



Romanov News Новости Романовых

By Ludmila & Paul Kulikovskiy

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Monument to Emperor Alexander III the Peacemaker in Livadia.

Photo by Archpriest Dmitry Gotskalyuk

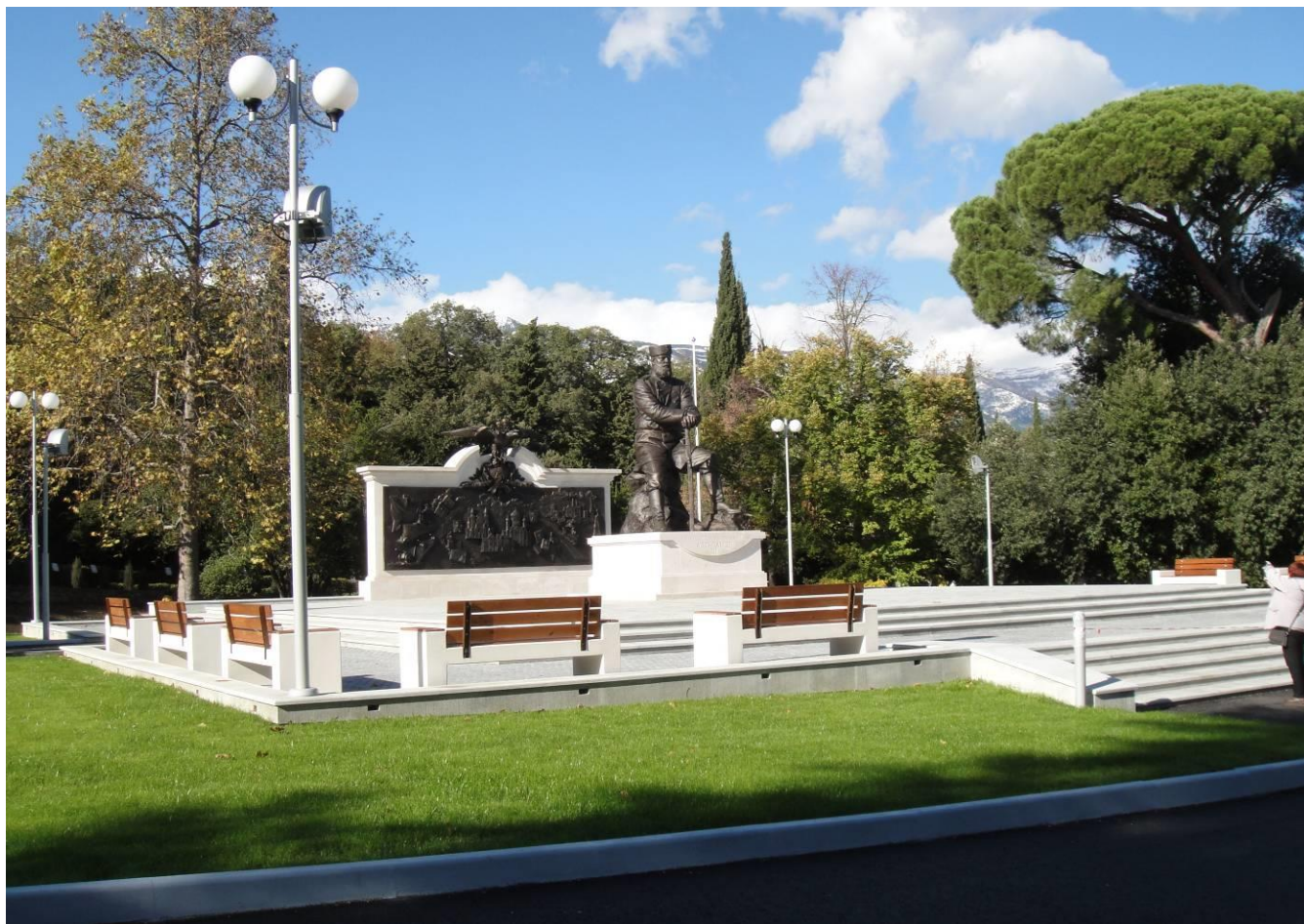
Monument to Emperor Alexander III is in place in Livadia

October 18, the long-awaited monument to Emperor Alexander III was put in its place, in the park of the Livadia Palace. The monument is made by sculptor Andrei Kovalchuk.

The opening of the monument will take place later in November. "It is also necessary to put asphalt and bring the territory around the monument in order" it is said.

First it was planned to open the monument on the 123 years since the death of Alexander III (he died on November 1, 1894), but then it was postponed.





In 1894 Emperor Alexander III became ill with terminal kidney disease (nephritis). In the fall of that year, Maria Feodorovna's sister-in-law, Queen Olga of Greece, offered her villa of Mon Repos, on the island of Corfu, in the hope that it might improve the Emperor's condition. However, when they reached Crimea, they stayed at the Maly Palace in Livadia, as Alexander was too weak to travel any further. Recognizing that the Emperor's days were numbered, various Imperial relatives began to descend on Livadia. Even the famed priest John of Kronstadt, came and administered Communion to the Tsar.

Emperor Alexander III eventually died in the arms of his wife at Maly Palace in Livadia on the afternoon of 1 November [Old Style 20 October] 1894 at the age of forty-nine.

"God, God, what a day! The Lord has called to Him our adored, our dear, our tenderly loved Papa. My head turns, it isn't possible to believe it." - wrote the new Emperor - Emperor Nicholas Alexandrovich.

On 6 November the funeral procession left Livadia and went to St. Petersburg through Moscow. Emperor Alexander III's remains were interred at the Peter and Paul Cathedral in St. Petersburg on 18 November.

Later the depilated wooden structures of the Small (Maly) and Grand Palace were destroyed. A tennis court and outdoor stage were constructed at the place of the Maly Palace. These two have now been destroyed, giving space for the new monument to Emperor Alexander III.





The Tsarevich Alexei and Grand Duchess Maria burial-case continues

Bishop Tikhon: genetic expertise on "Yekaterinburg remains" is not completed

October 2. Pravoslavie - Genetic examination of the "Yekaterinburg remains" has not yet been completed, said Secretary of the Church commission to study the results of the research of remains found near Yekaterinburg, the Bishop of Yegoryevsk Tikhon (Shevkunov).

Earlier, some media reported that journalist Alexei Venediktov during the hearings in Yekaterinburg, on the investigation of the death of Nicholas II, said that "the results (DNA studies) coincided: father and son." Also, according to Venediktov, the decision of the Russian Orthodox Church to recognize the authenticity of the Imperial Remains will be announced by March 2018.

According to Bishop Tikhon, "the completion of the work of the Commission is not tied to any dates." "Our task is not to "report by the deadline", but to receive, if possible, exhaustive answers to all questions posed by experts," he said.



Romanov News Editor - "Russian journalists are known for their lack of checking facts, and a certain "creativity" in their writing. The following article is an example..."

A not-shot distant relative of Nicholas II flew from the USA to Yekaterinburg - Rostislav Romanov

4 October. Rupolit.net - In the evening of October 3, Rostislav Romanov arrived in Yekaterinburg, the fifth-grand grand-nephew of the last Russian Emperor Nicholas II and the great-great-grandson of Nicholas I. That is, the seventh water on the jelly.

The program of the Romanov descendant in Yekaterinburg is still kept secret, but in fact, except for Ganina Yama, we have nowhere to take people. Especially royal grandchildren. And the film "Matilda" has not yet begun.

It is planned that the grand-nephew of Nicholas II will stay in Yekaterinburg from 3 to 6 October. Having arrived in the Urals, Rostislav Romanov takes a big risk. In Yekaterinburg, there is a good tradition to shoot Tsars and their relatives.

Rostislav Romanov has already visited Yekaterinburg. In 2014, he came here on the Royal Days. In Russia, he was also in 1998 during the burial of the remains of the family of the last Russian Emperor Nicholas II. Rostislav is 31 years old, he lives in the USA.

Rostislav Rostislavovich Romanov (lives in Lake Forest, Illinois, USA), the son of Rostislav Rostislavovich Romanov (1938-1999) and his second wife Christine Ipsen, grandson of the Prince of Imperial Blood Rostislav Alexandrovich (1902-1978).

It belongs to the branch of the Mikhailovich family of the Romanov family - the male line of the descendants of the Grand Duke Mikhail Nikolaevich, the youngest son of Emperor Nicholas I.

The head of the Association of members of the Romanov family - Prince Nikolai Romanovich - appointed Rostislav an official representative of the Romanov family in Russia.

According to the majority of descendants of Nicholas I, Rostislav Rostislavovich, most likely, one day he will lead the family of the Romanovs.

A representative of the Romanovs' house made a statement about the film "Matilda"

October 4, URA news - The youngest representative of the Romanov family, 32-year-old Rostislav Rostislavovich Romanov from Illinois (who belongs to the five-year-old grand-nephew of the last Russian emperor), who arrived in Yekaterinburg on October 3, visited the Romanovs' Hall in the Sverdlovsk Regional Museum of Local History.



After the tour, which was carried out for him by the museum staff, Rostislav Rostislavovich was photographed near the portrait of Nicholas II. "I'm traveling around Russia," he told correspondents about the purpose of his visit to Yekaterinburg.

It was not possible to talk in detail: Romanov's attendants very insistently asked not to disturb the representative of the royal family.

"Understand, this is a private visit, Mr. Romanov is almost incognito here," told the guide Konstantin Brylyakov. "He travels around Russia, looks at cities and draws sketch pictures."

However, when asked about the film "Matilda" the representative of the Romanovs' house still decided to

answer. "I did not watch the film," he told the correspondent. "To be honest, it's complicated, I have no comments." When asked if he planned to see the film, Rostislav thought for a moment. "I'm not very interested in movies, so maybe not," he replied.

After the museum of local lore Rostislav Romanov was taken to the places connected with the death of the Imperial Family - the monastery of Ganin Yama (where after the shooting in 1918 bodies were thrown into the mine) and Porosenkov Log, where the remains of the Imperial Family were buried by Bolsheviks 24 hours later (after which they were removed from the earth only after more than half a century). On Ganina Yama he was shown the mine itself, churches and a museum.

"It can be seen that this is a real Romanov, the breed is directly felt," one of the priests shared his impressions of the meeting - We gave him a cross-relic, which was blessed by the reign of his ancestor Nicholas I and which is kept with us. Of course, not the cross itself (this is a national treasure!), But a good photocopy of it."



In Yekaterinburg diocese were aware of the visit of a member of the Romanovs' house to Yekaterinburg, however, as the press attaché of the diocese

Angela Tambova reported, no official meetings with him were held by any of the leaders of the metropolia. As one of the priests told the agency, they are outraged in the diocese by the fact that the activists of the "Discovery" fund (it is believed that Rostislav came to Yekaterinburg at their invitation) closed up his visit, depriving the hierarchy of at least a short protocol meeting with a representative of the Romanovs' house.

Meanwhile, as explained by the guide Brylyakov, the lack of scheduled meetings is explained solely by the particular nature of Rostislav Rostislavovich's visit to the Urals. "He did not want any publicity, so no meetings were scheduled," said the attendant.

Video - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aO_xmFrsJ1E

A video of Rostislav Romanov and the Academy of crafts

Video - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uZEIR5aMvH8>

Prince Rostislav Romanov came for honey in the Altai Territory

October 17, 2017, Company 221 - A descendant of the Romanov dynasty, Rostislav Rostislavovich Romanov, who lives in the United States of America, visited the Altai Territory in October. In particular, he visited the SEZ "Turquoise Katun".

Today a very unusual and honorable guest visited the "Turquoise Katun" - Prince Rostislav Rostislavovich Romanov - a descendant of the imperial dynasty and an official representative of the Romanov family in Russia!", The official SEZ group was informed on October 14 in the social network. The site of the special economic zone specifies that Rostislav Romanov has a weakness for honey, and this was one of the reasons for his arrival in the Altai.

A descendant of the imperial dynasty says that "Altai honey is the best!" He visited the apiary "Honey in the Ear", where he tasted different varieties of favourite delicacies. Also, the Prince received sweet gifts from the beekeeper Vyacheslav Kolesnikov. In addition, Rostislav Rostislavovich, who, as is known, is an artist, sketched a picturesque pass near the fishing pond of the "Turquoise Katun". As noted in the SEZ, there are all chances that at the next exhibition of the Prince in Moscow, the beauty of the Altai will appear.



Rostislav Romanov is the grandson of the Prince of the Imperial Blood Rostislav Alexandrovich and the five-member grand-nephew of the last Russian Emperor. He is the youngest representative of the Royal dynasty in Russia. Lives in Illinois. Now he travels around Russia. In the first days of October he visited Yekaterinburg.

Emotional ties: Russian Royal Princess Olga Romanoff on Imperial ancestors and palace secrets

15 October 2017. By Fiona McCarthy For You Magazine

'I wouldn't sit still for this portrait, so my mother had to give the artist photos of me. I'd never have worn this frilly dress.' Princess Olga's memoirs, *Princess Olga: A Wild and Barefoot Romanov*, are published by Shephard-Walwyn, £20. She is also patron of the Russian Debutante Ball in London; see russianball.co.uk for details.



© Louise Haywood-Schiefer



© Louise Haywood-Schiefer

Left: 'My father Prince Andrew Alexandrovich of Russia presented this necklace to my mother Nadine McDougall when he proposed in the woods at Balmoral. The ruby is now missing, but it reminds me of them both.'

Right: I can wear these Christian Louboutin shoes all day. They might be the first and last pair of Louboutins I ever own!



'I've had Jak, my 12-year-old Jack Russell, since he was six weeks old. I'm also looking after Ronny, an 11-year-old dachshund, for some friends. They are both enormously entertaining.'

'My grandfather, Grand Duke Alexander Mikhailovich of Russia, used this etching pen to write my father's name and the time and date of his birth in 1897 on the window of the Winter Palace in St Petersburg. I'm not sure why – perhaps simply because he could!'





'My great-grandmother Maria Feodorovna, Empress of Russia [left], and her sister, Queen Alexandra [wife of Edward VII], were Danish princesses. This painting of them hangs in my drawing room. I'm proud of my multicultural heritage.'

'My grandfather gave me this French bulldog toy after a trip to Paris. My mother took one look and declared that he was far too good for a child. He has lived in the drawing room ever since and feels like part of the house.'



'After my mother died in 2000, I relocated to restore my family home, Provender House in Faversham. The chimney wobbled, the roof needed replacing and there was no heating. With the help of architect Ptolemy Dean and English Heritage, I brought the house back to life.'

'I love this photo of my son Nicholas [now 40], taken when he was six months old. The photo alongside is of me with his son Tom [now 12], taken at the same age. It's incredible how identical they look.'



"Royal Passion-Bearers: Life in Love and Fidelity"

November 1st Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia Kirill hosted the XXI World Russian People's Council, on the theme "Russia in XXI century: historical experience and prospects", in which he urged society to remember its historical experience and strive for solidarity ideals, which reigns unity and fraternity.

The day before, October 31 a section of the World Russian People's Council "Royal Passion-Bearers: Life in Love and Fidelity" was held in the Novospassky Monastery. It was hosted and opened by Bishop Savva, the Deputy Head of the World Russian People's Council, the governor of Novospassky Monastery.



The co-chairman of the section was M.N. Belogubova, a member of the Bureau of the ARNS, the secretary of the working group under the President of the Russian Federation on the restoration of cultural heritage sites of religious significance, other buildings and institutions.

Bishop Savva outlined the importance of the theme devoted to love and fidelity by the example of the holy Royal Martyrs. The Bishop stressed that the future of Russia depends on how Russian children will be brought up. And the best example of education for us is the example of the holy Royal Passion-Bearers.

"We are gathered here to remember their feat, and I hope it will help to lay a good foundation for the future of our children and our families", - said Bishop Savva.



Attending the "section" were Ludmila and Paul Kulikovsky, Here sitting with Lubov S. Akelina

E.O. Krylova, Doctor of Economics, Rector of the Moscow Pedagogical Academy spoke about "The Grand Dukes' education in the family of Emperor Alexander III", and V. M. Lavrov, Chief Researcher of the Institute of Russian History of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Doctor of Historical Sciences talked about "the love of Nicholas and Alexandra".

A.V. Gromova, Chairman of the Supervisory Board of the Charity and Charity Foundation "Elizabeth-Sergei Enlightenment Society" told about the "Imperial Route" in memory of the Romanovs killed in 1918-1919 and the new museum in the Governor's house in Tobolsk. She showed several rare photos from the time of the Imperial family's captivity in the house.



Next speakers were - L. S. Akelina, Chairman of the Board of the "Grand Duchess Evdokia Moscow Foundation", TV host, Honorary Professor of the Moscow University of Finance and Law; O. V. Gavrilova, Board Member of the International Union of Orthodox Women, Chairman of the Society for the Holy Equal-to-the-Apostles Grand Duchess Olga; E. N. Gavrilova, Honoured Artist of Russia, Corresponding Member of the Russian Academy of Arts; M.B. Ovchinnikova, member of the Scientific and Methodological Centre and Museum and Torii Main Military Clinical Hospital named after academician; and N.N. Burdenko.

Abbot Dionysius (Shlenova), director of the library of the Moscow Theological Academy made an unusual, but very interesting presentation. He presented a new book, based on his poem complemented by children drawings, some of those were made as early as 20 years ago in Novospassky Monastery. He was reading his poem while the drawing was running on the screen, with the text added.



The session of the section was broadcast on the Internet in online mode.

Ending the session Bishop Savva said - "I think that all the participants benefited from the excellent reports about the Tsar's family, important aspects of the spiritual and moral upbringing of children and about the merciful service of family members to the wounded and sick soldiers."





Monument to St. Elizabeth Feodorovna opened in a monastery near Moscow

On October 31, a memorial to the Holy Martyr Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna was opened at the Nikolai-Berlyukovsky Monastery of the Moscow Diocese.

The opening and consecration of the monument, installed on the Romanov Alley of Glory, was timed to the 153rd anniversary of her birthday, which was celebrated on November 1.



Celebrations on the opening and consecration of the monument were headed by Bishop Roman Serpukhovskoy.

Chairman of the Imperial Orthodox Palestine Society Sergey Stepashin, Chairman of the Supervisory Board of the Elizabeth-Sergei Enlightenment Society Anna Gromova, Deputy Head of the Noginsk Municipal District Administration Alexei Malkin, Dean churches of Bogorodsky district father Mark (Ermolaev), Abbot Evgene (Lagutin), rector of the monastery and member of the Council of the Department, Hegumen, head of the Board of the Charity Fund "Revival of Cultural Heritage" Chairman and member of the Council of the branch Alexander Panin and the general director of the charity fund "Revival of cultural heritage" Semyon Vaksman attended the event.



The monument to St. Elizabeth Feodorovna became the next one opened on the territory of the monastery in 6 years. Since 2011, 9 monuments have been installed and consecrated: Emperors Paul I, Alexander I, Alexander II, Alexander III, Nicholas I, the Tsar-Passion-Bearer Nicholas II, the holy Tsarevich Alexei, and the Grand Dukes Sergei Alexandrovich and Mikhail Nikolaevich. The sculptor of all ten monuments is the Honoured Artist of Russia Alexander Apollonov.

It is noted that the representatives of the Moscow regional branch of the Imperial Orthodox Palestine Society acted as the initiators of the creation of the unique avenue and so far only in Moscow.



1 НОЯБРЯ 2017

Александринский дворец
Большой зал Президиума РАН
Нескучный Сад
Москва, Ленинский просп., 14



Елисаветинско-Сергиевское просветительское общество
при поддержке Правительства Москвы



Ю Б И Л Е Й Н Ы Е XX ЕЛИСАВЕТИНСКО-СЕРГИЕВСКИЕ ЧТЕНИЯ

*«Нам долг служить
и сеять ...»*



The jubilee XX Elisavetinsky-Sergievsky Readings

November 1, 2017 the Elizabeth-Sergei Enlightenment Society held the jubilee XX Elisavetinsky-Sergievsky readings, timed to the birthday anniversary of the Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna. The conference received blessing of the Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia Kirill, the support of the Moscow Government and took place in the Great Hall of the Presidium of the Russian Academy of Sciences in Alexandrinsky Palace in the Neskuchny Garden.

Elisavetinsky-Sergievsky readings continues the Holy Elizabethan readings, first held in 1997. For 20 years, thanks to the forum, a whole galaxy of public figures, researchers, historians, archivists, culturologists, have dedicated their scientific and educational works to the revival of the memory of the Imperial Family, and the Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna and Grand Duke Sergei Alexandrovich.



This year, the event took place in the historic interiors of Alexandrinsky Palace originally built 1756, but in 1804 rebuilt by the new owners - the Orlov family, and in 1832 the estate (which covered the lands of the present Gorky Park and Neskuchny Garden) was acquired by the palace department for the Imperial family. Emperor Nicholas I presented the palace to his wife Alexandra Feodorovna and called it Alexandrinsky.

In the middle of the XIX century the park was generally accessible during the absence of the Imperial Family in Moscow. However, in the 1890s, the Moscow Governor-General Grand Duke Sergei Alexandrovich, settled in Alexandrinsky Palace and he closed the access to the park.

During the coronation celebrations of Emperor Nicholas II and Empress Alexandra Feodorovna in May 1896, they lived in Alexandrinsky Palace.



Participants of the forum were Ludmila and Paul E. Kulikovsky; the chairman of the Grand Duchess Evdokia Foundation, L.S. Akelina; Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Russian Federation, Doctor of Historical Sciences. P.V. Stegny; Father Superior of the Nikolai-Berlyukovsky Monastery, hegumen Evmeny (Lagutin); Doctor of Architecture, I.N. Slyunkova; and others.

Chairman of the Supervisory Board of the Elizabeth-Sergei Enlightenment Society, Anna.V. Gromova reminded the audience of I.K. Kuchmaeva (+2014), the founder of the



readings, the scientist and teacher, philosopher and culturologist, a zealot of Christian piety and the author of books dedicated to the Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna. Anna Vitalievna also called on her colleagues to debunk the myths about the family of the Royal Passion-Bearers and stressed that the activities of Grand Duke Sergei Alexandrovich and the Martyr Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna personify the ideal of serving the Motherland.



The Chairman of the Synodal Department for Relations between the Church and the Society and the Media V.R. Legoyda conveyed the blessing of His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Russia and the wishes of successful work. He thanked the Chairman of the Supervisory Board of the Elizabeth-Sergei Enlightenment Society A.V. Gromova, stressed the importance of the extensive activities of the Society and initiatives aimed at perpetuating the memory of the Imperial family.

Paul E. Kulikovsky in his greeting said - *"Dear Anna Vitalievna, brothers and sisters, Ladies and gentlemen! I cordially greet the organizers and participants of this 20th Elisabeth-Sergei readings. And congratulations with this jubilee!"*

Today we can also celebrate of the 153rd birthday anniversary of Princess Elisabeth Alexandra Louise Alice of Hessen and by Rhine, better known as Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna or now as Saint Elizabeth.

Another reason for celebration happened 36 years ago. On November 1, 1981, was completed the glorification of the New Martyrs and Confessors of Russia by the Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia. Their glorification took place in New York in the Znamensky Cathedral of the Synod of Bishops.

A special place in the face of the holy New Martyrs are Tsar Martyr Nicholas II, the Anointed One of God, His Family and Saint Elizabeth.

It is said, that after this glorification of the New Martyrs, the decline of the communist regime in Russia began.

Decline it did and 10 years later the regime ended - Soviet Union collapsed!

Now further 25 years later, we are again seeing a growth of myths, lies and propaganda in the media. We saw how Grand Duke Sergei Alexandrovich just earlier in this year was slandered in a publication, and only by the intervention by Anna Vitalievna Gromova, the circulation of the publication was stopped.

We can see it every day - the Royal Martyrs and other members of the Romanov family are being slandered in the media - and now we see it in the movie "Matilda".

I was very pleased when his Holiness Patriarch Kirill recently noted that artists have the right to artistic creativity, but "artistic creativity and lying are different things."

"Lying grossly distorts the historical reality and deliberately leads people astray. It is precisely lies that sits at the base of propaganda, which plunged our people into revolutionary chaos, and then into the abyss of suffering".



I think this is what we see today in more and more media - lies, or as someone calls it - "fake news". In our digital world, anyone can make "news", even TV-news or movies, and they seldom check facts. Everything has to go fast and truth does not matter, only that the story can sell or the story support their propaganda.

Today it has become the obligation of the reader, listener, or viewer to check if it is the truth. And how can they do it if there are no reliable sources to compare with?

And how to react to these lies? Should we just ignore it - Like turn the other cheek?

Or should we fight it? Like some people was fighting against "Matilda"?

Or is there a third way? Could the answer be - "Only love will conquer evil"?



We saw our church responding to "Matilda" with a campaign of posters about the love between Nicholas and Alexandra, in Moscow, Yekaterinburg and St. Petersburg. We see the Elizabeth-Sergei Enlightenment Society making an 'Imperial route', telling the truth about the Romanovs.

I think, this is what is important - The truth needs to be shared with as many as possible - in conferences - like today's Elisavetinsky-Sergievsky readings, in books, exhibitions, TV-documentaries, on internet, etc.

We need to elevate persons to a certain new intellectual and spiritual level.

That is exactly what the Elizabeth-Sergei Enlightenment Society do, and should continue to do. This is why my wife and I support the Society.

A low bow to Anna V. Gromova and the entire staff in Elizabeth-Sergei Enlightenment Society. We pray for your continued success!"

On the eve of the 100th anniversary of the memory of the Tsar's family and representatives of the House of Romanov who suffered during the years of revolutionary terror, the Elizabeth-Sergei Enlightenment Society besides reports, presented 14 new books and monographs, issued in 2016-2017:

- Peter V. Stegny, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Russian Federation, Doctor of Historical Sciences, presented his book: "Chief of the skite. Life and Fate of Abbot Serafim Kuznetsov."
- Galina I. Shevtsova, PhD (History), the head of the regional and exhibition programs of the Elizabeth-Sergei Enlightenment Society: "Red Poppies for the Princess".
- Inessa N. Slyunkova, Doctor of Architecture, Corresponding Member of the Russian Academy of Architecture and Building Sciences (RAASN): "Tsar and Grand Ducal Residence: Ilinsky and Usovo".
- Alexey A. Popovkin, PhD (History): "Crown Guardian of Piety".
- Grigory A. Romanov, PhD (History), Deputy Editor-in-Chief of the scientific journal "Traditions and the Present" of the Institute of Ethnology and Anthropology named after. N.N. Miklukho-Maklai of the Russian Academy of Sciences, a member of the Public Town Planning Council of Moscow at the House of Architects, a corresponding member of the Public Academy of Architectural Heritage: "People in are going to the Cross Procession".



- Lyudmila V. Shumskaya, head of the regional programs of the Foundation "Elisavetinsky-Sergievskoe Enlightenment Society": "Cross of the Grand Duke".
- Dmitry Sofin, PhD (History), Associate Professor of the Department of Contemporary History of the Historical and Political Faculty of PGNU: "Diaries of Princess E.F. Shakhovskoy".
- Vladimir M. Khrustalev, PhD (History), Chief Specialist of the State Archives of the Russian Federation: "Heir Tsesarevich and Grand Duke Alexei Nikolaevich".
- Konstantin G. Kapkov, publicist, leader of the church historical project "Annals": "Spiritual World of Emperor Nicholas II and his family".



Videos - 1) <https://www.m24.ru/videos/01112017/158657>
 2) <http://www.tvc.ru/news/show/id/126688/>

From the Moscow Government and Elizabeth-Sergei Enlightenment Society was awarded diploma for scientific and educational work on commemoration of Grand Duke Sergei Alexandrovich and Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna.



Celebrating the 20 years jubilee, were made stands with many photos from previous readings and events by the Elizabeth-Sergei Enlightenment Society.



The XX Elisavetinsky-Sergievsky readings came to the end with a concert of the Synodal Choir under the direction of the honoured artist of Russia Alexey Puzakov.



Baden-Baden - a "Russian paradise"

On October 14th, Ludmila and Paul Kulikovsky went to Baden-Baden in Germany, to participate in a TV-program on SWR (Südwestrundfunk) related to the Romanov family. It is planned to be broadcast in December 2017. More about it in a later issue of Romanov News.

The visit to Baden-Baden gave the possibility to visit some of the main Russian and Romanov related attractions - The Russian Church and the Faberge Museum.



The German resort of Baden-Baden is a bucolic enclave at the foot of the Black Forest on the Rhine Valley, in the south western German state of Baden-Württemberg, close to the French border. It is blessed with copious springs that give the city its name and its fame. The word Baden in German translates to baths. The pedigree of this unique resort dates back to Roman times when Emperor Hadrian sent his legions to protect the northern borders of the Empire. There are still remains of the Roman's bath houses there.



The city of Baden established its reputation as a healing centre during the Middle Ages. It fell into ruins for a period of years, and in the 14th century the Margraves of Baden changed its name to Baden-Baden.

Since the marriage of Princess Louise of Baden (Empress Elisabeth Alexeevna) with Emperor Alexander I on 9 October (Old style 28 September) 1793 there was a close contact between the Grand Ducal House of Baden and the House of Romanov. Empress Elisabeth visiting Baden-Baden wrote to her friend in St. Petersburg: "I'm here just in one of the most beautiful cities in the world."

Later, on 28 August 1857, Grand Duke Mikhail Nikolaevich, the youngest son of Emperor Nicholas I married Princess Cecilie Auguste of Baden, who then became Grand Duchess Olga Feodorovna.

In the end of the 19th century Grand Duchess Elena Vladimirovna, daughter of Grand Duke Vladimir Alexandrovich, was engaged to Prince Max of Baden, but Max cancelled the engagement.

In the 19th century the most illustrious personages of the time started visiting regularly. These included Queen Victoria, Kaiser Wilhelm I, Napoleon III, Berlioz, Brahms, Turgenev, Gogol, and Dostoyevsky. By the mid-1830s Baden-Baden had become Europe's favourite summer destination for high society travellers.

The largest group of visitors was the representatives of the immensely rich hereditary nobility from St. Petersburg. They often spent the whole season in Baden-Baden. Prince Vladimir Menshikov was probably the richest among them. He built a beautiful villa, in the huge garden there was even a dog racetrack.

The most important visitors was the already well-known Russian writer Ivan S. Turgenev, who stayed from 1863 to 1870 - there is now a bust of him in the city. Turgenev carried on his not-very-secret affair with the Spanish diva Pauline Viardot in his mansion on a hill above town. He raised the reputation of Baden-Baden with his novel 'Smoke' - a literary monument. In 1867 he met there Feodor Dostoevsky and Ivan A. Goncharov.

Dostoevsky stayed twice in Baden-Baden, in 1863 and in 1867. Between the visits he wrote his novel 'The Player'. Ivan A. Goncharov came because of the casino in Baden-Baden and he had, also as Dostoevsky, big losses. Leo N. Tolstoy gambled away a lot of money and thus he borrowed money from Turgenev. In his novel 'Family happiness' he describes Baden-Baden. Nikolai V. Gogol visited the city several times and Vasili A. Zhukovsky spent his last years in Baden-Baden. He described the city as 'paradise corner'.

In recent years Queen Silvia of Sweden has stayed in Baden-Baden. So have Bill Clinton, Boris Yeltsin, and President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt, whose trips were top secret.



The Russian Church of the Transfiguration

The glistening golden dome is the first one sees approaching the Russian church, a three-nave sandstone building, built by Vladimir Potemkin and Bernhard Belzer between 1880 – 1882, on the Lichtentaler Straße, near the Berthold square.

The facades are completed by kokoshniks and are cut by three-part windows. The portal is solved as a complex form of the risalite and decorated with a keeled arch, borrowed from the old Moscow architecture.

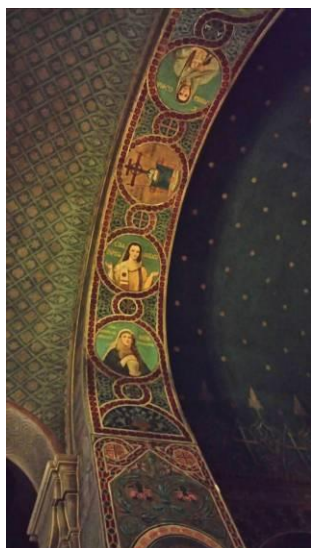


The mosaic of the Transfiguration above the entrance was ordered by Baroness Varvara Sergeevna Plessen (1824-1893), nee Princess Gagarin, according to painter Prince Grigory Gagarin's sketch and was made in Venice, in the studio of Antonio Salviati.

The interior is richly decorated with frescoes which follow the design of the painter Prince Gagarin, the former vice-president of the Imperial Academy of Arts.



According to his own drawing, the local sculptor Luigi Brodghi carved a single-tiered iconostasis from white marble. Marble in the church is laid out on the floor and the walls are tiled. Ornaments on the walls were painted by the artist Schwarzman from Karlsruhe.



The church is illuminated with stained-glass windows and five panicadiles (the biggest one - for 64 candles) made of brass by local masters.



To the right in the church is an icon of the Holy Royal Martyrs (Royal Passion-Bearers).

Church History

Already around 1855 Russian nobles obstinately collected donations for the church so that the Russian colony in Baden-Baden would no longer have to hold its service in private rooms. In 1880 also the Princess Maria Maximilianowna of Baden nee Princess Romanovsky-Leuchtenberg and granddaughter of Tsar Nicholas I lobbied for the Russian Church. The city of Baden-Baden donated the Russian community a free plot of land and on 28 October 1882 the Russian Church was inaugurated in the presence of many sacred and secular dignitaries.

Princess Maria Maximilianovna of Baden, also known as "Aunt Marousia" by Emperor Nicholas II, was born on October 4 (16), 1841, in the family of Grand Duchess Maria Nikolaevna and Duke Maximilian Leuchtenberg.

Emperor Nicholas I granted Maximilian the title of His Imperial Highness and bestowed upon the descendants of Maximilian and Maria Nikolaevna the title and surname of the Princes and the Princess of Romanovsky. The children of Maximilian and Maria Nikolaevna were baptized into Orthodoxy and brought up at the court of Nicholas I, later Emperor Alexander II included them in the Russian Imperial family. In this marriage seven children were born, Maria was the second daughter. Maria received a home education under the leadership of Varvara Barykova, the daughter of General Ushakov, the tutor of Nicholas I.

By decree of the St. Petersburg Theological Consistory of 23.11.1882, the newly built Orthodox church, being under the auspices of her Imperial Highness Maria Maximilianovna, was assigned to the Orthodox court church in Karlsruhe, from where the priest was invited.



Widowed in 1897, Maria Maximilianovna was mourning for the rest of her life. After the death of her husband, Her Highness created a new organization called the "German Anti-Amoral Association", whose goal was "suppression of vice among the upper class." Maria, with the help of the Grand Duchess Eleonora of Hesse and Princess Charlotte, the last Queen of Württemberg, created a fund designed to issue brochures that mentions royal representatives, both female and male, being significant figures of society, to serve as examples of moral purity. They also sent messages to their families and friends asking them to "abstain from immorality."

October 31 (Old style October 19), 1899, the church in Baden-Baden was visited by His Majesty the Emperor Nicholas II and Her Majesty Empress Alexandra Feodorovna, nee Princess of Hesse-Darmstadt. The Emperor noted the murals on the walls

and praised them: "How many original and unique of its kind."

In 1904, the site with the church passed from the personal possession of the Princess to the Russian government, which annually allocated 6750 roubles.

Maria Maximilianovna died on February 3 (16), 1914, at the age of 73 in Karlsruhe. At the funeral procession going to Baden-Baden came Kaiser Wilhelm II and numerous representatives of local and foreign households. On her last way she was accompanied by Prince Max shoulder to shoulder with Grand Duke George Mikhailovich, the grandson of Nicholas I. and the son of Grand Duke Mikhail Nikolaevich and Olga Feodorovna.

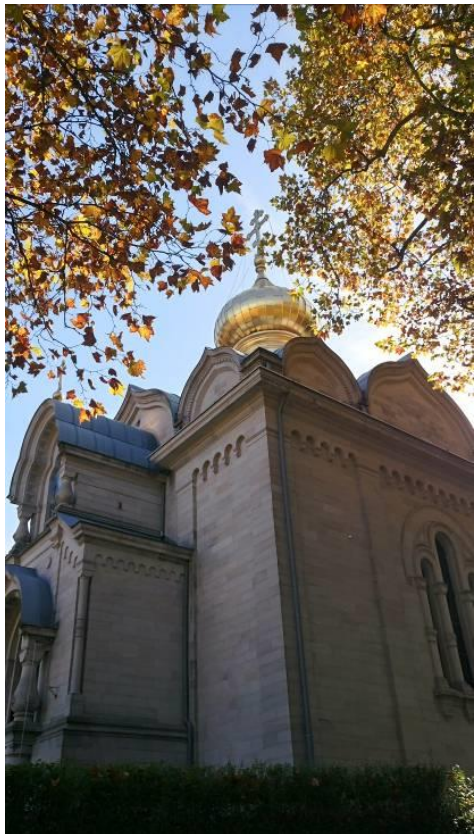
The sarcophagus of Princess Maria Maximilianowna lies in a crypt beneath the altar. Princess Tatiana Gagarin - another patron of the church - is buried also there. The access to the crypt is at the back of the church. The floor and side walls of the crypt are decorated with white marble. The ceiling vault is partially decorated with golden and blue mosaics in the Byzantine style.

After the death of Maria Maximilianowna, the patron of the church was her son Prince Max of Baden, who on the day of the birth and death of his mother attended a funeral service for her.

In August 1914, immediately after the outbreak of World War I, the church was closed, the German authorities confiscated and melted the gold-plated copper covering of the domes and melted it as "enemy property."

After the revolution, refugees from Russia joined the impoverished nobility in Baden-Baden, and in the summer of 1920 services in the church were resumed. At first, among the approximately hundred parishioners there were well-known people: S.V. Rakhmaninov, F.I. Shalyapin, artist Olga Chekhova, etc.

In 1988-1990 the church, which was considered an architectural monument, was completely restored, mainly for public account, the gilding of the dome was restored, the hall for meetings was arranged in the crypt.



The Fabergé Museum in Baden-Baden

The Fabergé Museum is a privately-owned museum - by Alexander Ivanov - dedicated to items made by the Russian jewellery firm Fabergé. It was opened on 15 May 2009.

The museum's collection contains over 1,500 items made by Fabergé. The most significant are two of the Imperial Easter Eggs. One is the last Imperial Easter Egg, the Karelian Birch egg, made of Karelian birch with gold and diamonds for Easter 1917. However, Emperor Nicholas II abdicated before he could give it to his mother. When Ivanov first bought the Karelian egg, some experts were in doubt because its existence wasn't known previously. Ivanov now has documents found in the Russian State Archives proving that the egg is genuine.



Another is the Constellation Egg. There are two claims for the original 1917 Constellation Egg.

A "finished" egg is in the Fabergé Museum in Baden-Baden and an unfinished egg is in the Fersman Minerological Museum in Moscow.

Discussions are still going, but Alexander Ivanov claims that he owns the original (and finished) egg.

In 2003–2004, he said that he acquired this egg in the late 1990s and affirms that 'the Fersman Museum erroneously continues to claim that it has the original egg.'



The Constellation egg's two deep-blue hemispheres is said to illustrate the heavenly constellation at the time of the Tsarevich Alexei's birth. It was to be a gift to Empress Alexandra, but it was not finished in the turmoil of the Emperor's abdication and the revolution.

In the collection earlier was also the Rothschild Fabergé egg, made as an engagement gift from Béatrice Ephrussi de Rothschild to her brother's fiancée. Ivanov bought it at Christie's auction house in London on 28 November 2007, for £9 million, because he thinks that it is the "finest ever" made by Fabergé.

However, in December 2014, Russia's President Vladimir Putin gifted the Rothschild Fabergé egg to the Hermitage Museum in Saint Petersburg, Russia. Days before this gift was made, British and German customs officers raided the Fabergé Museum looking for the egg. The museum said that the officers' actions were politically motivated, coming amid tensions between the West and Russia, and hoping to ruin the gift ceremony and embarrass Russia's head of state.

There is a large collection of Faberge stone animals, some very unusual and not seen similar anywhere else, and particular the elephants, in sized from very big to small are impressive.



The fairly large collection of badges, jettons and orders have some interesting pieces among them. Particular noted was one made by Faberge to Branobel (Brothers Nobel's oil company), which was made to mark the company's making one billion dollar in revenue - in 1899 (!!!).

Ivanov said his museum building cost about 17 million euros to buy and renovate, including a 1 million euro security system. He chose Baden-Baden, near Germany's western border, because it is "quiet and nice, middle in Europe, close to France and Switzerland, a resort for the rich, and historically it has always been the most popular resort for Russians."

The museum's first year was marked by a bitter court conflict. In April 2009, just a month before the official opening, a company calling itself Faberge Ltd. registered in the Cayman Islands and owned by the Gilbertson family of South Africa filed a lawsuit over rights to the Fabergé trademark. This made the Fabergé museum's first year a difficult one. While the case was pending, the museum couldn't use the Fabergé name, which meant no advertising or even a sign on the door. In January 2010, a German court ruled in favour of the Fabergé Museum, and it immediately began to resume functioning with full right to use the Fabergé name.



Ludmila and Paul E. Kulikovsky at a Faberge egg, with a double portrait of Emperor Alexander III and Empress Maria Feodorovna as the "surprise", in the Faberge Museum in Baden-Baden.

In May 2012, the Fabergé Museum opened a new permanent exhibition titled Gold of the World. It consists of just over 100 gold items from various civilizations and continents that date from the 6th century B.C. up until the mid 20th century. Among the items there are an ancient Iranian chalice, ancient Greek jewellery, Fabergé cigarette cases, Aztec and Inca gold jewellery, and a very rare 18th century British gold trophy.

The scandal around 'Matilda' continued

By Paul Kulikovskiy

The "hottest" issue in Russia, related to the Romanovs, for several months has been the "Matilda" movie. Here are this month's milestones in the saga.....

Olga Kulikovskaya-Romanova did not complete her lawsuit

October 2, 2017 - The Oktyabrsky Court of St. Petersburg did not receive any documents allowing Olga Kulikovskaya-Romanova's lawsuit to defend the honor and dignity of Nicholas II against the "Rock" studio of Alexei Uchitel. This is reported by the press service of the city courts.



The plaintiff did not submit a list of individuals and legal entities that should be prohibited from distributing these materials, did not specify the addresses of their location.

The report notes that the court did not receive a document confirming that the plaintiff is a legal representative and a relative of the direct blood offspring of the Romanov family - of T.N. Kulikovskiy-Romanov, the Emperor Nicholas II, or the Empress Alexandra Feodorovna Romanova (Hesse-Darmstadt).

The claim of Romanova was left without motion because of violations. The Court recalls that the return of the statement of claim does not prevent the plaintiff from re-applying to the court with the same suit to the defendant, on the same subject and on the same grounds, if the plaintiff will remove the violations committed.

Mathilda director admits film contains historical inaccuracies

October 12 - Director Alexei Uchitel believes that the creators of the film Mathilda can be accused of historical inaccuracies, but added that the film can only be fairly criticized after viewing the full and final project, reports Interfax-Religion.

Note that it is precisely the historical inaccuracies, among other things, that have evoked such a strong reaction against the film in Russian society.

As an example, the director mentioned the scene from the film showing the tragedy at Khodynka Field, when an unruly crowd crushed over 1,000 people on the day of Tsar Nicholas' coronation.

"It can be accused of historical inaccuracies. But if [Tsar Nicholas] had been there, then it's our authorial treatment of how he would have behaved... There is a share of fiction, but I don't think it's so bad; the basic facts are there," explained Uchitel.

TV channels refused advertisement of Matilda

October 13 - Russian federal TV channels refused to show advertisement for the film "Matilda", the director of the film, Alexei Uchitel, told. The bulk of advertising was supposed to be posted on "Channel One" and "Friday", but also refusals came from "Russia 1" and NTV. The TV channels did not explain the reasons for the refusal.

Patriarch Kirill weighs in on “Mathilde” to director’s dismay

October 17 - His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Russia has for the first time addressed the scandal-ridden film Mathilde, calling on people to avoid introducing “speculations, which can hurt a great many people” into works dealing with historical facts.

Patriarch Kirill offered his remarks, without explicitly mentioning the name of the film, at a meeting of the Supreme Church Council of the Russian Orthodox Church at Moscow’s Christ the Saviour Cathedral on Thursday.

For his part, Mathilda director Alexei Uchitel has expressed his disappointment at the patriarch’s words, calling them “unexpected.”

“Can there be an objective assessment of history?” the primate asked. “It’s a controversial question and the subject of battles. History is a very convenient soil for ideological speculations, and the creation of advantageous myths—both nationalistic and anti-nationalistic. When you’re working with history, it’s very easy to go into a deceitful interpretation, even in the small things. But for an honest person, lies and deceit are unthinkable,” His Holiness asserted.

Explaining how to handle history properly, the patriarch continued, “Strive to be conscientiousness when dealing with facts. Avoid fabrications, and especially fabrications which are not just false, but are also able to hurt a great many people, as has occurred with a not-yet-released but already infamous film.”

Responding to the patriarch’s “unexpected” evaluation, director Uchitel suggested that the patriarch should watch the film, as he has with all of his critics who have taken offense at the film’s deceitful depiction of the Royal Martyr Tsar Nicholas II, RIA-Novosti reports.

“The patriarch has come out with a statement that was personally unexpected for me. It was especially unpleasant,” Uchitel stated in a recent interview, “when a person of such a rank, whom I greatly respect, not having seen the film makes some claims about its historical inaccuracies... I still invite the patriarch to watch our film and find out for himself what it shows.”

Uchitel's reported surprise comes a few days after he admitted that the film contains historical inaccuracies and artistic fabrications.

As the patriarch further explained in his address, for many people, the events of the 20th century are “still a bleeding wound,” but still “the bitter pages of our past often become today a subject of speculation, including on the artistic level.” He noted that artists have the right to artistic creativity, but “artistic creativity and lying are different things.”

“Artistic creativity is a dramatic technique, and as such enhances the interest of the audience in the historical facts. Lying is not a dramatic technique. Lying grossly distorts the historical reality and deliberately leads people astray. It is precisely lies that sits at the base of propaganda, which plunged our people into revolutionary chaos, and then into the abyss of suffering,” His Holiness emphasized.



The Russian President was asked in a video not to allow the release "Matilda."

October 21 - State Duma deputy Natalia Poklonskaya posted on her YouTube channel a video message to the Russian President from Olga Kulikovskaya-Romanova, a relative of Nicholas II. The woman asked Vladimir Putin not to allow the release of a wide-screen movie "Matilda."

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

Premiere in the Mariinsky Theatre, St. Petersburg

October 23 - The movie "Matilda" had its premiere in St. Petersburg at the Mariinsky Theater. "For me it was important to make the first show at the Mariinsky Theater," Director Alexei Uchitel stressed. - For many reasons. Because the heroine of our film danced on this stage, a lot of filming took place in this theatre, because the partner in this film was the Mariinsky Theatre, and the last - all the music that sounds in the film is recorded by the Mariinsky Orchestra under Valery Gergiev."

Opening in the October Cinema, Moscow

October 23 - The Moscow premiere of the Matilda movie directed by Alexei Uchitel took place in the October cinema in Moscow. The police detained seven people during an uncoordinated protest near the cinema on Novy Arbat. The participants of the rally opposed the screening of the film "Matilda", one of the detainees was holding a poster "Hands off the Holy Tsar", several people had icons and a portrait of Nicholas II, and one woman stood with a poster "Matilda - slander of God's anointed". Six other people came with children and read prayers, some singing songs.

Politicians, actors, musicians came to the premiere. "Thank you for not being afraid to come," said Alexey Uchitel before the show,

Nationwide release of the movie

October 26 - The film "Matilda" was released in a wide Russian rental on October 26 and according to a survey 58% of Russians have heard about it, and 33% plan to see it. The telephone survey was conducted on October 18-19 among 1200 respondents, "Interfax" informs.

Those who are going to watch the film confessed that they are "wondering, because of so much noise" (37%), interested in new films in general (26%) and in historical cinema in particular (14%).

Lower than expected revenue in the opening

October 30 - According to Russian box office the movie "Matilda", from 26 to 29 October, generated revenue of 230 million roubles (USD 4,0 mill) - watched by more than 750 thousand people. However, with such a starting revenue, Matilda has few chances to recoup the cost of production only at the box office. Expected opening revenue was 500 million roubles. The declared budget of the movie is \$25 million. In order for the film to pay off, the box office and the sale of rights to display it must be at least twice the budget - that is, for Matilda, an amount of \$50 million or 2.8 billion roubles. It is worth noting that the final income of "Matilda" will be formed not only from the theatrical show in Russia and CIS countries. The picture is going to be rolled in Germany and other European countries, as well as in China and the United States.

The director of the film, Alexey Uchitel, linked the low revenue with the lack of advertising on the TV.



The correspondence of Tsar Nicholas II with his wife in the trams and buses of Yekaterinburg

- And on the streets there will be billboards with the same quotes.

9 October 2017. E1. - Banners with quotes from the correspondence of the last Imperial family appeared in Yekaterinburg. As noted in the diocese, first such quotes were read by Muscovites, and now the Urals could also read them. In October about 50 posters are placed on the streets of Yekaterinburg.

This is one of the components of the information and enlightenment campaign about the Royal Family, which started on October 14, to celebrate the Protection of the Blessed Virgin.

"Today in the public space there is a lack of truthful information about the life of the Holy Royal Martyrs," the press service of the Yekaterinburg diocese says. - How they lived, what were their relationships in the family and with their subjects. Why are they the ideal of the family, what were the relations of the Imperial couple, how did they manage to save their love and carry it through decades, what would allow us to be proud of this family and confidently call them our national heroes?

This will be devoted to the information and educational campaign, which started on the day of the Protection of the Mother of God with the blessing of Metropolitan of Yekaterinburg and Verkhoturye Kirill".



Дорогая моя,
ничего нет
интересного, о чем бы
стоило писать — я повторяю
тебе только старую песенку,
которую ты знаешь уже
32 года, что я тебя люблю,
предан и верен тебе до конца!

*Из письма Государя Николая II
Александре Федоровне*

ЦАРСКАЯ-СЕМЬЯ.РФ
С 14 октября 2017 года



Священный обет перед
лицом Всевышнего всегда
иметь единою целью преуспевание,
могущество и славу дорогой
России и устройство счастья
всех верноподданных.

*Из дневниковых записей
Государя Николая II*

ЦАРСКАЯ-СЕМЬЯ.РФ
С 14 октября 2017 года



Чем выше
человек, тем
скорее он
должен помогать всем
и никогда в обращении
не напоминать своего
положения. Такими
должны быть и мои дети.

*Из дневниковых записей
Государя Николая II*

ЦАРСКАЯ-СЕМЬЯ.РФ
С 14 октября 2017 года



Смысл брака в том,
чтобы приносить
радость. Подразумевается,
что супружеская жизнь —
жизнь самая счастливая,
полная, чистая, богатая.
Это установление Господа
о совершенстве.

*Из дневниковых записей Императрицы
Александры Федоровны*

ЦАРСКАЯ-СЕМЬЯ.РФ
С 14 октября 2017 года

ROC will decorate St. Petersburg with the advertising of saints and Nicholas II

In October on the streets of St. Petersburg posters appeared depicting the Imperial family and quotes from the diary of the Empress. Similar posters of the ROC have already hung in Moscow - to convey the truth about the life of the Imperial Family.

Monthly in St. Petersburg there are from 20 to 70 billboards with saints, whose names are associated with the city. Maybe someone did not notice, but on the billboards were already Alexander Nevsky, John of Kronstadt, Xenia Petersburgskaya, Seraphim Vyritsky, Alexander Svirsky, Apostle Peter, Seraphim (Chichagov) Petrogradsky, Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna. Photos of Imperial Family appeared on posters in May and reappeared in October and will remain until the end of the year.

All the saints are depicted against the backdrop of the architectural sights of St. Petersburg. This is in order to emphasize their connection with the city.

Небесные Покровители Санкт-Петербурга

www.tvoysvyatoy.ru

**ДЕЛАЙ ЧТО-НИБУДЬ,
РАДИ ЧЕГО СТОИТ ЖИТЬ
И ЗА ЧТО СТОИТ УМЕРЕТЬ.**

*Из записок императрицы
Александры Фёдоровны*



*Святые Царственные
страстотерпы*

Небесные Покровители Санкт-Петербурга

www.tvoysvyatoy.ru

**ПОСТАРАЙСЯ СДЕЛАТЬ
СЧАСТЛИВЫМИ ТЕХ,
КТО РЯДОМ С ТОБОЙ.
И ТЫ САМ БУДЕШЬ
СЧАСТЛИВ.**

*Преподобномученица княгиня
Елизавета Федоровна*



The internet portal "Tsar-Family.rf " launched

It is dedicated to the 100th anniversary of the death of the family of the Tsar-Martyr Nicholas II. The project, initiated in the Yekaterinburg diocese, received the blessing of Metropolitan Kirill of Yekaterinburg and Verkhoturye.



The portal «Царская-семья.рф» / "Tsarskaya-family.rf" became available on October 14, the feast of the Protection of the Holy Virgin.

The new portal demonstrates a truthful view of the Imperial Family as a whole through the representation of each of its members. It is noteworthy that on the site there will not be appraisal judgments of modern historians and writers, but only live speech, diaries, letters of holy Royal Passion-bearers, members of the Holy Family. The Internet project «Царская-семья.рф» tells about real people - their thoughts, hopes, aspirations and love.

"Information on the site is structured as follows: for each member of the Imperial Family - the Sovereign Nicholas II, Empress Alexandra Feodorovna, the Imperial children - biographical data, the historical path, photographs, memoirs, diaries, books they read. These sections will be supplemented and updated, that is, the project is opened. A number of historians of experts are participating in this work, and this list is expanding daily."

The new information resource was prepared by the specialists of the educational project "Open School", the historians of the Museum of the Imperial Family (Tsarsky Center), the Museum of the Holy Royal Passion-Bearers (in the monastery on Ganina Yama) with the support of Moscow and Ural experts.

Speaking about the sources, Bishop Evgeny mentioned scientific works on history, diaries, documented memoirs of contemporaries, photo archives, memoirs of people who lived with the Imperial Family, for example, Pierre Gilliard, teacher of children, who left his memories of life in the family of the Sovereign for his descendants .

Speaking about the objectives of the project, Bishop Eugene noted that it is designed for the widest audience and, above all, for young people who lack reliable information about the Imperial Family. "The question arises: what for? We have enough libraries, there is Internet. Why create another project? The fact is that the attempt to draw a portrait of Emperor Nicholas Alexandrovich on the materials that are on the Internet, today rests on two "plots": either we get to Wikipedia, where the image of the Sovereign is randomly formed, where the sources alternate both with really serious and extracts from newspapers, with testimonies of random people - and we get a picture that does not

reflect the reality that a serious professional who deals with the topic can tell. And the second way - we get to the historical information, which only the narrow specialists can understand. That is, this information is filed in an unpopular, not accessible form for the main part of society.



After the presentation, a briefing took place, where Bishop Yevgeny answered the journalists' questions. Then the guides of the History Park conducted a tour for the participants of the presentation of the "Romanovs" Hall.

The Winter Palace went red

- the exhibition "Winter Palace and Hermitage. 1917. History has been created here"

One hopes it was meant as a reminder of the blood of innocent victims in the 1917 revolutions.



October 25, 2017 in the Field Marshal Hall of the Winter Palace the solemn opening ceremony of the exhibition "Winter Palace and the Hermitage. 1917. History was created here" took place. The exposition includes more than 350 exhibits from the collections of several museums, and items from private collections, with the double portrait of Emperor Nicholas II and V.I. Lenin from the secondary school 206 of the Central District of St. Petersburg as the main object.



The opening of the exhibition was preceded by a press conference at the Hermitage Theater, where Mikhail B. Piotrovsky, General Director of the State Hermitage, spoke in detail about the Hermitage projects dedicated to the 100th anniversary of the Russian Revolution.

Piotrovsky said: "We are opening an exhibition dedicated to the 100th anniversary of the Russian Revolution on the day of its main event - the arrest of the Provisional Government. The Hermitage is more than a museum. It is a monument of the Russian statehood. Here, all the most important things happened, and the walls of the museum remember it. Today we try to help them tell what happened. We represent those moods and the atmosphere that was here. Much has been written about this, but no one can tell better than the Winter Palace and the Hermitage. "



The opening of the exhibition was attended by Georgy Poltavchenko, Governor of St. Petersburg, and Konstantin Eduardovich Sukhenko, Chairman of the Committee for Culture of St. Petersburg.

The largest exhibition of 2017 unfolded in the main halls of the Winter Palace - from the Jordan Gallery on the first floor to the Small Dining Room on the second. Specially for the exhibition, a "Revolutionary Route" was prepared from the Oktyabrsky Entrance to the Little Canteen, which repeats the "storm" of the Winter Palace on the night of October 25-26, 1917.

To design the exhibition, Bureau Caspar Conijn (Amsterdam, Netherlands) was invited. The original exhibits are accompanied by modern exhibition technologies - audio, video, large reproductions, artistic lighting. The Hermitage for the first time creates a similar synthesis between the exhibits, light, sound and visual series.



In the evening of the same day a musical and poetic mystery took place on the Palace Square, which began after the battle of the Winter Palace tower clock from the lines of Lenin's letter to the members of the Central Committee. On the square the music of Rimsky-Korsakov and Prokofiev, Mozart and Beethoven sounded, Blok's poem, Gippius, Akhmatova. In the fabric of the mystery fragments of music from the ballet The Nutcracker and the operas Boris Godunov were included, which were performed in the theaters of Petrograd on the evening of October 25, 1917.



The walls of the Winter Palace were highlighted in red - this was the historical color of the building at the time of the events of 1917. The event was organized by the State Hermitage in cooperation with the Committee for the Development of Tourism of St. Petersburg.

The Martha and Mary Convent of Mercy celebrated the 25th anniversary of its revival

October 17, 2017, the Martha and Mary Convent of Mercy celebrated the Day of the rescue of the relics of the Martyr Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna and the 25th anniversary of the revival of the monastery.

On the day, in the Intercession Church of the Resurrection, the celebratory Divine Liturgy was performed by the Bishop of Orekhovo-Zuevsky Panteleimon, Chairman of the Synodal Department for Church Charity and Social Service, and Bishop of Akhtuba and Enotayevsky Anthony.

At the end of the service, all guests were offered a meal (pastries and dishes from a field kitchen). A special feature of the holiday, was the reconstruction of the field hospital of the First World War in the Abode Garden. Military marches were played by the Brass Band of the Ministry of Defense of Russia. In a military tents master classes to provide first aid will be held.



**25-ЛЕТИЕ ВОЗРОЖДЕНИЯ
МАРФО-МАРИИНСКОЙ ОБИТЕЛИ МИЛОСЕРДИЯ**

17 ОКТЯБРЯ 2017

В Покровском храме:
9:00 Божественная литургия

В музее Обители:
12:00-16:00 Выставка «К 25-летию возрождения Марфо-Мариинской обители милосердия. 1992-2017 гг.»

На территории Обители:
12:00-16:00 Будет предложена полевая кухня и выпечка
12:00-14:00 Военные марши в исполнении духового оркестра Министерства обороны
12:00-16:00 Мастер-классы по оказанию медицинской помощи
12:00-16:00 Творческие и развивающие занятия для детей
14:00-16:00 Катание детей на лошадях
19:00-21:00 Концерт классической музыки
Епархиальный дом Православного Свято-Тихоновского гуманитарного университета (Лихов пер., д. 6)

Вход свободный!

📍 ул. Большая Ордынка, 34
м.Третьяковская, м.Полянка, м.Новокузнецкая

In the afternoon, there were free excursions to the Grand Duchess's Museum and the exhibition "To the 25th anniversary of the revival of the Martha and Mary Convent of Mercy. 1992 - 2017".

For young guests in the garden of the Abode, creative development activities were organized, including horseback riding.

In the evening, a concert of classical music, including works by composers reflecting the spirit of the era of Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna was held in the Cathedral Chamber of the Diocesan House of the Orthodox St. Tikhon Humanitarian University .

Romanov Alley in Pechersky Monastery

16 October 2017. IPPO – The unique alley of the Sovereigns of the House of the Romanovs is created by the works and cares of members of the Nizhny Novgorod branch of the IOPS.

The project received the blessing of the active member of the Nizhny Novgorod branch of the Imperial Orthodox Palestine Society, Metropolitan Georgy of Nizhny Novgorod and Arzamas in the Voznesensky Pechersky Monastery in Nizhny Novgorod.

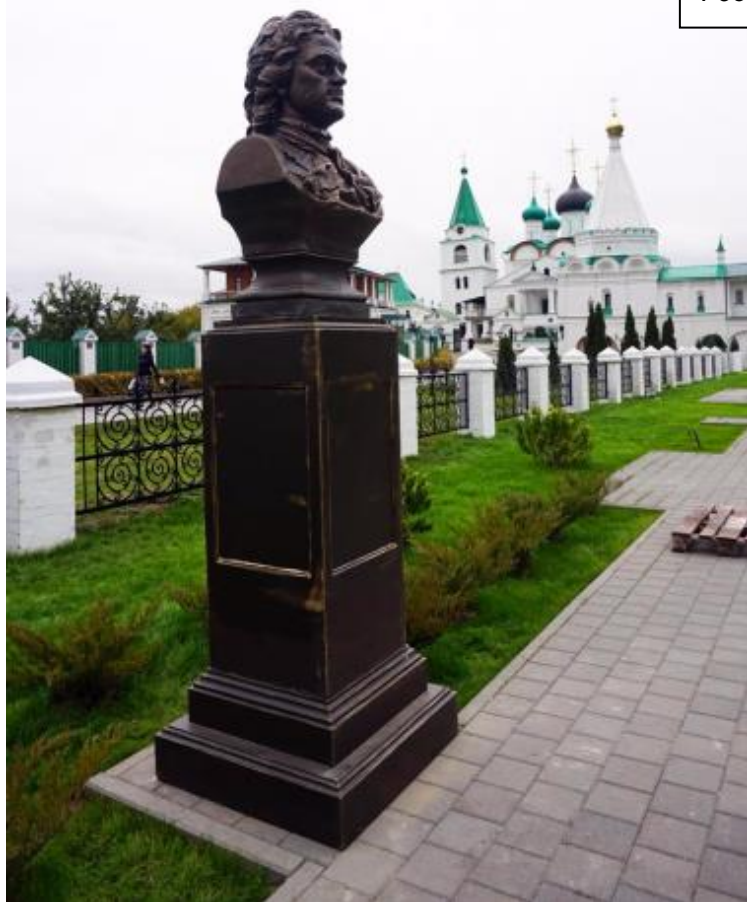
With the blessing of His Eminence Metropolitan George, this event was entrusted to the deputy chairman of the Nizhny Novgorod branch of the IOPS, the Father-Superior of the Voznesensky Pechersky Monastery, Archimandrite Tikhon (Zatyokin), and to member of the IOPS, S.B. Sudyin.

The original project of the Romanov alley and the fence was designed by the architect of Nizhny Novgorod V. V. Koval, and redesigned by the architect S. L. Tumanin.

For the experience of creating such an alley, Archimandrite Tikhon (Zatyokin) appealed to the deputy of the Moscow regional branch of the Institute for Inner Navigation, A.N. Panin, who for several years has been creating such an alley in the Nikolai-Berlyukovsky Monastery.



Bust of the first Tsar of the Romanov dynasty Mikhail Feodorovich



Thanks to the efforts of A.N. Panin and the head of the project "Alley of Russian Glory" M. L. Serdyukov, the alley in the Pechersky Monastery was replenished with busts made by the Honoured Artist of the Russian Federation, corresponding member of the Russian Academy of Arts, sculptor A.A. Apollonov.

The avenue of the Romanov dynasty that reigned in Russia from 1613 to 1917 started with the first Sovereigns, with busts were casted by the Nizhny Novgorod sculptor A.N. Gorshkov.



During 2017, he made busts of Tsar Mikhail Feodorovich, Tsar Alexei Mikhailovich, Tsar Feodor Alexeevich, the ruler of Sophia Alexeevna and Tsar Ivan Alexeevich. At the moment the sculptor is working on the bust of Empress Catherine I, the young Emperor Peter II and the Emperor Peter III.

During the summer of 2017, the territory of the future alley was refined, cobblestones laid, electricity was supplied, and green plants were planted. Forged fence of Romanovskaya alley was also ordered in Nizhny Novgorod.

The gates of the palace of Tsar Alexis Mikhailovich in Moscow were taken as a model. The pillars between the fence are decorated with tiles made in Suzdal at the famous Dymov-ceramics factory. The sample was a 17th-century piece depicting a two-headed eagle.



A prayer to Nicholas II

October 15, 2017. Mirnov.

Ilya Rahmielevich Reznik (born April 4, 1938, Leningrad) is a Russian poet and songwriter, People's Artist of Russia (2003). Honorary member of the Russian Academy of Arts.

As the famous poet says, this was fuelled by arguments and public discussions about fate and the historical role of the last Russian Emperor.



In fact, Ilya Reznik has been writing prayers in verse for a long time, 20 years. In 1997, according to the poet, prayers on him as if descended - for ten days there was a continuous stream. I wrote them on paper scraps, napkins ...

- Then this stream is over. And somewhere in a month I thought that I should rewrite all this. And, unfortunately, I did not find a single leaflet, - says Ilya Rakhmilevich. - Later I was called by artist-icon painter Igor Kamenev, my old friend who sometimes calls from his village and asks: "Read something." I read to him, and he draws...

He asked: "Why do you have such an afterlife voice?" "Do you remember - I say - I read you prayers? Now they are gone. " And suddenly he says: "No, they did not disappear. I do not know why, but when you read, I clicked on the record..."



I went to his village, we deciphered. After some time I gave the manuscript to His Holiness Patriarch Alexy, and he blessed these my secular prayers, wrote a foreword, a book came out ...

And in June this year I attended the opening of the monument to Alex and Laurus, dedicated to the reunification of the Russian and Foreign Churches.

Then there was a meal at which I was asked to read my prayer.

And then with Patriarch Kirill I had a conversation that now there is a need for poetic prayers written in a clear, accessible language that would become a continuation of the tradition of Russian poets, from Sumarokov to Akhmatova and Annensky. The Patriarch blessed me for this work, and I have already written 60 prayers. The one that is dedicated Nicholas II became the 60th.

Prayer to Nicholas II

***About the passion-bearer Nicholas,
Tsar Russian, martyr!
Hear the prayers and entreaties
The godless sinners,
Those who are guilty
In your wretched fate,
Who sends to the sky
Requests unsuccessful.***

***Hear the groaning of the people
To our God,
The people of the light once,
The God-loving,
The king of the betrayer
And into the abyss of the filth of the fallen,
The God-given fair
The Court.***

***We have sinned.
There is no forgiveness for this.
We have betrayed faith
Enemy for dishonour.
We have done evil
And perjury,
Not taken back
Yours, King, murder!***

***We have transgressed our oath
Faithful, conciliar,
Your family and your servants
They left him in trouble.
Above us, mortal sin hangs,
Like a cloud of black.
Evil, and madness, and the devil
We ruled.***

***The Lord bequeathed to David
In his message:
"Who is the anointed one?"
Hand or weapon
Will lift up suddenly
According to Satan's desire,
Then on that heavenly penalty
The sword will fall! "***

***Now they are groaning and mourning
The shrines are Russian,
To this day he cries
Infants are innocent blood.
We are from You
We divert the eyes of sad,
We are before you
We bow our heads.***

*We, afflicted by destiny,
Humbly repent,
How the people of Kiev before the dead
Prince Igor.
Forgiveness today
Yours try,
And in sin we,
As on a slow fire, burning.*

*You lift up to God
Prayer word,
So as not to deprive
He is a Russian, Orthodox,
The King,
The anointed of God, holy,
Father - Guardian
Traditions of the Sovereign!*

*You shed blood for us, O King,
And for your enemies,
And in a dark light
You appear before the Lord.
Pray him, that he saved us
From all sins,
We were given salvation
And the fateful advice.*

*Do not turn away from us,
Become a shield and protectors.
We have strong strengths
To repentance.
Give faith to the strayer of faith,
And the way is happy - to travellers,
And do not leave us
Foes to trampling!*

*God will not destroy us
And grace will send,
For all forgive,
Cleanses the soul of us from evil spirits,
Fill with faith and love
Our Russian people,
Rid of misfortune and sorrows
Fatherland!*

*Let the name of the Lord
Glorify thoughts and hearts,
And in the Universe
All roads are milky roads,
His Divine Fate
There is no end and no end!
So it will be now, forever
And forever and ever!
Amen.*

National treasures of Russia. To the 50th anniversary of the exhibition "Diamond Fund"

In the State Historical Museum, Moscow, from 15 November 2017 to 15 January 2018

In November 2017, it will be 50 years since the opening of the exhibition "Diamond Fund", an integral part of the State Fund of Precious Metals and Precious Stones of the Russian Federation (Gokhran of Russia). In honour of the jubilee, the Gokhran of Russia and the State Historical Museum open an exhibition of unique works of jewellery art "National Treasures of Russia."

The history of the formation of the State Fund of Precious Metals and Precious Stones began in 1719 with the Decree of Peter I, according to which a Chamber was created, which ensured the storage of coronation regalia, and later of rare gems and outstanding jewellery. Values were kept in a separate room with special access conditions. Later, the store, called the Diamond Room, was opened in the Winter Palace. The rarest stones, nuggets and jewellery, were brought there from all over the world.

In 1914, during the First World War, jewellery was transported from St. Petersburg to Moscow, away from the front line. After the revolution, in 1922 the People's Commissariat of Finance carried out a detailed description of the composition of the collection and gave it a new name - "Diamond Fund".

On November 2, 1967, General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Leonid Brezhnev opened a permanent exposition of the Diamond Fund exhibition in the Moscow Kremlin, where state regalia, unique precious metal nuggets, precious stones and jewellery with a special historical and artistic significance were presented.

The exhibition "National Treasures of Russia", opening in the State Historical Museum, presents the works of the largest court jewellers of Russia, made by the Cabinet of His Imperial Majesty and belonged to representatives of the Romanovs' house, as well as archival materials telling about the history of the collection of the Diamond Fund.

In the framework of the interactive exhibition, invaluable documents are shown: "Inventory of diamond, different things, precious stones and pearls kept in Imperial Majesty workshop. November 6, 1796", "Report of His Majesty's Cabinet on the Empress's presentation of diamond earrings and brooch taken at the court jeweller Bolin, "the estimate for the manufacture of a small imperial crown from the court jeweller K.E. Bolin and other historical documents.



The exposition presents masterpieces of the Russian gold and silver works of the late 18th and 20th centuries, which allow us to trace the main stages in the development of jewellery art. Particular emphasis is placed on items belonging to members of the Romanovs' house, as well as the work of the famous court jewellers of Russia, commissioned by the Cabinet of His Imperial Majesty. Among the iconic exhibits are exquisite snuffbox of the court jeweller of Empress Catherine II Jean-Pierre Ador and a snuffbox with the picturesque landscape of the artist-enamel Pierre Teremene, who performed his works for the members of the Imperial family and the Russian aristocracy. Masterpieces of jewellery art in the collection can also be considered three brooches of the beginning of the XIX century, performed in the studio of Jacob and Francois Duvalley for the Grand Duchess Maria Pavlovna - the daughter of Emperor Paul I.

One of the main executors of court orders under Alexander III and Nicholas II was the firm of Carl Faberge, founded in St. Petersburg in 1842. At the exhibition the works of the masters of this company are represented by highly artistic products connected with significant events in the life of the Russian Imperial House.



Especially for the exhibition, the State Historical Museum will present rare jewellery works that are part of the collection of gold and silver works of Russia from the XVIII-XX centuries. Among the masterpieces of the museum collection is a chalice, carved by Emperor Peter I.

The exposition will also feature products of modern Russian jewellers whose works are performed in the best traditions of Russian toiretics. A special place at the exhibition is occupied by small copies of the power and the sceptre, made in 1999 to the 280th anniversary of the formation of Gokhran of Russia. The jewellers managed to reproduce as precisely as possible the details of the authentic Imperial regalia.



Russia presented the bust of Peter the Great to the Institute of France Academy of Sciences

5 October. / TASS /. - Russia donated a bust of Peter the Great to the Institute of France, made from the famous Carrara marble on the basis of the original of the 18th century. The solemn ceremony took place on Thursday at the headquarters of this national research centre in Paris in memory of the 300th anniversary of Peter I's visit to Paris and his election to the French Academy of Sciences.



"Peter the Great owned a huge role in building permanent relations between Russia and France," said the head of the French Academy, Helen Carrer d'Ancoss, at the ceremony in the Palace of sciences. "At that time our countries extended hands to each other for the first time." The academicien called relations with Russia "fundamental for France" and stressed that this was always how French leader, General Charles de Gaulle assessed the Franco-Russian dialogue.

The head of the Russian delegation, Deputy Minister of Culture Alla Manilova, recalled the historical roots of the mutual ties between the two countries. "Today's event is simultaneously drawn to the future, which we are building together," she noted.

"This year in France has become the true Year of Peter the Great," told the author of a monograph on the Russian Sovereign, Sorbonne Professor Francon-Dominique Lichtenan. She noted the great success of the exhibition "Peter the Great, Tsar in France, 1717". This unique historical exhibition, which was opened by the leaders of the two countries, Vladimir Putin and Emmanuel Macron, at the end of May in Versailles, was sold out the whole summer. It has become the most visited In the history of the Great Trianon Palace, attended by almost 300 thousand people.

The French biographer of the Russian Emperor recalled that Peter I spent two months in France, from April 21 to June 21, 1717. "The symbolic moment of the historic visit was the meeting of the Tsar with

the young King Louis XV," she noted, "as a sign of friendship with France, the Russian sovereign raised a seven-year-old French Monarch at his meeting."

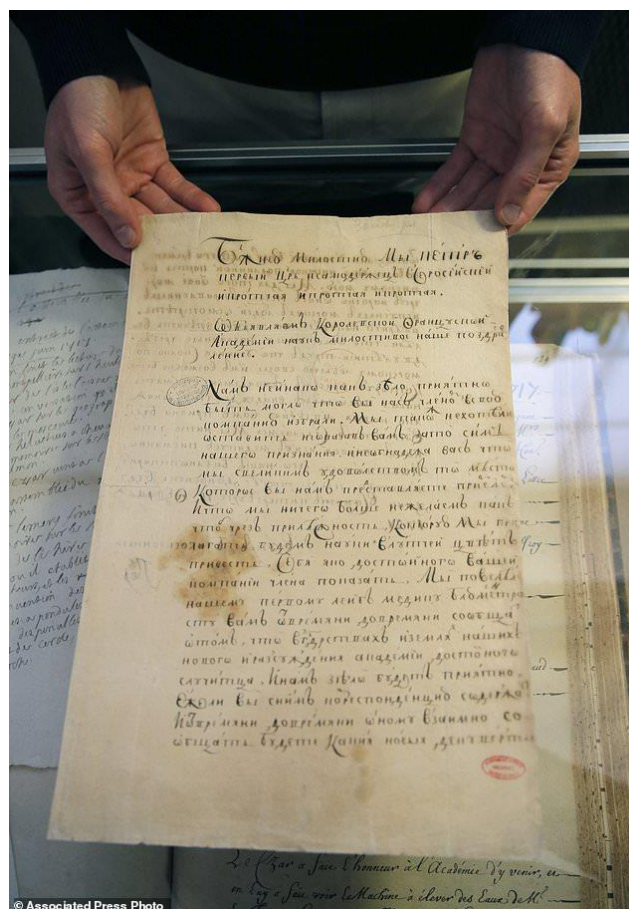
During the visit, the Tsar rejected lavish ceremonies, preferring visits to manufactories. Nothing escaped his gaze: the anatomical cabinet and its collections, the production of tapestries, the observatory, the Sorbonne, the royal printing house, the Botanical Garden. In the Louvre, he admired the mock-ups of the fortifications, which was built by the famous builder of fortifications and fortresses, Marshal of France Sebastien Le Prêtre de Vauban. The accuracy of the records that Peter I led in his diary will do honour to any researcher.

The creator of the new Russia saw an ally in France. According to the researcher, Jean-Paul Bignon, President of the Academy of Sciences, played a significant role in the rapprochement between Petrine Russia and France. "Intellectual France was not touched by the wars that Peter led, she saw him as a fan of science," said Lichten. "Abbot Binion was convinced that it was science that should create the first real ties between countries."

As a sign of respect for the Russian Sovereign, the Academy of Sciences of France on December 22, 1717 unanimously elected him academician.

The historic visit also influenced the fate of Pushkin's great-grandfather. The African godson of the Russian Sovereign, Abram Petrovich Hannibal, who accompanied the Tsar on this trip, was in charge of his suite with a marching library. Peter then left his pupil to study in France, and the future general Hannibal was an exceptionally capable pupil. Returning several years later to Russia, he rose to the highest levels of military service, played an important role in the engineering, diplomatic and even agrarian projects of the Russian state.

The transfer of the bust of Peter the Great became a prologue to the Days of Russia in France, held at the initiative of the Ministry of Culture. The program was launched on Thursday at the Russian Spiritual and Cultural Centre on the Branly Embankment. During two months scientific and cultural conferences, seminars, concerts, film screenings will take place. According to (now former) Russian Ambassador to France Alexander Orlov, 2017 will take "a prominent place in the history of relations between the two countries." The diplomat recalled that Russian President Vladimir Putin was the first foreign leader invited to Paris after the election of Emmanuel Macron as head of the French Republic in early May.



Following the meeting, continued Orlov, the French leader made a proposal to create a Russian-French civil society forum. "The goal of the initiative, called the Trianon Dialogue," said the ambassador, "is to promote contacts between youth, non-governmental organizations, and the expansion of business exchanges between France and Russia."

Video - https://tvzvezda.ru/news/vstrane_i_mire/content/201710052031-5wvm.htm

Memory of the Romanov Imperial family is revered in Pavlovsk

Pavlovsk, Voronezh Region, October 5, 2017

In the city of Pavlovsk, Voronezh region, the memory of the family of the last Russian Emperor Nicholas II is carefully cherished. Olginskaya Gymnasium (there is a general education school now) located in the centre of the city, is connected with the Romanov family in a special way.

In 1913, by the orders of Nicholas II, it was transferred under the patronage of his younger sister, the Grand Duchess Olga Alexandrovna Romanova.

"On the 4th day of February, 1913, the Emperor deigned to receive the patronage of the Women's Gymnasium for the adoption of the Pavlovskaya and Voronezh region under the Her Imperial Highness of the Grand Duchess Olga Alexandrovna, with the appropriation of this gymnasium in the name of Her Highness the name Olginskaya "- says the document, which is stored in the" Complete Collection of Laws of the Russian Empire. "



The building of the Olginskaya High School today

Высочайшим повелением Государь Император
Николай II 4 февраля 1913 г. «...соизволил принятие
Павловской, Воронежской губернии, женской гимназии
под Августейшее Ея Императорского Высочества
Великой Княгини Ольги Александровны
покровительство с присвоением сей гимназии
Имени Ея Высочества наименования Ольгинской»



Fragment of the memorial plaque for installation on the gymnasium building.

It is noteworthy that the building of the Olginskaya Gymnasium is one of the best preserved in the city. Soon, the public of the city plans to install a special memorial plaque on the building of the Olginskaya Gymnasium.



Pavlovsk. Women's Olginskaya gymnasium. Pre-revolutionary postcard.

The building of the gymnasium marks the 120th anniversary of its construction. It was completed in 1898 by architect A.M. Baranov. The gymnasium is still functioning as a general education school, many generations of Pavlovians have come out of its walls.

Activities in Tsarskoye Selo



Park sculptures prepared for winter

Nearly forty outdoor sculptures in the Catherine and Alexander Parks are being wrapped in winter covers to withstand cold.

The first to “hibernate” was the sculptures on the Large Chinese Bridge and the Granite Terrace. Then the “winter clothes” will be put on the busts near the Grotto and the vase near the Hermitage, as well as the *Girl with a pitcher*, the statues in the Private and Mades-of-Honour Gardens and alongside the park façade of the palace. The busts on the Cameron Gallery will be removed inside its enclosed area.

The Venetian marble statues on the Hermitage Alley and at the Main Porch of the palace will have additional canvas wrappings, breathable and moisture absorbing.

As always before the winter, the sculptures also get thoroughly cleaned and some are treated with a moisture repellent. We will see them all uncovered again next spring as soon as weather permits.





Book from Empress Catherine's library returns to Tsarskoye Selo after 70 years

Ulrike Kannengiesser, a German soldier's daughter, recently came to Tsarskoye Selo to return an eighteenth-century book bearing the stamp Bibliothèque de Tsarskoye Selo (A library of Tsarskoye Selo) and the inventory number A No. 12102 of the Alexander Palace's library on the endpapers. Published in 1783 and encased in a semi-leather binding like all the other German books in Catherine's The Great's Library at Tsarskoye Selo, the book is Johann Joachim

Eschenburg's classical literature textbook (Handbaguch klassischen literatur enthaltend I. Archäologie, II. Notiz der Klassiker, III,

Mythologie, IV Griechische Alterthümer, V. Römische Alterthümer, Berlin und Stettin: Friedrich Nicolai, 1783). The author was highly considered by the Russian Empress.

The book stayed at the Alexander Palace until the early 1940s. According to Ulrike Kannengiesser, her father never talked about the war and only once gave her a very brief account of how he picked up this book from Tsarskoye Selo. Fond of art history, he took it because it was in German and of his interest.



Romanov *buzz*



In the Yekaterinburg Museum of Fine Arts, from October 14 to October 20, the Days of the Hermitage will be held for the second time. They will be opened by the exposition "Portrait of Empress Maria Feodorovna" by I.N. Kramskoy.

(The later) Emperor Alexander III ordered the portrait in 1881, just a few months before the Empress ascended to the throne. As told in the press service of the Yekaterinburg Museum of Fine Arts, to paint the portrait of Maria Feodorovna, the artist used a photograph on which she was captured in a Russian dress.



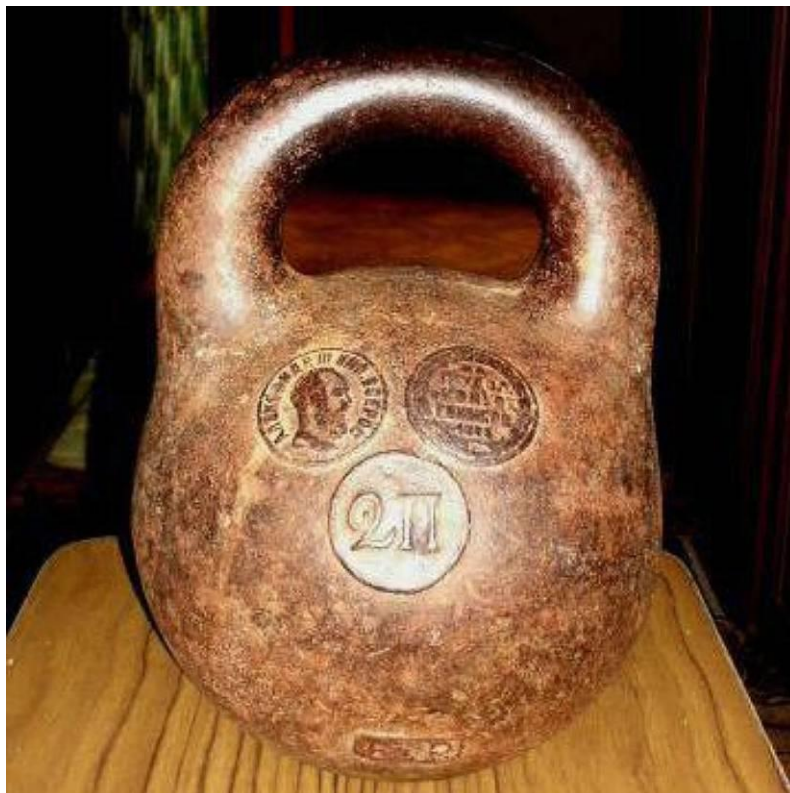
Kramskoy's commitment to almost photographic copying of nature is easy to explain. At the age of 17 he began working as retoucher in the atelier of Kharkiv photographer Danilevsky, and then moved to St. Petersburg. The admiration for the truthfulness and authenticity of the photo helped the future artist to develop his own special style. In the 1870s and 1880s, he created a whole series of portraits. A distinctive feature of Kramskoy's works in this genre is a love of detail and restraint in the colour scheme.

For a long time "Portrait of the Empress Maria Feodorovna" remained unknown to specialists. The canvas was in the State Hermitage in 1918. Completely restored in 2004, it was first presented in the State Historical Museum.

Video - http://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article_id/194786/



A Saratov citizen bought an old house and found in it a hand weight with a stamp of Emperor Alexander III. Now he is trying to sell it to collectors through an ad on a site for 45.000 Roubles. Stamps on the weight indicate the royal origin. Historians know that Emperor Alexander III himself was a man of incredible physical strength and in every possible way patronized athletes. He personally handed over such weights to the winners of various power competitions. Perhaps, a mysterious inscription on the weight "For Trudolus Ivanus Geimyiva" can shed light on the former owner of the rarity. And where it was cast, it is possible to establish absolutely precisely - the "Br.R." stamp indicates that the weight was made at the Rekshinsky brothers' factory in Novgorod.



In Yekaterinburg may appear a hundred-meter monument to Catherine I, told the former Governor of Sverdlovsk Region Edward Rossel. Now Senator of the Federation Council from the Sverdlovsk region Eduard Rossel wants to revive the history of Yekaterinburg in monuments.

"We do not respect ourselves. Yekaterinburg is named after our Empress, but we do not have a monument. I wanted to put it on a pond, like the statue of Liberty in America. Make on an island with no access. And to put Catherine so high on this island, that the residents of Yekaterinburg can see it from all over and it is to be illuminated very well. It would be the patroness of all the inhabitants and the city," said Eduard Rossel.

The former governor also wants to put in Koltsovo a monument to Peter the Great, and on a house - reliefs with images of people, who contributed to the development of the region: the Demidov, Cherepanovs, Kharitonov and others.

Edward Rossel promised to make his plans in writing to the governor of the Sverdlovsk region Evgeny Kuyvashev. He is sure, that some of the projects will already be implemented in the next five years.



The unique multimedia exhibition dedicated to the last Tsar of the Russian Empire, Nicholas II came from Yekaterinburg to Kerch (Crimea).

Video - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V0NpuD_7jdE



Here we go again - German explorers-enthusiasts have discovered a place where the Amber Room can be hidden. In their opinion, it is located in one of the caves of the Ore Mountains, near Dresden. They came to such conclusions when they scanned the cave with the help of a radar and found in it cavities resembling bunkers and tunnels, and traces of cables that could be used to lower the cargo to a depth.

The Amber Room, created by German masters at the beginning of the 18th century, was presented to Peter I and became an ornament of the Imperial residence in Tsarskoe Selo. In 1941, the Germans took the amber panels to Königsberg. And in the spring of 1945, during the retreat of the fascist troops, the room disappeared without a trace.

Currently, there are more than a dozen versions of where this masterpiece can be found. The caves of the Ore Mountains are known since the middle of the 15th century, but they are not mentioned in the documents of the Third Reich. The researchers believe that all information about them was deliberately destroyed.

Video - http://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article_id/196109/



October 2, an exhibition "History of Railways" was opened at the Leningradsky and Yaroslavsky stations. It features 30 reproductions of ancient engravings from the collection of the State Historical Museum. The work of artists who witnessed the construction of the first railways in Russia is demonstrated for the first time.

"The exhibition is timed to coincide with the 180th anniversary of the inauguration of the first Tsarskoye Selo railway in Russia, which was held on October 30, 1837. This is a joint project of our museum and JSC Russian Railways" the press service of the State Historical Museum told.

On reproduction engravings, passengers will see the first railway, as well as the buildings of the first stations and bridges. In addition, visitors will learn how railway workers worked in the beginning of the 19th century in the rain and snow.



The exhibition "Under the transparent Glaze, Porcelain of St. Petersburg" was opened October 18, 2017 in the "Hermitage-Kazan" Centre of the State Historical, Architectural and Art Museum-Reserve "Kazan Kremlin", presented more than five hundred items of Imperial Porcelain, mainly from the funds of the State Hermitage.

The exhibition presents masterpieces, made to order for the house of the Romanovs, works of Soviet time and the work of contemporary artists.

Video 1)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=23&v=-UGJtfYFn4

2) https://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article_id/196446





As part of the celebration of the 300th anniversary of the Astrakhan province, an opening ceremony of the Arc de Triomphe took place. The 14-meter building was reconstructed according to the drawings of 1871. The historical structure was wooden, it was erected by the time of arrival in the city of Emperor Alexander II. The new arch is made of monolithic concrete.

"This is exactly the continuity that we propagandize, and which should always be observed. It is impossible to divide history into parts, it must be one and indivisible," says Vladislav Kononov, executive director of the Russian Military Historical Society. The arch covered are by granite and marble. The frieze depicts the most significant events in the history of the region - the foundation of the province and the annexation of the Astrakhan region to Russia.

The Alley of Glory of heroes of Astrakhan land was also opened. There are 14 busts of outstanding statesmen, writers, artists and patrons of art. Among them, Generalissimo Alexander Suvorov, General Alexei Ermolov - hero of the Patriotic War of 1812, poet and translator Vasily Trediakovsky, artist Boris Kustodiyev and poet Velimir Khlebnikov.

Video - http://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article_id/196648/



On September 30, a memorial plaque dedicated to Feodor Golovin, was opened on Mount Batareiona, the site of the foundation of Verkhneudinsk. The initiators of the installation were the Society of Russian Culture of Buryatia and the Trans-Baikal Cossack Host of the Union of Cossacks of Russia.

It should be noted that Golovin stayed in the Udi Kremlun as an ambassador when he concluded the Nerchinsk Treaty in 1689 with China, which for the first time determined relations and borders between the two states. Feodor Golovin was the closest associate of Peter the Great and is considered one of the founders of the Russian regular army and foreign diplomatic service.

Memorial plaques and monuments in honour of Feodor Alekseevich Golovin were installed throughout Russia in 2007. Moscow, St. Petersburg, Omsk and other cities perpetuated in this year the memory of the outstanding statesman of Russia. After 10 years Ulan-Ude joined this list.



October 23, the Moscow State Pedagogical University hosted the youth intellectual game "The Tsar's Way", arranged by the Synodal Department for the relationship between the Church and society and the media.

The game was dedicated to the reign of Emperor Nicholas II. Topics of the Russo-Japanese and First World Wars were discussed, as well as social and political issues; and special attention was paid to the Imperial Family.

The game was held in the format of a brain-ring and consisted of two rounds. The finalists received memorable and valuable prizes.



On November 17, an exhibition-mystical thriller "The ghost is a knight" will be opened in the Small Palace of the Tsaritsyno Museum-Reserve. The exhibition devoted to the personality of Paul I, the "Russian Hamlet", one of the most underrated historical figures. Curator Sergey Khachaturov has planned a project from a series of exhibitions that will reveal the complex world of a gothic novel of the 18th century - a fascinating and mysterious narrative with transformations and romantic adventures.

"Ghost - Knight" is the second exhibition in this project (the first, "Revived the Empress's plays," was opened exactly one year ago). The new exhibition is naturally associated with Horace Walpole's novel *The Otranto Castle* (1764), the first work of this genre in the history of literature.

The Gothic plot of *Otranto Castle*, with all its dynastic mysteries and clans, cruel betrayals and just retribution, mysticism and visions, miraculously intersects with the stories of the Russian Autocrats of the XVIII century - Peter I, Peter III, Catherine II and, to the greatest extent, Paul I.



The government of the Sverdlovsk region amended the regional budget for 2018. In the Sverdlovsk region 86.7 million roubles will be allocated to the events timed to the 100th anniversary of the death of the Imperial family. The money will be spent on the creation museum in the Field School in Alapaevsk and the repair of the Alapaevsk museum of local lore.



The exhibition "Portraits of the Monarchs of the Romanovs House" was opened in the gallery at the Tsar's Palace in the Kolomenskoye Museum-Reserve.

This exhibition introduces the palace guests to the imperial portraits from the collection of the museum-reserve, executed in different techniques and at different times, as well as with the art of our contemporary, talented jeweler Vladimir Palamarchuk.

The space of the palace of Tsar Alexis Mikhailovich is a special meeting place with the past, one can even say that this is a modern monument to the first Tsars of the Romanov dynasty. Magnificent interiors of the imperial chambers immerse in the atmosphere of the past eras, create images of the great rulers of Russia.

Portraits of Monarchs presented at the exhibition, are completely different in technique: engraving, gouache painting, chromolithography. These works not only convey to us the external appearance of Monarchs, but also testify to artistic tastes, the level of art of their time. Portraits of Rulers were always in demand, they were released as an annex to books and as separate reproductions. The exhibition shows two series of portraits of Sovereigns. This is a set of engraved portraits from the book "Russian history depicting the most important acts of Russian Rulers" in 1819 (engraver Athanasius Afanasiev)

and part of a series of reproductions from the jubilee edition dedicated to the 300th anniversary of the Romanovs I. Bozherianov "Portraits of Crowned Monarchs of the House of Romanovs ...". The ancient interiors of the palace allow to create in the small exhibition space - the passage from the Tsar's chambers to the rooms of the princes - an exhibition project that is bright and understandable for every visitor, combining museum objects of the 18th and 19th centuries and the art of our days.



The Tsar-Martyr Nicholas II was painted on the street - and then painted over.

The image of the Tsar-Martyr was originally painted on a street in Kerch, Crimea, advertising an exhibition.

Then the portrait was painted over by a man in the daytime, who explained that he was against it, as he did not want people to walk on the face of the Tsar-Martyr.



An exhibition in the Smolensk Historical Museum is dedicated to the historical vessel, yacht "Standart", and its crowned passengers. In the exposition - newsreel, photos of the family of Nicholas II and guests of the imperial yacht.

Having reached the Black Sea by train, Emperor Nicholas II and his family moved to the yacht "Standart" and traveled all the summer, going to the port cities, on boat trips, taking guests and foreign delegations on board.

A century later we can see about this kind of photo and film report. The yacht "Standart" was built in Denmark, a real city on the water - 128 meters long and 15 meters wide. The ship made a record speed.

Most of the photos were taken by the captain of the yacht Nikolay Sablin. He commanded the ship until 1916. Later, in exile, he published a book of memories, thanks to which many photographs were attributed. Because of the too personal nature of the pictures during the life of the imperial family, they were never published.

"For each of the children of the Imperial family were attached uncles, the most experienced, the most proven sailors who followed the children, participated in their games," - explained the staff of the Smolensk Historical Museum Pavel Timashkov.

On board the yacht Nicholas II received the German Kaiser Wilhelm and the French president Raymond Poincaré. The "Standart" was not only a resting place, but also a platform where the fate of Europe was decided on the eve of the First World War.

Video - 1) http://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article_id/197167/

2) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bND4E93onHI>



The Museum of Rasputin in Pokrovsky village was presented the painting "Nicholas II". It is made by the artist Igor Ryazantsev in a new style of painting, which he calls phylogeny - This work is carried out not by brushes or felt-tip pens, but by pliers and syringes.



The 200th anniversary of the Russian church of St. Mary Magdalene was celebrated in The Hague. The founder of the church is the Grand Duchess Anna Pavlovna, the wife of the Dutch King William II of Orange.



The celebration of the 200th anniversary was attended by the Ambassador of the Russian Federation in the Netherlands, Alexander Shulgin, the Ambassador of the Republic of Belarus Nikolai Borisevich, representatives of the Dutch royal court and the Netherlands Protestant Church. Divine Liturgy, and then a funeral service for King William II and Grand Duchess Anna Pavlovna was served by the Archbishop of Brussels and Belgian Simon. And for the performance of the sacraments were used items of church utensils, brought to the Netherlands by Anna Pavlovna.

Many of these relics, including the folding iconostasis that her brother Alexander I used during the war with Napoleon, are in the Orthodox Church of St. Mary Magdalene in The Hague.

A congratulatory letter from the King of the Netherlands Willem Alexander was read at the ceremony.



A church in honor of Emperor Nicholas II will appear on Serbian soil. The construction of the cathedral begins in the city of Banja Luka. This is a project of Moscow architects. The foundation is planned to be consecrated in July 2018, on the days of the 100th anniversary of the murder of the imperial family. Banja Luka is the capital of Republika Srpska, a state formation in Bosnia and Herzegovina, a city where the memory of the Russian Tsar is honored.

The site for the construction of the Russian-Serbian church in honor of Emperor Nicholas II is cleared; the secular and spiritual authorities have approved. The construction of the church in honor of Nicholas II and his family in the Republika Srpska is called the holy duty of the Serbian people. 100 years ago, Russia and Nicholas II were defenders of the Serbs, defenders of Orthodoxy here in the Balkans. This was the reason for Russia's accession to the First World War.

In gratitude, the Serbian veterans promised to build such a church in honor of Nicholas after the end of the war. However, this dream came true only a century later.

The church was designed in the Moscow Architectural Institute in traditional Russian style. For the Balkans - exotic. Five golden-domed domes, three altars, one of which will be dedicated to the martyr to Nicholas II. The place is prestigious, next to the government quarter, was personally chosen by the bishop of Banja Luka Ephraim.

Video - http://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article_id/197191/



A sculpture of Tsarevich Alexei and Emperor Nicholas II. The famous Moscow sculptor Vladimir Sobolev works with stone, marble, and a number of other natural materials. Which sculptures come out of his hands, you can see in the city exhibition hall at Chernyshevsky, 38. The exhibition will be open until November 12.

Video - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bLSl1miee8E>



The creation of the memorial museum of the Imperial Family in Tobolsk includes not only the restoration and museification of the governor-general's house, but also the recreation of the greenhouse - writes *Toptyumen* on October 26.

Many of the famous photos from Tobolsk are taken when the family was sitting on the roof of the greenhouse and until now has it not been clear if it was to be recreated or not.

Currently, the museum continues painstaking work on collecting the unique objects of historical and cultural heritage, related to the imperial family's stay during eight-month in 1917-1918.



Limited series of titanium phones Nokia 3310 "The Last Emperor" with a portrait of Tsar Nicholas II is released In Russia. The press service of the Caviar jewellery company, which released the phone, told that the premiere of the new line of phones under the slogan "For Faith, Tsar and Fatherland" is timed to the upcoming century of the October coup and "pays homage and memory to one of the key epochs and figures in Russian history, which were swept away by the wave of the red revolution. "



The collection of phones consists of three models. The first of them is called "Faith": it shows the Virgin and the inscription "Blessed Virgin, pray for God about us." The second model of the Fatherland houses a colour image of the imperial coat of arms with a black two-headed eagle and a quote from the Imperial Russian anthem: "Reign for Glory, Glory for Us". The third model of "The Tsar" depicts Nicholas II and his autograph. The company reports that the cost of phones starts from 139 thousand roubles.



The museum-estate "Arkhangelsk" is now recognized as a "particularly valuable cultural object of the peoples of the Russian Federation" and there are less than 100 of such in the country.

The restoration is ongoing in "Arkhangelsk". In terms of restoration there are 18 objects, says director Vadim Zadorozhny. The main object is the eastern wing. Downstairs there was a dining room, and at the top a part of the Yusupovs' collection.

In addition all 132 sculptures in the park will be updated and by 2019, the fountains will work. They began to lay new networks - on the territory there will be lighting and Wi-Fi. And, finally, they will find an opportunity to show more of the museum's collection.

The hall of columns is still used as a temporary storehouse of the famous Yusupov Library and the Palace "Caprice", which stores 19 thousand publications in French, Italian, Russian, are preparing for restoration.

Video - http://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article_id/197586/



In the Gatchina Palace, the rooms of Emperor Nicholas I will be restored. For this purposes, the city budget allocates about 20.7 million roubles.

The works will be on the first floor of the Arsenal quartet, where once the ceremonial apartments of the Sovereign (the Great Military and Small Corner Rooms, Reception Hall) were arranged, as well as the Valet, Front and the so-called Front in the garden. These rooms were decorated in the 1840s-1850s and basically preserved up to time of World War II. Some of the exhibits - furniture and paintings - employees managed to evacuated to other museums, the rest was destroyed. Only one of the two cast-iron spiral staircases, survived.

For the current restoration in these rooms there is no historical decoration, there is even no heating and electricity. Not all documents on the decoration of these premises have been preserved, so the controversial issues are brought to the restoration council. In particular, it was decided to decorate the ceremonial rooms with wallpaper and the official offices to paint, as was done at the end of the XIX century.



On the day of the celebration of the Kazan Icon of the Mother of God and the Day of National Unity, a two-day photo exhibition "The Tsar's Court of Nicholas II and international politics" will be opened in the Church of the Life-Giving Trinity, Moscow. Visitors will see photographs reflecting the international contacts of the last Russian Emperor and his family, official visits and family ties. Among the items presented at the exhibition - the triumphal visit of the Sovereign to France in 1896, the visit to Russia of the Prime Minister of France Poincaré on the eve of World War I, the last trip of the Imperial Family abroad.

ЦАРСКИЙ ДВОР НИКОЛАЯ II
И МЕЖДУНАРОДНАЯ ПОЛИТИКА
История в фотографиях



"Fabergé and the Russian Craft Tradition, An Empire's Legacy" is on view at the Walters Art Museum in Baltimore, from Nov. 12, 2017, to June 24, 2018.

This dazzling exhibition features 70 works including the Walters' two famed Fabergé Easter eggs, alongside a stunning array of gold and silver vessels, intricate enamels, luxurious jewellery, carved stones, and icons that illuminate the beauty, technical sophistication, and artistry of Russian crafts. During the three centuries of Russia's Romanov dynasty, patronage of the arts flourished. This exhibition invites visitors to consider the broader historical context from which the House of Fabergé

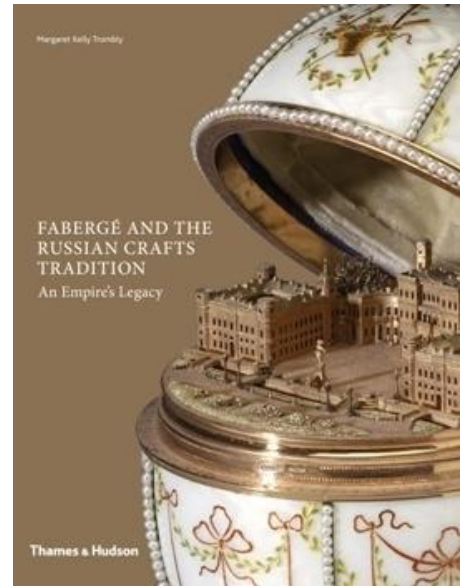
emerged, while marvelling at some of the most opulent works in the Walters Art Museum's collection, the Gatchina Palace Egg and the Rose Trellis Egg.



A lavishly illustrated book edited by Margaret Trombly tells the story of the extraordinary works that emerged from the Russian decorative arts tradition. Co-published with Thames & Hudson, the book is available in the Walters Art Museum Store and online (\$39.95, hardcover with slipcase) beginning in mid-October."

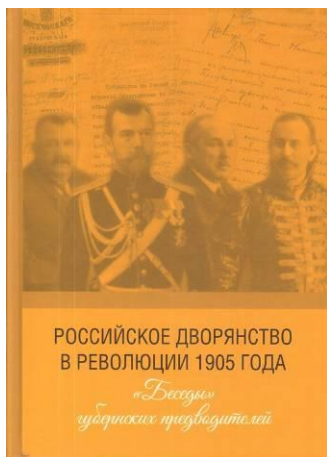


After Fabergé, an exhibition of five digital prints by artist Jonathan Monaghan, runs concurrently with Fabergé and the Russian Crafts Tradition. Monaghan's creations are finely-crafted, surreal versions of the famous Fabergé Imperial Easter eggs. His large-scale digital prints blend the dazzling detail of the original masterworks with aspects of modern culture. The gold, enamel and diamonds of the Romanov dynasty are replaced with the furnishings, technological gadgets and brand architecture of the present. "I place every detail and determine the surface texture and the lighting, so there is a level of craft that is similar to the original eggs, only instead of using gold and inlay, I am using pixels," said Monaghan. Speaking about the source of his inspiration, Monaghan recalled his first visit to the Walters Art Museum. "After I arrived at the University of Maryland for graduate school, the first place I went to was the Walters. I saw the Fabergé eggs and I was blown away by the level of craft and detail; they take on an almost otherworldly presence," Monaghan said. "Fabergé is part of our cultural lexicon—it often shows up in popular culture, like in a James Bond movie or on the television show The Simpsons—and embodies a kind of obsessive desire."





Russian nobility in the revolution of 1905: "conversations" of the provincial leaders



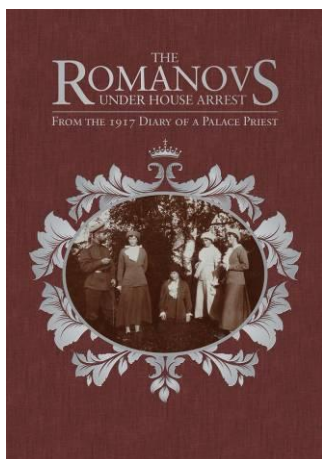
This book presents documents related to the meetings of the provincial leaders of the nobility in Russia in late 1904 - early 1906. These "conversations" that began in the second half of the 1890s first focused on class problems, and from the end of 1904 political issues were included in the content of the discussions.

Contrary to popular opinion in historiography, the Russian nobility did not occupy a unified position on the question of autocratic power. Most of it was inclined to support a moderately liberal view, presupposing the participation of society in the legislative process. Published materials give grounds to believe that the provincial leaders had a significant impact on the decision of Nicholas II to establish the State Duma, as well as to maintain the law on elections. This changes many of the ideas about the political history of the time of the first Russian revolution.

The publication is intended for specialists and all those who are interested in the history of the nobility and the revolution of 1905.

Publisher: Nestor-History, St. Petersburg. Hard cover. Pages: 512. ISBN: 978-5-4469-0840-0

Coming soon - **The Romanovs Under House Arrest: From the 1917 Diary of a Palace Priest**



– March 1, 2018. By Afanasy I. Belyaev (Author), Victor Potapov (Author), Marilyn Pfeifer Swezey (Editor)

“...for the last time the former rulers of their own home had gathered to fervently pray, tearfully, and on bended knee, imploring that the Lord help and intercede for them in all of their sorrows and misfortunes.” Thus the Archpriest Afanasy Belyaev described the faith and piety of the Russian Imperial family, whom he served as priest and confessor, on the occasion of the Tsarevich's thirteenth birthday.

These selected excerpts from the chaplain's diary open a window into the souls of the now sainted Royal Family and the struggles endured in their first five months of confinement following the abdication of Tsar Nicholas II in early 1917. Russian cultural historian Marilyn Pfeifer Swezey sets the diary in its historical context and offers an epilogue to complete the story of the Romanov's journey to martyrdom at the hands of a Bolshevik firing squad in a Siberian basement. Also included is a short life of Fr Afanasy and biographical information regarding the various persons appearing in the work. This anniversary edition has been copiously illustrated throughout with colour and black and white photos (some rarely or never published before) as well as charts and maps.

Publisher: Holy Trinity Publications. Hardcover. 136 pages. ISBN-10: 0884654540

Under the hammer...

Romanov related items in Auctions



Wallis & Wallis, Lewes, United Kingdom, October 24

An impressive oil painting of Emperor Nicholas I (Auction house writes "Czar Alexander I") of Russia in the uniform of the Chevalier Guards c 1825, mounted in white uniform with gilt breast plate, troops in background, 30" x 25". This painting appeared on the front cover of Tradition magazine Volume 3 No 18 and was in the collection of R Belmont-Maitland Esq.
Est: £1,000 - £1,500

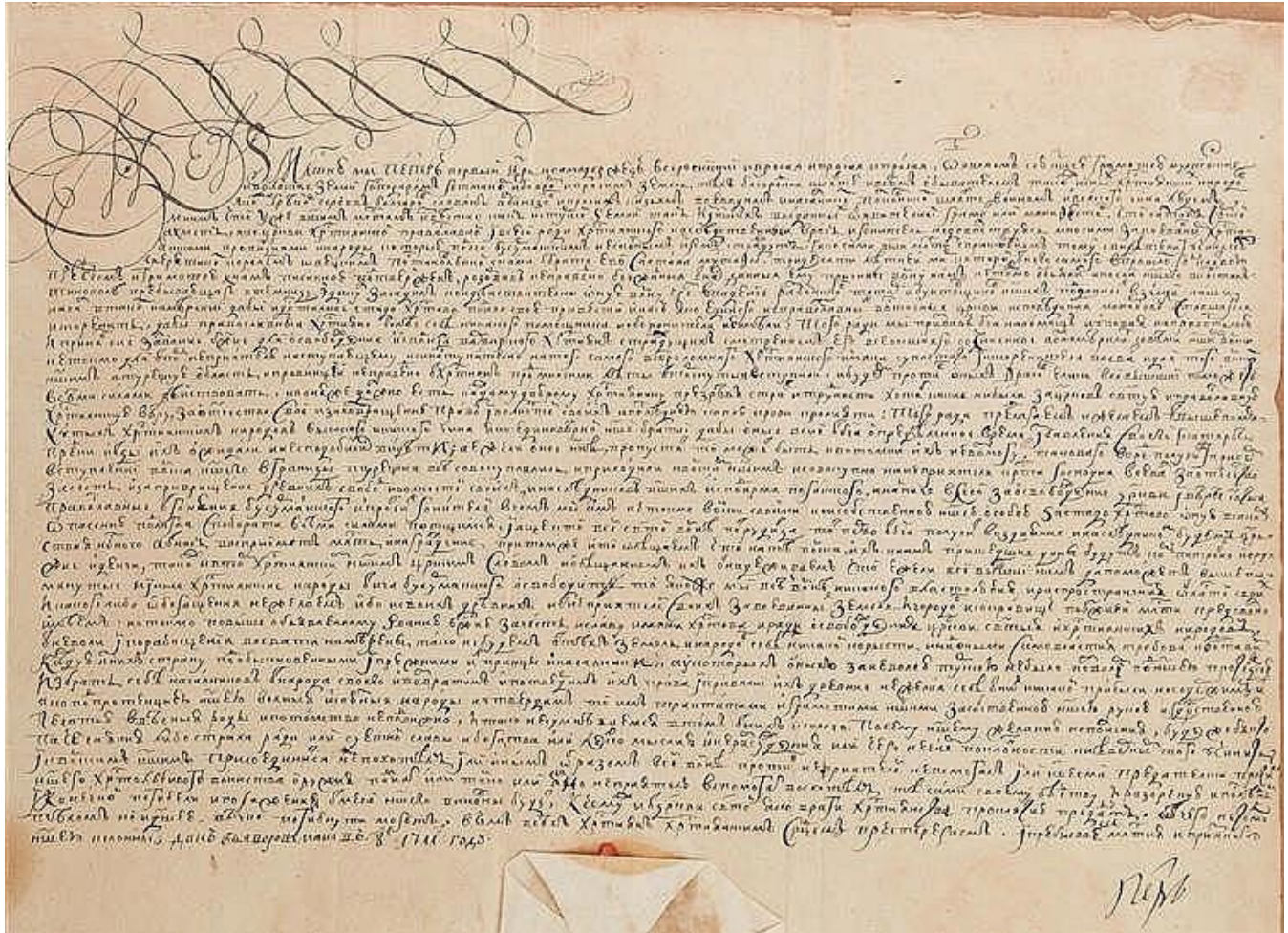


Hermitage Fine Art, Monaco, October 28

Letter to the lords, hetmans, boyars and other Christians, Greeks, Serbs, Bulgars, Slavs and Albanians, and people of all ranks, calling on them to rise up against the oppression of Sultan Ahmet and his new ally 'the heretical Swedish King', Charles XII. Signed 'Petr'. LAVOROV, 8 May 1711.

In Russian, oblong folio (32.0 x 38.0 cm), papered seal of the Russian State Arms.

East: € 40,000 - € 50,000



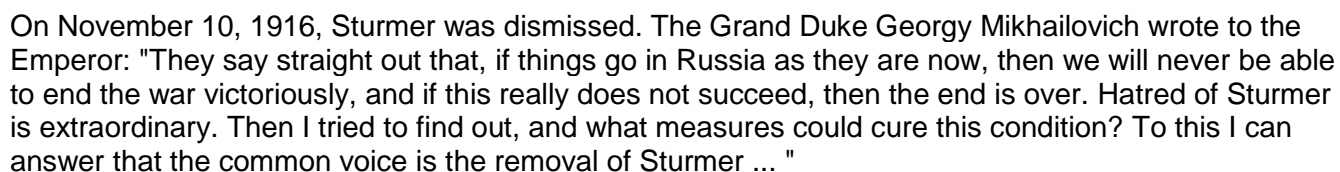
Lithograph - 'God save the Tsar' - His Imperial Majesty on the Danube.

Moscow: workshop of P.A. Glushkov, 1877. Sheet: 440x565 mm.

Est: €300 - €350



Est: €300 - €350



Борис Владимирович,
 пишу вам письмо
 ко мне в среду
 в 6 часов.

Николай

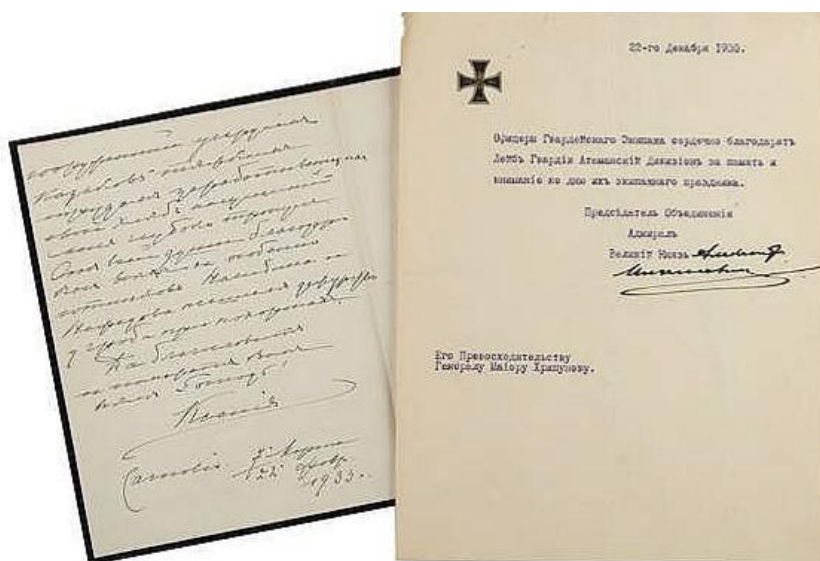
9 января 1917.

Императорскому двору
 Обер-камергеру
 Митрофану.



Letter by Grand Duchess Xenia Alexandrovna.
 Thanksgiving letter,
 handwritten and signed, to the
 colonel Vissarion Vladimirovich
 Andrianov, commander of the
 Life-Guard Ataman's Regiment.

"... The cross of flowers built by
 the diligence of the Cossacks,
 who earns their daily bread with
 hard work, touched me deeply.
 From the bottom of my heart I
 thank you all and especially the
 centurions of Nagibin and
 Nefedov who carried watch on
 the grave at the funeral. May
 the Lord bless and pity you all!
 Ksenia." March 7, 1933, 2 p.,
 17.5 x 26.5 cm.
 Est: €1,000 - €1,200

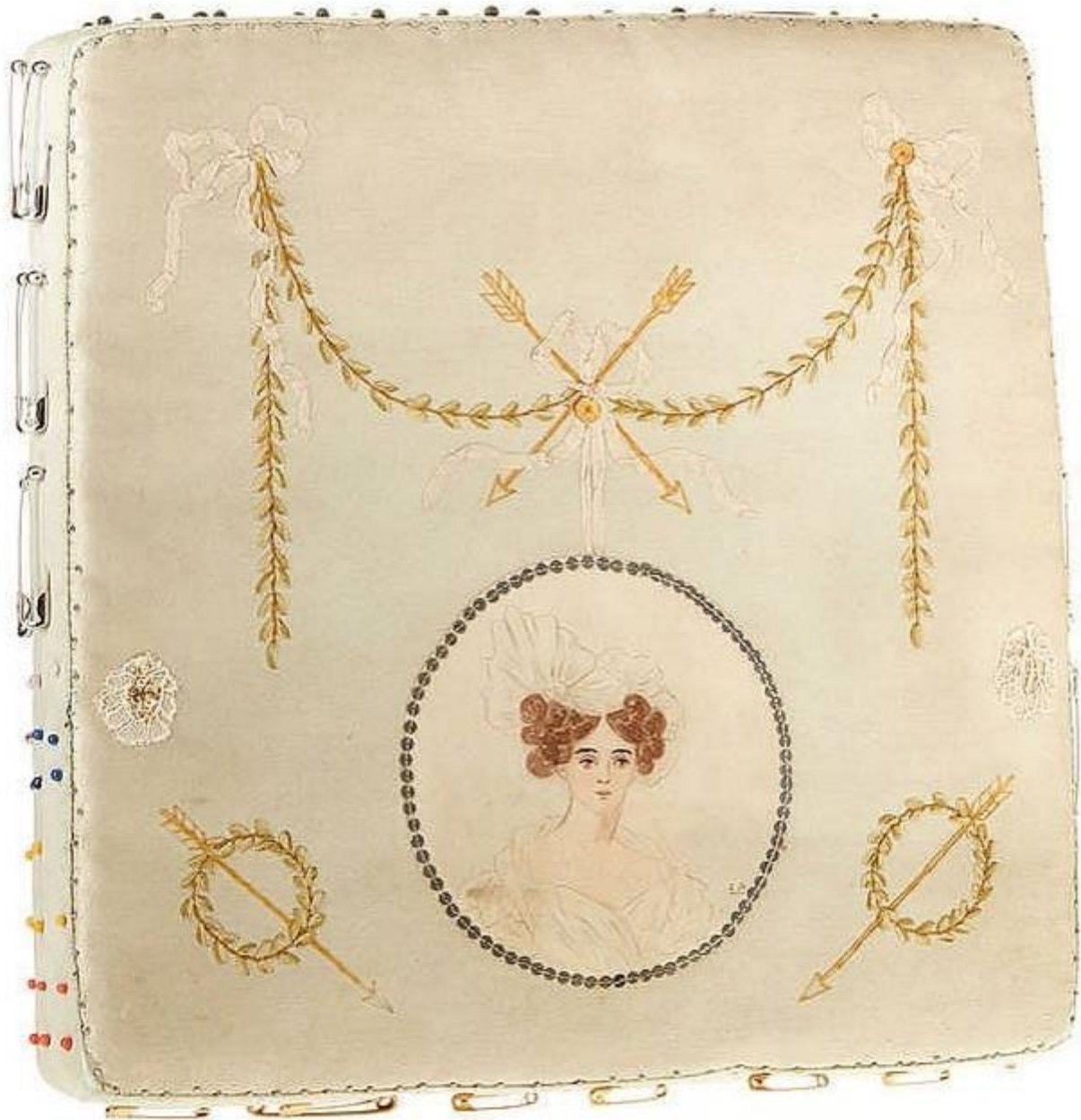


A cushion made by Empress Alexandra Feodorovna and Grand Duchess Elisabeth Feodorovna
Pale blue silk, embroidery with smooth and silk ribbons; application of lace and sequins. Dimensions: 27.6 x 27.0 cm.

Pillow of a rectangular shape with a round insert in the centre with a watercolour drawing depicting a woman's portrait with the initials of E.F. in the lower right corner. On the perimeter of the sides are tightly attached modern pins. On the reverse side a piece of cloth is sewn, with an inscription with a ballpoint pen: "Embroidery H.I.H. Empress Alexandra Feodorovna. Watercolour. H.I.H. Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna."

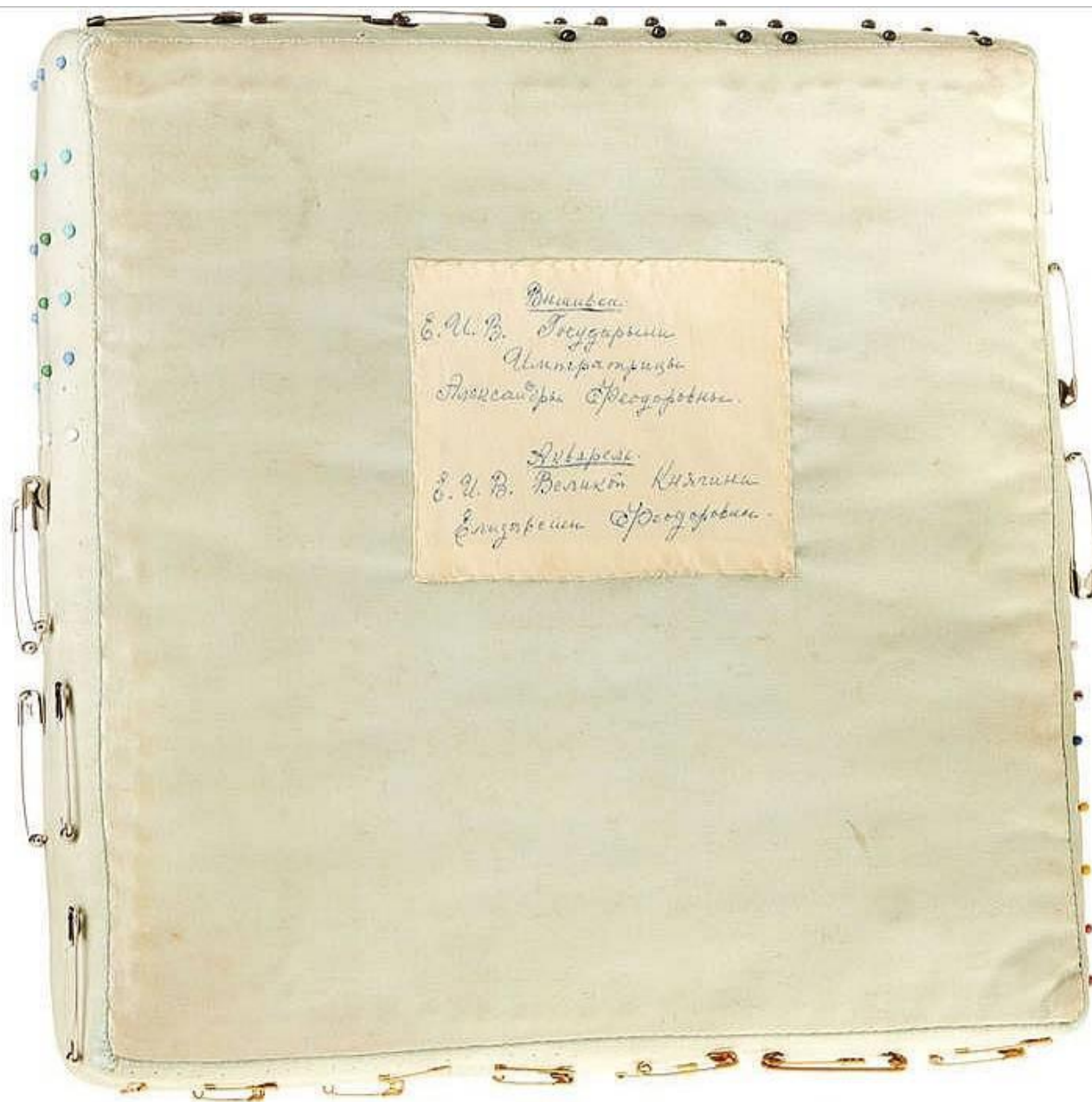
Silk is slightly worn, slightly faded.

Est: €20,000 - €30,000



The initials EF can be identified as the signature of the Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna (1864-1918), the elder sister of the Empress Alexandra Feodorovna (1872-1918). This signature can be compared with the signatures on three postcards on her drawings, published in 1902 in the cartographic institution of A. Ilyin in favour of the Community of St. Eugene.

It is known that after receiving a home art education in the family of the Grand Duke of Hesse-Darmstadt, Ludwig IV, both sisters drew well, practiced needlework, including embroidery. Empress Alexandra Feodorovna instilled a love for handicrafts within the family to her daughters, and also opened various courses for teaching girls different hand skills, in particular embroidery. This is confirmed by diary entries and numerous archival photographs, on which the Empress is imprinted with needlework.



Gifting pillows as a souvenir for family celebrations, jubilee or just a memory was not a rare occurrence in the circle of the Imperial family. Such gifts can include the presented pillow. To find out the history of its existence became possible thanks to the envelope into which it was invested. The inscription on it reads: "My dear, dear, beloved grandchildren / Masha Trubetskoi / On the birthday of July 8/16 and July 22 / July 4 / August 4. / From the loving her with whole heart / Aunt Katya Onu / Klamar July 22nd / 4th Aug. 1957 "

From this text it follows that the last owners of the pillow were the princess M.T. Trubetskaya, and before her, her aunt E.K. Onu.

Ekaterina Konstantinovna Onu (1878-1966), the daughter of Count Konstantin Apollinarevich Khreptovich-Butenev (1848-1933). Wife of Konstantin Mikhailovich Onu (1875-1950), diplomat, adviser to the embassy in Washington, former diplomatic chancellor under generals Denikin and Wrangel. They emigrated in 1920, from 1923 they lived in Clamart. They were engaged in public activities, they were members of the Union of zealots in memory of Emperor Nicholas II.

Their niece is Princess Maria S. Trubetskaya (1886-1976), the daughter of Senator Sergei Alekseevich Lopukhin (1853-1911). Since 1907, married to Prince Vladimir Petrovich Trubetskoy (1884-1954).

Since 1920 she lived in Paris. In 1921, together with L. Obolenskaya and M. Anennkova, she founded the Russian fashion house "TAO". Member of the Ladies' Committee of the Union of Russian Nobles (since 1926). In the 1929-1930's, she embroidered icons and banners for the Sergievsky farmstead in Paris. She spent the last few years at the Russian House in Schell. Her only son was Prince Peter Vladimirovich Trubetskoy (1907-1986).

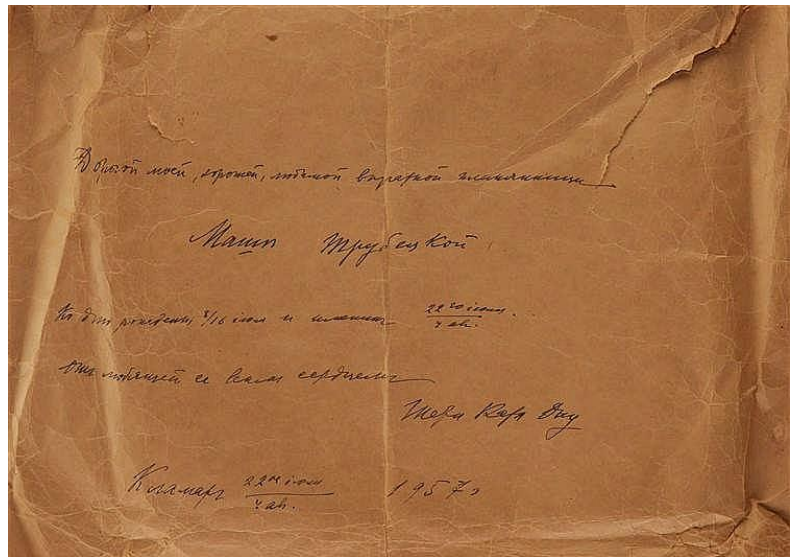




Photo frame in original box, with a photo of Grand Duke Alexander Michaelovich and Grand Duchess Xenia Alexandrovna, on their betrothal, and with autographs. Photo 7.3 x 4.2 cm visible in the frame. Box (15.5 x 11.5 cm). Est: €1,500 - €2,000

Group photo including Dowager Empress Maria Feodorovna, Emperor Nicholas II, Empress Alexandra Feodorovna, and Grand Prince Dmitry Konstantinovich, with officers and wives of officers of the Life guards Horse-Grenadier regiment during the regimental holiday on 6 June 1903 in Peterhof. With four officers presented in historical uniforms of a regiment of the Napoleonic wars (lancers, hussars, Dragoons).

Photograph 14.5 x 21 cm, wooden frame with gilding. Frame: 42.5 x 45.5 cm.

Est: €2,000 - €2,200

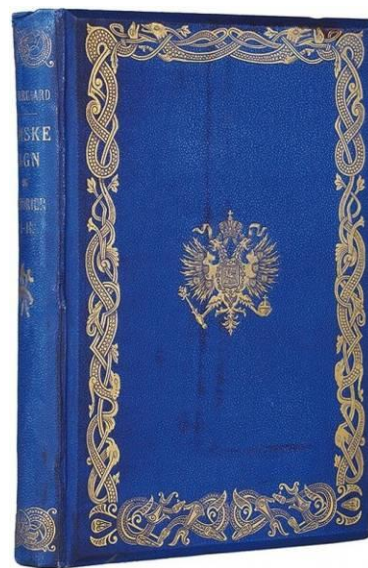


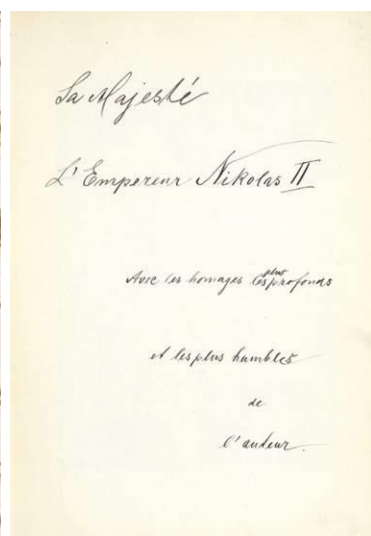
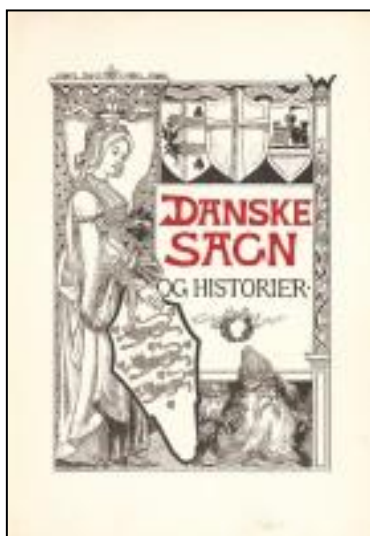
Auction House "Litfond", Moscow, Russia, October 28

A book from the collection of Emperor Nicholas II with the author's autograph. Danish legends and stories (Danske sagn og historier), Copenhagen, 1892. V. Ostergaard. 19.5 x 13.5 cm.

Calico embossed epoch with elegant gold embossing, patterned fly-leaves, triple gold trim. In the centre of the front cover is a double-headed eagle. Triple golden bleed. On the front booklet, the ex-libris of Nicholas II. On the first empty sheet the autograph of the author: "La Majeste l'Empereur Nicolas II Avec les hom [m] ages les plus profondes a les plus humbles de l'auteur". His Imperial Majesty, Nicholas II, with deep respect from the humble author. "

Estimate: 150 000 - 160 000 roubles





His Imperial Highness Heir Tsesarevich and Grand Duke Alexei Nikolaevich. 1904-1914.

By the tenth anniversary of his birth / comp. A. Ilmsensky. SPb.:

Type. Imperial uch. deaf mutes, 1914. 56 p., 12 liters. 23 x 16 cm. In the publishing compound binder.

The first sheet is printed: "This publication is distributed in favor of the Riga Orthodox Charitable Society of the Holy Cross to assist poor people and families of soldiers in the city of Riga."

Estimate: 75 000 - 80 000 rubles.



Auction House "Litfond", Moscow, Russia, November 7

"Romanovs vs Revolution" - Books from the Imperial and Grand-Ducal libraries, autographs, historical documents ...



The autograph of Emperor Nicholas II under a letter addressed to the Moscow Governor-General, Grand Duke Sergei Alexandrovich, in the original envelope. Dates December 9, 1894. 28 x 21.7 centimetres (letter); 29.5 x 23.5 cm (envelope). The wax seal is kept on the envelope. Letter and envelope in a mourning frame.

"I was granted permission to open a nationwide subscription for the installation of a monument to my unforgettable parent, Emperor Alexander III, the great peacemaker. Deeply convinced that the whole of Russia and with her heart, the capital of the capital, seeks the earliest possible erection of the monument in a worthy manner to honour the memory of my dear father, I have now bothered to form a special committee for the collection of donations and subsequent work on the monument - the Special Committee, whose chairman I urge you, as the Moscow Governor-General. Heartily fond of you nephew Nicholas. S. Petersburg 9 December. 1894".
Estimate: 200 000 - 220 000 roubles'.

Ваше Императорское Высочество

Мне было дано дозволение на открытие
всеподданной подписки для устройства памят-
ника Независимому Мелкому Родителю Им-
ператору Александру III^{му} Великому Ми-
ролюбцу. Любимое убеждение, что вся Росси-
я с нею в сердце, Первопрестольная столи-
ца, стремится скорейшим образом на-
матива достойным образом почтить
память дорогого Мелкого Отца, и озабочена
мыслью образовать для сего подписание
и ведения всеподданной подписки по устройству
памятника - Особый Комитет, предлагаю -

вспомогательное признание Вас, как
Московского Губернатора-Генерала.
С уважением Ваш Николай
Николай

С. Петербург 9 Дек. 1894.

Его Императорскому Высочеству
Московскому Губернатору-Генералу





Bust of Grand Duke Konstantine Konstantinovich
Presented to his treating doctor Murinov before his death. Sculptor N. Schleyer. 1900. Bronze, casting, chasing. 20x12x7 cm. On the sleeve section: author's signature in the test "N. Shleifer ". In the lower part of the sculpture bottom is the name of the foundry (illegible) and the place of the casting - "Studgart".

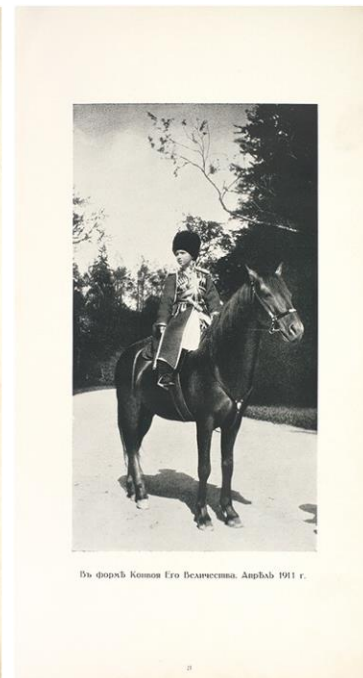
Under the round base of the sculpture, a memorable memo is stitched, filled with red ink "Easter / March 22, 1815 / Grand Duke Konstantine / Konstantinovich presented me / DA. Murinov this / his bust".

Estimate: 110,000 - 120,000 roubles.



"Childhood of the heir of the Tsarevich Alexei Nikolayevich." Album-book, containing photographs from the life of the Heir Tsarevich and Grand Duke Alexei Nikolaevich. Publication of the Moscow department of the Society for the care of poor and sick children. 1913. 30.3 x 16.5 cm. In the illustrated publishing cardboard, a drawing by E. Samokish-Sudkovsky. On the fly leaf, a donation inscription dated April 10, 1913.

The album contains 23 photos of the Tsarevich with signatures about the time and place of shooting. Estimate: 10 000 - 12 000 rub.



Bruun Rasmussen, Copenhagen, Denmark, October 30

Painting by Grand Duchess Olga Alexandrovna.
Colourful flowers on a window sill. Signed Olga. Watercolour on paper. Sheet size 18.5x24 cm.
Estimate 4,000–6,000 DKR.



5 minutes with... An onyx polar bear by Fabergé

Russian Art specialist Margo Oganessian tells of the detective work that went into tracing the provenance of this precious bear - offered in London on November 27 - and its revelation of the bond between two dynasties with a shared love of Scotland

'When we were first presented with this carved model of a polar bear by Carl Fabergé we knew we had something unusual on our hands,' says Christie's Russian Art specialist Margo Oganessian.



A large and important white onyx model of a bear, by Fabergé, circa 1909. 5 in (12.7 cm) wide. Estimate: £200,000-300,000. This lot is offered in Important Russian Art on 27 November 2017 at Christie's in London Offered in the Important Russian Art sale on 27 November at Christie's in London, the 5 inch-long (12.7 cm) onyx bear came to the specialists in its original wood case, its cover stamped with the inscription 'B.G. Scotland. 1909.'



The significance of the inscriptions 'Scotland' and '1909' intrigued our specialists. Oganessian and her colleagues in the Russian Art department were keen to get to the bottom of the inscription, particularly as markings like these are 'quite rare for Fabergé cases', the specialist explains.

'We knew that the bear had once belonged to the de Ganays, a French noble family, and that the initials "B.G." possibly stood for Marquise Berthe de Ganay,' Oganessian continues. 'But the significance of the location and the year were unknown.'

Still, these were useful clues. The inscription of 'Scotland' on the case, coupled with the fact that the piece had been owned by a French aristocrat, suggested that the bear had perhaps been purchased from Fabergé's London shop, which was extremely popular with European royal and aristocratic families. 'We started by searching Fabergé's London ledgers for all the models of bears sold in London,' says Oganessian.

One purchase, recorded on 10 September 1909, was particularly interesting: 'Polar Bear, white onyx', purchased for £26.10s by Virginia Fair Vanderbilt, wife of William Kissam Vanderbilt II.

Interestingly, Fabergé's ledgers show that on the day Mrs. Vanderbilt visited Fabergé's shop, she was accompanied by Martine-Marie-Pol, Countess of Béarn - the sister of Berthe de Ganay. 'This suggests that Virginia Vanderbilt sought the Countess of Béarn's advice on a suitable gift for her sister,' observes Oganessian.



Virginia Fair Vanderbilt and William Kissam Vanderbilt II

Fabergé's ledgers show that on the day Mrs. Vanderbilt visited the London branch of Fabergé in September 1909, she was accompanied by Martine-Marie-Pol, Countess of Béarn. This discovery moved the investigation forward, but the significance of 'Scotland' - and the relationship between Virginia Fair Vanderbilt and Berthe de Ganay - remained unclear. 'We kept looking for clues, and finally came across newspaper articles from 1909 and 1910 which helped give us the full story,' says Oganessian.

10 Comtesse de Béarn	Crépe, oval, dark green ent. narrow cut nephrite place for matches and nephrite. Nephrite in cut and dark green enamel and cut nephrite	1895	72	153	✓	364	
Mrs. W. K. Vanderbilt	"Uncle Sam" white onyx hat white 18 carats, obelisk cut, oval, face, grey & red enamel waistcoat, gold watch chain's buttons Silver Brace, white onyx	1909/10 1892/4	60 26	100 100	✓ ✓	355 144	200 208

Mr. and Mrs. William K. Vanderbilt and the Marquis and Marchioness de Ganay are at Beaufort Castle. This is the estate which was rented a few seasons ago by Henry Phipps, who had trouble with Lovat over the fishing.

A 1909 article from The American Register revealed that Virginia Fair Vanderbilt and the Marquise Berthe de Ganay were at Beaufort Castle, Scotland, together with their husbands, in August of that year. A subsequent article in The New York Times mentions the 1909 visit to Beaufort, and details a second shared holiday in Scotland in August 1910



Mrs. William K. Vanderbilt at Beaufort.

Mrs. William K. Vanderbilt and the Marquise de Ganay have been keeping house together at Beaufort Castle for the shooting and the salmon fishing, and the Marquis de Ganay and Mr. Vanderbilt have had large parties there. The Marquis and Marquise de Ganay live near Mrs. Vanderbilt at Fontainebleau. The de Ganays have also a town house in Paris. This is the second season that the Vanderbilts and de Ganays have been together at Beaufort. Mme. de Ganay was a Miss Ridgeway, and her mother, the venerable Mrs. Ridgeway, died only a few years ago at her château in the Loire district. The sons of the Marquis and Marquise de Ganay have visited this country. They are nearly related to the Willings of Philadelphia, and one of the young de Ganays is at present in the United States.

'Looking deeper into their relationship, we found that the Vanderbilts and the de Ganays lived near each other in Fontainebleau in France,' Oganessian explains. The couples regularly entertained the same circle of friends, and Beaufort Castle, Lord Lovat's Scottish seat, turned out to be the ideal location for the friends to host large house parties,

which were recorded in newspapers in both England and the United States. Among their guests were Consuelo Vanderbilt, Duchess of Marlborough, her son Lord Ivor Spencer-Churchill, and other American and British politicians and socialites. On 19 June 1910 The Washington Post reported that 'invitations to these [holidays were] anxiously sought, not only on account of the prestige of the hostess [Mrs. Vanderbilt], but also because of the splendid shooting and fishing which the estate affords.'

The timing of Berthe de Ganay and Virginia Vanderbilt's stay in Scotland, one month before the purchase of the white onyx polar bear, suggests that this lifelike model was given to Berthe de Ganay as a souvenir of their joint holiday. 'Fabergé provided luxurious presents to the elite from all over the world,' says Oganessian. 'This exquisite model of a polar bear, acquired more than 100 years ago, is a wonderful testimony to its role in Edwardian high society.'



"Romanov's coat-of-arms" - by Yuri Gorbachev, 1998