enclosed by walls, is a vacant lot, overgrown with grass, with piles of garbage and an overgrown pond; at one side, there are two churches and a few minor new constructions lost among the vast wasteland; fence, gates and towers of the Old half destroyed."

After the revolution, in 1919 the monastery was transferred to Pereslavl Museum-Reserve.



Churches and chapels of the monastery:

1. [Cathedral of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary](#)
 2. [All Saints Church](#)
 3. [The Church of St. Nicholas](#)
 4. [Church of the Epiphany](#)
 5. [Chapel of the village Starovo](#)
 6. [Chapel of the village Foninskoye](#)
- Other buildings of the monastery:**
7. [Theological College](#) (XIX c.)
 8. Collegiate building
 9. Collegiate building
 10. Byust book. Yuri Dolgoruky
 11. [Oriental \(Travel\) gate](#) (XVII century)
 12. [Belfry](#) (XIX c.)
 13. [The walls and towers of the fence](#) (XVII-XIX centuries.)
 14. [Monastic pond](#) (XIX century.)

[Layout is made AV Bogdanov](#)

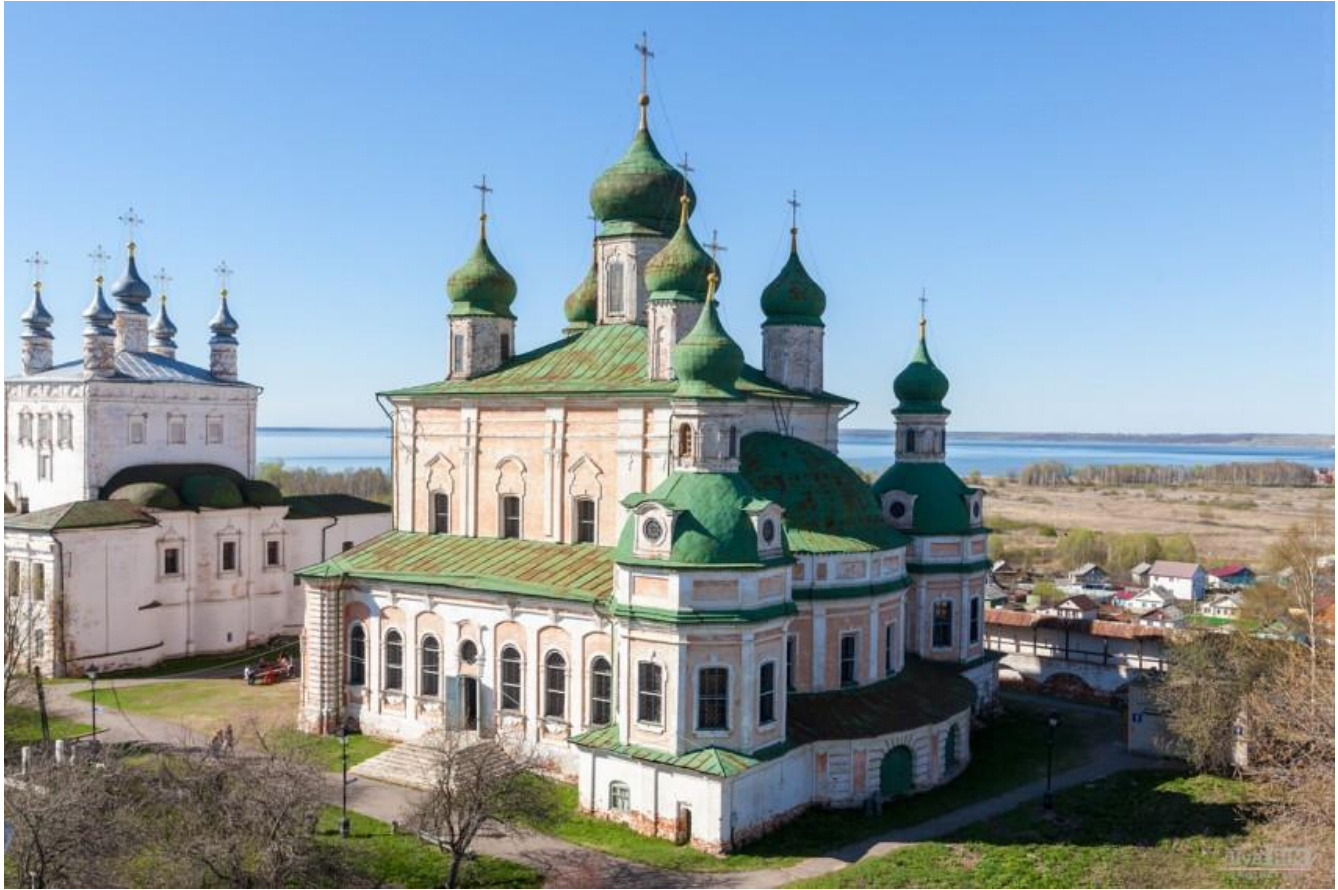
The guests were greeted at the gate to the monastery and then the Kulikovskys met the nuns and other guests - which included Arsen Melitonayan and Nina Petrukhina - at the nuns' trapeznaya (dining room) next to the Church of St. Nicholas.

The latest developments at the monastery were discussed, which of course included the wish to return the monastery from its present status as a museum back to the church and its future at a thriving monastery. The first step will be to complete the restoration iconostasis of the St. Nicholas Church, which is planned to be celebrated on December 19th, 2016, the feast day of St. Nicholas.



From left - Arsen Melitonayan, Nina Petrukhina, Ludmila and Paul Kulikovsky, and Matushka Efrosinnya

After a refreshment, it was time for a sightseeing in the monastery. The Cathedral of the Assumption of the blessed Virgin Mary was closed for winter, but a museum's guide opened it for us.

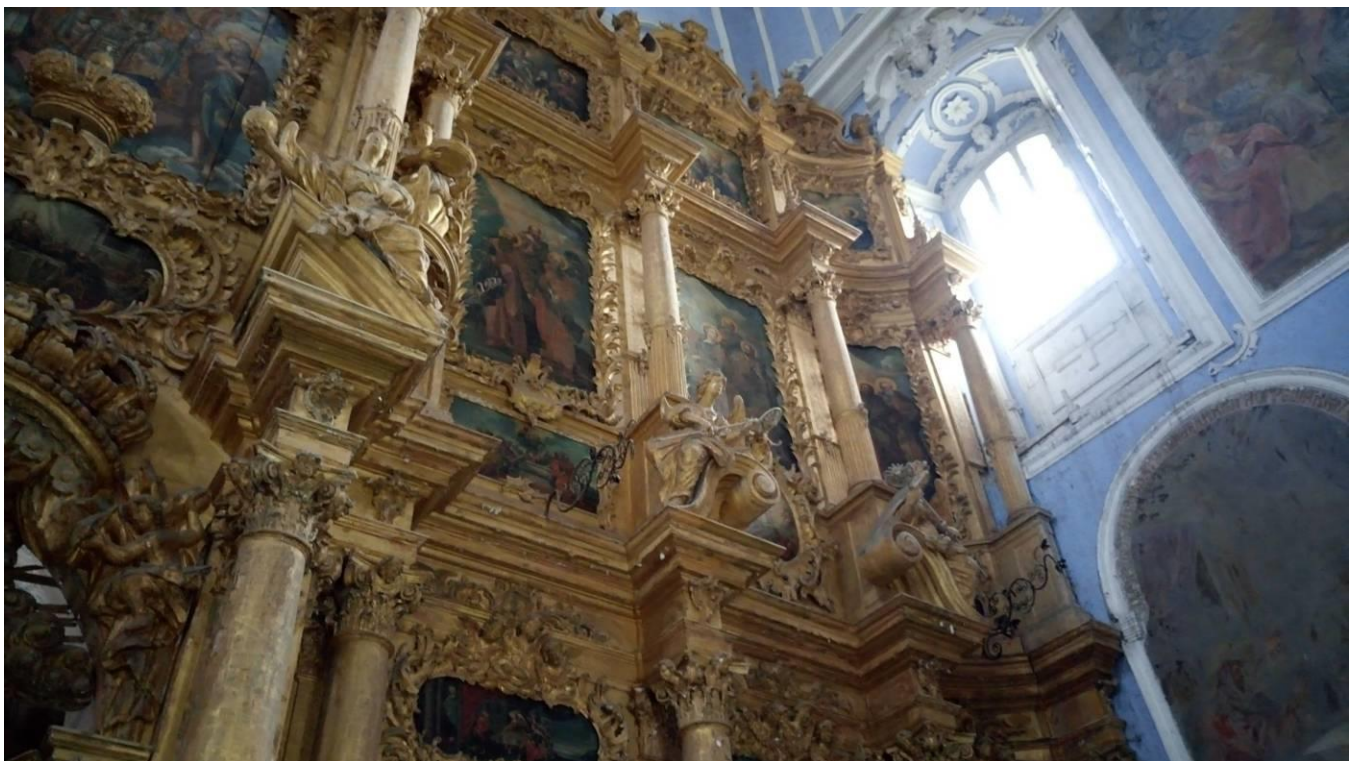
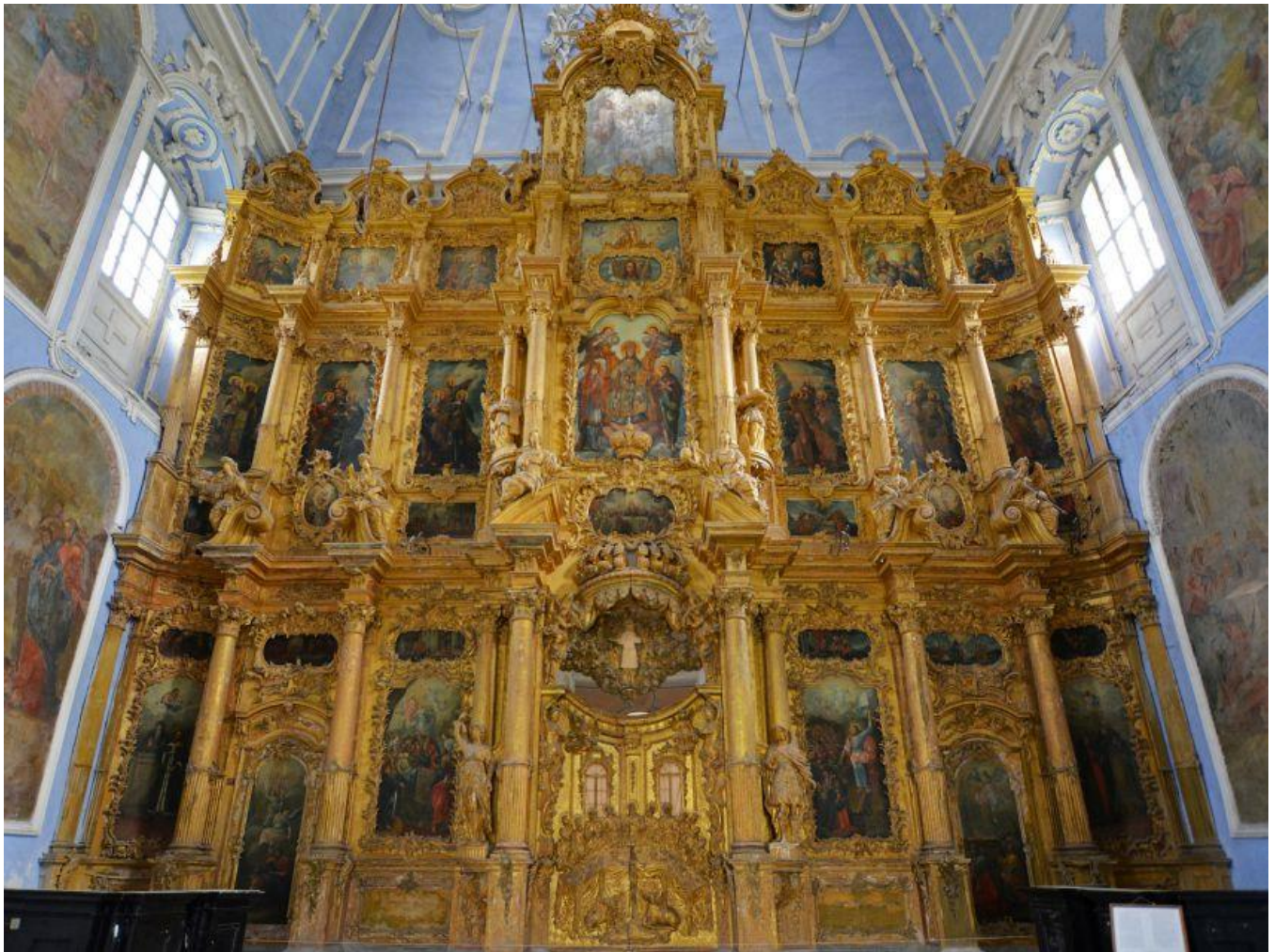


It is the largest building of the monastery and was constructed about the 1750ies. Its layout and composition is unusual for Russian architecture. Square in the main room, connected with arcades located in the north and the south, and from the east. On the western facade of the cathedral can be seen openings and traces of unpreserved adjoining walls of a gallery.

Interior of the Assumption Cathedral is spacious and high, well-lit, richly decorated and tasteful. The cathedral has a richness of decoration similar to later cathedrals built in St. Petersburg and Moscow. The vaults and walls of the cathedral are covered with the finest stucco cartouches, monograms, garlands of flowers, and images of groups of angels. White stucco spectacularly stands on the blue background, placed on the walls and ceilings with great tact and keen understanding of the importance of a constructive detail. In the southern and northern galleries are chapels - in the name of the Annunciation in the south, and in the north - the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The altars and chapels are closed from the eyes of the faithful by magnificent carved gilded iconostasis. From the vaults hangs long chains of large elegant chandeliers.

The Assumption Cathedral was an unheated summer church, which, unfortunately, did not contribute to the preservation of the baroque paintings that adorned the walls, adjacent galleries, and chapels.





The iconostasis of the Assumption Cathedral stands out for its magnificence even against the backdrop of the lush wall decoration. It was completed in 1759 and immediately became the main decoration of

the church. The iconostasis in the Rococo style rises like a majestic mountain from the floor of the altar to the top of the main arch. It consists of five rows of icons. All were completed by Moscow master Artel of Yakov Zhukov. The carvings of angels and the images of the 12 apostles, seated at table, in the Royal doors, are magnificent.

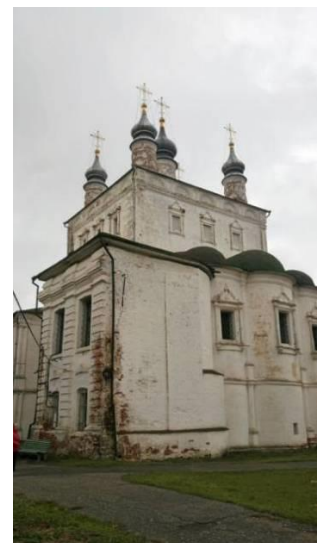


Décor includes the monograms of Empress Elisabeth I and of Empress Catherine II. It is known that Catherine II visited the cathedral in 1764.

Service at the Assumption Cathedral is performed only in the summer on Sundays and public holidays. Worship during winter is conducted in the warm Epiphany Church, under the bell tower.



The Church of the Epiphany stand at the eastern wall as part of a bell tower. Currently, the top tier of the bell tower serves as a viewing platform for visitors. It offers a magnificent view of the city and its surroundings.



The Church of All Saints was also closed, but the museum would not let us into it. It is said that the church has been a ruin since 1883.



The St. Nicholas Church, in the west corner of the monastery, is on top of the Holy Gate used by the Grand Dukes and Tsars upon arrival.

Built between 1790 and 1810, it was properly completed in steps, as it looks like a mix of styles, technique and material used.

Entrance to the church is via an outdoor staircase.

The Saturday afternoon service was in the St. Nicholas Church, with Father Vladimir serving and the nuns helping.



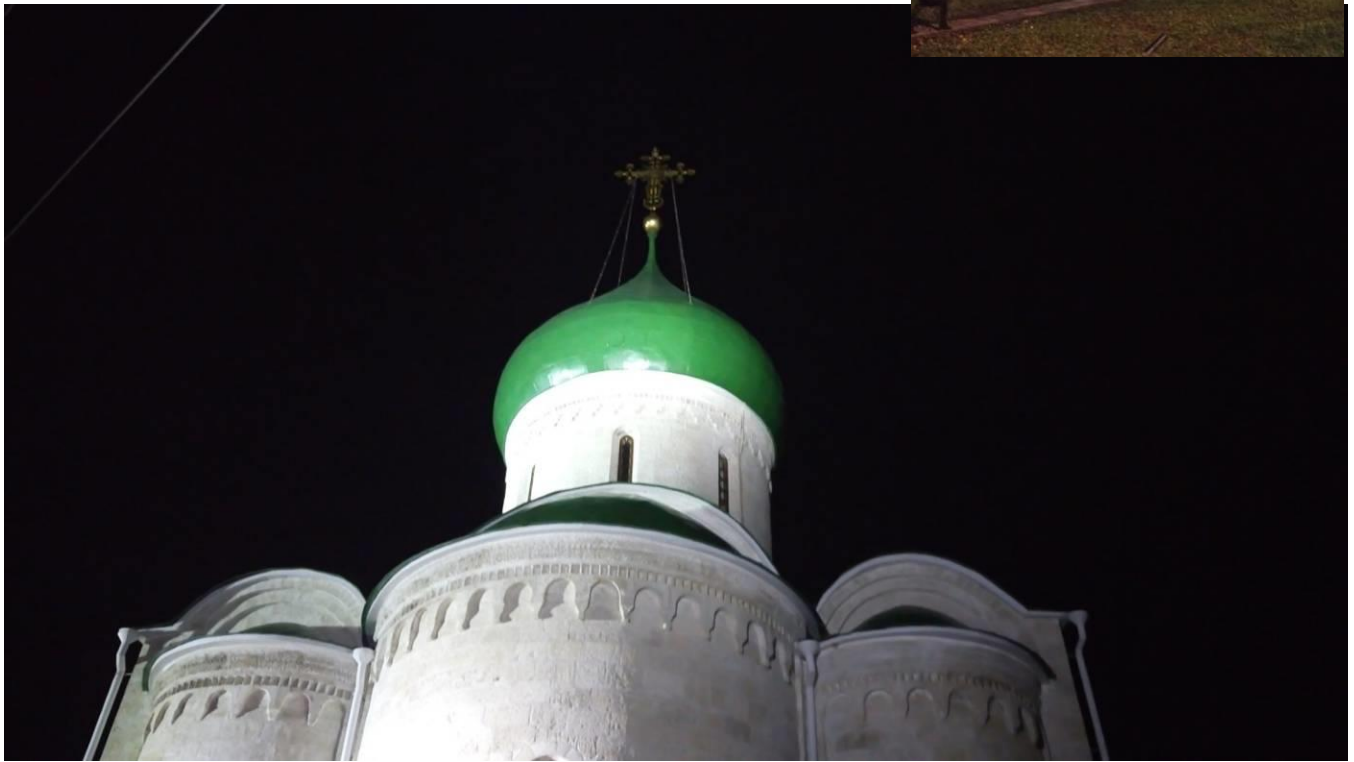
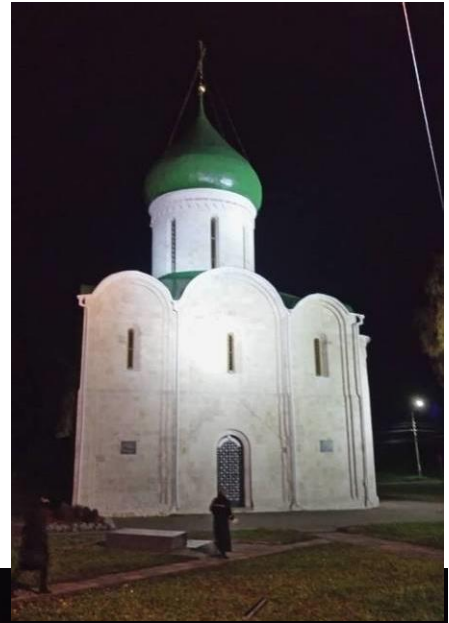
The interior look all new, with many icons, mostly new ones, and among them are both the Royal Martyrs and Saint Elizabeth with Nun Varvara. However, the iconostas and the area at the Alter did not look finished, and all along the service could be heard the noise of workmen hammering on the roof.

After the service was made a cross procession along the inside of the walls, with stops at all the holy places - all churches, chapels, burial places, etc.

In the evening was sightseeing in the downtown of Pereslavl city. The highlights were the Transfiguration Cathedral in Pereslavl Kremlin. Construction started by Yuri Dolgoruky in 1152 and finished by Andrew Bogoliubsky in 1157.

The cathedral is one of the first five white stone churches of the North-Eastern Russia, that has been preserved almost fully intact. In this Cathedral, many Pereslavl Princes were baptized, including Alexander Nevsky, who was born in Pereslavl in 1221. In XIII-XIV centuries Transfiguration Cathedral was the burial place of Pereslavl appanage Princes.

The walls are lined with perfectly hewn and laid white stone blocks. The foundation is made of large cobbles on lime. During excavations in the church in the late 1930s was found majolica tiles in yellow, green and brown for the floor. More elegant tiles, white with blue ornament, probably decorated the choir. No stone porches and other additions to the Cathedral has been preserved.



Sunday, early morning, started with a cross procession along the outside of the walls, again with stops at several holy places.



Back in the St. Nicholas Church, Father Vladimir served the Festive Divine Liturgy.

After lunch, the tour went to the "Botik" - the boat of Peter the First, and around to more of the holy places.



In August 688 a young Tsar Peter came to Pleshcheyevo Lake and settled in the Nikitsky and later in the Goritsky Monastery. He found that the lake was both wide and deep, ideal for sailing with big ships. On November 29, 1691, he arrived to Pereslavl-Zalessky once again and started to make his first large-scale boat project. On May 1, 1692, Peter completed a large vessel and launched it together with other smaller boats. General Patrick Garden recruited the crews, mainly from local youths. August 1, 1692, was marked with launching of all the boats of the fleet. The Pleshcheyevo Lake was to be a research laboratory of the Russian Navy.

"Taking care of the vessels, yachts and galleys is incumbent on you; if you neglect your duty, your descendants and not you alone will answer for your carelessness", said the edict issued in Pereslavl on February 7, 1722 and signed by Peter I. That was the first in Russia document on the preservation of monuments of the past. However, the remains of the Pereslavl toy navy was neglected by local authorities after Peter I's death, and burnt down in 1783.



Later was found that one boat had survived. The Governor of Vladimir, poet and historian Prince Ivan Mikhailovich Dolgoruky, built a stone mansion for a Peter Museum on the place where the fleet originated, on money donated and collected by people of the Pereslavl. The Museum was ceremonially inaugurated on August 1, 1803.





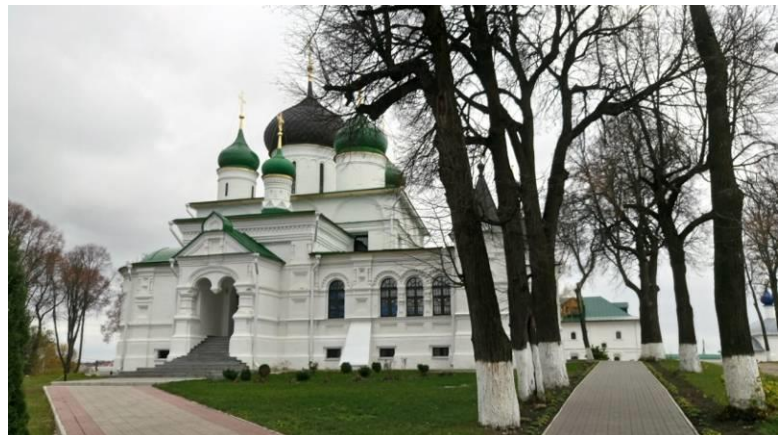
Nowadays there are rare exhibits of the Peter's toy fleet in the Museum, together with rare pictures, engravings, portraits and sculpture from the 18th century.

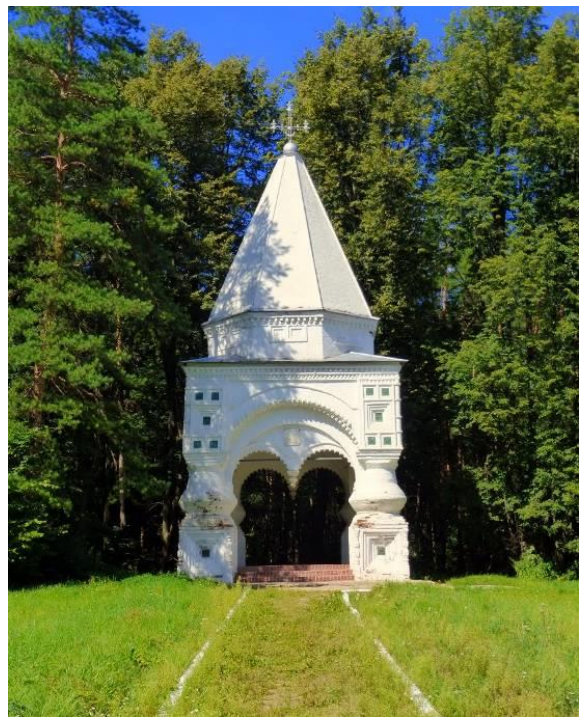
A monument (obelisk) to Peter the Great was unveiled on August 17, 1852, in front of the Museum. It is made by Sculptor A.S.Campiogni.

In 1913 Emperor Nicholas II visited the museum, as mentioned on a memorial plaque.



In the end of the tour was visited more monasteries, including the famous - Feodorovsky. In the mid-16th century, Ivan the Terrible - a frequent benefactor to Pereslavl-Zalessky - gave support to the monastery for the construction of a large brick church dedicated to St. Theodore. The structure was in effect a votive offering in celebration of the birth of Ivan's second son, Feodor, in 1557. Traditional accounts state that Ivan's wife, Anastasia Romanova, gave birth to Feodor some three kilometers south of the monastery, at a site subsequently commemorated by a brick chapel.





Called the Chapel of the Cross - because of the presence of a large cross within it. The deterioration of the structure in the 19th century led to its precise measurement in the 1880s by the architect Vladimir Suslov, a pioneer in the study of Russian architecture. Following Suslov's work, the chapel was disassembled and rebuilt in 1889.

The above first image is by Russian photographer Sergei Mikhailovich Prokudin-Gorskii from 1911. The second as it looks now.

In the end of the pilgrimage it became clear that visitor needs to spend at least one week in Pereslavl to explore the city. Ancient Peslavel has many holy places which tells about Russian history and history of Russian Orthodox Church. Enough to tell, that St. Serge of Radonezh was ordained as father Superior in the Transfiguration Cathedral.

Members of Romanov family loved this spiritual centre of Russia, often visited Pereslavl and made generous contributions to monasteries, convents and churches. Among the most famous benefactors were Peter the Great, his sister Tsarevna Natalya Alexeevna, and Empress Elisabeth. In the first part of the 19th century, almost all members of the Royal family went to Pereslavl: from visit of Empress Maria Fedorovna in 1818 to - Emperor Alexander' II with the family in 1858. In 1849, Emperor Nicholas I made the decree to modernise the big road which came through Pereslavl and connected Moscow with Northern part of Russia. As a result, official opening of the first in Russia macadam (Single-sized crushed stone layers of small angular stones are placed in shallow lifts and compacted thoroughly) road Moscow-Yaroslavl took place. In 1852 a Palace for August visitors was built in Pereslavl.

On 25th of May 1913 Emperor Nicholas II visited Pereslavl together with his daughters during pilgrimage in honour of 300 year anniversary of the Romanov dynasty. They were in Nikitsky, Danilovsky, Fedorovsky monasteries, and brought rich gifts. In the memory of this visit sisters of Fedorovsky monastery planted a linden trees alley, which still exists.

The August family also saw Peter' the Great boat and related old items. Then the Emperor went to the Pleshevo Lake and attended the parade of Astrakhan Cossacks, and met the local nobility.

A new monument of the Imperial family is coming

The young sculptor Vladimir Ivanov have made several successful monuments dedicated to patriotic themes. Now he is working on a model of a monument to the Imperial family.

Sculptor Vladimir Ivanov was born in 1983 in the Moscow region. He started to study woodcarving in Bogorodsky School of Industrial Art (Moscow region) in 2000, graduated from the Faculty of Sculpture of the Moscow State Academic Art Institute in 2011 and same year unveiled his first public work - A plaque of V.V. Tikhonov (Pavlovsky Posad, Moscow region).

As a sculptor, he works with a wide variety of methods, but his choice is focused on the calm, balanced compositions, devoid of unnecessary pathos and glorification. His works have persuasive narrative, it solves the problems of plastic language, staying calm, clear and understandable to the audience.



The new model shows the Imperial family as they looked about 1911, when they visited Livadia Palace in Crimea - after it was finished the same year. This corresponds with the idea of the monument may be placed at the Livadia Palace, however a few other locations are also among the possible places and only in future it will be decided where one can finally see it.

Ludmila and Paul Kulikovsky, together with author of several books about Imperial family Yuri Zhuk and his wife, were invited to see the model, which is still a work-in-progress, so not the final version. They were asked to give comments on the model and to express their wishes in connection with the final monument. A few ideas were aired and now the Vladimir Ivanov has to take them into account in his further work on the monument.





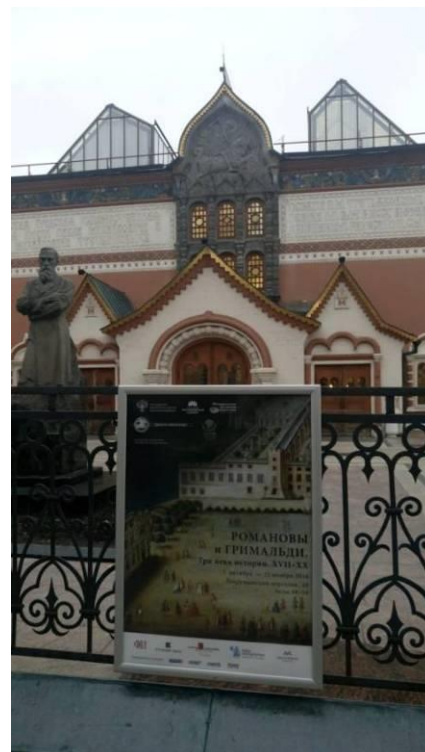
"Romanovs and Grimaldi. Three centuries of history. XVII-XX"

On October 6, Vladimir Putin and Prince Albert II of Monaco opened the exhibition "Romanovs and Grimaldi. Three Centuries of History" at the Tretyakov Gallery, as part of the cultural programme of the Days of Monaco in Russia.

The exhibition, which marks the 10th anniversary of the restoration of diplomatic relations between Russia and Monaco, relates the two countries' history and the ties between the Russian Royal house and the Princely house of Grimaldi. The two dynasties' relations are illustrated in official decrees and manifestos, letters and photographs, diary entries and souvenir albums, paintings and personal objects. The exhibits come from various Russian archives and museums and from the Monaco Princely court's collection.

At the opening, President of Russia Vladimir Putin addressed the audience:

"Your Highness, ladies and gentlemen, friends, it is a pleasure to welcome you all to the State Tretyakov Gallery for the opening of the exhibition "The Romanovs and the Grimaldi. Three Centuries of History".



This exhibition is without question an important event in our countries' cultural lives, all the more so as it gives the start to the wide-ranging programme of the Days of Monaco in Russia, which opens today. This exhibition has brought together a truly unique selection from the personal archives of the Russian Royal house and the the Princely house of Monaco. It presents more than 170 rare official documents, paintings, photographs, diaries, letters and gifts from Russian museums and the Monaco Princely court's collections. They illustrate the close relations between the Romanov and Grimaldi dynasties, confirm the rich history and special ties between Russia and Monaco, and remind us that our two countries have often been allies and followed similar positions on European affairs.

I note in particular that a substantial part of the exhibition is devoted to our honoured guest's outstanding forebear – Prince Albert I. He was not only a statesman but also a world-renowned scientist, oceanographer, hydrographer and honorary member of many scientific associations.



Next year marks 140 years since the establishment of diplomatic ties between Russia and Monaco. These ties were broken off in 1917 for what would become many years, but were restored 10 years ago and since then have developed steadily in all areas on the basis of partnership, mutual respect and consideration for each other's interests. Our country's good friend, Prince Albert II, can take personal credit for much of this.

Let me take this opportunity to thank you, Your Highness, from all my heart for your sincere interest in Russia and the constant attention you give to our bilateral cooperation. I would like to thank the exhibition's organizers and wish all the visitors many memorable impressions. Thank you very much for your attention."

In reply, Prince of Monaco Albert II said:

"Mr. President, Your Excellency, ladies and gentlemen, friends. Mr President, thank you for the very warm words you have just said, and for the warm welcome we have received.

Following the Year of Russia in Monaco in 2015, I am grateful to the Russian Government for the proposal to hold this exhibition, "The Romanovs and the Grimaldi. Three Centuries of History", in Moscow to mark the 10th anniversary of the restoration of our diplomatic relations.



The Russian Federation state archives and the Archives of the Monaco Princely court have worked hard to adapt this exhibition for Russia, and I welcome this truly exemplary example of scientific cooperation between our countries.

I am very pleased that, like those who visited the exhibition in Monaco, Muscovites will now be able to see it for themselves at the Tretyakov Gallery and will also see what an extensive correspondence the Russian Tsars and the Monaco Princes carried on, starting in the 19th century, which certainly testifies to the tremendous mutual interest our countries have for each other.

Based on these historic ties, I am confident that we will strengthen the bonds of friendship between us today and in the future.

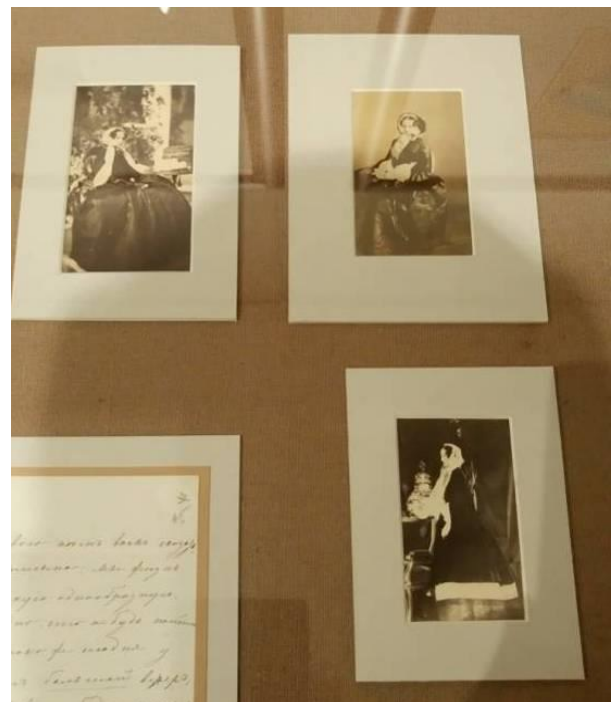
Thank you very much."

The exhibition "The Romanovs and Grimaldi" is built in chronological order, making it possible to go from the Middle Ages to the present day, by comparing the two parallel biographies of two of the oldest dynasties in Europe. Belonging to the higher strata of the Genoese medieval society, representatives of Grimaldi were actively involved in large-scale colonization of the Black Sea during the Genoese in XIII-XV centuries. Thus, the genus Grimaldi was directly involved in the exploration and development of future Russian territories.

Unique testimony of the first meeting and the representatives of the two dynasties are presented in first exhibition halls. This includes an entry in the list of embassies by nobleman I. Zhelyabuzhsky and clerk I. Davydov about the first visit to the Principality of Monaco and the reception by Prince Louis Grimaldi in May 1663, when a ship with the Russian diplomatic representation led by I. A. Zhelyabuzhsky, which was heading to Florence, in the accident storm came time to port of Monaco.



A room is devoted to the establishment of relations between the two ruling dynasties after the Congress of Vienna in 1815. Prince Honoré V tried to enlist the support of Russia, which has significantly strengthened its position after the victory over Napoleon. On the initiative of Monaco between the two courts a regular correspondence was established. Official diplomatic relations were formalized in 1877. At the same time in St. Petersburg has been appointed as the first Consul General of Monaco Zh. Planshe, and a little later, Russia sent to Monaco its consul A.D.Baturin.



Another hall tells the history of visits of representatives of the Russian Imperial family to the Côte d'Azur and the Principality of Monaco. Here are the photos, diaries and albums from the personal funds of the Romanovs, stored in the State archive of the Russian

Federation. Among them are interesting rare photographs of Empress Maria Alexandrovna, wife of Alexander II, sheets from the album of Grand Duke Konstantin Nikolayevich with drawings by French

artists, diaries of Grand Dukes George and Michael, and Grand Duchesses Xenia and Olga - children of Alexander III.



"The day was wonderful ... Yachts accumulated in a huge number, and the whole bay is full of them in a race 11 ½. First the wind was quite fresh, but soon calmed down and poor Aranellu everyone started overtaking; the triangle had the top of the entrance to the Monaco, then around cap Martin and the deep bay between these points, made two runs in about 3 hours, we came to anchor near the last", - noted in his diary Grand Duke George Alexandrovich.



Types of Monaco and Monte Carlo, are captured in an amateur photo album of Grand Duchess Xenia Alexandrovna. In the same part of the exhibition several paintings are on display, in particular the work of Claude Monet "View to Monte-Carlo from Roquebrune Cape" from the collection of the Prince's Palace.

The last part of the exhibition consists of materials from late XIX - early XX century. Documents from the archives of the Foreign Ministry and the Prince's Palace of Monaco acquaint viewers with the circumstances of the visits of representatives of the Princely house of Grimaldi in Russia: Crown Prince Albert of Monaco in 1884, the Crown Prince of Monaco Louis to Emperor Nicholas II's coronation in 1896, and the Prince of Monaco Albert I in 1913.

Some of the material is about Prince Albert I as a scientist and oceanographer. Thanks to Prince scientific links between Russia and Monaco were established. In 1896, Albert I met on the island of Spitsbergen the famous Russian naval commander and Arctic Explorer Admiral Makarov. The Prince admired the merits of the great navigator. Many Russian scientist' community elected Albert I as honorary member.



At the exhibition, viewers can see several valuable items - the most famous is thou the imperial egg clock made by Faberge in 1895 as a gift to Empress Maria Feodorovna. The egg is in the Monaco Prince's collection since 1974, when it was given by Prince Rainier III, to his wife, Princess Grace (Grace Kelly).

In 1917, relations between Monaco and Russia were suspended and restored only in 2006.

Through this exhibition, exhibits from Monaco for the first time are presented in Moscow, some of them have never left the Principality of Monaco.

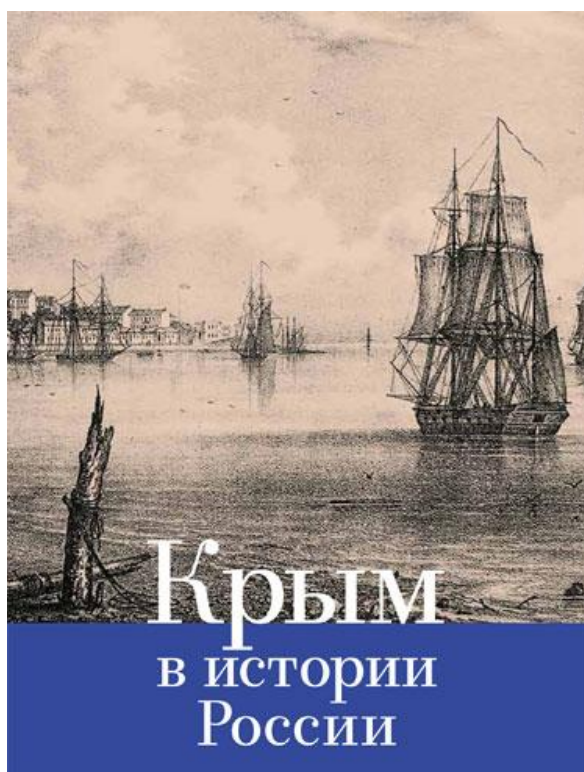


Historical-documentary exhibition "Crimea in the history of Russia"

October 11, 2016 Moscow Federal Archives presented a historical and documentary exhibition "Crimea in the history of Russia", which covers a considerable chronological period, beginning from the baptism of Prince Vladimir in Chersoneses in ancient times to the present day, and highlights the special place of the Crimean Peninsula in the history of Russia.

Presented documentary talks about the establishment of diplomatic relations between Russia and the Crimean Khanate in the XV century. When Khan Giray Mengli sent Grand Prince Ivan III his oath of fraternal friendship and love. Visitors can see rare ratification, international treaties, State lists of Russian ambassadors, as well as documents on the war against Russian troops by regiments of Crimean Khan during the Crimean campaign of 1689, and plans for fighting in Crimea during the Russian-Turkish war of 1735 - 1739.

The exhibition includes original documents of the XVIII century - the proclamation of the independence of the Crimea from the Ottoman Empire, joining Crimea to Russia in 1783, its economic development, the creation



Economic and industrial development of the Crimea in XIX - early XX centuries - illustrated documents and graphic materials on the establishment of the post and ferry services, construction of the first highway, the first draft of Kerch bridge, distribution of wine and the use of medicinal properties of natural peninsula. Presented archival documents and museum items cover the key stages of the Crimean War (1853 - 1856) and the hardest defence of Sevastopol.



Events of the Civil War (1917 - 1923) are reflected in the unique leaflets, legislation, letters and telegrams, including a telegram from the Provisional Workers 'and Peasants' Government of the Crimea of May 9, 1919 to People's Commissars V.I. Lenin on the establishment of Soviet power and the creation of the Crimean Soviet Socialist Republic, and the first constitution of 1921, according to which the peninsula was a part of the RSFSR on autonomy.

The exhibition is open from October 11 to December 13, 2016

Video - http://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article_id/157515/



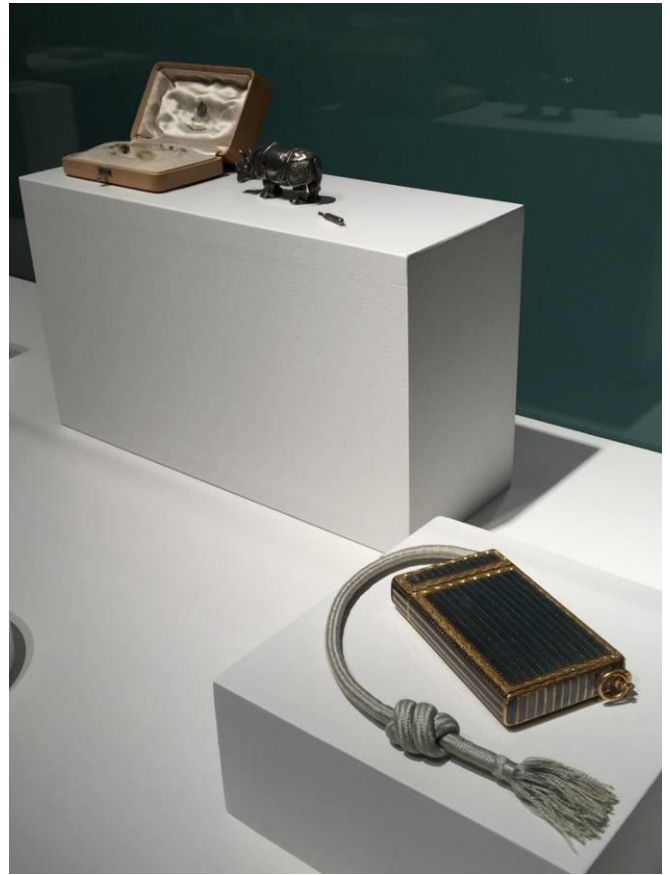
The exhibition "Unknown Fabergé: New finds and re-discoveries"

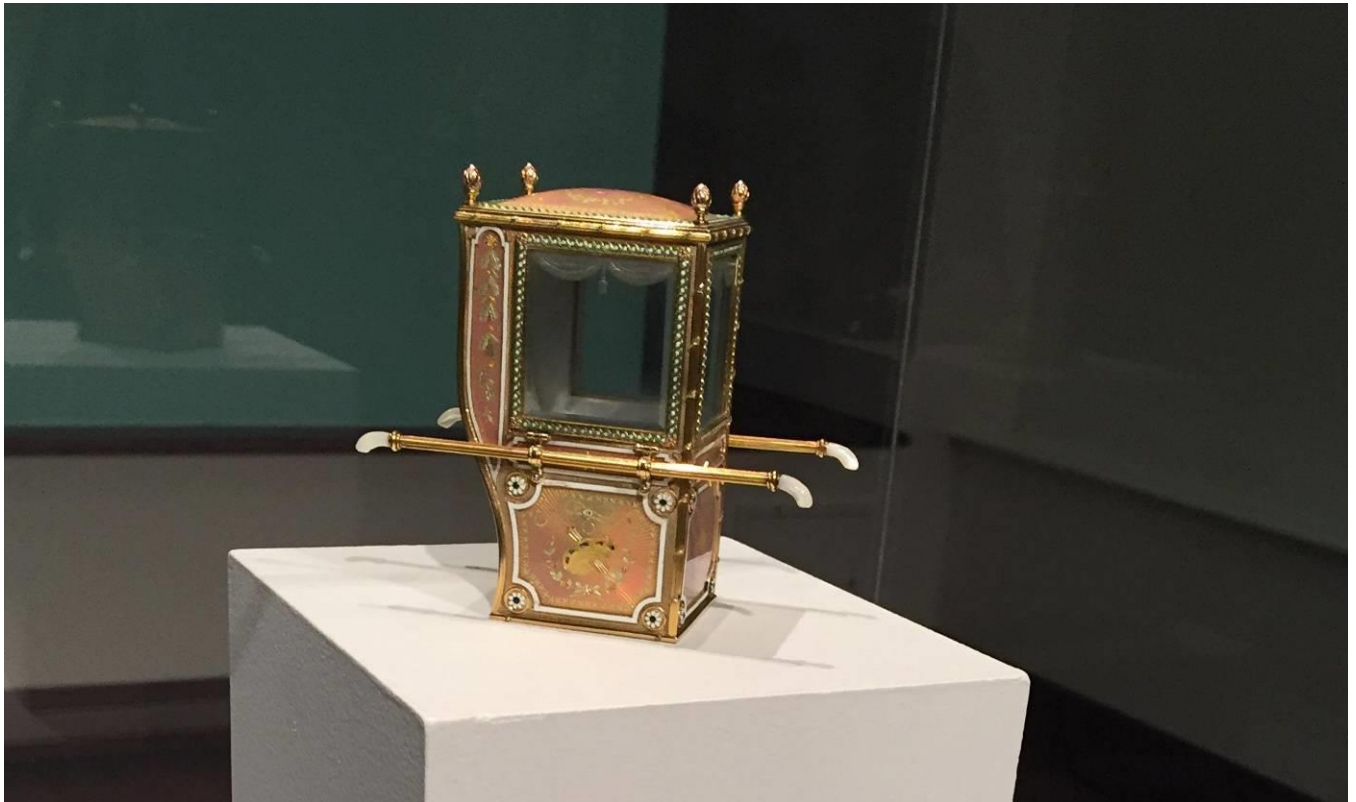
The exhibition which features a rich array of objects produced by the Fabergé jewelry firm, opened in The Museum of Russian Art in Minneapolis on October 8.

More than 50, on loan from private collections, are featured in this show. Many of the masterpieces are rich in historical references. A silver and palisander bell push once adorned the tea table in the summer palace of Emperor Nicholas II; an enamel gold brooch was presented by Empress Alexandra Feodorovna to a close family friend; a pair of enamel gold cufflinks were an Easter gift to Nicholas II from his mother, the Dowager Empress Maria Feodorovna; and a rare silver rhinoceros automaton was a gift from the Dowager Empress to her grandson, Vasili.

The exhibition can be seen to February 26, 2017.







Activities in Tsarskoye Selo



Winter arrived in Tsarskoye Selo

The first snow arrived October 26 and same day started the "wrapping up" of the park sculptures for the winter. The traditional "warm clothes" - special boxes - were put around 40 sculptures. - Before the start of the winter season, we always organize "water" procedures: wash our sculpture with baby shampoo, especially contaminated sites and marble are treated with a steam generator. This year for the first time some of the sculptures will be covered in water-repellent solution. The experiment, conducted a couple of years ago, was considered a success and now we have some additional statues wrapped in canvas. This material perfectly absorbs moisture and is breathable, - says the curator of Sculpture State Museum "Tsarskoye Selo" Natalia Lancere.



Livadia Palace was decorated with flowers

At the initiative of the Director of Livadia Palace-Museum Larissa Dekushevoy the area around the palace was decorated with flowers.

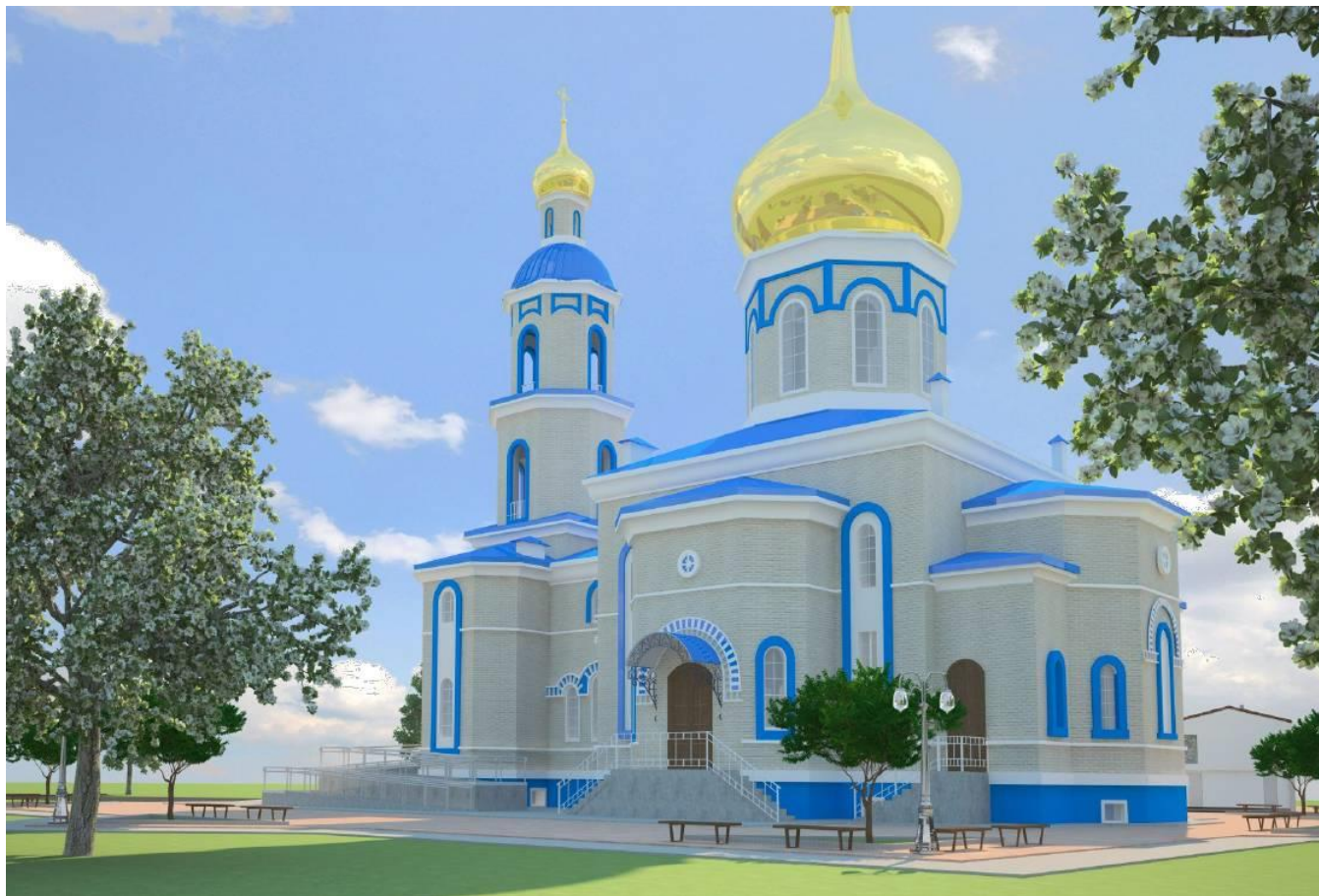
Pots with blossoming chrysanthemums of different colors was installed on the square in front of the main entrance to the palace, near the monument to Nicholas II, and in the Italian courtyard.

These beautiful autumn colors create a special romantic atmosphere of regal Livadia Palace and give a good mood to its guests.



A church project in Novominskaya related to Grand Duchess Olga Alexandrovna

In the village Novominskaya, in Kanevsky district of Krasnodar region, has started a project to build a Church of the Holy Virgin. It will be at the historic site where once was a big cathedral with the same name. The project has received the blessing of the Bishop of Yeisk and Timashevsky Herman.



The history of the church, as well as the history of the village is closely connected with the name of Grand Duchess Olga Alexandrovna. After leaving Crimea in early 1919, she and her husband Nicholas Kulikovsky, with their son Tikhon went to the stanitsa of her mother's - Dowager Empress Maria Feodorovna - Cossack bodyguard, Timofee Yashik. His family was living there and could provide assistance and protection. The Grand Duchess and her family first lived with his family and later moved into their own house. They attended church service in the Cathedral of the Holy Virgin. In April 1919 was born their second son Guri and he was baptized in the cathedral.



The cathedral was destroyed in 1935, which is remembered on later erected memorial stone, now standing in the park on the site of the former cathedral. On the other side of the memorial stone is mentioned the connection to Grand Duchess Olga Alexandrovna and the baptizing of her son Guri in it.

The current church in the village is located in a refurbished private house.



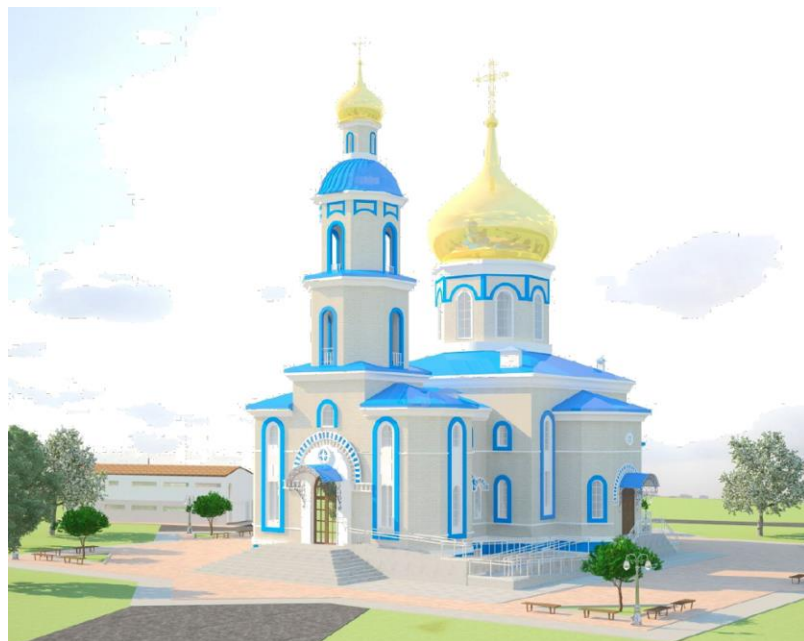
There is a small memorial site at the place where once lived Grand Duchess Olga Alexandrovna. Grand Duchess' great-grandson Paul Kulikovskiy opened a polished black memorial stone at the site and behind it is a huge poster informing about the stay of Grand Duchess Olga Alexandrovna in Novominskaya.

Parishioners collected funds and a church project has been made. It has already received a building permit. Completed on the site is

the drainage for the construction of the church.

The estimates for the construction without electricity, plumbing, etc.. is in the amount of 28,434,343 roubles.

The parishioners, the inhabitants of the village, the church of the Intercession of the Holy Virgin council, and the church building fund, appeal to you with a request to assist in raising funds for the construction of the church.



Legal address:

353700, Krasnodar region, Kanevsky district, village Novominskaya, Str. Sovetskaya, 40.

T. 8-961-857-79-24.

Chairman of the fund - Alexander Chernichenko.

Bank details for the transfer of donations for the construction of the church:

p / s 40703810300530000762

JSC "South-Investbank" Krasnodar to / from 30101810600000000966

BIC 040349966

INN 2334025960

CAT 233401001

OGRN 1152300003877



The Hermitage in Kazan Kremlin opens the exhibition "St. Petersburg Modern. 1890-1910. Style and secular fashion"

October 5 the Centre "Hermitage-Kazan" Museum-Reserve and "the Kazan Kremlin" opened the exhibition "St. Petersburg Modern. 1890-1910. Style and secular fashion" from the collection of the State Hermitage. The organizers report that exhibits give a complete picture of the "Ladies' World" of St. Petersburg at the turn of XIX-XX centuries. The exhibition features costumes and accessories in the Modern style, complemented by paintings and photographic portraits of contemporaries, and objects of the interior of those times. According to the plan, all of the items of this style, are surrounding the "man of the future", starting with furniture, curtains, dishes and ending with the dresses, hat and a fan were to be equally important and responsible to the general law of harmony and beauty. The main idea of modernity was the transformation of everyday life through art.



Most of the exhibits - from the Anichkov and Winter Palaces and mansions of Yusupov and Count Shuvalov, that is, from the wardrobe of members of the Romanov dynasty - Empress Maria Fedorovna and Alexandra Feodorovna, and Emperor Nicholas II, and the highest Russian aristocracy. Those items that could not be sold and could not be worn as a theatrical costume, ended partly in the museum fund, from which they subsequently were transferred to the new Department of History of Russian Culture in the State Hermitage. A separate collection make the costumes that belonged to the actress of the Moscow Theatre Vera Karahan (Dzheneevoy) and was acquired by the Hermitage in 1971.

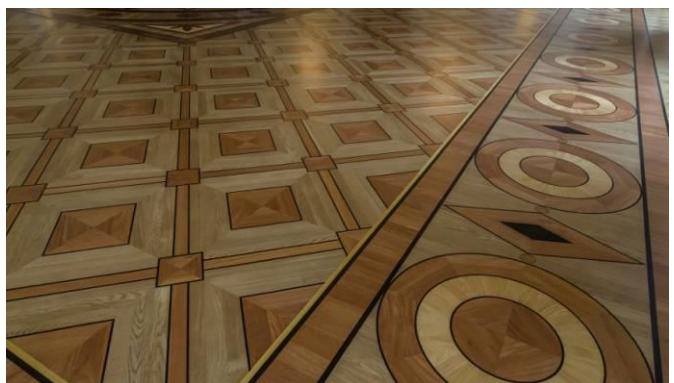
The exhibition features more than 150 exhibits, some of which are shown for the first time. There is also an illustrated catalogue to the exhibition.



Opening of the Anteroom of the Winter Palace after restoration

October 14, 2016, the opening of the Anteroom of the Winter Palace after restoration and repair work took place.

For a year, from October 2015, the restoration company JSC "Renaissance Restoration» made repair and complex restoration works. Lost door leaf at the Jordan staircase, false doors and false windows were recreated, the niches in the wall I and II tier were filled with mirrored glass. Carried out the restoration of the central ceiling painting (oil on canvas painting "The Sacrifice of Iphigenia"), painted coving and the ceiling frieze, shaped wooden and metal frames of the ceiling and the ceiling with ornamental painting and gilding. Work is also carried out over the plaster walls and ceiling surfaces, slopes, walls, windows and doors, parquet flooring, artificial marble archivolt. Stucco decor was renovated and painted.

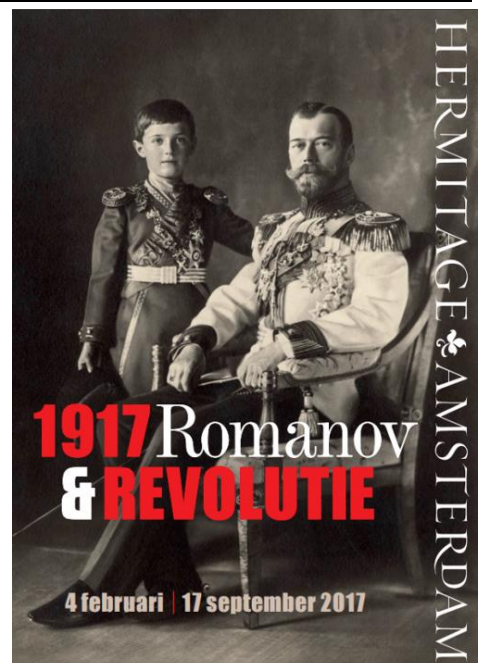


Hermitage Amsterdam opens unique exhibition: "1917. Romanovs & Revolution"

From 4 February to 17 September 2017

A unique exhibition entitled "1917. Romanovs & Revolution. The End of Monarchy" will open at the Hermitage Amsterdam in February 2017, exactly a century after the outbreak of the Russian Revolution. This will be the only showing of the exhibition in Western Europe. It will include over 250 items from the collections of the State Hermitage Museum in St Petersburg, the State Archive of the Russian Federation in Moscow, and the Artillery Museum in St Petersburg.

Using films, photographs, paintings, objets d'art and historical documents, the show will tell the gripping story of fashionable St Petersburg and the art that flourished there in the early twentieth century, of Tsar Nicholas II and his wife Alexandra, and of the explosive political and social circumstances of their reign.



Visitors will see and hear how choices and decisions made by the Tsar made revolution inevitable and spelled the inescapable end of the 300-year Romanov monarchy in Russia. They will also gain moving intimate insights into the final years of the Imperial family, ending in their murder.

1917: the ultimate turning point in the history of Russia. The last Tsar and the revolution, on exclusive show in Amsterdam a century after the event.

Top exhibits will include items from the Imperial couple's wardrobe, portraits of the Royal pair, their children's toys and drawings, Nicholas's Act of Abdication, works of art created at the period (Russia's 'Silver Age'), various Fabergé objects and one of the murder weapons.

The Coronation of Emperor Nicholas II: 120 Years

By Michael Perekrestov - On October 11, 2016 the Foundation of Russian History (Jordanville, NY) presented a temporary exhibition dedicated to the 120th anniversary of the coronation of Emperor Nicholas II of. It was exhibited at the George F. Baker Jr. House in New York. Among the objects displayed were the Russian and French editions of Nicholas II's coronation album, banquet menus, medals, concert programs and tickets, commemorative scarves, cups, popular prints, and a robe from a set of vestments created specifically for the coronation. Visitors were given the opportunity to look through a digitized version of the coronation album.



In conjunction with the exhibit, Kristen Regina, the Arcadia Director of the Library and Archives at the Philadelphia Museum of Art, gave a lecture titled "Portrait of a Dynasty: The Coronation Albums of the Romanovs" that explored the sumptuous books published to document the pomp and pageantry of Russian imperial coronations. These volumes were lavishly illustrated with depictions of the coronation ceremony, processions, official dinners and balls, banquet menus, public celebrations and imperial regalia. In her lecture, Ms. Regina presented Russian coronation albums as a fascinating portrait of the Romanov dynasty and how its rulers wanted to be viewed.

The event was organized by the Russian Nobility Association in America to benefit the Prince Alexis Scherbatow Scholarship Fund.

Gatchina Palace exhibition "Childhood in the palace"

On October 28, the opening of the exhibition "Childhood in the palace" will take place in Gatchina Palace.

The exhibition will tell visitors about the childhood traditions on the example of the two Royal families: Paul I and Alexander III.

In the reign of Emperor Paul I and his great-grandson Alexander III is one century. It can be seen on the display what has changed in the life and outlook of this age, and what had remained unchanged.



The exposition is collected on the basis of the Museum-Reserve "Gatchina" funds, which fully disclose the topic of childhood and upbringing in the Royal house. Palace guests can learn how children were baptized, see the caps and babies' shirts, the Tsar's toys, and even play games of the nineteenth century.

Visitors will learn about the differences in the education of sons and daughters, can try to solve a puzzle from the book of the Royal heir. And yet, all who wish can have the opportunity to show off the talent on the stage of a home theater, as did the young Grand Dukes.

Video -

http://47channel.ru/event/V_Gatchinskom_dvorce_rasskazhut_o_detskih_uvlecheniyah_monarshih_ob/

Inaccuracies in the text and images found on the monument of military glory in Gatchina

After the opening of the monument of military glory in Gatchina a group of historians appealed to local authorities with a request to eliminate the inaccuracies in the text and images made on the monument. The opening of the monument - obelisk "City of Military Glory" in Gatchina was preceded by extensive and painstaking work. In early September, the area near the House of culture was transformed in an hour, contractors hurry to introduce the main memorial dedication to the 220th anniversary of Gatchina. The opening was a great success, but after a few hours, several invited historians had doubt about the contents of commemorative bas-reliefs.



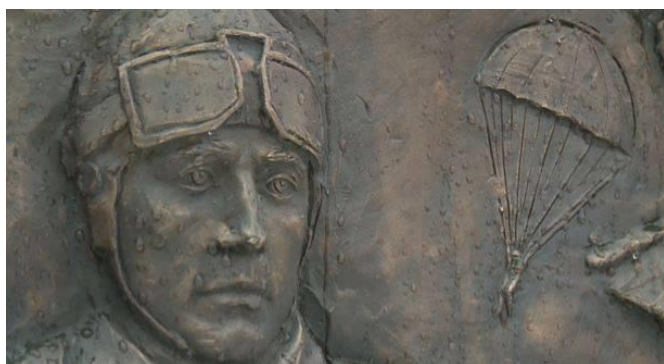
"It is incomprehensible that here are French Cuirassiers of Napoleonic era," - said a senior researcher at the Military Historical Museum of Artillery, Engineer and Signal Corps Eugene Jurkiewicz. Board obviously devoted to the famous Gatchina "blue cuirassiers," an elite unit. Since the XVIII century Russian Empresses were its chefs. In the name of the regiment is supposed to be "Her Majesty", but in bronze is left "His." "The board, as it turns out, is dedicated to the Life Guards regiment of His Majesty, and this regiment was never in Gatchina, it stood in Tsarskoye Selo and for Gatchina it is irrelevant" - said Eugene Jurkiewicz.



It would seem, what's the difference - "His" and "Her"? But the fact is that we are talking about the regiment, which from 1822 to 1914 was the core of the life of the garrison of Gatchina.

"This, of course, the only monument of its kind in the city, which can be called a history textbook. It will be seen by students, the younger generation. And here such errors are unacceptable, because it is an important moment for the history of the city", - said the director of the Tourist Information Centre, Yuri Semenov.

Military historian Eugene Jurkiewicz acquainted with all the 16 reliefs, found inaccuracies on 14. Looking closely, there is pilot Kazakov Kruten with a parachute, which did not exist during the First World War. "And what is doing the Red Army captain Evdokimov from of the second half of the 1930s? What's doing a skydiver jumping? And I see on Kruten straps of a colonel - Eugraph Nikolaevich died, unfortunately, with the rank of captain," - he added.



The creators of the bas-reliefs consider their work a great creative success and reminded that all images on the stage of designs were approved by Gatchina administration.

"If this is true, we will eliminate, even without removing the granite bas-relief stone", - said chairman of the Urban Planning and Architecture Committee of the Administration of Gatchina Municipal District Dmitry Konovalov.

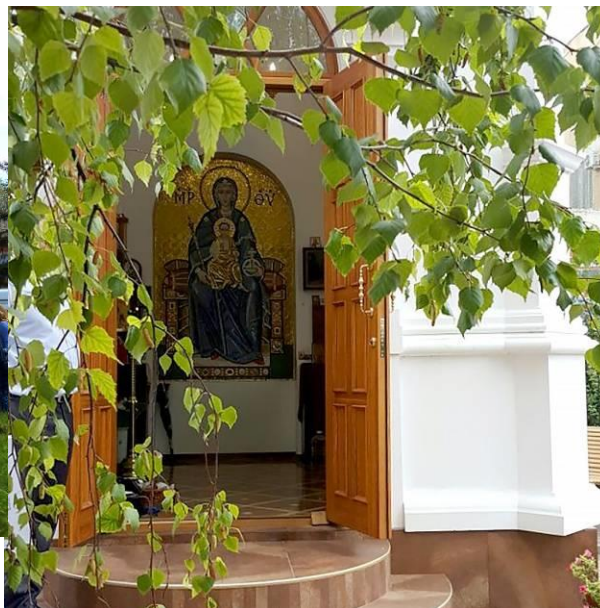
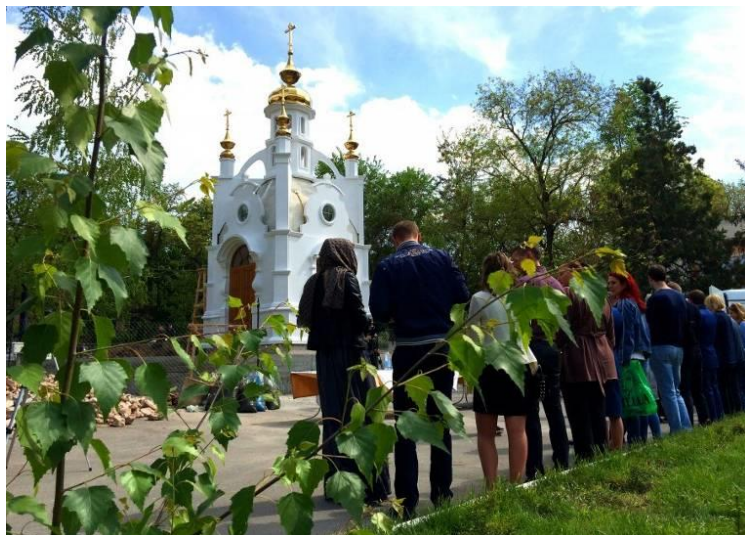
It will then become clear if the monument is a fantasy on the theme of military glory or is historical accuracy.

Video - 1) http://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article_id/157625/
2) http://47channel.ru/video_clip/103126/

Chapel dedicated to the Holy Royal Martyrs opened in Simferopol

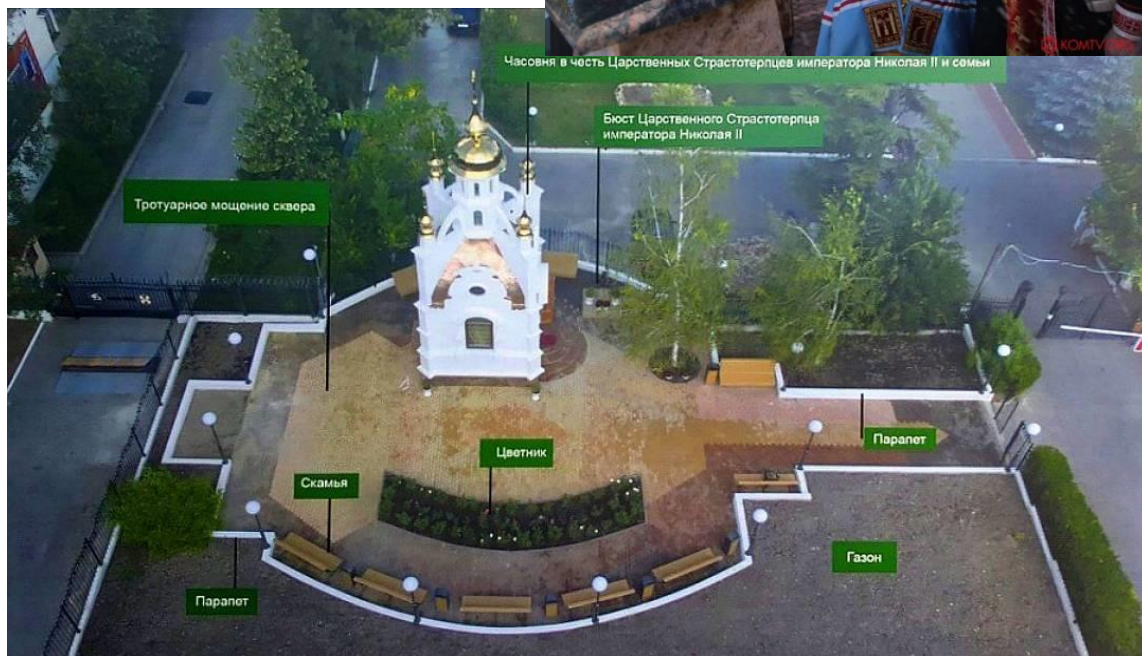
On 26 of October a chapel in honor of the Holy Royal Martyrs of the last Russian Emperor Nicholas II and his family was opened in Simferopol at the building of the Crimean prosecutor's office.

Metropolitan of Simferopol and Crimea Lazar made the consecration of the chapel and the bust of Emperor Nicholas II standing next to it.



Deputy of the State Duma of the Russian Federation, former prosecutor of Crimea Natalia Poklonskaya said - "Finally, we finished our small and cozy chapel."

The construction of the chapel, near the building of the Crimean prosecutor's office, began a year ago at the initiative of Natalia. It was built in honour of the Holy Royal Martyrs - Emperor Nicholas II, Empress Alexandra Feodorovna, Grand Duchesses Olga, Tatiana, Maria, Anastasia and Tsarevich Alexei.



The last case of sailor Nagorny, servant of Tsarevich Alexei



October 3, 2016. Ural Worker – The defender of the Heir to the throne of Russia was buried at the walls of the Novo-Tikhvin monastery.

... March 2, 1915, Nicholas II wrote in his diary: "Dear Baby's foot is better, he now rolled in Pavlovsk. Nogorny and his driver worked alone on the snow mountain."

Russian Emperor noted briefly the role of uncle (servant) of his son and Heir - Clement Nagorny. He, a sailor of the Imperial yacht "Standart", had protected and entertained the Heir of the Romanov dynasty since December 1913, and almost to the execution of the Imperial family by the Bolsheviks in July 1918. In general, officially young Alexei had two guys – boatswain Derevenko and the sailor Nagorny, who, one after another, carried out work on the Prince's upbringing.

But it was Nogorny who became last and main guard of Imperial offspring. According to the memoirs of Prince George Lvov, whom the Bolsheviks put in Yekaterinburg's prison, the sailor Nagorny, who was in the House of Ipatiev, often quarrelled with the

Bolsheviks because of property Alexey Nikolaevich. And the first such clash occurred due to ordinary boots. Nagorny insisted that two pairs of shoes should be left for the successor, because the boy is sick and could have wet feet. Then he noticed that the guards "stole" long gold chain from Alexis' bed, on which always hung Orthodox holy pictures. The sailor always had such a respect for his ward. As noted teacher Sydney Gibbs, questioned by Nikolai Sokolov, the judicial investigator for particularly important cases at the Omsk district court on 1st of July 1919, even during Tobolsk's exile every day after breakfast and afternoon reading "... Nagorny came, dressed the heir, and we were in the yard up until 4 or 5 pm".

Heir's servant came to Ekaterinburg in "a classy car" with the children on the night of 9th of May. As participants of this move recalled: "It was cold. We were driven all night on the paths. Around 7 o'clock in the morning our cars were moved out of the city ... then Nagorny came and took the things and beds of the children. When Emperor left, few beds were taken also. All the beds were the same: hiking, nickel, sample bed of Alexander II during the Turkish campaign, comfortable, but heavier."

Before this dragging of beds sailor Nagorny performed yet another "handling". As recalled French teacher Pierre Gilliard, "A few minutes passed, and then sailor Nagorny, who was set to Alexei Nikolayevich, passed my window carrying a small patient on his hands; the Grand Duchesses loaded with suitcases and small things came behind him. I wanted to go out, but watch roughly pushed me into the car. "

Then the Grand Duchesses, getting stuck in spring Yekaterinburg's mud, tried to climb the slippery embankment. Tatiana Nikolayevna carried heavy suitcases in one hand, the other hold her little dog. The sailor Nagorny decided to help her, but the guard roughly pushed him. And besides, he was immediately forced to write a receipt as follows: "I, the undersigned, citizen Clement G Nagorny of Kiev province, Svirsky County, Antonovsky township, village Pustovarovka to give this signature, that in order to continue to serve under the former Tsar Nicholas Romanov, I promise to obey and comply with the orders of the Ural regional Council, emanating from the commandant of the special-purpose home and consider themselves on equal condition as the rest of the Romanov family."

This "aid" of the sailor as his strong character, the Urals Bolshevik did not forgive. May 15, 1918 he and servant Sednief surrounded by soldiers in two cabs were sent to Yekaterinburg prison. As recalled by witnesses of what is happening: "... Nagorno came second to the driver. He stepped onto the running board, relying on cabs wing, and looked up, saw the three of us stood motionless a few feet away from him. He stared at us for several seconds, and then, without making the slightest movement that might betray us, in turn, got into the cab. Cab drove away, and we saw that they went on the way to jail. "

But he was not in the Yekaterinburg prison castle for a long time. He was killed by the Bolsheviks' shot in the back at the beginning of July 1918. And the initiator of the shooting of "a traitor of the revolution, shame of the revolutionary fleet" has become another sailor - Paul Khokhryakov.



Clement Nagorny and Tsarevich Alexei. 1907.

Later, July 31, 1918, Shadrinsky city newspaper published small notice from Yekaterinburg on July 7: "On the proposal of the Regional Council of the Ural Regional Extraordinary Commission for Combating Counterrevolution the following hostages were shot ... Nagorny ...".

His body, pecked by birds, was found already by whites. And solemnly buried. According to memories, the tomb was arranged at a church in honour of the Mother of God "Joy of All Who Sorrow" in Novo-Tikhvin monastery. But in Soviet times it, like hundreds of other graves were destroyed. Probably, now somewhere near the walls of the Yekaterinburg monastery the body of the last defender of Tsarevich Alexei rests.



It is still unknown where lies the body of a sailor Nagorny, whose tomb was previously at Church of the Mother of God "Joy of All Who Sorrow".

Ceremonies in the memory of Grand Duchess Olga Konstantinova in Greece

From October 31 to November 1, 2016 in Athens and Piraeus (Greece) in the framework of the official program of the Year of Russian and Greek culture celebrations were held in the memory of Grand Duchess, the Queen of the Hellenes Olga Konstantinovna.

Events was held by Russian NGOs Centre for National Glory and the Foundation of St. Andrew, together with a number of Greek public bodies, with the support of the organizing committee for the Year of Russian and Greek culture, Russia and the Greek Ministries of Culture, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Solemn events were timed to the 165th anniversary of the birth of Grand Duchess Olga Konstantinovna, who became the queen of Greece, dedicated her life to the strengthening and development of Russian-Greek relations, as well as humanitarian and diplomatic rapprochement between the two countries.

The program of activities began on October 31 with a solemn service in memory of Queen Olga at the Russian "embassy" the Holy Trinity Church, which is currently one of the most iconic places of historical memory of the Russian-Greek cooperation in the XIX - early XX century. As part of the celebrations on behalf of the Russian delegation, the founder of the Museum of Russian Icons (Moscow) M. Yu. Abramov donated the church a Smolensk Icon of the Mother of God.



The same day, the program continued at the Athens port of Piraeus, where in the XIX century, was the Mediterranean base of the Russian Navy, and where at the beginning of the XX century Olga Konstantinovna founded a hospital for sailors. As part of the celebrations was held in the traditional way

of the Black Sea Fleet of the Russian Navy, saluting honour of the Queen of the Hellenes. On the ships of the Russian Navy deck was held a ceremony awarding the winners of a historical and educational competition of research and creative works of pupils and students in Greece, dedicated to the memory Queen Olga of the Hellenes.

Officers and sailors of the Russian Navy at Tatoi placed a wreath at the tomb of Queen Olga, while a band played the National anthems of Greece and Russia.

Director of the State Hermitage Mikhail Piotrovsky made the lecture "Great Hermitage" in the New Acropolis Museum. The University of Athens hosted a lecture by the President of the Russian Academy of Education, President of the St. Petersburg State University, L. A. Verbitskaya - "Russian language in the modern world".



destiny." The conference was dedicated to the 165th anniversary of the Grand Duchess, the Queen of the Hellenes Olga Konstantinovna and was held under the auspices of the Greek-Russian forum of civil societies.



The same day, at the Athens Concert Hall "Megaron" ("Megaro Musikis") was held a gala evening - a concert in the framework of the Days of St. Petersburg in Athens, dedicated to the memory of Queen Olga of the Hellenes, with the participation of artists of the Mariinsky Theatre. As part of the gala evening in the lobby of the concert hall was shown an exhibition of icons of St Princess Olga from the Museum of Russian Icons collection (Moscow).

November 1, in the Column Hall Zappeion Palace was hosted the international social-scientific conference "Russia, Greece, Europe: a tradition of cooperation and common historical

Video - http://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article_id/158505/

International Faberge conference in the Faberge Museum in St. Petersburg

The Faberge Museum on Fontanka hosted an international conference dedicated to the 170th anniversary of the famous St. Petersburg jeweler Carl Faberge. The museum has invited experts from Russia, USA, UK, Germany and Switzerland who shared the results of their searches in archives and talked about the products of the famous jeweler.

Galina Korneva and Tatiana Cheboksarova found materials about "tender", 1896, associated with the preparation of the coronation of Nicholas II. For the production of silver-gilt eagle banner from Faberge was puts the price of 350 roubles, and he received the order. His competitors - the well known jewelry company Pavel Ovchinnikov and brothers Michael and Simon Grachev - asked for 400 roubles and lost.



Mikhail Ovchinnikov, Faberge Museum Deputy Director, together with the German stone-cutter Patrick Dreyer, a representative of the fifth generation of artists from the famous centre of Idar-Oberstein, found the origins of the prototype "well-fed and funny" toad that Patrick cut from seven colours of jasper.

In the workshop Dreyer kept plaster model of the toads from Faberge workshop. The animal is in a fighting stance, unusual for a European image. Mindful that Faberge was fond of Japanese netsuke, Ovchinnikov found in the same the composition of the two contending toads. It was created by the master Masanao Yamada in the middle of the XIX century. One toad stone model accurately replicates the pose toad on netsuke. Probably Faberge decided to make a toad more peaceful and did not portray the fight scene.

Talking about his animalistic works, Dreyer brought curious figures. Even with the modern stone-cutting equipment, masters have to contend with a large consumption of expensive materials. For example, to cut the obsidian figurine gorilla weighing 350 grams, was required 7 kg.

Great interest was aroused by the New York antiquarian Marie Bettli, who told how in 1983 her father, also an antique dealer, was invited to Burma to see "a few baskets", which contained Royal family jewelry. There turned out to be 72 objects made by Faberge. They were ordered in Russia more than 100 years ago by the Siamese monarchs, and had survived the war and the revolution of the twentieth century. The Jade Buddha is now used for religious ceremonies. Bettli noticed that the collection "is not touched by the market." Meanwhile, the Western experience shows that typically art collections stored one or two generations after their creators, and then come up for auction.

Tatiana Fabergé, great-granddaughter of the jeweler, who lives in Switzerland (in the picture), and Valentin Skurlov, St. Petersburg expert on Faberge, told about his search for premium snuffbox with portraits and monograms of Alexander III and Nicholas II. According to archive documents of the Imperial Cabinet, who led the accounting, several hundred snuffboxes were given. Now known units - in the rich collection of Faberge Museum - are only two. The most rare is the portrait snuff box. Valentin Skurlov found information about 54 products with images of the two Russian Emperors.

Touching finale of the conference was a gift to the Museum of Faberge from the archive of Henry Bainbridge, who ruled for almost 10 years, the London branch of Faberge. It was received from Simon Bainbridge, a grandson of the jeweler who had arrived from Cape Town (South Africa). There were letters and diaries with many interesting facts: the visit to the store by ballerina Anna Pavlova, who bought cufflinks, a photo of a Rothschild prize horses, which Faberge in St. Petersburg made a figure. There was also the history of the registration stamp of Faberge «CF» and search for a reliable lock type for cigarette cases... The archive will be studied by the museum workers. Simon admitted that when he first saw works by Faberge in St. Petersburg, he was convinced of the correctness of his choice.

Tatiana Fabergé, great-granddaughter of Carl Faberge:

- It is surprising that the name my great-grandfather is known all over the world, although there were many other artists. Perhaps it is connected with the Royal family's tragedy. I must admit, it's nice when my name is recognized on the passport at the control at the airports. The plans of our foundation is to publish the entire archive associated with the Faberge firm, which I have kept.

Virginia Museum of Fine Arts welcomes back Fabergé eggs in new installation

26 October. Fredericksburg.com - Lillian Thomas Pratt of Fredericksburg, married to General Motors executive John Lee Pratt, was fascinated with the Romanov story. As the Soviet Union sold off art treasures it had confiscated from the Imperial family, Lillian Pratt became an early collector. Upon Lillian Pratt's death in 1947, her entire collection of Russian decorative arts - including 5 Imperial Faberge eggs - were bequeathed to the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts in Richmond.



After an extensive gallery renovation, this collection - and additional related items accumulated by VMFA over the last half-century - is newly on display in an exhibit that opened on Oct. 22. "It now comprises five galleries, and includes the largest public Fabergé collection outside of Russia," said Barry Shifman, curator of the exhibit. "We had about 800 square feet of exhibit space before; now it's more than double that, about 2,000 square feet."

During the renovation many of the Fabergé pieces went on a three-year international tour, and most recently were on display at the Palace Museum in Beijing, China—the first exhibition of its kind within the Forbidden City.

"I was honoured to attend the opening in Beijing and gave a tour," Shifman said. "The exhibit was beautifully installed, everyone there seemed thrilled and pleased."

While the Russian decorative arts collection has always been a favourite at VFMA, Shifman said any visitors who loved the old display will be thrilled to experience the new installation.

"The new galleries include a lot of new technology, with interactive displays and screens to edify these incredible works of art," Shifman said. "The eggs themselves are presented in the round, so each of them can be examined from every side."

"We have applications that will bring to life the rich fairy tales depicted through many of the decorative objects," Shifman said. "There are many new and dynamic ways visitors will be able to engage with the art."



Among Lillian Pratt's treasures in the new VFMA exhibit is a small, star-shaped Fabergé picture frame in gold, silver, enamel, and seed pearls. Inside is a black and white photograph of Emperor Nicholas II and Empress Alexandra's second daughter, the Grand Duchess Tatiana, age 21 when she and her family were killed.

"The Royal family took this picture frame with them into exile," Shifman said. "It was found with the possessions of the murdered family after their execution."

Shifman said this picture frame is the only possession still in existence that accompanied the family to their Siberian exile and remained with them until their death.

"It's a sobering reminder of the Imperial family's tragic story," Shifman said. "It's incredible to see the beauty, the opulence of the period, knowing the destiny of the Emperor and his wife, their four beautiful girls and little boy."





A new memorable date for Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna. With the blessing of Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia Kirill next year will be introduced a new memorable date - the day of acquisition of the relics of Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna. The holiday will be celebrated on 11th of October.

But already this year the celebration began in Alapayevsk - the town where the Saint adopted its martyrdom and where the holy relics were uncovered.

Video - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eHZUH107UMY>



A virtual tour of Peter the Great's Kunstkammer is launched. To visit the Peter the great Hall of the Museum of Anthropology and Ethnography (Kunstkammer) in St. Petersburg is now possible online. With the help of a computer or tablet, anyone can go through expositions and even listen to the stories of the guide about some exhibits. On the official website of the museum is launched a virtual 3D-tour that will hold everyone to the halls of the museum, will present its rich collections from America, Africa, India, Indonesia, Japan, China and other regions of the world. The project is unique in the fact that the tour will be constantly updated with new interactive resources. The view is possible not only on computers but also on tablets.

Virtual 3D-tour - an important part of a larger project "Curiosities of the III millennium", which the Museum implements as part of the Vladimir Potanin Charity Fund Partner Program in 2015-2016. The site is in both Russian and English.

Link - <http://tour.kunstkamera.ru/?lang=en#1241881465>



In St. Petersburg, in the exhibition hall of the Russian State Archive the exhibition "Looking for a decent beautiful facet..." was opened. It is timed to the 250th anniversary of the Directorate of the Imperial Theatres.

History of the theater from the time of Catherine II to 1917 are reflected in unique documents and objects from the collections of archival and museum collections. The exhibition are drawings and plans of the Imperial Theatres of buildings in St. Petersburg and Moscow, sketches of curtains and decorations made by famous Russian artists, props and costumes.

Decree of October 13, 1766 by Empress Catherine II approved the staff, as stated in the document "to all the theaters and to the cameras - and to the music belonging to the people." Since then, the Russian theater, which originated back in the reign of Tsar Alexei Mikhailovich, received the new regulation, and began to develop a fully-fledged part of the cultural life of the country. Enlightened Empress appreciated drama and self-developed rules for visiting the Hermitage Theatre, and all the Romanovs made adjustments to the work of the Theatre Directorate.

"Emperor Paul introduces strict regulation of aesthetic tastes, and in a decree in 1800, he decides that the presentation should start at five o'clock, and the end is for sure to be at eight" - says an employee of the Russian State Historical Archive Tatiana Bogdanova.

"In 1837, Emperor Nicholas I issued a decree that a person of the Romanov dynasty was not to be represented at a theater. This decree was periodically overruled if management thought that the Emperor on stage was shown with dignity, and that it did not cloud his memory," - continues the story of Tatiana Bogdanova.

Annals of the theatrical life of the two capitals programs end on October 25, 1917. While on the stage of

the Imperial Mariinsky Theatre was "The Nutcracker", in the streets of Petrograd was turning quite a different spectacle with a not so fantastic finale.

Video - http://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article_id/157927/



The museum-estate "Kolomenskoye" in Moscow has opened the exhibition "Art is born of fire." It shows artistic cast iron of a half thousand exhibits from the collections of 20 Russian museums and private collections. Here are objects of mass production, and original masterpieces - from the Petrine era to the present day. Many of them showing Romanovs.

Video - http://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article_id/157208/



The restoration of the Palace of Peter I in the Summer Garden is delayed due to financial difficulties. The main attraction in the Summer Garden in St. Petersburg - the Palace of Peter the First - for a year already closed in scaffolding. It was planned in a short time to restore the missing elements of decor, update the appearance and interior of the summer residence of the Emperor. However, these plans were substantially modified.

This year's budget is reduced by almost a quarter. Architects ponder - how to replace the Dutch tapestries and how to arrange the first Russian Emperor's bedchamber. Restorers, for example, originally planned to take in a special workshops the picturesque wooden panels of Green's office. But due to lack of funding the work had to be carried here on the site. Dutch tapestries have unfortunately been replaced by other upholstery.

Despite the financial difficulties, the city is trying to do everything possible for the Palace to reopen in time. Definitely in the future, visitors will see a huge change. Rooms have already been repaired. Parquet, tiles ovens, and ceilings are almost ready. The only problem is with the exhibits and interior details.

"At this stage, for the completion of the restoration remains the facades, roofing copper, heating, microclimate," - said the first deputy chairman KGIOP administration of St. Petersburg Alexander Leontyev.

Video - http://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article_id/157533/



The exhibition in Georgia Museum of Art - Gifts and prayers: the Romanovs and their subject - is about The House of Romanov who ruled Imperial Russia for 300 years, until the Russian Revolution, in 1917, which replaced the Tsars with a Communist government. The court created elaborate gifts for military leaders, attendants, noble families and others, as part of a system of patronage that helped it maintain its power.

Video - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZvcOQksOoCM>



A memorial cross for the Royal martyrs was cut down - a new to come. It all began in 2004. Then, in August, on the feast day of Tsarevich Alexei, at the initiative of the Mineralvodsky Department of Terek Cossack troops, hoisted a worship cross on top of the Snake Mountain. It was an ordinary wooden cross and stood 12 years. At the cross was put a commemorative plaque from which it became possible to learn that it is commemorating the Martyrs of the Royal family.

Early in October it was discovered that the cross had been cut by unknown vandals. And now, it has been decided to erect a new cross.

A group has started up in one of social networks "Save Snake", with preparation of sketches and drawings, archival materials, allowing to restore the original cross of Tsarevich Alexei. Orthodox character of stainless steel with gold-titanium nitride coating manufactured at a dedicated facility in Cheboksary. The construction is decorated with colourless crystal. This part of the work completed master plant "Gus Crystal" under the direction of Honoured Artist of Russia Vladimir Kasatkin. The cross is decorated with 38 crystal inserts of different shapes. Uncluttered beauty of diamond applied to their faces accentuate interior lighting provided for in the design.



In Estonia photo exhibition "The Romanovs. The Imperial family in the photographs of Karl Bulla" was opened. September 30, 2016 in the Estonian castle Phalle was a presentation of the exhibition of historical photographs by the Fund named after Karl Bulla, dedicated to the Romanov Imperial dynasty. A welcoming speech was delivered by Russian Ambassador to Estonia,



Alexander Petrov - I am happy to greet all those present today! A special word of gratitude to the exhibition organizers Lilies Cerro and Valentin Elbek. A lot of people put their efforts, put their soul and energy, so that this photo exhibition, dedicated to the Romanov, here in Estonia could take place. I see a photo exhibition in the first place, as a great educational project because it fully reflects increasing interest in Russian history.

The Phalle castle was previously the estate of Count Benkendorf, then the Princes Volkonsky. This building with a magnificent park ensemble, a natural waterfall and a palace in neo-Gothic style. Phalle was visited by Emperor Nicholas I and his wife Alexandra Feodorovna, and Russian poet Fyodor Tiutchev.

The famous photographer Karl Bulla moved from Petrograd to the island of Saaremaa, after the Revolution, where he lived from 1918 until his death in November 1929. With the support of Karl Bulla Historical Photos Fund was completed the restoration of the tombstone on the grave of Karl Bulla and his wife at the cemetery Jämaja.

The photo exhibition "The Romanovs. The Imperial family in the photographs of Karl Bulla" opened with the assistance of the International Charitable Foundation of Vladimir Spivakov and the Russian Embassy in Estonia. The exhibition runs until the end of October.



November 26 at 13.00 the Church of the Sign of the Novospassky monastery will host an exhibition "God is with us! Yes, Russia will rise again! ", dedicated to the heroes of the White movement and their patriotic service of the homeland and abroad.

The exhibition is organized jointly by Novospassky Monastery and the Union of Descendants of Gallipoli, with the support of perpetuating the memory of participants in the White movement Fund under the cover of the Kursk Root Icon of the Mother of God. The exposition tells the parishioners of the monastery and the residents of Moscow about the heroism of the white soldiers, how they continued selflessly serve the motherland, even while away from her, steadfastly maintaining their ideals and traditions.

The uniqueness of this exhibition lies in the fact that the direct participation in its preparation took descendants of members of the White movement in the US, Australia, France and the UK. It will feature rare photos and written artefacts from private archives, as well as family heirlooms.

The section which will present an exhibition dedicated to the great families of Golenishchev-Kutuzov, Grabbe, Levshin, whose members have shown an example of dignity and extraordinary fortitude with which they took ordeals that fell to their lot after being expelled from Russia is particularly interesting.



A separate stand will tell about "Protectress of the Russian Diaspora" - the Kursk Root Icon of the Mother of God, the history of the image acquisition and related miracles, as well as its significance for Russian abroad.



Moscow Museum cherishes the memories of the former image of the city and allows you to see the capital's neighborhoods as they were in a different era. Many architectural masterpieces survived only on paper. Now they can be seen in the form of model in the museum exhibition "Lost Moscow in 3D models: China Town". The opening ceremony was attended by Prince Michael of Kent. Michael of Kent speaking at the opening ceremony - "Look at the beautiful buildings created by our ancestors, talented craftsmen, Russian and foreign architects in the past century, including during the reign of my ancestors," - he said.

Museum workers are convinced that this is only the beginning of a great work. The collection will be updated with models and other areas of historical Moscow.

Video - http://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article_id/158117/



Former Palace of the Romanovs - the palace and park ensemble "Ropsha" near St. Petersburg - may be leased to the "Rosneft" company - for restoration. This was announced by the Minister of Culture of Russia Vladimir Medinsky. Ministry of Culture and the company "Rosneft" sent a letter to the president with an address to transmit "Ropsha" on a long-term lease to the investor.

Ropsha Palace is part of the monument to World Heritage "Historic Centre of Saint Petersburg and related complexes of monuments." Palace traces its history from the house, hosted by Peter the Great. Since the 1980s, the building of the palace burned several times. The roofs of the buildings are missing, part of the walls collapsed.

According to the director of "Peterhof" Museum-Reserve Elena Kalnitskaya, the restoration of the palace cost more than 5 billion rubles. The "ruin monument of Cultural Heritage will enter into a monument of archeology," if you do not take active steps to save it in the next year.

Kalnitskaya said: "Rural palaces require prohibitive financial costs for the museum, and now the Ropsha palace is in the care of the State Museum "Peterhof" on its own cost. It is conserved, it is protected, but more than that we cannot afford."

Video - http://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article_id/158170/



Five paintings from the mansion of Baron Stieglitz are shown in the building of the General Staff. These are paintings by German and Austrian artists of the XIX century. Now the Stieglitz mansion closed for restoration.

There are Hans Makart painting "Afternoon rest at the court of the Medici", "Diana on the hunt" by Moritz von Schwind. It graced the grand dining room of the mansion. There are also paintings by Alexander von Wagner, Hans von Mare, and brothers Albert and Richard Zimmermann.

To carry all the paintings from the Promenade des Anglais to the Palace Square proved not to be easy. Doorway of the mansion were too narrow. Therefore, the pictures were taken off the stretcher, clocked on a shaft and lowered from the window on the third floor.

"In total, we have taken from the house 13 works exhibited, but here are only five. Other works are kept in the Hermitage Restoration and Storage Centre in the Old Village. We just took them so that they were in normal climatic conditions, and not destroyed in the palace", - said junior researcher of the State Hermitage Marina Schulz.

Video - http://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article_id/158311/



The Library of Russia presents "The Grand Duchess Olga Konstantinovna - Greek Queen. By the 165-th anniversary" at Pavlovsk Palace. The exhibition is held under the auspices of the Year of Greek Russian culture.

The exhibition, dedicated to the memory of the Grand Duchess and Greek Queen Olga Konstantinovna, whose name is closely linked with the history of Pavlovsk, where she was born and where people come each year to visit her parents and beloved brother Grand Duke Konstantin Konstantinovich, presents objects from the Museum-Reserve collection, materials and documents from archives and libraries, not previously exhibited. For the first time, viewers will see a picture of Grand Duchess Olga Konstantinovna, made in Pavlovsk, a pastel portrait of her father Grand Duke Konstantin Nikolaevich, numerous objects from the collection of I.E. Filimonov, acquired by the museum in 2016, and a copy of the portrait of Olga Konstantinovna by the Danish artist Tuxen from the collection of the National History museum at Frederiksborg Castle.

Paintings and drawings, books, porcelain, rare historical photographs and unique documents - any exhibit will allow to learn deeper about the life and interests of a remarkable woman, Olga Konstantinovna, state and public figure, a devoted daughter, a loving wife, sister and mother, who in any case invested talent and pure soul, and the breadth of Russian nature.

The exhibition will be complemented by rare documentary footage from the film by Vyacheslav Motsardo "Dedicated to the bright memory of the Queen of the Hellenes, née Grand Duchess Olga Konstantinovna Romanova."

The exhibition runs until 20 December 2016.



Hermitage Director Mikhail Piotrovski talked in an interview (NSN on 27 October) about the museum's exhibitions dedicated to the "revolution" - "And then begins a whole set of projects of the October Revolution. We will try to show a custom view of the storming of the Winter Palace, to talk about the mythology created by Eisenstein (it will be a separate exhibition). Anselm Kiefer will prepare us an exhibition devoted to Khlebnikov and his predictions of the revolution, it will focus on the period of the Provisional Government, which itself-for-itself is very interesting. The intelligentsia gained power, but could not cope with it. Special dedication to the infirmary, located in the halls of the Hermitage. That is, a lot of the pages of history, who would like to show.

- That is, the centenary of the revolution Hermitage prepares thoroughly?

- At first we were not going to make anything about this, but it turned out that the whole world is preparing! For example, our Dutch colleagues from the Hermitage in Amsterdam said, "Are You crazy? Even we are doing the exhibition "The Romanovs and the Revolution." So, the whole world will talk about the Russian revolution and the Russian avant-garde, and we will show the atmosphere in which these events took place."





"Kizhi" Museum-Reserve in Petrozavodsk opened the exposition titled "Praise the Lord, all his angels". Previously these icons could only be seen at Church of the Transfiguration on Kizhi Island, but now the ancient church is closed for restoration.

The exhibition includes more than 30 icons from the museum's collection, made in the XVII-XIX centuries. Here are ceiling icons, the so-called "heaven", typical of the decoration of the northern wooden churches, and icons - "medallions" and triangular "sail", and "faces" that have the shape of a trapezoid. They all differ and have their own stories.

"Some icons can be seen for the unfamiliar role of angels in the icon - there you see the image of angels, who trample demons. There are in the hands scrolls with the caption: "Love", "Grace", "Truth" - told the researcher of the "Kizhi" Museum-Reserve Boris Moskin.

Video - http://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article_id/157856/



Three icons painted in honor of the family of the last Russian Emperor Nicholas II will be presented at Ganina Yama (Sverdlovsk region) on November 4th.

The Museum of the Monastery will receive from the Ural Mining and Metallurgical Company three rare icons that are closely linked with the history of the last Romanovs. One of them is an icon made in memory of rescue of Nicholas II and members of his family off the coast of Finland in 1907. The Imperial yacht Standart hit a submerged rock and almost crashed. The icon shows the images of the holy and righteous Andrew of Crete, St. Alexander Nevsky, St. Nicholas, St. Mary Magdalene, and the holy prophet Hosea.

Another icon was made in memory of the salvation of Tsarevich Nicholas Alexandrovich from the attack of the police officer Tsudy Sanzo in the Japanese city of Otsu.

The last is an icon with the faces of St. Nicholas and St. Tsarina Alexandra - patrons of the Imperial couple, in memory of the wedding of Tsarevich Nicholas and Grand Duchess Alexandra Feodorovna. The gifts will add to the collection of objects from the era of Emperor Nicholas II and parishioners will be able to see them on November 4 says the monastery.

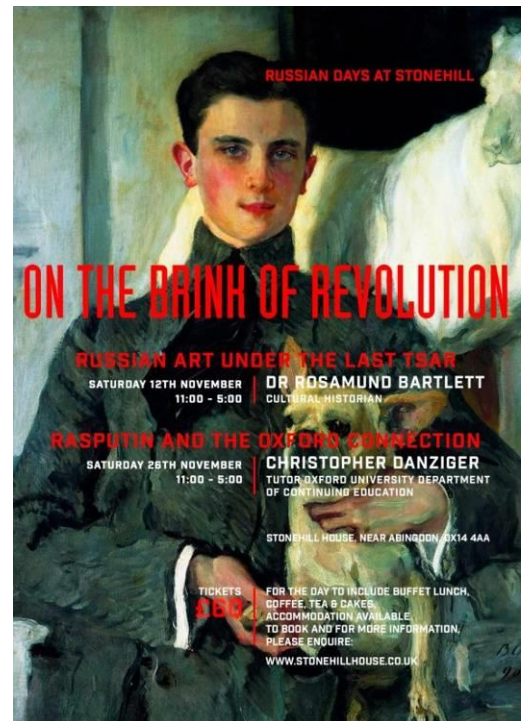


In Stonehill House, near Abingdon in Oxfordshire (UK) is arranged "Russian Days - on the brink of revolution", with a series of lectures. Saturday 12 November will be "Russian Art under the last Tsar" with Dr Rosamund Bartlett.

- Something exciting started to happen in the arts in Russia at the end of the 19th century. During the reign of Nicholas II, the last Romanov Tsar, there was an unprecedented cultural explosion in both St Petersburg and Moscow which saw the foundation of ground-breaking new theatre companies, the emergence of brilliant virtuosi from the conservatoires, the launch of lavish new arts journals, and the scaling of new heights of craftsmanship in the workshops of jewellers like Fabergé. This day of illustrated lectures will explore the many facets of cultural life in Russia as it developed between 1894 and 1917, from art-nouveau architecture to avant-garde exhibitions, looking at radical innovators such as Goncharova, Tatlin, Mayakovsky and Prokofiev alongside contemporaries with a greater commitment to cultural continuity, such as Rachmaninov, Chagall, Akhmatova and Kustodiev, and the many artistic movements which proliferated during the period, from Symbolism to Suprematism.

On Saturday 26 of November Chris Danziger will talk about "Rasputin and the role played by Oxford in his assassination".

- Almost 100 years ago, on a night in December 1916, Prince Felix Yusupov arranged the assassination of the "Mad Monk", Rasputin, who had acquired a Svengali-like influence over the



Russian Royal family. The murder, one of the most celebrated in history, was a major, if unintended, step on the road to the Russian Revolution. And Oxford University played a vital but little-known role in the gestation of this event...

Saturday 3 December 2016 will be "The enduring relevance of Dostoevsky" with Irina Kirillova.

Saturday 17 December 2016: "Theatre in Imperial Russia" by Dr Rosamund Bartlett.



The village Chernorechie, Trinity area of the Chelyabinsk region, will host the opening of memorial sign "to Tsarevich Nicholas Alexandrovich, the future Russian Emperor Nicholas II" on 5 November.

A monument was installed at the historic site, where in 1891 took place meeting of the Tsarevich Nicholas Alexandrovich with the locals. In 1890-1891 Nicholas made an "Eastern Journey", visiting several countries in Southeast Asia. Foreign campaign ended in Vladivostok, where the future Emperor took part in the ceremony of launching the construction of Trans-Siberian railway on the east side. Then Nicholas went to St. Petersburg and its path passes through the village Chernorechie where a house was built for his arrival, so the Heir could rest after a long journey. Next to this house, he met with local residents.

As social activists say, the idea of the obelisk is to honor Nicholas Romanov memory, glorified among the saints of the Russian Orthodox Church, the Supreme Commander of the Russian Army from February 1915 to March 1917, during the period of the most prominent Russian victories in the First World War. The memorial sign near the village Chernorechie intended to remind us of the region and guests of one of the events in the history of South Ural land.

Its added that this is the first monument to the last Russian Emperor, which will be installed in the Southern Urals. Nearest memorable facilities are located in Ekaterinburg on a place of execution of the Royal family and Ganina Yama.



These newsreels from the Russian State Archive of Cinema (RGAKFD) shows Emperor Nicholas II being photographed together with officers and generals, as well as with his august Family.

Video - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bM5Tuu7qbgk>



Unveiling of the 3rd statue of Tsar Nicholas II at the Church of St Nicholas the Martyr in Podolsk.

16 February 1999 - A Russian Orthodox priest led the ceremony at the Church of St Nicholas the Martyr in Podolsk, a town just outside Moscow. Once the seven-meter-high bronze statue was revealed, onlookers laid flowers at the foot of the monument, hoping this time Tsar Nicholas would be allowed to stand in peace.

Video - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a5beo6bke9s>





"Royal Days on the Pacific Ocean"

20/10/2016. Russian Folk Line - Published "Vladivostok diary" of Tsarevich Nicholas - recordings made by the future Emperor during his visit to Vladivostok.

"Vladivostok Diary" was published in the book "Royal Days on the Pacific Ocean," which came out in mid-October in Vladivostok.

The little book is devoted to the great spiritual and geopolitical events in the history of Russia - a visit of Tsarevich Nicholas Alexandrovich Romanov, the future Emperor of Russia, to Vladivostok and Yuzhno-Ussuri region in 1891.

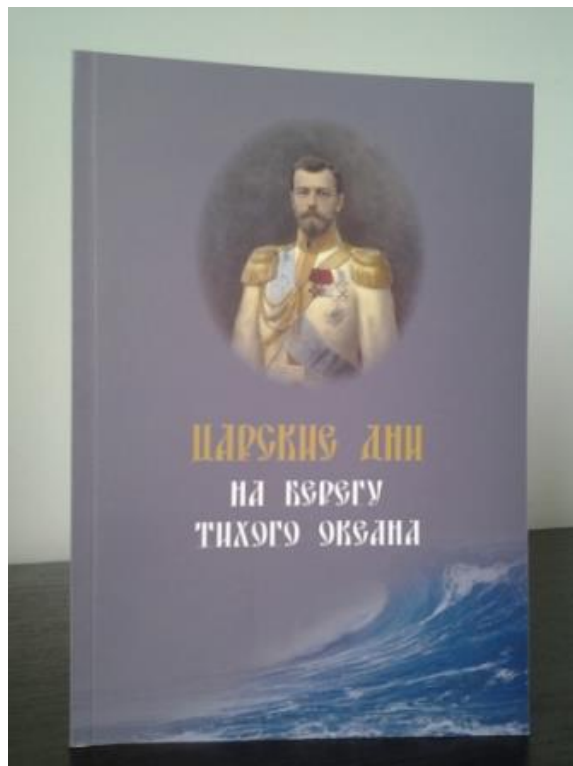
"The work of the authors determined the desire to comprehend the significance of Eastern trip of Tsarevich Nicholas Alexandrovich, to see the depth of design of Russian rulers in the movement to the east. The book conveys the atmosphere of spiritual and patriotic upsurge associated with traveling Tsarevich in 1891 and with the memory of it today", - said the review.

The book consists of two parts. The first part includes the documents published in 1891 - "Vladivostok diary of Tsarevich" - recording of Nikolai Alexandrovich Romanov made during his stay in Vladivostok and Yuzhno-Ussuri region. And also, welcome speeches of official representatives of the clergy in Vladivostok and the village Nikolsky. Text of "Vladivostok diary" is presented as in the press for the first time thanks to the efforts of the Russian writer Andrei Yurevich Khvalin who processed and prepared for the publication of the diaries of Nikolai Alexandrovich from the State Archive of the Russian Federation. Diary and welcome speech perfectly convey the spiritual and patriotic enthusiasm, which was observed in 1891 on the distant frontiers of Russia in connection with the trip Tsarevich.

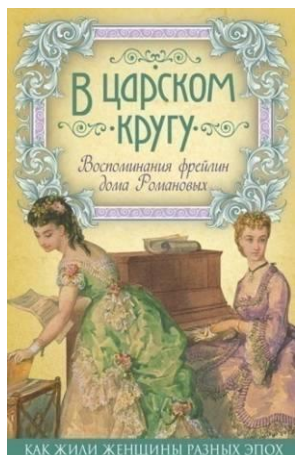
Second part contains the texts, made in 2016 during the celebration of the 125th anniversary of Eastern trip to Vladivostok and Primorye. They not only reflect the atmosphere of celebration and spiritual enthusiasm, but identified the desire of authors to the historical, historiosophical, political understanding of Eastern trip of Tsarevich and the eastern policy of the Russian rulers.

The book is filled with the hope that "the efforts of all our people in Russia regain its Sovereign greatness and firmly stand on the way, bequeathed to us by the Holy Prince Vladimir, and our great ancestors! "

For book purchase questions, please contact: E-mail: beregrus2015@mail.ru.



In the Royal circle. Memories of the maids of honour of the Romanov dynasty



In Tsarist Russia, many girls dream to live and serve in the court of the Empress. However, our contemporaries forget that being a maid of honour - is not only a life of luxury and endless benefits, but also an art of weaving intrigues, requiring a fair mind and a perfect knowledge of etiquette. Who had the right to claim a place at the court, which was the responsibility of the maids of honour and the State will give how the life in the Imperial circle? All this, as well as the secrets and details of the royal family, Anna Tiutchev, Alexandra Tolstoy, Varvara Golovina and other famous maids of honour will tell the readers.

Publisher: Algorithm, Moscow. Hard cover. 480 pages. Isbn # 978-5-906880-03-1

The reign of Emperor Nicholas II



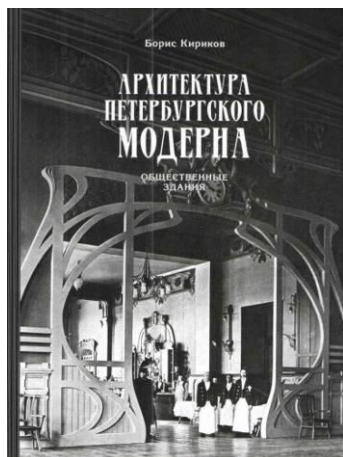
The author Sergey Oldenburg is the son of prominent orientalist, academician Prof S. Oldenburg.

Member of the White movement, lived abroad since 1920, and was a political soul mate of P.B. Struve, one of the lead authors of the émigré publications - journal "Russian idea", newspaper "Revival", "Russia", and "Russia and the Slavs."

The book of S. S. Oldenburg "The reign of Emperor Nicholas II", was first published in 1940, and to this day remains the most objective, thorough study of the contradictory and complex era of the reign of the last Russian Emperor.

Publisher: Tsentrpoligraf, Moscow. Hardcover. 654 pages. Isbn # 978-5-227-06592-6

The architecture of the St. Petersburg Art Nouveau. Public buildings



The book is devoted to public buildings of the St. Petersburg Art Nouveau. It provides greater detail on the creation of such important monuments as the Vitebsk Station, the company "Singer" house, building partnerships "Brothers Eliseev."

For the first time presents a close-up less well-known structures the XIX-XX centuries. The author traces in detail the way of formation of modernity in St. Petersburg, disclose its sources and characteristics. An essential complement is new materials to the creative portraits of G.V. Baranovsky, P.Y. Suzor, R.F. Meltzer, G.I. Lyutsedarsky, A.L. Lishnevsky and other prominent architects.

Publisher: Colo, SPb. Hardcover. 592 pages. ISBN# 978-5-4462-0076-4

Under the hammer... *Romanov related items in Auctions*



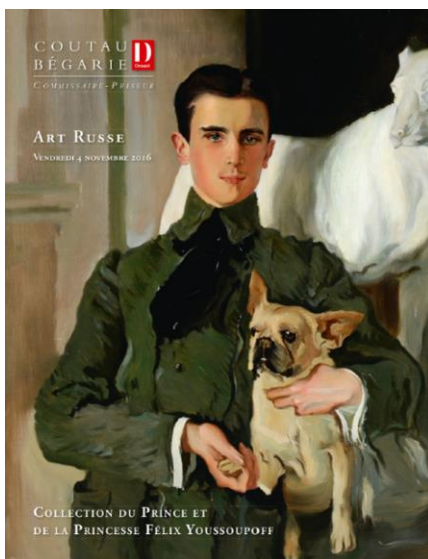
Coutau-Begarie, Paris, France, on November 3rd and 4th

The collection of Prince and Princess Paul Demidov

On November 3rd 2016 the collection of Prince and Princess Paul Demidov will be for sale. The ensemble of works of art, porcelains, paintings and historical memorabilia that once belonged to Prince Paul Alexandrovich Demidov (1869-1935), and his wife born Elisabeth Feodorovna Trepov (1881-1978), are coming from his palace of Vyshniévets, in the government of Volhynia, and from their summer estates in France : the Villa Demidoff in Nice and the Villa Les Perles in Drap, and conserved in their direct lineage.

To see the entire catalogue - download it here:

http://catalogue.gazette-drouot.com/pdf/140/78895/MaqDemidoff_finaleBasseDef.pdf?id=78895&cp=140



The collection of Prince and Princess Felix Youssouppoff

Is up for sale on 4th of November 2015. To see all the objects in the catalogue, click on the link here -

http://catalogue.gazette-drouot.com/.../10_ART_RUSSE_4nov2016...

Sotheby's, Geneva, Switzerland, on November 16

Russian diamond necklaces with Imperial connections given \$10m pitch

Two Russian diamond necklaces, with links to Peter the Great and Catherine the Great, will be auctioned by Sotheby's in Geneva next month with a \$10 m estimate.

Dating from the mid-19th century, this diamond necklace, brooch and a pair of earrings, carry an estimate of \$3m-5m. They will be auctioned by Sotheby's in Geneva on November 16.



Dating from the mid-19th century, one of the lots on offer is a diamond parure comprised of a necklace, a brooch and a pair of earrings with an estimate of \$3m-5m.

Its coloured diamonds are believed to have formed part of a gift given to Sultan Ahmed III (1673-1736) by Empress Catherine I of Russia (1684-1727), wife of Peter the Great, to negotiate the end of the siege of Pruth in 1711.

According to an account by Voltaire in his History of the Russian Empire under Peter the Great (1759), Catherine urged her husband to pursue a peaceful outcome to the stalemate of the siege. Knowing the importance of the Oriental custom to bring gifts, Catherine gathered all the jewels she had brought with her and offered them to the Sultan. He accepted and a peace treaty was agreed between Russia and the Ottoman Empire, ending the siege.

These jewels then passed into the Ottoman treasury, were made into jewellery, and were eventually presented to the wife of the Khedive Teufik of Egypt, possibly for the birth of the last Khedive of Egypt and Sudan in 1874.

Worldwide chairman of Sotheby's international jewellery division David Bennett believes the coloured diamonds are Indian and the jewellery set may have been made in Alexandria.



From the Collection of Catherine the Great the second piece has an equally interesting history. Estimated at \$3m-5m, a diamond choker with bow is thought to have been part of the collection of Catherine the Great.

It was originally designed as two separate jewels, crafted around 1760-80, and are likely to have been worn sewn directly onto a dress.

During the First World War, the Imperial treasure of Russia was moved from St Petersburg to Moscow, and were stored in the Kremlin. A number of jewels – including this necklace and bow brooch – were taken to London and offered at auction at a sale of The Russian State Jewels in 1927 to raise money for the Soviet cause.

They have only been in two private collections since the 1927 sale, including the current owner who has now decided to sell.

This diamond choker is thought to have been part of the collection of Catherine the Great and carries an estimate of \$2m-3m. It will be sold at auction by Sotheby's Geneva on November 16.

Bennett added: "These two stunning jewels carry with them a fascinating insight into the luxury and opulence of the Russian court in the second half of the 18th century. It is difficult to overstate their rarity and historical importance."

Alongside the sale of the jewels is a rare copy of a catalogue that was commissioned after the war which itemised the jewellery collection of the Romanovs from the early 17th century onwards. This copy of Russia's Treasure of Diamonds and Precious Stones has an estimate of \$38,000-51,000. It is rare as many of these catalogues were destroyed by the Bolsheviks.

Bruun Rasmussen, Copenhagen, Denmark, on December 2nd and 5th

Bruun Rasmussen Auctioneers in Copenhagen holds as usual two Russian themed auctions. The traditional auction will take place on 2nd of December with more than 40 Russian art objects. Here will one top lot be a kamingarniture of gilt bronze, consisting of a pair of candelabra and a mantel clock that belonged to Empress Dagmar. In addition, nine-Russian Easter eggs are offered, some in lapis lazuli, citrine and amethyst. The Easter eggs were originally gifts from Empress Dagmar to her nephew, Prince Harald of Denmark. The eggs are later assembled in a bracelet.

The Online Auction ends on 5th of December. Here are more than 150 Russian works of art, among others several watercolours of Grand Duchess Olga Alexandrovna.



- Fabergé silver and nephrite bell push, set with pearl and leaf edgings. Workmaster Hjalmar Armfeldt, St. Petersburg 1904-1916, 88 standard. H. 4. Diam. 6 cm. Price est.:

Estimated Price: Dkr 60,000-80,000/€ 8,050-11,000.

- Semion Sergeievich Platonov: Russian fishermen at sea in the early morning. Signed S. Platonov (in Cyrillic). Oil on canvas. 58 x 88 cm.

Estimated Price: Dkr 60,000-80,000/€ 8,050-11,000.

- Russian silver and cloisonné enamel kovsh with scrolling flowers and foliage, rope work rim, stylized feather handle. Nicolai Vasilievich Alexeiev, Moscow 1908-1917, 84 standard. Weight c. 296 gr. H. 13.5 cm. L. 13 cm.

Estimated Price: Dkr 40,000-50,000/ € 5,400-6,700.

- Russian silver-gilt beaker, decorated with light blue translucent enamel on guilloched ground. Mikhail & Semen Gratchev, marked with the Imperial Warrant as purveyor to the Imperial Russian Court, St. Petersburg 1908-1917, 88 standard. H. 4.6 cm. Estimated Price: Dkr 15,000/€ 2,000.

Leclere Auction House, Paris, Ile de France, France, on October 14

Portrait of Empress Catherine the Great. School of the eighteenth century. Oil on canvas.
100 x 73 cm.

Estimated Price: €60,000 - €70,000



Bust of Empress Catherine the Great. By Louis Simon Boizot (1743-1809). Biscuit, cobalt. Height 23 cm.
Made by Sevres in 1779.
Estimated Price: €8,000 - €9,000



Portraits of Grand Duke Paul Petrovich and Grand Duchess Maria Feodorovna. 1777. Russian School.
Miniature on linen, gouache. Size: 6.4 x 5 cm.
Estimated Price: Each €7,500 - €8,000



Portraits of Grand Duke Paul Petrovich and Grand Duchess Maria Feodorovna. 1797.
Miniature on linen, gouache.
Grand Duke Paul Petrovich, size 7,3 x 5,9 cm. Pierre Angiolini, after A. Roslin.
Grand Duchess Maria Feodorovna, size 7,1 x 5,8 cm. Pierre Angiolini, after Lampi.
Estimated Price: Each €10,000 - €12,000



Auktionshaus-Weiner, Berlin, Germany, October 29

Bronze sculpture of Tsar Nicholas I of Russia. 20th century, reddish marble base, height 30 cm.



Sincona, Zürich, Switzerland, on October 24

Collar of the Imperial Order of the Saint Apostle Andrew the First-Called, 1st model (with eagle wings widely spread – until 1857), official fabrication by Immanuel Georg von Pannasch from 1835, consisting of nine eagle links (about 55 x 44 mm), seven St. Andrew's cross links (about 47 x 36 mm) and seven trophy links (about 53 x 48 mm), thus 23 links in total, length 138 cm, gold and enamels, 368.1 g, enamel painting, some small enamel chips. The Saint Andrew's cross links hollowly manufactured and with air pressure exchange holes, all links on the reverse with manufacturer's mark 'IP' and Sankt Petersburg year mark for 1835, the loops and the connecting links with Sankt Petersburg city mark, in its original old case with golden imperial eagle.



Early manufactured collar of highest rarity, produced by the legendary manufacturer von Pannasch, in its original case.

This collar of the first design, which was conferred until 1857, shows some differences to the succeeding issues. Among others the imperial eagles show wings widely spread and on the chest, a shield with Saint George in gold. The eagles of the second issue show erected wings and around chest medallion showing a painted Saint George. But also, the trophy links are designed differently: the cipher of Emperor Peter I 'The Great' (1672–1725) is shown on a shield with baroque frame. The trophy links of the second issue have around medallion showing the imperial cipher.

Sold for CHF 500.000.

A Faberge made Imperial Order of the Saint Great Martyr Catherine breast star in diamonds.

Size 82.1 x 81.1 mm, jeweller's fabrication by Alfred Rudolf Thieleman from Karl Fabergé's in Sankt Petersburg from the beginning of the 20th century, white gold and enamels, set à jour with about 510 old cut genuine diamonds and diamond roses with a total weight of about 17 ct, with different degrees of fluorescence, some with slight damages, total weight of the star 96.5 g, with pin, this with master's mark 'AT'.

Sold for CHF 300.000



Piece of extreme rarity in best museum's quality, a real masterpiece of jeweller's art of this most famous Russian jeweller of the beginning 20th century, manufactured in white gold (and not as usually in combined gold and silver) and with stones of very high quality.

According to Levin (in LVK p. 95 and p. 96), Fabergé manufactured only two 1st-grade sets for the Cabinet of His Imperial Majesty, the first in 1909 for 3,700 roubles, which on January 18, 1911, was conferred upon the Grand Duchess Hilda of Baden (1864-1952), and a second one, an edition for non-Christians in 1912 again for 3,700 roubles, which was conferred on June 12, 1916, being the last bestowal until the end of monarchy, upon the Japanese Empress Teimei-kōgō, whose birth name was Kujō Sadako (1884–1951), as mentioned in the registry.

The very special highest quality of manufacturing of this piece, as well as the high quality of the stones and the minimal, nearly invisible wearing traces, may permit the conclusion that this breast star originally belonged to the set conferred upon the Grand Duchess Hilda of Baden, born Princess of Nassau and wife of Grand Duke Friedrich II of Baden (1857–1928, Grand Duke from 1907 until 1918), in January 1911.

Alfred Rudolf Thieleman, son of the goldsmith Karl-Rudolf Thieleman (of German origin) in Sankt Petersburg, worked as a master like his father and his brother Otto Rudolf for Karl Fabergé's company in Sankt Petersburg and died according to various sources in 1909 or 1913.

Peter Karl Fabergé (1846–1920), originating from a Huguenot family from Picardy, took over his father Gustav's (1814–1860) business in 1870, and enlarged the firm considerably. Many of the pieces produced by Fabergé's had marks only of his work masters who, also being very famous, could 'sign in their own name'. Fabergé produced several jeweller's fabrications of Russian orders' insignias of highest quality.

The Order of the Saint Great Martyr Catherine was instituted by Tsar Peter I 'The Great' (1672–1725) in 1713 as a one-grade order for ladies, when the statutes were approved. The order was dedicated to the martyr St. Catherine of Alexandria, the patron saint of his second wife Catherine (1684–1727) who as Empress Catherine I succeeded him to the throne.

In 1797 Emperor Paul I Petrovich (1754–1801) approved new statutes, thus creating a lower 2nd grade. The new statutes also stipulated that every new born Grand Duchess of the Imperial family should receive the 1st grade of the order.

After the October Revolution the new Bolshevik Government abolished the order by decree in November 1917. The "head of the Imperial family" after 1918 continued to confer it as a dynastical order in exile. The Russian President Dmitry Anatolyevich Medvedev reinstalled the now one-grade order with Decree № 573 of May 3, 2012.

Gold medal "Alliance of Three Monarchs. 1813".

Diameter 34.93 mm (without loop). Diameter (with loop) 46.8 mm.

Sold for CHF 900.



Hargesheimer Kunstauktionen Dusseldorf, Germany, on November 4

Bust of Emperor Nicholas II. Made in 2nd half 20th century. Bronze, dark patinaed. H. 24 cm. Verso denoted Cyrillic 'K. KOCH 1904'.



Did you know....



... that in celebration of The First Peace Conference held in The Hague in 1899, vases were made in honour of Emperor Nicholas II.

The Royal Manufacturer of Pottery Rozenburg produced a collection of five Peace Vases richly decorated with Jugend style ornaments, flowers and leaves. The vases were made in time for the World Exhibition of 1900 in Paris, where they were admired by many.

Until half a century ago, the vases were located in Amsterdam, until it was decided to grant them a special place in the Peace Palace.



The multi-coloured pottery has been decorated by hand, and all vases bear decorations with a reference to Hague Peace Conference of 1899. Three vases are covered by a Russian dome-like lid. Important locations are portrayed on these vases. Huis ten Bosch was the location where the conference was held, the Vijverberg in Hague where the Dutch Parliament is seated, and the Groenburgwal in Amsterdam as an indication to the capital city of the hosting country. The other two vases have more slender shape and are decorated with initials. The letter 'W' is an indication to Queen Wilhelmina, the hostess of the Peace Conference. On the other vase 'N II' is shown, referring to Emperor Nicholas II, the initiator of the Peace Conference.

