



# Romanov News Новости Романовых

*By Ludmila & Paul Kulikovsky*

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*Grand Duchess Olga Alexandrovna*

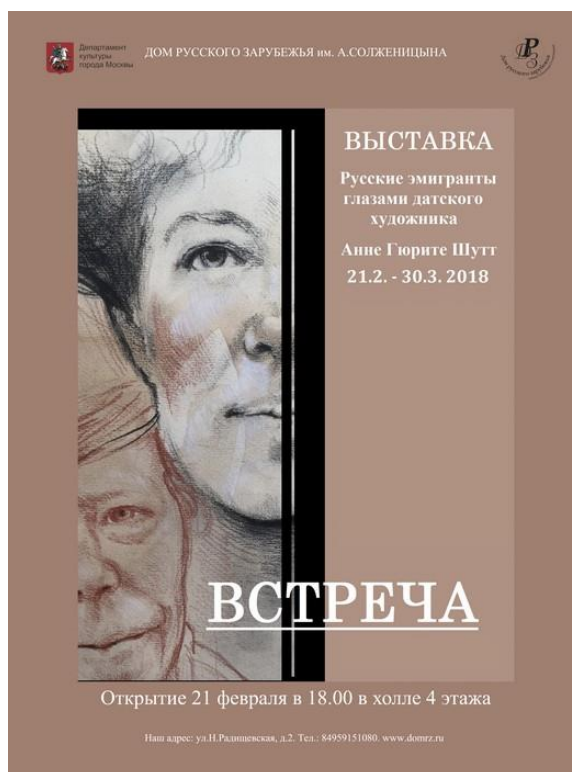
## Russian emigrants in Denmark

February 21, 2018, the opening of the exhibition "Meeting: Russian emigrants through the eyes of the Danish artist Anne Gyrite Schutt" was held in the House of Russian Abroad named after A. Solzhenitsyn in Moscow.

The exhibition presents portraits of Russian emigrants and their descendants. Among these works are portraits of Grand Duchess Olga Alexandrovna, sister of Nicholas II, her granddaughter Xenia Gurievna, Prince Dimitri Romanovich, Timofee Yaschik, the Chamber Cossack of Empress Maria Feodorovna, and Eugeny, Yuri and Nina Pavlovski - from the famous Danish Pavlovski's Balalaika Orchestra created in Denmark in 1936 and still exists.

Anne Gyrite Schutt, Danish Ambassador to Russia Thomas Winkler, former Russian Ambassador to Denmark Dimitri Ryurikov, and Paul Kulikovsky, descendant of Grand Duchess Olga Alexandrovna, made speeches at the opening ceremony.

Anne Schutt told, that she started as a draftsman at the age of 6-7. At age 10-13 She participated in competitions and more than once won the first prizes. The first personal exhibition took place when she was 11. In 1991 I she decided to devote herself completely to drawing and painting and to earn a living by it.



The creation of this exhibition was inspired by the House of Russian Abroad, which she visited in 2016 as part of a trip to Moscow, where she was invited by Maria Pontoppidan, a Danish lecturer at Moscow State University, with the support of the Danish Ministry of Education, to hold a seminar on Danish art and present their creativity.

*She said - "I was fascinated by the theme of Russian emigrants, because through it you can express the relationship between Russia and Denmark. Tsar Nicholas II was half Dane: his mother was a Danish princess. The descendants of refugees from revolutionary Russia live in Denmark. I heard about them and read their stories. I attended the funeral of Prince Dimitri Romanov in the Orthodox Russian Church in Copenhagen."*

*"Along with the images of contemporaries, it is interesting to me to create posthumous portraits of people, because it is an opportunity to give them life in a new space."*



Paul E. Kulikovsky said -  
"Ambassador Winkler,  
Ambassador Ryurikov , dear  
friends. It is a bit strange and at  
the same time wonderful to be  
here today at the opening of this  
exhibition.

Strange because it is like my past,  
my history is catching up with me.  
I lived 40 years in Denmark, and  
the people on the pictures in this  
exhibition are my family, my  
friends or at least friends of my  
family. So I know them very well.  
To see their faces like this is a bit  
unusual for me and to see them in  
Moscow is even more unexpected.  
Here I am, living in Moscow. No  
longer a part of the Russian  
emigration in Denmark and then all of sudden they are all here - like unexpected guests!



My mother Xenia is here. Her grandmother Grand Duchess Olga Alexandrovna is even on the poster.  
The last bodyguards of my great-great-grandmother Empress Maria Feodorovna are here - Kirill  
Polyakov and Timofee Yaschik. Prince Dimitri Romanovich is here.

My friend Randi Pavlovski's husband is here - Evgeny Pavlovski - and their two children Nina and Yuri.  
Pavlovski created a balalaika orchestra in Denmark - which started with the help of Grand Duchess Olga Alexandrovna back in 1936 - and it still exists. Here today we have two from the orchestra: Andy - a master on the balalaika, composer, conductor, and Guido - with a fabulous voice.

And these portraits are created by the artist Anne Gyrite Schütt. A Dane, who is not related to Russia, as far as, I know. But she became fascinated by the Russian emigrants in Denmark and started to make their portraits.

Many thank to Anne for her wonderful portraits and for bringing them here in Moscow. Also, many thanks to the House of Russian Abroad for hosting the exhibition and inviting us.  
And I thank all of you for coming. I hope you will enjoy the exhibition."

The two of the members of the normally 25 persons big Pavlovski's Balalaika Orchestra, Andy Sundström and Guido Paevatalu, performed Russian songs from their repertoire in Danish, which received enthusiastic applause.



The exhibition is in one room, with "the Cossacks" on one wall, "the Romanov descendants" on another, and the Pavlovski's orchestra members on a third.







*Left - Double portrait of Grand Duchess Olga Alexandrovna. Right - Xenia Gurievna Nielsen, granddaughter of Grand Duchess Olga Alexandrovna*

**Grand Duchess Olga Alexandrovna** (13 June [O.S. 1 June] 1882 – 24 November 1960) was the youngest child of Emperor Alexander III and Empress Maria Feodorovna, and younger sister of Emperor Nicholas II.

Olga escaped revolutionary Russia with her second husband Colonel Nicholas Alexandrovich Kulikovsky and their two sons Tikhon and Gury in February 1920. They joined her mother, the Dowager Empress, in Denmark. After the Dowager Empress's death in 1928, Olga and her husband purchased a farm in Ballerup, near Copenhagen. She led a simple life: raising her two sons, working on the farm and painting.

In 1948, feeling threatened by the Soviet regime, Olga and her immediate family immigrated to a farm in Toronto, Canada, where she died November 24, 1960.

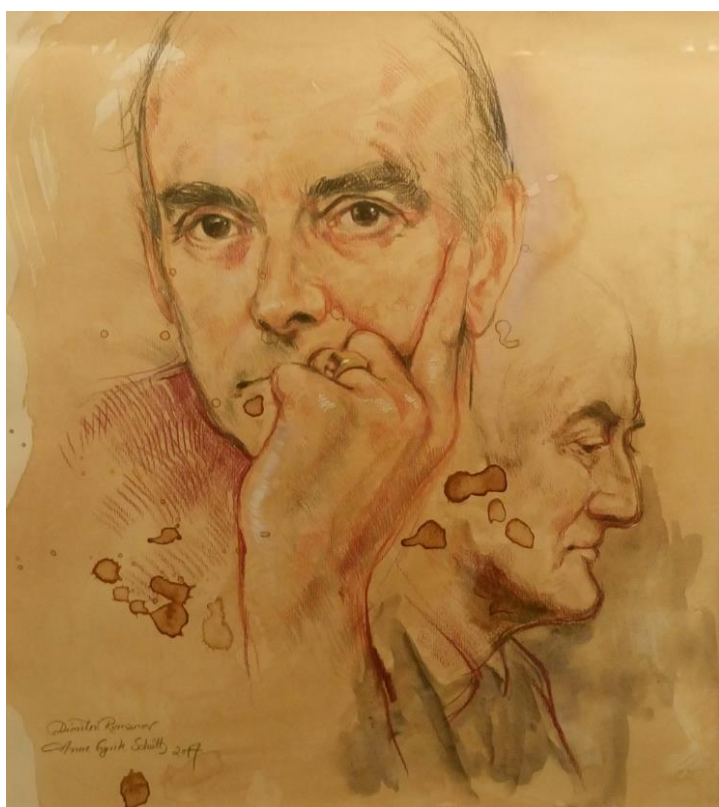
**Xenia Gurievna Nielsen**, born Kulikovsky (June 19, 1941 - ), is the oldest child of Gury Nicholaevich Kulikovsky and Ruth Schwartz. Born in Ballerup, Denmark, she immigrated to Canada together with her family, 7 years old, in 1948. In 1961 Xenia returned to Denmark, where her mother had returned to in 1956.

Her oldest son Paul E. Kulikovsky lives in Moscow, Russia.



*Ludmila and Paul E Kulikovsky in front of the portraits of his great-grandmother Grand Duchess Olga Alexandrovna and his mother Xenia Gurievna*

Besides the portraits there are several artefacts related to the persons in the portraits. One glass case shows photos of Grand Duchess Olga Alexandrovna, postcards with her paintings, and the book "Three white bears" which she illustrated and the book about her "Storfyrstinde Olga i eksil".

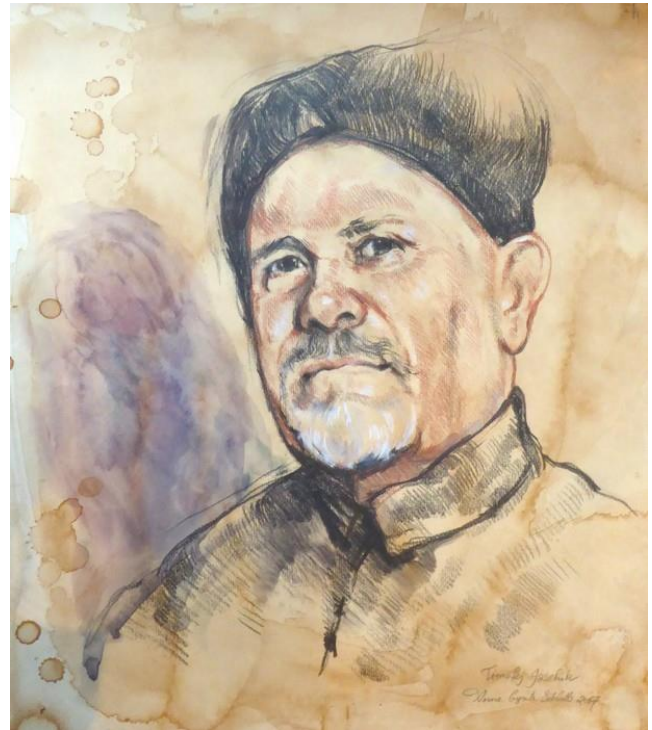


Left - Prince Dimitri Romanovich Romanov in a double portrait and above - Kammer-Cossack Kirill Ivanovich Polyakov.

**Prince Dimitri Romanovich Romanov** (17 May 1926 – 31 December 2016), was the second son of Prince Roman Petrovich of Russia and Countess Praskovia Sheremeteva. His older brother was Prince Nicholas Romanovich. Through his paternal lineage, he was a great-great grandson of Emperor Nicholas I of Russia (1796–1855) and his consort, Princess Charlotte of Prussia. He lived in Denmark from 1960 to 2016.

**Kirill Ivanovich Polyakov** was a Don Cossack, Kammer-Cossack for Empress Maria Feodorovna, from February 14, 1913 to her death September 13, 1928.





*Timofee Ksenofontovich Yaschik in two portraits, one in his Cossacks uniform, and one as a shopkeeper in Copenhagen, without his beard.*

**Timofee Ksenofontovich Yaschik** was born on April 20, 1878 in the Kuban village Novominskaya of the Yeysk region. In 1900 he was called to the Yeysk regiment, which was in Tiflis. Because of his representative appearance, he was almost immediately appointed to the Convoy of the Caucasus

Military District Commander, Adjutant General, Prince E. S. Golitsyn.

In 1904, he was enlisted in the Imperial Own convoy in the Second Kuban hundred. Three years later he resigns from the service. In 1912, he was again summoned to serve in the convoy. In 1914, Emperor Nicholas II chooses him from many aspirants for the position of a Kammer Cossack. The main duty of the Kammer Cossack was to be with the Emperor's person around the clock.

At the beginning of 1916 he became the second personal bodyguard of the Empress Dowager Maria Feodorovna. After 1917, Yaschik remained with Maria Feodorovna, guarding her in the Crimea. In 1918 he took Nicholas II's younger sister Grand Duchess Olga Alexandrovna to his native village, where she gave birth to her second son, Gury.

After Maria Feodorovna left Russia, Yaschik accompanied her to England and Denmark. He guarded the Empress until her death in 1928. After the death of Maria Feodorovna, Yaschik remained in Denmark, having married a Dane. On a small inheritance left by the Empress, he opened a store. Timothy Jaschik died in 1946. He was buried with his wife in a Russian cemetery in Copenhagen.

**Evgeny Bronislavovich Pavlovski** (1912-1985), came from Troistkosavsk-Kiakhta, a medium-sized city in Siberia, not far from the border with Mongolia. His mother was a dance teacher and his father officer in the army. At the outbreak of the revolution, his father was a Lieutenant General in the Imperial Army and actively fought against the Revolutionary Red Army. His father never returned from his last military mission in the army of Admiral Kolchak. After months of waiting, his family, flew across the border to Ulan Bator in Mongolia, and later ended up in Denmark.

Eugeny Pavlovski created in 1936 the Pavlovski's Balalaika Orchestra, which consist of about 25-36 members. All captivated by the strong attraction of Russian folk music, the unique seductive sound of the Balalaika, which calls for the adventure, humour and nostalgia. The orchestra still attracts a big audience at their annual concert in the Queen's Hall in Copenhagen.



**Nina Evgenievna Pavlovski** (born December 14, 1954 in Copenhagen), daughter of Eugeny Pavlovski and Randi Pavlovski, is a Danish opera singer (soprano), educated at the Academy in Copenhagen and by the Russian soprano Galina Visjnevskaja.

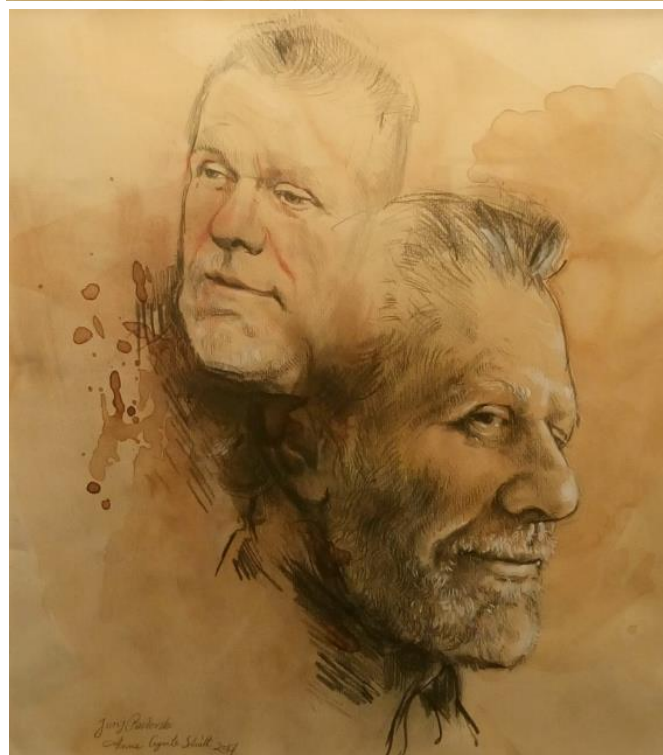
She debuted in 1993 as a Valkyrie in Wagner's Nibelung's Ring at the Jutland Opera and was a soloist at The Royal Theatre.

In 1996, she was involved in the re-introduction of Mstislav Rostropovich in Russia by the original version of Dmitry Sjostakovich's opera Lady Macbeth from Mtsensk.

Nina is the singer in the Pavlovski's Balalaika Orchestra.

Pavlovski has sung in most of Europe, Japan and South America and has recorded several CDs.

**Yuri Evgenyevich Pavlovski** (born 1959) - son of Eugeny Pavlovski and Randi Pavlovski. He is musician and singer, member of several bands and the Pavlovski's Balalaika Orchestra.



The exhibition is supported by the Christian X Foundation of the Danish Royal House and the Danish Cultural Institute in St. Petersburg.

Curators of the exhibition: from the Danish side - Maria Pontoppidan, from the House of Russians Abroad - the head of the sector of art exhibitions Vera Vladimirova.

The exhibition will run until March 30, 2018.



## The Exhibition "Honor of the Fatherland. The history of the cadet corps in Russia. XVIII - XXII century"

On February 22, the opening ceremony of exhibition *"Honor of the Homeland. The history of the Cadet Corps in Russia. XVIII - XXI century"* was held in the Manege Central Exhibition Hall in Moscow.

For the first time in 287 years of the existence of Cadet Corps in Russia, an exhibition tells about the main stages of the formation and development of the national system of cadet corps, from the XVIII century to the present.

Talking at the opening were Minister of Culture Vladimir Medinsky - who read a greeting from President Vladimir Putin -, Head of culture in Moscow Alexander Kibovsky, and curator Olga Barkovets greeted the audience. Michael Perekrestov (Jordanville, USA), George Vilinbakhov (Hermitage), Sergei Mironenko (GARF), Prince Ivan Schakhovskoy, and Ludmila and Paul Kulikovskiy attended the ceremony.

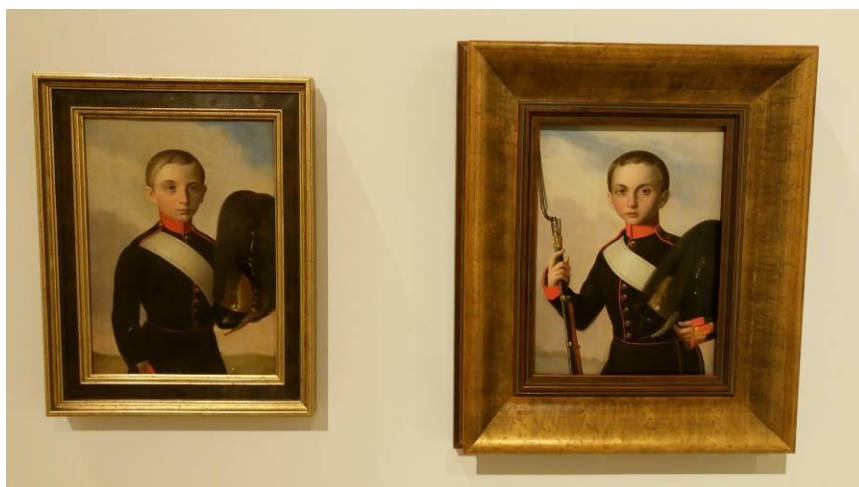
The exhibition presents exhibits from the leading museums and archives of Russia, Serbia, USA, private collections (more than 30 participants): rare archival documents, photographs, graphics, watercolors, paintings, sculptures, weapons, uniforms, books, insignia, decorations, banners and many other exhibits, most of which are shown for the first time. A special place is occupied by documents

evidencing the changing moods of the first persons of the state regarding the Cadet Corps, which determined the fate and the vector of the development of educational institutions. Documentary films will be shown at the exhibition. Essays, maps, presented in a multimedia format supplement the story.

Among the participants there are the State Hermitage Museum, the Central Military Museum of Artillery, the Communications and Engineering Forces, the Archives of the President of the Russian Federation, the State Archives of the Russian Federation, the Russian State Archive of Ancient Acts, the Russian State Military Historical Archive, the Tsarskoye Selo State Museum, Pavlovsk State Museum, Museum of History of St. Petersburg, Central Museum of the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation, Central



Naval Museum, State Museum of Fine Arts. A.S. Pushkin, the State Historical Museum, the State Tretyakov Gallery, the Russian History Foundation (Holy Trinity Orthodox Seminary of the Holy Trinity Monastery of ROCOR), Jordanville, USA; museums and archives of Serbia, private collectors, etc.



The idea of the Cadet corps belong to Pavel Yaguzhinsky, a famous Russian politician and public personality. In 1730, being in Prussia as an ambassador, he visited the Prussian cadet corps and later sent a letter with a description of what he had seen to the head of the War Ministry, Christophor Minich, offering to adopt the Prussian practice. Minich presented his idea to Empress Anna Ioannovna and on



July 29, 1731 she issued an order establishing the first cadet corps for the children of nobility. Minich became the first chief of the cadet corps.



Only children who were able to read and write could be admitted to the corps, but the age of the cadets was not specified. The training lasted from five to six years. In Prussia, the cadets studied military science as well as foreign languages, music and fencing, and after graduation all cadets had to join the army. However, the curriculum of the Russian cadet corps included more humanities and social sciences and the cadets were not obliged to become career military officers.



On June 28, 1762 Catherine II was crowned. A year later her secretary, Ivan Betskoy, presented her a project for education reform. To bring up “a new kind of people”, erudite and creative, Betskoy offered to establish closed schools where children could be protected from the “corrupting influence of modern life”. The teachers in such schools were to give pupils an example of moral behavior, the syllabus was to conform to the children’s needs and abilities, and corporal punishments were strictly prohibited. Catherine approved the project as Betskoy’s plans were in tune with her own views and ideas, and several schools and institutes were opened.

On March 7, 1765 Betskoy became the director of the cadet corps and reorganized it. The boys were now admitted to the corps at age five and graduated at age 20. Not only nobleman, but also the people from all the classes, except peasants, received the right to send their children to the corps, and orphans and children from poor families received an advantage in admissions. Also, the natural sciences – chemistry, physics and astronomy – were added to the curriculum. The regulation rules also changed and a paragraph about the moral education was added to them. According to this, teachers and officers

of the corps had “to watch the cadets to behave politely and kindly and to eradicate lies, betrayals and other vices not suitable to nobleman”.



Betskoy attached a great sense to the personal contact between the director of the corps and the cadets. He often invited older cadets for tea. The Empress also often invited the youngest cadets to the palace to play with her grandchildren.



In the beginning of the 19th century, during the reign of Alexander I, the cadet corps started to appear in all large Russian cities. The end of the 19th century is considered the best years for the Russian cadet corps since Emperor Nicholas II was interested in the development of the cadet corps system and he provided lavish funding.





When the revolution came in 1917 the Bolsheviks tried to close the cadet corps and dismiss the cadets, but the cadets put up an armed resistance. Many cadets left their families and joined the White Army and some had to keep their real age as a secret because they were too young.





Those cadets who escaped alive formed cadet corps in other countries,

most notably at Bela Crkva in the Kingdom of Yugoslavia, where they received the patronage of King Alexander I of Yugoslavia (reigned 1921-1934) - a former pupil in the Saint Petersburg Page Corps.

Numerous educational establishments, including the Grand Duke Konstantin Konstantinovich Russian Cadets Corp, were organized in Yugoslavia .



This émigré life continued in Yugoslavia for only two decades. After the Second World War, the majority of Russians moved to the West.



The display of artifacts are arranged in a "U-shape", with one ally and the "turn" telling about the Imperial Period, with the beginning of the next ally telling about the Cadets in exile, and ending with the Soviet period and the present days.



The Imperial period is split into the era of the main Emperor and Empress affecting the history and development of the cadets. A bright yellow color is used to highlight uniforms and special objects. Interactive screens are available and in the middle of the "U" there are several mini cinemas.





The exhibition ends March 11, 2018.



## The first award ceremony of the international youth prize "for fidelity to vocation"

The solemn ceremony of the first International "For fidelity to vocation" Youth Prize, established by the Imperial Orthodox Palestine Society, took place on February 13 at one of the most prestigious areas of Moscow and Moscow Region - in the concert hall of "Barvikha Luxury Village". The evening was guided by the famous TV presenter Arina Sharapova, a full member of the IOPS and the moderator of the TV channel "Spas" Anton Kurilovich.



The inauguration ceremony was opened by the prominent political and public figure, the Chairman of the IOPS, Sergei Stepashin. He thanked the Youth Section of the IOPS and its head Maria Korovina for the initiative to establish the award. At the same time, Sergei Stepashin noted that in its 135-year history, the IOPS never had a Youth Section. It was assumed that the young people are not yet mature. Meanwhile, the first President, Grand Duke Sergei Alexandrovich, was only 25 years old when he, commander of the Moscow Military District, headed the Palestinian Society.

At the evening there were a lot of young people from Moscow and the Moscow region, participants of youth and volunteer organizations. Among the guests and participants of the ceremony are well-known state, church and public figures. The evening was also attended by the head of the administration of the Odintsovo Municipal District, Andrei Ivanov.

On the stage there was the symbol of the new award with the image of Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna and the historical sign of the IOPS.

At the beginning of the ceremony, a film was shown about the history of the Imperial Orthodox Palestine Society, which, as is known, was established by the decree of Emperor Alexander III on June 3, 1882.



Sergei Stepashin shared his impressions of his recent participation as a mentor in the contest "Leaders of Russia". When asked about what qualities a leader should have, young people usually answered that the leader must have the knowledge, be assertive, called the fashionable foreign words ... And only one young man said that a true leader should love his country, respect other people, and be kind and decent. Being a person of good is very important, the IOPS Chairman stressed. Such people are the laureates of the new youth prize, said Sergey Stepashin.

Touching on the humanitarian sphere, Sergei Stepashin noted that the concept of "humanism", "love", "empathy" arise when a country is in trouble. Unfortunately, in Russia, there were many wars, revolutions, counter-revolutions in history. Today, trouble came to the Holy Land of Palestine, to Syria. The soul of Russians was revealed and a huge amount of humanitarian aid goes to Syria, many people come there to help and do well. You will not learn good, you can not buy it. Good either is, or it is not. This is the meaning of our event, Sergey Stepashin stressed. Those who receive this award are people of good, who love their history, culture, their relatives and all of us.

In his greeting to the participants of the ceremony, great-great-grandson of Alexander III, the full member of the IOPS Paul Kulikovsky said:

*"Dear Sergey Stepashin, ladies and gentlemen, brothers and sisters.*

*I am pleased to be here, at the first award ceremony of the Imperial Orthodox Palestine Society's International Youth Prize "For Fidelity to Vocation".*

*To give recognition to a young person is particular important. It often means the world to them and can change their entire life - and their contribution to society.*

*Deserved recognition will increase their self-esteem, improve their motivation, stimulate further achievement - and it will encourage them to take an active role in society as model citizens.*

*I think this is what this award is about - Recognition of young people who takes an active role in society, and promote the values that is needed for a continued positive development of our society. Working in the spirit of - We do not need revolution, we need evolution.*



*Here, tonight, there are persons whom the award jury of Imperial Orthodox Palestine Society has found worthy of this public recognition. Let me already now say congratulation to all the nominees. God grant you further success!*

*One of you will receive the first award and will become a lighthouse for other young people. Her or his shining example will inspire others - and next year the Imperial Orthodox Palestine Society can present the "Youth award" again.*

*Martyr Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna, one of the best representatives of the Imperial Romanov family, has been an inspiration for the Award. It is a very good choice, as she still today inspires many people, not just in Russia, but all around the world, to do a lot of good deeds.*

*Her sacrificial service to Russia, piety, mercy, deep Christian spirit, devotion, personal strength, moral*

*nobility, enlightened mind, and leadership, are all values in the heart of this award.*

*Martyr Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna was not born in Russia, but became Russian. I am therefore delighted that this award is international, and can be presented to both young Russians and foreigners.*

*In two weeks time, it will be 10 years since I arrived in Moscow to live and work. It has been called an outstanding achievement, the first descendant of the Imperial Romanov family, to come to live in*



*Russia after the 1917-revolution - and especially since I do not speak Russian. But I guess I am already too old to get this Youth award - Such a pity!*

*I am proud, that my great-great-grandfather Tsar Alexander III, in 1882 created the Imperial Orthodox Palestine Society; that I am a member, and of its many important activities. It has always served noble purposes, and worked for the interests of Christians and Russia's presence in the Holy Land. An activity is more important today, than ever.*

*For a society named "Imperial", 2018 is a special year. There will be a lot of "Imperial" events. Members of the society are responsible for some of them and I hope many of you will help in commemorating them.*

*I will mention the main ones. There are the 200 years birthday anniversary of Tsar Alexander II in April and the 150 years birthday anniversary of Tsar-Martyr Nicholas II in May.*

*In June it is 100 years since the murder of Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich. In July is 100 years since the martyrdom of the Passion-Bearers Nicholas II and his family, their 3 most loyal servants and Saint Martyr Dr. Evgeny Botkin. And it is 100 years since the murder of the Alapaevsk martyrs, among them the Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna.*

*New Romanov related museums will open in Tobolsk and Alapaevsk. There will be exhibitions, conferences, and new monuments. It is going to be a busy year.*

*So, thank God, this award ceremony is held here in February, in the joyful Maslenitsa week.*

*Once again thank you to the Imperial Orthodox Palestine Society for the initiative of the "International Youth Award".*

*I wish you all a wonderful evening. Thank you.*

Then the jury and guests of honour were invited to the stage, to the awarding of the prize. All receivers of the award got diplomas, a blue ribbon, a memorable gift and flowers.

- Yuri S. Belanovsky - the project "Volunteer Movement "Danilovtsi".
- Alexander A. Bolotov - the project "Youth Forum" Alexandrova Gora."
- Sergey D. Buravlev - the project "Objective informing of the foreign public about the events taking place in Russia, on the portal "ProfileRussia" in the UK".
- Alexey A. Kubyshkin - project "Spiritual and moral and musical education of youth at the parish of Grebnevsky church of Odintsovo".
- Anor R. Tukaeva - the project "Rescue of the flooded church in Krokhino".
- Mikhail P. Chernykh - the project "Popularization of the domestic classics among the youth, the creation of a movie cycle based on the stories of Anton Chekhov."
- Denis A. Shpotya - project "Popularization of Russia's achievements in the aerospace field".
- Khaled Rabeh - the project "Humanitarian and Rescue Mission of the Civilian Population in the Zone of Military Conflicts".



Khaled Rabeh is a Syrian citizen, a 27-year-old employee of the Syrian Arab Red Cross. The prize was awarded to him by IOPS Deputy Chairman Elena Agapova and the head of the press service of the Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia, priest Alexander Volkov.

Over the past seven years, he has been taking an active part in saving and rendering humanitarian assistance to his compatriots, escorting humanitarian supplies to areas blocked by terrorists. It gives people hope for life.

Khaled Rabekh thanked the IOPS for the warm welcome and for the humanitarian work of the Society in Syria. He said that during the war in Syria, 65 of his colleagues - employees of the SARK (Red Cross), a public

organization - were killed. Despite all the difficulties, employees and volunteers will continue their humanitarian mission. Khaled Rabekh thanked the IOPS for this high appreciation of their work.

After the awarding ceremony, Sergei Stepashin again congratulated the awardees. He announced that on the initiative of the IOPS the new year 2018 is to become the Year of Saint Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna .

At the end of the evening, the couple Victoria and Anton Makarski - Russians living in Israel - gave a concert.



### **In Yekaterinburg, a memorial plaque was erected on the site where Nicholas II and his family got off the train**

25 February. E1. - In Yekaterinburg, a place where, according to historians, the last Russian Emperor and his family came from the train under the escort of the Bolsheviks was immortalized.

A memorial plaque appeared near Shartash station. There is an inscription on it: "On April 30, 1918, on Vyshnevaya Street, 22b, where the railway station 3rd freight of Yekaterinburg was, Nicholas II, Alexandra Feodorovna and their daughter, Grand Duchess Maria, entered the Urals on arrival from Tobolsk and were transferred to the Uralsovet. They had 78 days to live."

The Tsar and his family were originally planned to land at the main station of the Ural capital, but unexpected circumstances intervened.

- In Yekaterinburg in 1918 there were three stations, - Ilya Korovin, an activist of the Memorial of the Romanovs, said. – "Ekaterinburg-1, where the railway station is located, Ekaterinburg-2 - where the modern Freight station is located, as well as Yekaterinburg-3, the Shartash freight station, on the opposite side of the





passenger station. Commissar Myachin, who brought the Tsar on the train, had a clear indication: to deliver alive the so-called "cargo". But the train at the main station was met by a crowd of aggressive residents, who demanded to give them the Tsar. Therefore, the Bolsheviks took Nicholas to a safer place. In his diaries there is confirmation of this: the Tsar wrote that their train had "strayed for a long time" and eventually stopped at the freight station.

The memorial board is made of marble and is inserted in a metal frame.

At the opening were historians and activists of the "Memorial of the Romanovs" society. The service was served not by the priest of the Russian Orthodox Church, but by the representative of the "Orthodox Russian Church" (a branch from the Russian Orthodox Church abroad), bishop Kamensk-Uralsky and Sibirskiy Evgeny.



## To the centenary of the tragic death of the last Russian Tsar Nicholas II

*By Lyudmila Angus (shorten text)*

On February 25, a meeting of the society "Literary Portraits" was held at the Russian club in Strathfield, Sydney, Australia, dedicated to one of the most important events of this year in the history of Russia - the centenary of the tragic death of the last Russian Tsar Nicholas II. The big hall of the club was filled with people who gathered to pay tribute to the memory of the Tsar with a minute of silence.

Ludmila Angus made a presentation of the book "Life and the Way of the Cross of the Last Russian Tsar Nicholas II". An icon of the Royal Passion-Bearers was on the table, two large stands with photographs of the Imperial family and books about the life and death of the Tsar and his family. The guests studied the numerous photographs, examined the books and the gift calendar issued in New York for 2018, all devoted to the centenary of the destruction of the Romanov family, donated by Vladyka Hilarion.



Interesting was the new, published in 2016, Konstantin Kapkov's book "The Royal Choice", which included three books: "The Spiritual World of Emperor Nicholas II and His Family", "The Last Priests of the Tsar" and "The Free Victim." The book is dedicated to the centenary of the Great Martyrdom of the Royal Passion-Bearers.

Lately there have been a lot of books, films, articles, and various stories on the Internet about Tsar Nicholas II and his family. Still, the centenary of the death - a remarkable date, there are reasons to think, weigh and change your mind about everything known to us about the last Russian Tsar.

In the book "The Royal Choice" Kapkov writes: "The softness and charm of the bright blue eyes of the Tsar, his penetratingly cordial look always in the eye of the interlocutor, sincerity and simplicity were recognized by all. His faith was the same: intimate, quiet. No one for a single moment doubted his devotion to Orthodoxy." The general religious mood created in the Tsar's family was mutual love and respect. The Empress tried to support her husband in everything and never pressed upon him, which is quite consistent with the Orthodox paradigm of an ideal family.

The chief of protection of the Imperial family under arrest in Tobolsk, Colonel Eugene Stepanovich Kobylinsky, wrote: "Life in their family all of them so spiritually satisfied that they did not require any other communication. I have never met such an amazingly friendly, loving family in my life and I think I will never see it again in my life."

Ivan Alekseevich Bunin wrote: "Our children, grandchildren will not be able to even imagine the Russia in which we once lived, which we did not appreciate, did not understand - all this power, wealth and happiness."



All of them: Nicholas II, Alexandra Fedorovna, their five children, Dr. Botkin and three servants - Chamberlain Trupp, cook Kharitonov and maid of honor Demidova - were killed with the use of cold and firearms in the "House of Special Purpose" - in the basement of the Ipatiev Mansion in Yekaterinburg on the night of July 17, 1918. All were shot without trial and investigation.

Since the 1920s, on the initiative of the Union of zealots for the memory of Emperor Nicholas II, regular commemorations of Emperor Nicholas II were performed three times a year (on his birthday, his name day and the anniversary of the murder). And on November 1, 1981, Emperor Nicholas II and his family were canonized by the Russian Church Abroad. The decision of the Council of Bishops of the Russian Orthodox Church of the Moscow Patriarchate on August 14, 2000 is as follows: "To glorify the imperial family as Empress Nicholas II, Empress Alexandra, Tsarevich Alexy, Grand Duchesses Olga, Tatiana, Maria and Anastasia as hostesses in the assembly of the new-born and confessors of the Russian Tsar."

We in Australia on December 26 last, 2017, in the territory of the complex "Kronstadt Gardens" of the Russian Charitable Society in Dandenonga, put a monument to the last Russian Tsar-martyr Nicholas II. The bust of Nicholas II was presented as a gift of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia by the Foundation for Promoting the Development and Strengthening of Spiritual Unity, Religious and Historical Values "Under the Blessed Virgin."





In the second part, three people took part in the discussions: Lyubov Kozina, Irina Apollonova and Alexei Ivachev. And then everyone watched the archive-documentary film "Saint Tsar Nicholas II in Livadia" by Konstantin Kapkov. Konstantine did a tremendous job, visited many recently opened film archives to select film materials about the life of the Imperial family in Crimea. At the end of last year, his film was finished, and Konstantine sent several copies to Australia. The film presents invaluable shots: official military parades, receptions of ambassadors of foreign powers, personal family photography, such as the celebration of the namesake of Empress Alexandra Feodorovna and the Light Easter Passover, relatives and approximate Tsars such as Grand Dukes, maid of honour Anna Vyubova, Minister of the Imperial Court, Count Frederiks, the teacher of the royal children Pierre Gilliard, the physician Botkin and many other court ladies, various civil and military ranks of the Russian Empire, presented the only surviving record of the goal wasp of the Emperor Nicholas II.





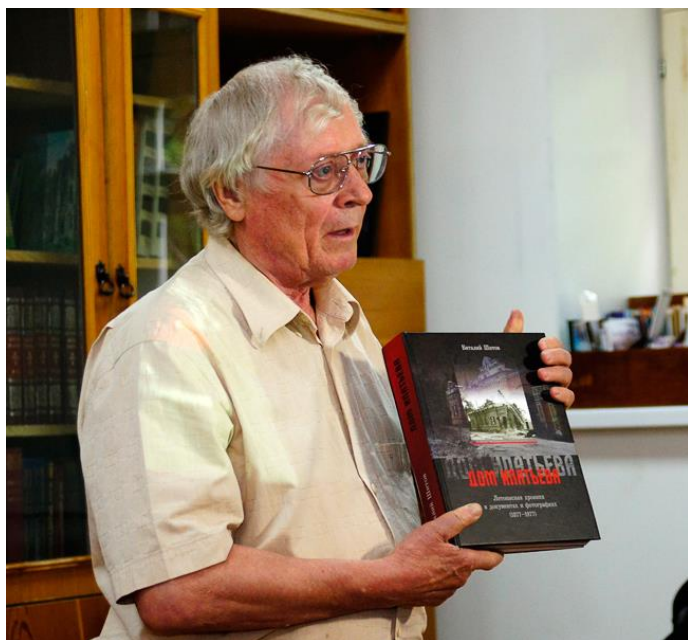
## The Tsarevich Alexei and Grand Duchess Maria burial-case continues

### *Yekaterinburg will host a conference of the ROC on the Tsar's remains*

2 February. URA - In Yekaterinburg, in early March, a conference will be held under the auspices of the Russian Orthodox Church, dedicated to the work of the commission for the study of remains found in the Porosencov Log. Leading genetics of the world on the basis of the results of examinations came to the conclusion that the remains of the Romanov family and their confidants were found. However, the ROC does not agree with this, and has made a new study.

The conference should be held in early March, several historians from Yekaterinburg are invited to take part in it, but the numerical superiority will be on the side of the church. The historian Peter Multatuli will perform with his theory of ritual murder of the Romanovs, also the 79-year-old Victor Korn (Korenko), the engineer-ship mechanic from Odessa, who after retirement began to write about the Imperial family will come. These two are the main

striking force of the church in this matter, but there are many others. They managed to achieve the fact that the Investigative Committee was engaged in the case.



Historian Vitaly Shitov, author of the book "House of Ipatiev. Chronicle chronicles: 1877-1977", doubted the success of new research. "Do they want to find new witnesses? I think that this is hardly possible. Everything that was possible has already been found and investigated."- he said.

The version about the ritual murder appeared after 1925, when the white emigrant Mikhail Skaryatin, living in Paris and needing money, published a pamphlet entitled "The Sacrifice" under the pseudonym Enel. He reported that four Kabbalistic signs were found on the wall of Ipatiev's house in Yekaterinburg, where the Romanovs were killed, which he deciphered thus: "Here, by order of the dark forces, the Tsar was sacrificed. About this the peoples are informed."

"It is known that in the basement, where the execution was subsequently carried out, before that, the office of the construction contracting was located. The window sill, whose width was 70 cm, was used as a table, since it was the most lit place in the room with a single window. They wrote at that time with ink pens. The clerk who worked at this desk-sill could make these scribbles when the pen was ruled. As we wipe the tip of the ballpoint pen, if the paste begins to smear. After all, these signs, which are now treated as kabbalistic signs, are found under the windowsill, where it is very difficult to climb. If it was so important for these people to report that they had made a "sacrifice," they would have left the inscription in a prominent place. And not where it was noticed by chance, where they could not see at all," historian Vitaly Shitov explained.

In addition to discussing the plot, the conference will again discuss the issue of the remains discovered in the Porosenkov Log. After questioning the conclusions of the commission, which worked under the supervision of investigator of the TFR Vladimir Soloviev, the ROC initiated a new genetic study of bones.



## **The conspirologists who raised the theme of the ritual murder of the Romanovs were banned from being allowed into the Ural churches**

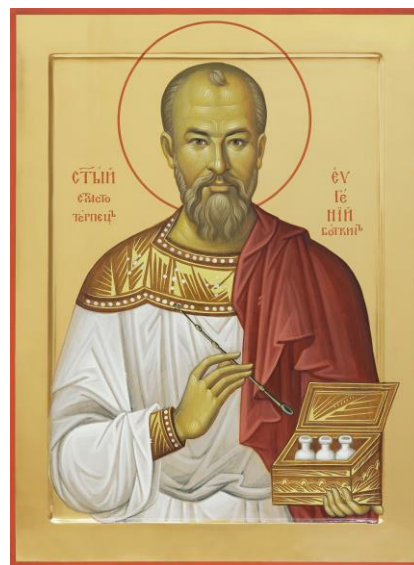
5 February. URA. - The Yekaterinburg diocese received an order from Moscow not to provide premises for a conference on the ritual murder of the family of Tsar Nicholas II neither at the Patriarch's farmstead, nor in the Church on Blood, nor in any other metropolitan object. Initially, it was planned for March, but was moved to July, closer to the centennial anniversary of the shooting of the Romanovs, which the believers will celebrate on July 16-17.

"There was an order from Moscow not to provide premises for the conference with the participation of historians Peter Multatuli and Victor Korn. The reason for such a ban is not said, it is probably due to the fact that on the anniversary we are waiting for the head of our church, Patriarch Cyril and other hierarchs - so that harsh statements of historians in the eyes of people are not associated with the church, and to once again not create a heated atmosphere in society, says a source in the diocese.

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### **The case of St. Evgeny Botkin**

Unique documents of a hundred years ago, known to a narrow circle of historians, testify to the greatness of the human achievement. GARF holds a fund that collects materials related to the life and activities of the family physician of the last Russian Tsar Evgeny Botkin.



On the night of July 16 to July 17, 1918, he was shot in the same cellar of the Ipatiev House in Yekaterinburg, in which Nicholas II and the Imperial family were killed. Today, when the Yekaterinburg nightmare is described in books and articles, in fact, little is known about the human and spiritual feat of Dr. Botkin - the outstanding Russian physician, the son of the famous Sergei Petrovich Botkin (the medical physician of the Emperors Alexander II and Alexander III), the holy passion-bearer of the Russian Orthodox churches.

Documents that reflect the life and ministry of Dr. Botkin, the audience will see for the first time. The guest of the program is Yuri Zhuk, the writer, the president of the "Fund of Memory of the New Martyrs of the Romanov Imperial House".

Video - [https://tvkultura.ru/video/show/brand\\_id/61992/episode\\_id/1656447/](https://tvkultura.ru/video/show/brand_id/61992/episode_id/1656447/)

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## "Great architecture can only be royal"

Denis Evgenievich Rieder is a St. Petersburg designer and architect, who have been involved in number of projects related to the Romanovs. On his list of achievements there are among many: participation in the first reconstruction of the Alexander Palace, completed for the 300th anniversary of Tsarskoe Selo; two times involved in projects on the Lower dacha in Peterhof; reconstruction of churches in Tsarskoye Selo (Pushkin): the Znamensky Church, the Kazan Church in the Southern Cemetery, the Church of the Cuirassier Regiment; the Imperial Farm and the Upper Greenhouses in Tsarskoye Selo; the award winning project: "Battery No.7", a fortress in Kronstadt; the exhibition "Four Hessian Princesses in Russian history"; and now he is involved in the Feodorovsky Gorodok.

*Interview by Ludmila & Paul Kulikovsky*

*Denis Rieder - It is God's providence that all our projects are connected with the Romanovs. I am convinced that great architecture, like haute couture in fashion, exists only as royal. Because it was creativity, which did not aim at economic gain. Any modern capitalist luxury is calculated, it is as luxurious as one is ready to pay. Royal luxury is different. The real architecture was built according to a royal decree, built for beauty, not for sale. So Versailles was built by the Sun King Louis XIV. Sovereigns always ordered, what represented the peak of construction and technical thought. This is always a technically perfect showcase, so the restoration of these objects is always interesting.*



*Denis Evgenievich Rieder, a St. Petersburg based designer and architect*

***Last time we met in connection with the successful exhibition in Frankfurt - "Four Hessian Princesses in Russian History", arranged by the Elisabeth-Sergei Enlightenment Society, headed by Anna V. Gromova, and you were the designer and architect on the project, which was a surprise for us and properly for many others also, as we only know you as an architect working on restoration of buildings. How did you get involved in this project?***

*Rieder - A few years ago in the city Ustyuzhna in the Vologda region I met with the curator of this exhibition Ludmila Shumskaya. In Ustyuzhna there is a house in which my grandfather lived and my father grew up. This house I inherited. Shumsky also has a house in Ustyuzhna, inherited from their*



ancestors. Through Shumskaya we got acquainted with the Fund Elisabeth-Sergei Enlightenment Society. In 2016, I participated in the Elizabeth-Sergei readings in the Kremlin. I visited the center of the Elisabeth-Sergei Enlightenment Society in Usovo. In May 2017, I was then asked if I wanted to take part in the preparation of the exhibition "Hessian Princesses in Russian History". The theme of the Romanovs and, in particular, of Nicholas II, is very close to me, as almost all restorative I do are objects associated with the Romanovs. I just could not refuse and accepted this offer.

**For you being an architect, wasn't this an unusual assignment?**

Rieder - This is my first experience of preparing an exhibition of this magnitude. But my specialty in my first education is as a designer-researcher. I studied at a very interesting department in St. Petersburg Mukhina school - the department of software design. We were taught the design of everything - graphics, cars, airplanes, kettles, clothes. The approach is to find an aesthetic task and solve it. The design of the exhibition is the dream of every designer, and my architectural experience helped me make it more interesting and unconventional.

**Which consideration did you make for the exhibition?**

Rieder - In both the design and the architecture, the place plays a huge role, so first of all, in May 2017, I visited in Frankfurt the Museum of Icons and made very detailed measurement of the exposition room. One of the main problems of this exhibition was the number of exhibits that we tried to present in it. From the very beginning we called this exhibition - "A town in a snuffbox".



The exhibition "Four Hessian Princesses in Russian History" in the Museum of Icons, in Frankfurt, Germany.

The scale of the exhibits was very different - from official portraits to miniature jewelry. When the plan was made, we built a three-dimensional model of the room. We started with the large exhibits, which are more difficult to place than small ones. And first of all we had to create a place for the official portraits. So the gallery of official portraits was born. The idea of different colors for different epochs

*belonged to Alexander Pavlovich Alexievsky, an expositionist, a heraldist, and a director. In our project, he successfully engaged in the selection of exhibits from private collectors. Alexievsky suggested pastel colors, and I changed them to the darker ones, as I tried to achieve the greatest effect. The dark background, and this is known to designers, is the most rewarding for exposing jewelry.*

**What kind of difficulties did you have to overcome?**

*Rieder - There were difficulties with the delivery of exhibits, restrictions related, for example, to the weight of the marble busts of Nicholas II and Alexandra Feodorovna. Therefore, it was not possible to implement the original plan to arrange the genealogical tree at the end of the gallery of portraits and busts in front of them.*

*The interior of the Museum of icons was made in the 1970s in a style of constructivism, and we wanted to introduce elements of the palace. For example, we wanted to get parquet floor in the showcases with dresses. Unfortunately, it did not happen.*

*A positive challenge was, the Landgraf of Hessen, who at the last moment brought 5 or 6 exhibits, which no one knew about, such as a letter from Pavel Petrovich to Natalia Alekseevna, such amazing things. Now I have an understanding of how to make the next exhibition with fewer mistakes and inconsistencies. The main thing is to get a complete list of exhibits with the attribution and the right sizes in advance.*

*But we succeeded in the main thing - to realize the idea of this exhibition - in the portrait gallery every spectator appeared alone in front of these images, before these noble faces. There was a personal meeting.*



Denis Rieder with Ludmila and Paul Kulikovskiy

**What do you think was the main achievements of this exhibition?**

*Rieder - The most important thing is that the exhibition was held. Germany and Russia are two European nations that are close to each other both as peoples and as royal families. Historically, between the royal houses of both countries there are many related crossings. The issue of friendly*



*relations between Russia and Germany is very important. We know that there are so many examples of frank, selfless service of the Romanovs. In the entire history of the Romanovs, one of the main themes is mission, service to the country. In the life of each of them there is a whole series of events, when the personal moves to the background and the fidelity to the duty is placed in the forefront.*

*The exhibition gave an opportunity to show once again how much we – Russians and Germans - have in common, that we are not different. It was very important to show the personal belongings of the German princesses, so that the Germans first of all saw in them not Russian tsarinas, but their German princesses. And to see the feat of service of their German princesses, as an example of honor and dignity for the German people. This is missing in today's generations, both Russian and German. The exhibition is very important, it has state significance, especially during the period of such Russophobic information pumping in Europe, which is happening today.*

*A very important thing was that the Germans took part in this exhibition and made the catalog. It is clear that this was a great event for the Russian-speaking audience. So it was important to make this a great event also for the Germans. And the fact that it happened was a great victory.*

***Your family name Rieder does not sound very Russian. Can you tell us a little about your own family background?***

*Rieder - At the end of the nineteenth century, my great-great-grandfather Eduard Rieder, a Swiss German, was invited by some Russian statesman, perhaps F.I. Rodichev, to come to Russia to make cheese. My ancestors in four generations are cheese makers. Since Switzerland in the nineteenth century was a poor country, the invitation to come to Russia was received with enthusiasm. Rieder took his whole family, brought to Russia and they produced cheese quite successfully in the Novgorod province. He came "for milk," because the quality of milk is very important for the cheese maker. The best was considered Vologda milk due to the composition of grass, and breeds of cows. He himself built two dairies in the village of Vyatka, Novgorod Province: one for himself, the other for 4 sons. He had 18 children from two wives. Cheese was transported to Moscow. Once they arrived in Moscow, they brought it to the Swiss merchants Dubokh, who traded cheese and tea.*

*And my great-grandfather Adolf Rieder met his love, their daughter Maria Davydovna Dubokh. And he fascinated her, arranged a magnificent wedding. He took her away to the wilderness, to the Novgorod province, where she gave birth to six children. But she, an educated girl, could not restrain herself in the wilderness and fled to the Ustyuzhna district town, taking her sons with her. She had a medical education and worked as a paramedic. In Ustyuzhna she lived her whole life, my grandfather grew up there and my father was born.*

*Of her three sons, only my grandfather came to the front during the Second World War. Imagine, the corporal of the Soviet army, Eduard Adolfovich Rieder ... There were probably a lot of jokes. He was a machine gunner throughout the war. At the end of the war, he was sent from Budapest to Vladivostok to the Japanese front. From there he returned in 1946.*

*Grandfather died when I was 5 years old. I do not remember him well, but I inherited his house. Thanks to him, first my father, then my brother and I received Swiss citizenship. I have dual citizenship. We can say that the exhibition in Frankfurt was made by a Swiss designer. And again, the Swiss were maybe not as many as the Germans in Russian history, but they were. The Swiss Trezzini, Gilliard, Thormayer, the Swiss served the Imperial dynasty. And when they ask me: "Why you did not leave for Switzerland in the 90s, when a lot of intellectuals left?" I answer: "If my grandfather defended the Soviet Union with weapons in hand, why should I leave?" In addition, there are no such creative prospects as in Russia. In Switzerland, no one will give me such objects, simply because they are not there. Places are small and everything is built-up. There is a joke that, for example, in Zurich, in order to build something, first you need to take something down.*

*I am the first architect in the family. Mom really wanted me to be an artist. My older brother is a musician. But I did not become an artist, but a designer. Thanks to my wife, I entered the world of*

architects and got so accustomed to it, that I had to become an architect. I was born in Obninsk. I had a happy Soviet childhood. My father worked at a nuclear power plant. Parents were designers and I knew how to draw from childhood. I went to Petersburg where my elder brother lived. I always loved Peter more than Moscow and became a St. Petersburg architect. I am a lucky person, since my work is my hobby. I have no time for other hobbies.

**The first time we met, we discussed the project related to the Lower Dacha in Alexandria Park in Peterhof. Famous for belonging to Emperor Nicholas II and where Tsarevich Alexei was born. Can you tell about the project and what is the status now?**

Rieder - It is a rare case when we twice entered the same river. The first time we started this project was in 2003-2004. It was a question of the complete reconstruction of the Lower Dacha, and the customer was not the Peterhof Museum, but the State Administration of Capital Construction. My wife and I worked in the company "Sobor" and were the main architects for the project of reconstruction. It was a very interesting, touching, romantic work, it was an investigation.



The Lower Dacha of Emperor Nicholas II in Peterhof

We did the project on photographs, according to the blueprints. We did not have the measurement of the building. We saw only a mound and could only measure debris. It's no secret that the members of the Emperor's family had cameras and a lot of personal photos are left. In addition, there is a very detailed photo-recording of the late 30's, when the Lower Dacha was a museum. These materials made it possible to make the project of reconstruction very accurately. The only thing we did not see then was the first floor, because the first floor did not fall either in the museum's exposition area or in the zone where the royal people were. On the first floor there were service areas. There is practically no photo fixing of the first floor. The Regal Saints went in through the North and South Corps along the front porch immediately to the second floor. On the first floor we relied only on drawings. We had discussions, real battles. At the Lower Dacha there were very interesting metal staircases, consisting of very complex parts with a very interesting decor. The stairs from the third to the fourth floor are restored based on one single photo. Its decor was built in the reverse perspective. A whole set of interesting design details.

The architect A.I. Tomishko, with such a customer as the Emperor, used everything he knew. For example, the main staircases are made by the method of a creeping vault without the coshairs, without additional support. At the same time, the width of the steps of this marble staircase was 1 m 40 cm. Such stairs are rare, in St. Petersburg were preserved in only 3-4 mansions. In 2003, our constructors, despite the preserved photography, could not reproduce such a staircase and planned a concrete with marble facing. The previous masters had their secrets: apparently, they checked every step and carefully selected the material. Another example. In the Northern Corps, donated by Tsar Alexander III to Tsarevich Nicholas, there were about 9 stoves and the pipes of five of them went to the tower, in which there were no chimneys. The secret is not fully understood, but judging by the drawings between the 4th and the 5th floor stood a tank of water. So, perhaps, the smoke was chased through the water like a hookah, and there was hot water.

The lower dacha was equipped with technical innovations. There was one of the first passenger lifts in Russia, service lifts for food, an electric vacuum cleaner, a system of calls to the kitchen. Grand Duchesses could call the kitchen and ask for something and personnel raised the food for them. Most importantly, the Lower Dacha was a private palace, a place where they could disconnect from public



affairs and be a happy family. Maria, Anastasia, Alexei were born there. Symbolically, the name Alexandria Park is named after Alexandra Feodorovna, wife of Nicholas I, but the wife of Nicholas II was also called Alexandra Feodorovna. It was very convenient that the imperial children could go to the Cottage Palace to visit their "granny", the Dowager Empress Maria Feodorovna. The private palace was associated with that part of the life of the Imperial family, which we can understand. It's no secret that ordinary mortals cannot understand the sacred part of the life of the Emperor.

There is another amazing story. In 2003, we were allowed into the Peterhof storerooms and we saw cretonal fabrics, which were used in all the premises of the Lower Dacha. The fact is that for the Tsar's dacha everything was bought with a margin. Whole pieces of fabric were preserved, they went to the evacuation somewhere beyond the Urals during the Great Patriotic War and returned intact and safe to Peterhof. Stunning amazing English fabrics. They look like being made six months ago, a year ago, almost as new. These cotton fabrics has amazing designs, for example, with birds, which were in the rooms of the Grand Duchesses and the bedroom of the Empress. It is known that the Empress liked Art Nouveau so much that the interior of the dining room was changed at the Lower Dacha, where the carved oak was changed to a white modernist style. That is why among fabrics were jacquard with a decor in the form of lilies in a modernist style, and also - micro corduroy with a picture in the form of huge pink flowers. The surviving tissue samples are enough to be reproduced. But our project for the full reconstruction of the main house went on the shelf, the reasons for this are unknown to us.

There has been hot discussions were about the fate of the Lower Dacha, but eventually it was decided that the most important thing was to bring life back to these buildings. Now it is a deserted wasteland with ruins, where several times a year a small group of people gather for the days of the commemoration of the Imperial family and the birthday of the Tsarevich.



One of the designs for the project of recreating the Lower Dacha in Peterhof

After 12 years, in 2016, we were approached by representatives of the Siberian Architectural Bureau, who won a tender for the design of the Lower Dacha. In Tsarist times it was a house for living, in which there were 15-20 people. The fact is that our project cannot be realized according to today's standards. Technically it is possible to recreate, but as a small museum only few people will be allowed in, like

delegations of no more than 5 people. It should also be remembered that of the original interior items, only 50 artifacts have been preserved.

We went to a very complex ambiguous option, which causes a lot of discussions. There were three options. The first is a complete recreation, the second is conservation, the third is a combined, providing for a new function.

Preservation in our climate is a complicated matter. Moreover, if we had ancient ruins like, in Rome, of 2-3 centuries, then every stone would be worth its weight in gold. But we have a recent monument, destroyed deliberately, in Soviet times. The official version - the son of a high-ranking official broke his arm or leg, climbing the ruins. To prevent this from happening, the remains were blown up. And it is informally well known that throughout the Soviet period there were certain forces that purposely destroyed all traces of the Romanovs and Nicholas II especially. It's amazing that until 1936 there was a museum of imperial life in the Lower Dacha. It was the brilliant move of the guardians of Peterhof. Ideologically, the museum was anti-monarchical, but thanks to it, they preserved the Lower Dacha. Ideologically, the exposition talked about how badly Tsars ruled Russia, but it allowed to preserve the entire interior, all the icons were in their places, all the toys. We must imagine what efforts it took.

At the moment, there is a historical and cultural examination of this project. This is a fairly long and difficult period. The next stage is a working project, when technical issues and engineering will be discussed. The project has already been coordinated with the St. Petersburg Committee for State Control, Use and Protection of monuments of history and culture. (KGIOP). In the summer 2016, professional archaeologists from the Institute of Material Culture conducted serious work, excavated the mound. We finally saw the first floor of the Lower Dacha. They dugged up some details, created a large hangar, and preserved the monument. There was found a huge number of German things. The fact is that the Germans held there defense for three years.

During the excavation a real miracle happened. When they opened the arch between the two buildings, they found completely preserved tiles. The arch is preserved, since it is located between the buildings that were blown up. The floors have been about 50% preserved; Remains of the marble staircase in the wall also were found. From the construction of the building, almost nothing remained. The walls will have to be reinforced with steel structures. We were able to measure everything and correlate with our 2003 project and saw that we had made no mistakes in places by no more than 5-7 cm. Only the foundations remained from the service house and kitchen. History is silent about when they were destroyed. There is a version that the Germans had explosive stored in them and they blew them up when they left. There are photos of our paratroopers who captured it in 1941 and you can see the building of the kitchen behind them. 2 buildings were completely intact - the guard house and the Swiss house, where was the transformer substation, built in 1909. The lower dacha was electrified as one of the first. There was electric lighting throughout the territory. The guardhouse gives an opportunity to touch the surviving preserved building.

One of the main functions of restoring these monuments is the reconstruction of the entire territory. It's not just about restoring the main building and what will be inside it. It is necessary to recreate the house, office building, kitchen building, recreate the entire complex of buildings. The lower dacha has a value only as a cumulative complex of all buildings - such as an eastern palace of all the parks of Peterhof.

According to the Venice Charter and our legislation, we have no right to build anything on the territory of a monument. Therefore, a decision was made to recreate the three-dimensional solution completely - the walls, the height of the buildings, the roof, the silhouette of the building. Everything that forms the image and silhouette of the building. According to the Venice Charter, we protect only what is physically preserved. We conducted a whole study of the destruction of the Lower Dacha and I came to the conclusion that this kind of situations are virtually nonexistent, this is a unique situation. If we take all our post-war ruins - the Great Palace in Peterhof, the Catherine Palace and the Tsarskoe Selo, the Dresden church, walls are preserved, there is no situation that the building is demolished to the ground. I looked over several thousand photographs of post-war ruins to find an analogue of the situation when the building was deliberately destroyed to the basement. One analogue is the Serbian churches, after



*the NATO bombing in the 1990s, when the Americans deliberately bombed the Serbian churches, they destroyed them to the ground. The specificity of our project activity is that we are dealing with objects that do not fit into the legal framework.*



*The Sovereign's office in the Lower Dacha*

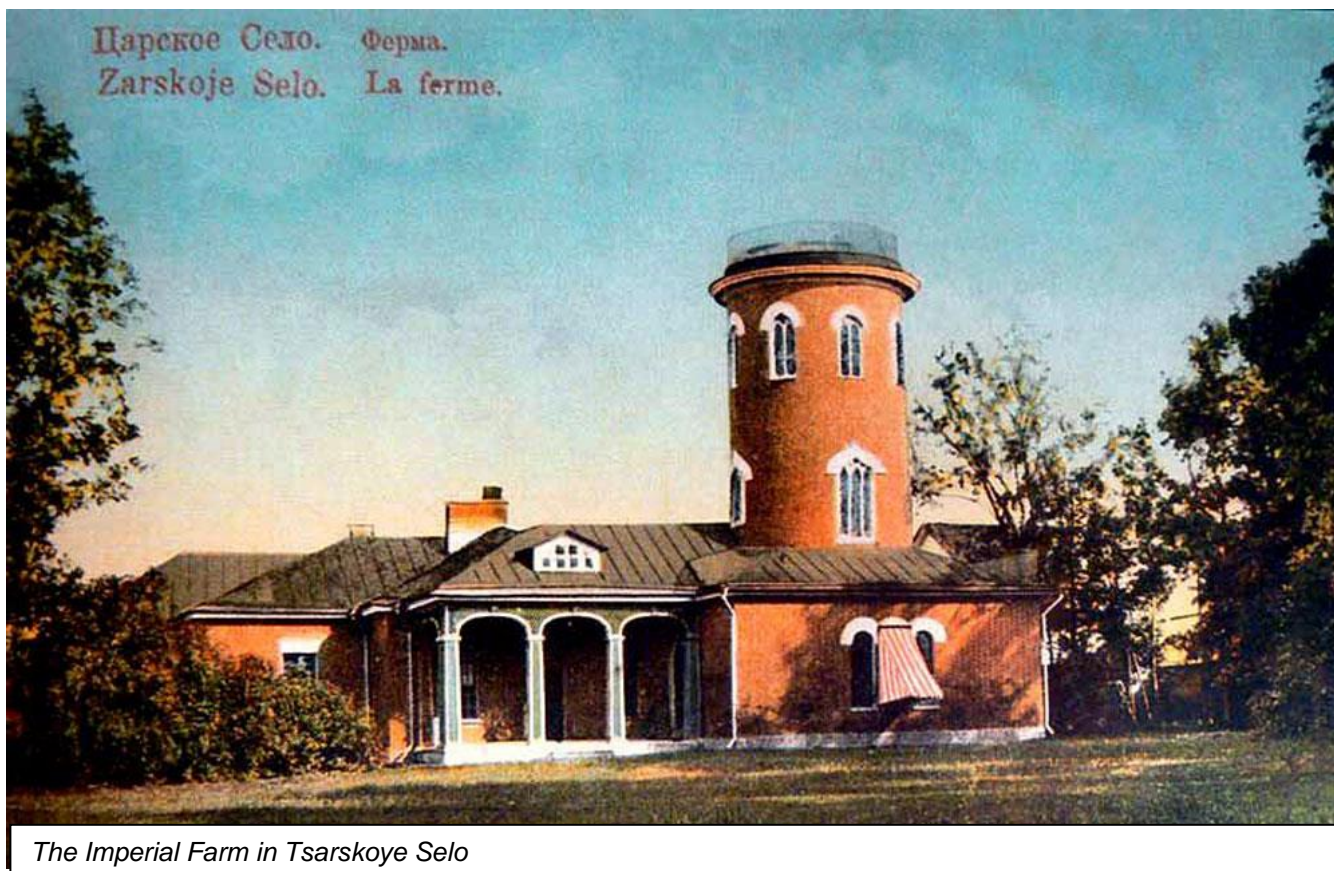
*The most aesthetically valuable interior from a museum point of view was Nicholas II's office and dining room on the second floor of the Northern Corps. But the dining room was changed to modern, but the office up to the destruction retained the original appearance and there are many photos, so the Peterhof Museum-Reserve plans to recreate completely the Sovereign's office.*

*Practice shows that the implementation of such projects takes about 5 years. Works at the Lower Dacha can begin in six months or a year after the working design. This is the last uninstalled, quite important palace in the lower park of Peterhof.*

### **History**

The "Lower Dacha" is a four-story palace, sometimes called the New Palace. It was located on the shore of the Gulf of Finland, in the northeast corner of the Alexandria park in Peterhof. It was built in the 1890s. The building, resembling an Italian villa, was built of yellow and red brick, decorated with a tall tower with a viewing platform. The interiors were decorated in Art Nouveau style. There on August 12 (Old style July 30), 1904 the only son of Emperor Nicholas II and Empress Alexandra, Alexei was born. Here the Emperor signed the manifesto on Russia's entry into the First World War. After 1917 the palace became a museum, and then a boarding house of the NKVD. Suffered during the war, the remains of the building were blown up in 1961.

The need for emergency response was evident after the dismantling of the ruins in June-September 2016, when fragments of walls, decor, floors of the ground floor of the "House" were found under the debris. The contractor's tasks include the construction of a temporary protective canopy over the surviving structures.



The Imperial Farm in Tsarskoye Selo

**What is the status on your project on the Imperial Farm in Tsarskoe Selo?**

*Rieder - We completed in 2010-2011 the projects for the restoration of the Imperial Farm, which is located in the northern part of the Alexander Park of Tsarskoe Selo, and the greenhouses. The implementation of our project started in 2015, and we hope that by the end of 2018 the reconstruction will be completed. The initiator of the creation of the farm was Alexander I. Nicholas I visited, but not so often, and the most frequent guest was Alexander II, who was very fond of visiting there. They bred valuable breeds of the best English, German and Swiss cows and sheeps, which were distributed throughout Russia to improve the breed. Now 5 buildings are already close to completion, the milk pavilion is already a museum. There will be a Children's Center, two representative buildings, a stable for sports horses, a coach house, a mini-farm. In Tsarskoye Selo there are 20 carriages, which stood almost under the open sky. The complex includes a building for 18 carriages next to the stables.*

**You recently got an award for your project on the "Battery No.7", a fortress in Kronstadt. What is the project about and for what did you get the award?**

*Rieder - This is a unique project, the first in 25 years, to adapt a Kronstadt military fort. For our project we received the Tatlin Prize in 2017, as the best project of the year in Russia. This is a military structure, artificially created, in which everything is a protected object. The fort is an earthen rampart with cannons. You cannot change anything, the appearance should remain the same - no windows, no doors. This Battery 7 is under private management. But we understood that an investor is not interested in a fort, where nothing can be built. Nobody will invest money to get only 500 square meters for exploitation. After all, the costs of preserving the forts are billions.*

*The success and the secret of this project is that we have found a way, how to save completely the appearance, but to get 7 thousand sq.m. for operation. We studied history and drawings. The forts were constantly rebuilt, in accordance with the development of artillery. First the cannons were inside the casemates, then there were long-range guns and then they raised them to the shafts, above them special devices were created. Some of the forts were rebuilt during the World War II for anti-aircraft*



guns, and they violate the historical appearance. It was difficult to determine at what historical period to do the reconstruction.

We received the award for the innovative project of fortification, for the fact that we have preserved the object of protection and still made a huge area for its operation. According to the drawings, we found a form and made a concrete shell inside the earthen forts. In the result we got a huge area, while preserving the vegetation cover on the perimeter. We take out the earth and ease the burden on the base of the fort. Innovations and design tricks are where we hide the windows and doors that we do on the spot of anti-aircraft guns. As a result, inside a multi-light, and outside - just an earthen shaft. There you can plan events for 2 thousand people.



A view of the project design for the Battery No. 7 of the Kronstadt fortresses

It is clear that for the operation of 7 thousand square meters you need electricity, heating, water, sewage. Therefore, the project has a lot of secrets, how the boiler room is hidden, how ventilation is made. Provision of harbor improvement. It is planned to restore the sea function of these forts. There will be a marina, designed for 100 yachts. Access to it is available on three sides. You can come by car on a dam via the ring road, or sail on a boat, or fly by helicopter, since there is a helicopter landing. From the center of St. Petersburg to get to the fort will be 25-30 minutes.

The main problem at forts is that there is no infrastructure, no engineering communications. The procedure for preparing engineering solutions is very long. Another important issue. At the forts there are no exhibits, except brick walls, since the weapons were removed from the forts in 1873. There are 25 guns in Kronstadt. They can be distributed, but it is better to equip one museum on one fort. I am convinced that there should be a unified policy, a state program on the use of forts, because this is beyond the power of the private investor.

This fort has good chances to be restored. The project is under the control of the vice-governor. Our prize from the Union of Architects greatly helped. God will, the construction could start in 2020, and by 2025 will end.

### **Which project are you working on now?**

Rieder - Now we are working on the design of Feodorovsky town. There will be a Center, a residence of the President and the Patriarch. Emperor Nicholas II conceived that it would be his and the Patriarch's residence.

The problems are the same as everywhere else. Modern standards require completely different engineering. Unfortunately, after the Great Patriotic War, only walls remained in Feodorovsk town. Only fragments of interiors have remained - pieces of painting, fragments of plaster. All this will be preserved. The architect's greatest enemy is the ventilation system. It consumes the bulk, since it is very large. At the end of the 19th century, a natural ventilation system was used, and now, if a public

building designed for a minimum of 50 people, then other requirements for the ventilation system and fire-protection.



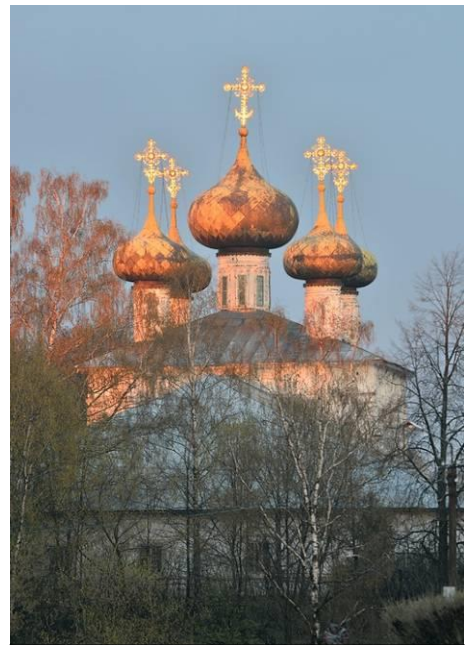
A project design of Feodorovsky town

**And finally, as an architect, do you have a "Dream project"?**

*Rieder - There is one thing I would like to do - restoration of small cities in Russia. I have a dream to do this with one particular city, of course, this is Ustyuzhna. By the way, in Ustyuzhna, the Center of national handicrafts is being restored.*

*When I first got into the Swiss canton of Bern, at the foothills of the Alps, where my ancestors lived, I saw there the center of Swiss wooden architecture. I was very upset. I always believed that Russian wooden architecture was the most perfect, and there I realized that it was, but we did not save it. But the Swiss managed to save thier. They have buildings built in 1826 and 1926 and they differ only in the color of the tree.*

*I visited Japan and saw that they had the best carpentry hand tools. In Japan, there are an army of carpenters, because every 30 years they re-build buildings with the same technology. They have an interesting attitude towards restoration, they have a lot of old wooden churches. My romantic task is to revive Russian carpentry, because what they do in Russia now makes me sad.*



A church in Ustyuzhna



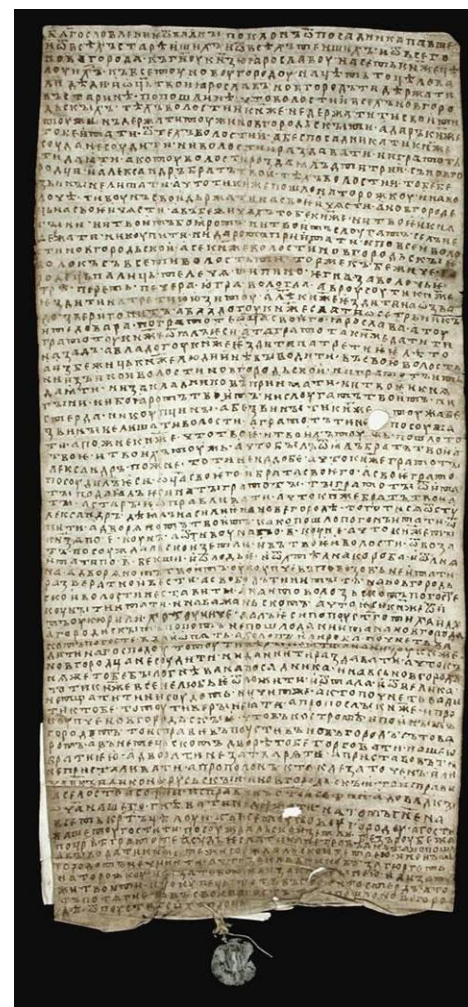
## 100 rarities of the Russian statehood

The exhibition "100 rarities of the Russian statehood", dedicated to the 100th anniversary of the creation of the state archival service of Russia, opened on February 27 at the Moscow State Exhibition Hall "New Manezh". It was organized by the Federal Archival Agency and the State Archives of the Russian Federation. The objective of the exhibition is to present to the public original documents reflecting the most important milestones in the history of Russia, and also to introduce visitors to the professional work of archivists.



Most of the exhibits are included in the State Register of Unique Documents; many have never left their places of storage. Some of the documents are not just important historical sources, but also relics that have a high memorial, artistic, spiritual value. The exhibition is built on a chronological basis and covers almost a thousand-year period - from the 11th to the 21st centuries.

Among the exhibits are the most ancient monuments, such as Ostromir Gospel, Savvin's Book, The Tale of Bygone Years, Russkaya Pravda; diplomas of the Grand Dukes Ivan Kalita, Ivan III, Basil III,



reflecting the stages of the formation of the Moscow state and its symbols. The Code of Laws of 1497 and 1550 and Stoglav - evidence of the legal culture of Moscow Rus are presented. The exposition includes rare documents from the Time of Troubles and the first Romanovs. The Cathedral Decree of Tsar Alexei Mikhailovich is exhibited along with a silver ark-case, made by the decree of Catherine II. Luxurious manuscripts of the late XVII century - "Tsar's Titular" and "Genealogy of the Most Illustrious Grand Dukes of Moscow" by L. Khurelich will not leave visitors indifferent.

The exposition includes significant documents of the Petrine reforms: the Decree on the establishment of the Senate, the Table of Ranks, the General Regulations, the report on concluding peace with Sweden and the adoption of Imperial title by Peter the Great, the project for the establishment of the Academy of Sciences and Arts. It is of interest to record in the marching journal of the Tsar about the foundation of the Fort St. Petersburg. Evidence of the alarming time of palace coups - "Condition", "tattered" by the hand of Anna Ioannovna. A bright monument of the era of "enlightened absolutism" is presented by the Order of the Stood Commission, autographically written by Empress Catherine II. Extremely curious is E.I. Pugachev's "autograph", made by imitating letters scribbles.

The evidence of Russia's political development in the first half of the 19th century (including the constitutional projects of the Decembrists) occupies a worthy place in the exposition. Manifesto of Emperor Alexander II on the abolition of serfdom is exhibited along with the pen, which the Tsar put his signature. Visitors will be able to see the documents of the last reign - starting with the first general population census December 19, 1896, filled with "the owner of the Russian Land" by Emperor Nicholas II, until the act of the abdication of the Tsar.

The exhibition presents the most significant documents of the revolutionary era, tragic and heroic pages of the Great Patriotic War of 1941-1945 - including the original of the Act on the military surrender of Germany, achievements of the Soviet state in the second half of the 20th century, and the final section reflects the period of the collapse of the USSR and the emergence of a new Russia.

An illustrated catalogue with annotations of exhibits has been published.  
The exhibition will be open until March 20, 2018.

Video - 1) <http://www.ntv.ru/video/1566208/>

2) <https://www.1tv.ru/news/2018-02-28/341745->

[vystavka-unikalnyh-dokumentov-otkryvaetsya-v-moskve-letopisi-gramoty-ukazy-i-manifesty](https://www.1tv.ru/news/2018-02-28/341745-vystavka-unikalnyh-dokumentov-otkryvaetsya-v-moskve-letopisi-gramoty-ukazy-i-manifesty)

3) [https://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article\\_id/229488/](https://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article_id/229488/)



## Catherine the Great in Russia and Beyond

Russian Museum, February 15 - May 28, 2018

The exhibition offers a perspective on how Russian internal and geopolitical transformations, in which Empress Catherine II played a major part, were reflected in art of the late 18th century.

The second half of the 18th century in the Russian Empire was marked by significant transformations of the social structure, legal system, industry, and culture. Among the major milestones of that period were growth and development of national manufactories, the foundation of the Smolny Institute and Moscow Foundling Home, and the formulation of a new charter of the Academy of Arts.

Battle pieces and allegorical paintings, drawings and engravings reflect the major war events of the epoch: the Russo-Turkish wars of the 1768-1774 and 1788-1790, and the Russo-Swedish war of the 1788–1790. It was in these wars that military leadership talent of such prominent Russian commanders as A. V. Suvorov and P. A. Rumyantsev manifested itself. In 1783, the Crimea peninsula became, as Catherine herself put it, an eternal part of Russia. The artworks of the period also represent some of the Empress's projects, such as the so-called Greek project, the relationships with the Order of Malta and so on, as well as her travels across the southern governorates. Historical, cultural, and artistic connections between Russia and Western Europe were active and diverse then - among them Catherine's contacts with the prominent French intellectuals, Diderot and Voltaire.



The rich and diverse exhibition provides insight into significant events in the history of Russia by bringing together over 500 works of fine and applied arts: paintings, graphic works, sculpture, glassware and china, costumes, and more. The exhibition also features archival documents.



For more than a third of the century many paintings of the Empress were created. Catherine II appears mainly in ceremonial portraits, as an ideal enlightened monarch, who cares about the welfare of the people. "Raise to the goddess glory. Above the sun at last!" - writes A.P. Sumarokov in his "Ode to Empress Catherine the Great on the day of her namesake November 24, 1762."



The exhibition includes portraits of Catherine the Great and her contemporaries by Ivan Argunov, Dmitry Levitsky, Fyodor Rokotov, Stefano Torelli, Johann Baptiste Lampi, Joseph Kreuzinger, Salvatore Tonci, and others. Moreover, visitors will see sculptural portraits by a prominent master of Russian classicism Fyodor Shubin, Italian sculptor Jacopo Monaldi, and so on.





Painting and literature of the classical style allegorically portrays the Empress with the attributes of an ancient hero. This we see it on the famous portrait of Dmitry Levitsky "Catherine II - Legislator" (early 1780's, Tretyakov Gallery). On the canvas - the temple of the goddess of justice, the goddess herself with weights in her hands sits on a pedestal, and her priestess Catherine is the central place of the picture. Burned on sacrificial fire scarlet poppies symbolize personal peace, brought for the benefit of society, at the feet of the Empress - books, the eagle guarding the laws written in them. The curtains behind the head of the Empress waving from the gusts of strong eminence resemble ship tackles, and behind it you can see the sea and the ship, on the flag of which the Andreev cross is seen (the memory of the victories of the Russian fleet at Chesme). Despite allegory, the picture is very lively, Catherine herself is cheerful and full of life, she communicates the energy to the whole picture.

In the Russian Museum there is another portrait of the Empress by Levitsky with the same name, but dated 1783. Compositional in the picture nothing has changed, but the image of Catherine here is different in spirit and design: there was no former scope, the brightness of the colors changed to a dull yellow color, the wind almost lay down, and the fire of the altar faded and turned into smoke, leaving scarlet poppies untouched. But the signs of the Empress's authority are striking: the heavy order chain, the eagles on the empress's mantle. Catherine's smile is now cold and amiable, and the hand gesture, in the early version of the picture as if pointing to glorious actions, was replaced by a salon gesture, similar to an invitation to visit. It is interesting that in the late portrait the Empress is much younger than on the first. Allegorical portrait sets the main goal to give the concept of personality and its social role. What was the reason for Levitsky to change this concept remains a mystery. Among the unofficial portraits of the Empress, whose purpose was to depict the real Catherine with her feelings, mood and character, one of the best belongs to the brush of Mikhail Shibanov ("Catherine II in a Road Suit," 1787). Everyday clothes emphasize the prosaicity of the portrait of the Empress, depicted at the age of: she looks like a man with a strong-willed but soft face and a hard look, devoid of dreams

and romance, focused on the matter. Prince Potemkin specifically invited to the Empress Shibanov, (a native of peasants whose paintings were true and realistic), to paint her (this honor was not even awarded to Academician Levitsky, who was forced to make the Empress in other portraits).

The Empress was very meticulous about her portraits. True, she was not very fond of posing - the artists were invited to work with the images already created and approved by her. However, this approach did not guarantee Catherine's mercy - for example, she disliked some portraits, saying that she looked like a Swedish cook.



Landscapes by Mikhail Ivanov and Fyodor Alekseev invite one to follow the Empress on her journeys across Russia, especially the Crimea. Mikhail Ivanov is renowned for his battle scenes painted in watercolour and gouache, also present in the exhibition. Furthermore, one will see works by Jacob Philipp Hackert who was commissioned by the Russian court to capture naval battles of Chesma.



The exhibition brings together objects held in the Russian Museum, State Historical Museum, Pushkin Museum of Fine Arts, Tretyakov Gallery, Hermitage, Moscow Kremlin, Pavlovsk and Peterhof Museum Reserves, Suvorov Memorial Museum and many other museums, archives, and private collections.

Video - 1) [https://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article\\_id/224385/](https://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article_id/224385/)  
2) <http://www.qorod-plus.tv/video/1459.html>



### Chapel to Tsar-Martyr Nicholas II was consecrated in Klin

February 18, on a Forgiveness Sunday, dozens of townspeople gathered at the new chapel near the Tchaikovsky Museum. In Klin the chapel built there last year at the request of singer Olga Kormuhina was consecrated. It was decided to give the chapel the name of the Russian Tsar Nicholas II, who is numbered among the holy martyrs.









The Chapel stands on the M-10 highway near the Museum-Reserve of P.I. Tchaikovsky. "Everything that I was looking for coincided here: the ancient city of Klin, the blessings of the two elders, the music of Tchaikovsky, which was revered by the Imperial family, and the Imperial route Moscow-St. Petersburg" - said Olga Kormuhina.



The singer was looking for a place for the chapel for 15 years. At first, the late deceased Nikolai Guryanov turned her attention to this location, and then father Elijah's, visiting Klin, noticed that it was here that the Tsar's chapel should be erected. Its role was played by the connection between the city of Klin and the history of the Imperial family.

"There was a miracle-working icon of the Mother of God 'Klinskaya', which was especially honored by the Romanov dynasty, and even P.I. Tchaikovsky was the favorite composer of Nicholas II and his family" - a representatives of the singer noted.

The features of the chapel are a mosaic icon with the face of Nicholas II, which is located inside, and a bas-relief in the form of a cross. The chapel has already become one of the favorite places for tourists. "Even a new tourist route" in Klin "has been formed, which runs from the station to the Tchaikovsky House, where tourists are met by the Tsar's Chapel-Monument, which the people have named - Traveling: it blesses all those traveling along the Moscow-Saint Petersburg highway" - said the representative of Kormuhina.



The opening ceremony of the chapel took place with the blessing of Metropolitan Juvenaly of Krutitsy and Kolomna. The consecration was headed by the dean of the churches of the Klin district, Father Eugene Malkov, co-served by the Klin clergy.

The building of the chapel was with the support and assistance of the Head of the Klinsky Municipal District, A.D. Sokolskaya. It has allocated, and donated to the Russian Orthodox Church a land plot for construction, and a contractor organization was found. The chapel is built in a short time. The consecration of the foundation stone took place only 9 months ago - May 19, 2017.

The chapel in Klin will last for hundreds of years, the head of the construction organization A.A. Karagazov assured. It is built of monolithic reinforced concrete structures, 6 meters high. Its decorations are a gilt cross, a mosaic icon of Tsar Nicholas II and a bas-relief made in Moscow and Tver and mounted in its walls. In the chapel there is an unimaginable lamp. There is a table where you can leave notes and requests for help.

"It is very important that the chapel is opened by us today, on a Forgiveness Sunday. On the day when Orthodox people are asking for forgiveness for what they did, or, conversely, they did not commit. For deeds, which are painful and difficult to remember. For lack of faith, wisdom and forgiveness. And we hope that this chapel will serve the cause of the Renaissance of spirituality and morality. I would very much like to see this chapel become an object of pause for all those who are on the way from Moscow to St. Petersburg or from St. Petersburg to Moscow, who go on this road and see it. It really became also an ornament of our city, a cultural decoration, a spiritual adornment, and, of course, a revival of our spiritual morals" - said the Head of the Klinsky Municipal District, Alyona Sokolskaya.

People pray to the Holy Royal Passion-Bearer Tsar Nicholas for help in getting rid of the harmful vices of wine drinking, drug addiction, as well as all unjustly condemned. Royal Martyrs Tsar Nicholas, with his wife and children also help in family life.

He understood his sacrifice like no one ... Despite the fact that the Reverend Martyr Elizabeth and others called him to a severe suppression of the revolution, he did not go for it. He knew that people's rigidity could not be corrected. People need to know their history so as not to repeat its mistakes!

- Said Olga Kormuhina, the singer.

Everyone could enter the chapel immediately after the consecration. Dozens of people gathered on the narrow path. This Klinchane is called "Track". They say that it blesses all those who travel on the route Moscow - St. Petersburg . The opening of the chapel was the first landmark event in the year of the 100th anniversary of the execution of the Imperial family.

Video - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gFE7sL7dJY>





## Grand Duke Sergei Alexandrovich remembered in Novospassky Monastery

On February 17, 2018, in the crypt of the Romanov boyars in the Novospassky Monastery in Moscow, the traditional prayer for Grand Duke Sergei Alexandrovich was held. The Divine Liturgy was led by Bishop Savva. The chant during the divine service was performed by the male choir of the Novospassky monastery under the direction of S. Popov. After the Divine Liturgy, the requiem (Panikhida) for the Grand Duke was served.



His only relatives in Russia: Ludmila and Paul Kulikovsky, representatives of the Elizabeth-Sergei Enlightenment Society, Imperial Orthodox Palestine Society and the Memorial Fund of Grand Duke Sergei Alexandrovich attended the service.



## Memorable plaque with image of Emperor Nicholas II was placed on the building of Lukhovitskaya station

The opening ceremony of the commemorative plaques on the railway station building in memory of the visits to Lukhovitsy by Emperor Nicholas II, Feodor Dostoevsky, and Konstantin Paustovsky was held on February 9.



"The fact that well-known and outstanding historical figures stayed in Lukhovitsy was known from the memories of local residents, as well as from writers' records. But the exact dates of these visits and the reasons for the visits were established thanks to painstaking searches in the archives of the State Historical Museum, the State Historical Public Library and the Moscow Museum Center Paustovsky. For example, the stay of the Emperor, even so short, was noted in the capital's newspapers," said local historian Vladimir Kogtev.

On July 21st (August 2, according to a new style) in 1903, a remarkable event took place at Lukhovitsy station. It happened at a significant confluence of the people and with great solemnity, with the participation of the Ryazan governor, the Provincial and Uyezd leaders of the nobility, rural marshals and other officials. On that day at our station they greeted returning from Nizhny Novgorod province, with celebrations in the Sarov monastery, Emperor Nicholas II and his family. The newspaper Moskovsky Listok wrote about this event: "The Emperor made happy the rural marshals ... with gracious conversation and the adoption of bread, salt, honey and holy icons from them and ordered them to thank their fellow villagers for their offering. The people gathered at the platform welcomed their Majesties with enthusiastic cries"...



Video - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yBZU8IHfRfk>



**The Telegram-channel of the portal "tsarskaya-sem.rf" will present diary entries from the Imperial family's confinement in Tobolsk and Yekaterinburg**

The publication of the diary entries of the Emperor Nicholas II and the Empress Alexandra Feodorovna, which they conducted during the days of imprisonment in Tobolsk and Yekaterinburg, on the Telegram-channel of the Tsarskaya-Semey.rf portal began on February 14, 2018 with the blessing of the Metropolitan of Yekaterinburg and Verkhoturye Kirill. The project is timed to the 100th anniversary of the feat of the holy Royal Passion-Bearers.

The main topics in the Telegram-channel will be the projects "Diary of the Tsar" and "Diary of the Empress". Every day on the channel will be published diary entries, which the Imperial couple led in days of imprisonment in Tobolsk and Yekaterinburg.

Publications of diaries will be tied to the chronicles of a hundred years ago. So, today, on February 14, 2018, two entries are published on February 14, 1918:

From the diary of the Emperor:

"We learned that the post received an order to change the style and be adjusted to the foreign one, counting from February 1, that is, today it is already February 14. Misunderstandings and confusion will not end! In the morning from the hill said farewell to many senior soldiers. It was warm, but with a blizzard a lot of snow poured in. I cleaned in the courtyard. Alexei lay for another day. At 9 o'clock. All-night service was served. "



**Yekaterinburg diocese has created a site dedicated to the "Tsar days"**

The Yekaterinburg Diocese has created a special website dedicated to the events dedicated to the centenary of the execution of the family of Emperor Nicholas II, whose members are listed as saints, the press service of the diocese reported.

The project was presented during the meeting of the Metropolitan Kirill of Yekaterinburg and Verkhoturye with the leaders of the leading media of the region.

The portal "Tsar Days.rf" (Царские-дни.рф) opened March 15, the Day of the Sovereign Icon of the Mother of God.

"Last year, preparing for the 100th anniversary of the

feat of the holy Imperial family, we conceived the "Tsar's Ring" - a series of portals that allow us to provide the most information about the Tsar's family in the media and to orient people about the events that will take place in our diocese in a year of the 100th anniversary of the feat of the Royal Passion-Bearers" - said the head of the diocesan press service Angela Tambova.

The websites "Tsar-route.rf"(Царским-маршрутом.рф), "Tsar-family.rf" (Царская-семья.рф) have already been launched.

## The exhibition "Permian period in the life of Grand Duke Mikhail Alexandrovich" in the museum of the monastery on Ganina Yama



From February 16, 2018 the museum and exhibition center of the monastery of the Holy Royal Passion-bearers in the Ganina Yama, will present the exhibition "Permian period of life of the Grand Duke Mikhail Alexandrovich and his death on the night of June 12-13, 1918", prepared by the staff of the Perm State Archive of social-political history (PermGASP).

Of the eight stands presented - two are devoted to the Perm period of life of Mikhail Alexandrovich, two more to the circumstances of his murder, three to the organizers and participants in the execution of the Grand Duke and the last - to perpetuate Mikhail Alexandrovich's memory and search for his remains.

Here you can see photos related to the Permian period of the Grand Duke's life, memories of the organizers and participants in his murder, articles in the newspapers of 1918, photographs from the places of the search for remains, etc. During the preparation of the exhibition, PermGASPI staff used documents from the Perm Gubernia Committee of the RCP (B), the Perm District Party Committee, the Motovilikhinsky District Committee

of the CPSU, the Perm branch of the Society of Old Bolsheviks, the collection of documents on the history of the Perm organizations of the CPSU and the Komsomol, the collection of photo documents of the archive, etc. All these documents are kept in PermGASPI.

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## In Perm will be celebrated the 140th birthday of Nikolai Nikolaevich Zhonson (Johnson) - the Secretary of Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich

On March 5 at 4 pm near the former hotel "Korolov's Rooms" (Sibirskaya St., 5) the event "Life for the Tsar" will be held, timed to the 140th birthday of the Secretary of the Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich Nikolai Nikolaevich Zhonson (Johnson).

The event is initiated by the Library No. 32 and organized by Lubov Markova, within the framework of the program "Romanov dynasty: Permian period" with the participation of the Perm Opera and Ballet Theater named after P.I. Tchaikovsky and school № 9 named after A. S. Pushkin.

During the event flowers will be laid at the memorial plaque of the former hotel "Korolov's Rooms", a historical photo exhibition "Virtual Museum. Year 1918", there will be an excursion "Perm Theater in 1918" to the Perm Theater of Opera and Ballet. P. I. Tchaikovsky. The event will be accompanied by musical performances.

Representatives of the Perm State Archives of Social-Political History, members of the Perm





Local History Club and the regional branch of the Russian Military Historical Society of the Perm Krai, the Perm regional branch of the All-Russian Society for the Preservation of Monuments and Culture, teachers and students of the 9th School of the Russian Federation, students of the Perm Construction College and Perm Pedagogical College No. 1, Cadets of the Perm Cadet Corps named after Generalissimo A.V. Suvorov, historians, clergymen, journalists, directors, and representatives of public organizations, will take part in the action.

Nikolai Nikolaevich Zhonson was born on March 8, 1878 in St. Petersburg. He was brought up in the Alexander Cadet Corps. He graduated from the Mikhailovsky Artillery School, where Grand Duke Mikhail Alexandrovich studied at the same time.

In 1912, Nikolai Nikolayevich became secretary of the Grand Duke. November 22, 1916 he was awarded the Order of St. Anne of the 3rd degree.

In the days of the February Revolution, Johnson persistently followed Mikhail Alexandrovich, attending the watershed events of Russian history. In March 1918, he voluntarily went to exile in Perm together with the Grand Duke.

June 12, 1918, on the night of the murder, insisted on accompanying him Mikhail Alexandrovich. He was killed first by the Bolsheviks in order to eliminate resistance in the massacre of the Grand Duke. Nikolai Nikolayevich Zhonson remained faithful to the last Russian Emperor's Christian sigh "putting his soul for his friends".



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### **Perm authorities propose to "clean" the streets from the names of "terrorists"**

6 February. Rifev. - The regional authorities propose to "clean" the Perm streets from the names of "terrorists". Recall, last year a special advisory commission was created in Perm., It included historians, local lore and representatives of the clergy. According to the members of the commission, when making decisions in the field of toponymy, it is inadmissible to perpetuate the names of people involved in terrorism.

"Our commission has identified a number of persons whose names have remained in our historical memory only because of the terrorist acts they have committed. I would like to note that the members of the commission discussed the names of persons whose activities, most of them were connected with the Perm region in one way or another, and did not consider the figures of all-Russian significance," said Sergei Neganov, Director of the Perm State Archive of Contemporary History.

Experts recommended that the names of seven people be excluded from public circulation. These are the organizers of the assassination of Emperor Alexander II, Sofya Perovskaya and Andrei Zhelyabov, and Ivan Kalyaev, who killed Grand Duke Sergei Alexandrovich. One of the organizers of the murder of Grand Duke Mikhail Romanov, the head of the Perm militia Vasily Ivanchenko, the organizers and participants of the "red" terror, the revolutionary Pavel Khokhryakov, the Perm gubernator Stepan Okulov, and the secretary of the Motovilikhinsky District Committee of the CPSU (b) Perm Rosalia Zemlyachka.



*Emperor Alexander II, Grand Duke Sergei Alexandrovich, and Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich*

"In order to rename the Zemlyachka Street, it is necessary to make changes to the current toponymic regulations. Such a decision is authorized to take deputies of the City Duma. It depends on them whether the final refusal to perpetuate the names of particularly bloody figures will take place in Perm" - explained Sergei Neganov.

Governor Maxim Reshetnikov agreed with the recommendations of the commission and proposed to send them to the municipalities of the Perm region. In addition, the head of the region ordered to organize an appropriate vote on the portal "Manage together."

### **In Ilinsky, the buildings are included in the "Imperial Route"**

February 19. Kragor. - In the administration of the Ilyinsky territorial department, a meeting was held with the participation of the adviser to the head of the city administration Irina Zotov, representatives of the Foundation "Elisabeth-Sergei Enlightenment Society", the architectural bureau "Tower" and the Project Office "Grandville". A concept of improvement of the village Ilinskoe was discussed, as well as the results of the first phase of the project's work.

Based on the results of the first stage, a sketch of the restoration work of the maternity hospital building from 1892 was presented. In the long term, the development of the village territory is expected as a tourist and recreational cluster with a modern infrastructure. In this work, as noted by the head of the regional programs of the Foundation "Elisabeth-Sergius educational society" Lyudmila Shumskaya, the territory is included within the project "Imperial route".





Not only pedestrian paths, crossings on highways, parking lots for transport will become comfortable, but the image of the village's existence in the XIX century is recreated. The historic buildings of the maternity hospital, the infirmary, the farm's offices will be restored, which still bear the warmth of the care of the Grand Duke, as benefactor towards the villagers. These buildings will house permanent and temporary exhibitions, a media venue for guests and residents of the village will be opened, and educational activities will be held, interesting for children and adults.

Experts believe that it is necessary to contact the old residents of Ilyinsky with a request to share their memories, old objects of everyday life and photographs to replenish collections of museums that will soon appear in Ilinsky.

During the meeting, the architects presented the transformed living environment, discussed the functional zones of the future complex, represented by light and delicate designs, in which it would be possible to relax in a bad weather or on a hot day, walk along restored paths between old lindens, talk about the history of the estate, or listen to the stories of the guides.

All this work is devoted to the reconstruction of the Imperial Estate in the Moscow region, through which in the near future, in the summer of 2018, the National Tourist "Imperial Route" will take place, It is presenting the life of the Imperial Estate "Ilinskoe-Usovo", which in 1864 was purchased by Emperor Alexander II for his wife.



*Emperor Nicholas II with his son Tsarevich Alexei on his lap, and his daughters, the grand duchesses Olga, Tatiana, Maria and Anastasia standing around them. At the Lower Dacha, Peterhof, 1906.*

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## The Museum of Artillery prepared an exhibition about Grand Duke Mikhail Pavlovich

To the 220th anniversary of the birth of Grand Duke Mikhail Pavlovich, the Museum of Artillery opened a unique exhibition to one of the most famous commanders of the formidable army.

At the opening of the exhibition, a symbolic shot from a miniature gun suddenly found its purpose. Also, great achievements were not expected from the Grand Duke Mikhail Pavlovich. The elder brother, the future Nicholas I, was to occupy the throne. However, since his birth, Mikhail suddenly took up seriously the study of military affairs and headed the Russian artillery at the age of 22.

Fedor Zorin, The head of the exhibition department of the Military History Museum of Artillery:

"Since 1819, he began to lead as a general-master of the time, joined the command of the first guards brigade. In 1820, the current Mikhailovsky Artillery Academy was founded."

And to this day his brainchild - the Mikhailovsky Academy - continues to forge professional cadres. But the Grand Duke worked not only with artillery.

Evgeny Yurkevich, curator of the exhibition:

"He was also an inspector of the engineering department, commander of the Guards Corps, commander of the Grenadier Corps, chief of the military schools. That is, in fact, all the most important posts in the Russian army, he occupied, since the 1820's."

Mikhail Pavlovich was famous for his sense of humor and good heart. He could give money to the officer who lost in the cards. But at the right time was strict, and about the disparities that the Grand Duke arranged for his subordinates, there were legends.

Vladimir Koptsev, correspondent:

"Feldtmeyster was not a wedding general. With him, the artillery really took a huge step forward. For example, active military operations in the Caucasus showed that the god of war is also needed in the mountains. But it was impossible to drag cumbersome carriages to the altitude, while Mikhail Pavlovich did not give the order to develop fundamentally new tools - mountain unicorns. Here's one of them. Light, they sorted out and quickly climbed up with the help of horses."

An innovator, an effective military commander, a responsible commander - he gave himself up to the service without a trace. Therefore, he died quite early. He lived only 51 years, but his track was forever inscribed in the history of the Russian army. The exhibition dedicated to Mikhail Pavlovich will work in the Military History Museum of Artillery until April 29.



Video - 1) <https://topspb.tv/news/2018/02/6/knyaz-pokrovitel-boga-vojny-muzej-artillerii-podgotovil-vystavku-o-mihaile-romanove/>

2) [https://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article\\_id/228346/](https://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article_id/228346/)



## The exhibition "For Christ suffered: the 100th anniversary of the deed"

3 February, in Church-on-the-Blood, an exhibition "For Christ suffered: the 100th anniversary of the deed" opened. The exposition presents items related to the life of the Tsar's family and Elizabeth Feodorovna, objects of worship, icons, early printed books, documents.

According to the organizers of the exhibition, only in 1918 in the Yekaterinburg diocese 43 clergy suffered for the faith. It was the Urals land that became the site of the martyrdom of the Royal Family, the Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna, the nun Varvara and Yevgeny Botkin.

The exhibition was opened by the Metropolitan of Yekaterinburg and Verkhoturye Kirill and the regional Human Rights Ombudsman Tatyana Merzlyakova.

Metropolitan Kirill told about the unique things presented to the audience. Among them - a book belonging to the priest of the Cathedral in the name of St. Catherine the Great Martyr John Storozhev, who served for the Emperor Nicholas II and his family in the Ipatiev House on July 14, 1918. And also - the original receipt of the nun Varvara in that she "agrees to imprisonment" after transferring to the prison regime the abbess of the Martha-Mary monastery of Elizabeth Feodorovna, "wishing to share her fate."







## Exhibition "Cossack Count" in the museum "Kutuzovskaya Hut"

*From 3 February to 30 May*

Exhibition for the 200th anniversary of the memory of M.I. Platov, the famous commander of the volatile Cossack corps and the Don militia of 1812.

When we pronounce the word "Cossack", in the minds of everyone - the image of a fearless warrior rides on a dashing horse. In many respects these ideas were formed thanks to the Patriotic War of 1812. The birth of the legend of the "whirlwind-ataman" M.I. Platov contributed to the increased popularity in Russia and Europe of 1812-1814 of the Cossacks as the victors of the army of Napoleon.

One of the rarest books at the exhibition is "The Epistle of the Seredinsky Cossack village of Yermolai Gavrilievich to his ataman Matvey Ivanovich. Kalish. March 22, 1813". It is the only surviving edition of the

military marching printing press of 1812 in Russia. Among the printed publications from which the historical legend of M.I. Platov and the Cossacks appeared, it is possible to refer "Life and feats of Count Matthew Platov" N. Smirnogo in 1821. In addition to biographical literature, the exhibition presents collections of poems and Cossack songs that appeared in the 19th and early 20th centuries.

The image of the Russian Cossack became a common subject for decorative and applied art. Cups, saucers and plates of the Imperial Porcelain Factory with portraits of "Cossack" generals M.I. Platov, V.V. Orlov-Denisov was decorated with the best houses of Russia and Europe of the XIX century. Porcelain products produced by the factories of Batenin and Popov, outwardly similar to expensive porcelain, but cheaper and more durable, were in great demand among people of small incomes.





## "The Russian battalion" in Persia - Why did Russian deserters accept Islam and fight for Shah

Already the beginning of the first war with Russia revealed the backwardness of the military organization of Persia (today Iran) and not only in armament, but also in the tactics of the battle. However in some cases, since the time of Peter the Great, Russian soldiers were running to Persia. Accepted by the Persians with great pleasure, and they were "ordered to drill the Persian troops, recruited and equipped in the Russian manner." So why are those who became a traitor for Russia, for her enemies proved to be an example of discipline and dexterity.



*Cossacks of the Persian Shah*

Persia has long attracted Russian Tsars and Emperors both in trade and in political terms. Still Peter I aspired to conclude with Shah Sultan Hossein a trade contract which would give to Russian merchants certain privileges. The document was approved in 1720, after which the "Russian consular service" was created in the country. However, then a number of conflicts happened between the powers, mainly the struggle for the territory.

A hundred years after the end of the Russo-Persian War, the famous Russian poet Griboedov Alexander was sent to this remote state as an ambassador.



*Left - A. S. Griboedov. right - The Embassy of A. Griboedov in Persia and the signing of the Peace Treaty*

He became the author of the Peace Treaty, according to which Persia recognized the annexation of Armenia, Dagestan and Georgia to the Russian Empire. Then the Russian embassy was opened, which Griboedov headed. Unfortunately, a year later the minister-resident died tragically - he was accused of violating the moral values and customs of Islam. Some historians believe that Russian soldiers accompanying him were killed the same day, but the rest are convinced that the soldiers simply disappeared into the crowd and remained in Persia.

### *Battalion of Russian deserters in the service of the Shah*

The wars between the Russian state and Persia continued. In the border areas, entire settlements began to be gradually assembled, with the inhabitants of the soldiers who fled the Russian army.

Ordinary soldiers often left the regiments in order to get a job in foreign lands. Their services were readily used by the Persians, and some daughters even tried to marry the foreign warriors. Many men accepted Islam in order to escape extradition to Russia. Later, a whole regiment was formed from them, called "Mengi-Muslims", which means "new Muslims". "Yes, and how was the then soldier not tempted by the incitement of the Persians? Here a heavy strap for many years, and there expensive freedom and wives for good!" - wrote the Decembrist A.S. Gangeblov.

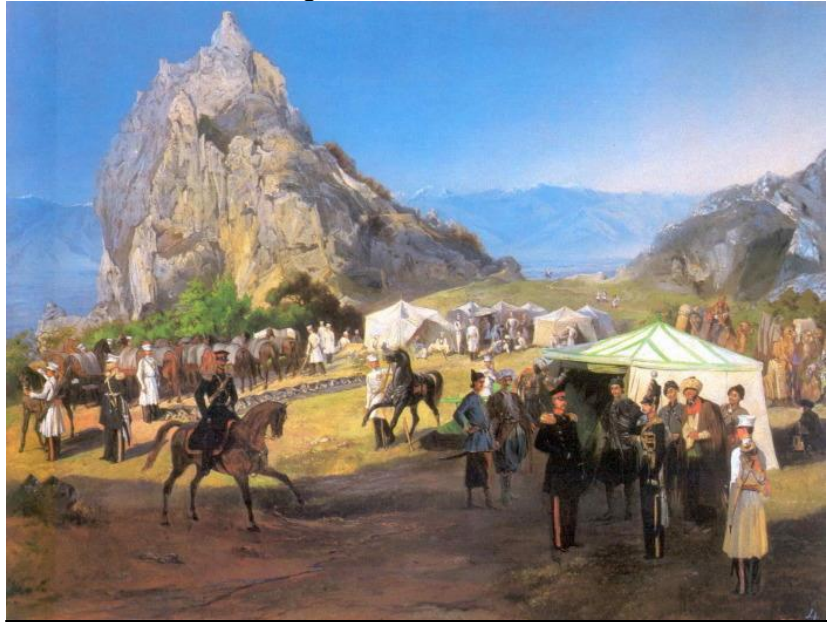
*Running sergeant-sergeant of Nizhny Novgorod regiment Samson Makintsev - officer of the Persian army*

The most vivid and unusual is the fate of the defector Samson Makintsev - the escaping sergeant-major of the dragoon Nizhegorodsky regiment. Thanks to his excellent combat skills, he was enlisted in the Persian army as an officer. It was he who proposed the Shah to form a battalion of deserters, and he soon received command of them, in the rank of sarkhang (colonel). The new military unit accomplished many exploits - it brought the shah victory in the war against the Turks and in Kurdistan. And as a result of the storming of Herat, the Persians began to call the Russian battalion "Bokhadyran", which means "heroes".

Makintsev began to be called Samson Khan. Despite the long stay in the environment of Muslims, he retained a true Russian spirit and commitment to his faith. In the village of Surgyule, granted to Samson Yakovlevich, an Orthodox church was built. The service was conducted by a priest accompanying the warrior in campaigns.

As soon as Emperor Nicholas I learned of the creation of the Russian Guard in Persia, he ordered the soldiers to return home. To perform such a difficult task, they chose Albrandt, the brave captain of the dragoon regiment. His mission was to

persuade the soldiers to return to Russia. After the Captain's hot speech, 35 people agreed to return, but the rest was deterred by the reluctance to part with families and children whom the shah did not want to leave for another country. Albrandt decided to take their families against the will of the Shah, after which almost all the deserters decided to go home. On the way, they encountered many obstacles, including Samson Khan himself and his priest, but eventually successfully crossed the border river Araks.



*Summer camp of Nizhny Novgorod Dragoon Regiment near Karaagach*



*Soldiers and officers of the Persian army*





*Returning deserters*

*Mass desertion of Russian soldiers in the beginning of the XIX century and the Persian Cossack Division*

After the Russian troops entered Europe, the soldiers realized that life there is quite different. As a result, even in the guard of the Russian army desertion happened. Officers and ordinary soldiers went to Moldavia, Bukovina, Galicia, to the Danube. Many preferred to get even further - to Persia. It was this country that became the special place where Russian deserters most often gathered. Subsequently, they left their mark on the history not only of this state, but of the entire Middle East, and also of the Caucasus.

The Persian government gladly accepted Russian deserters into its ranks. They were paid excellent salaries and allowed to live in their own homes.

The Russian military mode was organized by garrisons, and Persian soldiers were ordered to drill in the Russian manner. During the battles, disciplined Russian soldiers repeatedly saved Persia from the rout, so they earned respect. But the main thing is that they always remained free, because they could leave the Persian army at their own will after 5 years of service. All this provided a stable influx of deserters from Russia. According to the records of the Jaeger Regiment, the average number of those who fled reached up to 30 people a year.



*Persian Cossack Division*



*The Cossacks of the Persian Shah*

## Activities in Tsarskoye Selo



### *The 100th anniversary as museum*

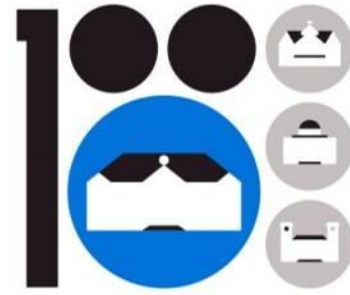
This year the four former Imperial suburban residences - Tsarskoye Selo, Peterhof, Pavlovsk and Gatchina - will celebrate their 100th anniversary as museums with a joint project titled "A Century of the Museums: For the 100th Anniversary of Suburban Palace Museums in St Petersburg" (a.k.a. #AgeofMuseums).

The Four Museums' Centenary Project already has its own design style, developed by Dmitry Barbanel's design group Workshop, and a promotional video created by Pantalyk Studio and LAM Productions.

According to the video's director and scriptwriter Aksinia Gog, the goal was to show the "mystical souls" of the four large museums and parks and make it work within a 2-minute clip to a music track by Ivan Lubennikov. Gone away from traditional postcard views, the makers shot only from unusual angles and focused on nighttime footage using an octocopter drone with integrated LEDs.

Launched on 28 January 2018 with a January-to-June series of lectures at the Alexandrinsky Theatre New Stage, the Four Museums' Centenary Project will also include academic conferences, art festivals and cultural events. Its highlight will be a joint exhibition conceptually curated by stage director Anderey Moguchy, which is to open at the St Petersburg Manege this fall.

Video - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C4wCZM7Iliw>



### *Winter Evening of Light 2018*

On Saturday, 24 February 2018, Tsarskoe Selo

celebrated the 5th Winter Evening of Light. The 'Farewell to winter' festival for the first time took place in the gorgeous Main Courtyard of the Catherine Palace.

Tsarskoe Selo was freezing that evening, except for the space full ground created by Bartolomeo Francesco Rastrelli near the palace. The current frosts did not spoil it for the visitors as they are in the Courtyard via the Church and Zubov Gates. Alternating on the special set up stages there were three professional shows by the Petit Trianon baroque and Rococo Dance Theatre, the Moon Light team of lighting effects and the Vasana Street Fire-Show Theatre.

Projection mapping of The Magic of Light Created optical illusions reviving some historical events on the façade of the Catherine Palace. Pyrotechnic effects and the culminating firework display were by Pyrotechnic Yards of Peterhof.

Like the previous years, Tsarskoe Selo joined five other world-famous historical residences in this symbolic farewell to winter. The event is part of an international project named Gardens of Light, showcasing the world's most spectacular historic gardens and museums. Besides the Tsarskoye Selo, the OTHER unique royal Residences Participating in the project are the Royal Łazienki Museum then in Warsaw, Prince Pückler Park then in Bad Muskau (Germany), Prince Kung's Mansion in Beijing (China), Château de Lunéville in France and Frederiksborg Castle then in Denmark.







An Imperial train appeared in Moscow Metro. Moscow metro launched a special train to the centenary of the death of the Imperial family. From the outside, its carriages are decorated with images of Emperor Nicholas II and his family. Inside, you can read various historical references to relevant topics. The train runs along the green line of the Moscow metro. Anyone can ride it, if he is lucky enough to see the train on the platform. The "Imperial" line goes along with other themed subway trains.



A commemorative sign in honor of the centenary of the execution of the Imperial family will be issued in the Urals. In the Sverdlovsk region, a competition of memorable sketches for the centenary of the execution of the Royal Family was announced. The project is supervised by the regional ministry of culture. According to the Minister of Culture Svetlana Uchaykina, the acceptance of works for the contest will start from February 1, 2018 and will be held until February 22. Officially it is called "Competition for the best draft design of a commemorative sign for the 100th anniversary of the memory of the holy Royal Passion-Bearers, in preparation for the events dedicated to the 100th anniversary of the death in the Urals of the family of the last Russian Emperor Nicholas II and representatives of the Romanov Imperial House, which will be held in the Sverdlovsk region in 2018". "The draft design of a commemorative sign should contain an idea reflecting the generally accepted associative paradigm of holy Royal Passion-Bearers," the document says. The content of this paradigm is not disclosed. The winner of the contest will receive 40 thousand rubles. The money will be taken from the budget of the Sverdlovsk region.



On February 3, an icon with the relics of the martyrs the Grand Duchess Elizabeth and the nun Varvara was brought to the Holy Trinity Cathedral of Maikop.

The martyr Elizabeth is one of the most revered saints in Orthodoxy. Believers turn to her with a prayer for peace and salvation. The icon with the relics will be in the Holy Trinity Cathedral from February 3 to 12. Moleben singing and reading of the akathist will be held every day - in the morning after the Divine Liturgy and in the evening at 4 pm, reported the official site of the cathedral.



The sculptor from Bataisk, Sergei Isakov, is preparing for Biysk a sculptural composition "The Imperial Family". It will be established for the 100th anniversary of the martyred members of the Imperial Family.



On February 12, 2018 in Yekaterinburg the premiere of the TV project "Nicholas II: Ahead of Time" took place in the framework of the Sretensky Youth Festival dedicated to the 100th anniversary of the feat of the holy Royal Family. The event was held in the format of a youth press club with the participation of the Metropolitan of Yekaterinburg and Verkhoturye Kirill and experts participating in the project.

The new project of the Ural TV journalists, prepared with the blessing of the ruling bishop, tell about Russia during the reign of Emperor Nicholas II. Authors of the film, resorting to reliable facts and figures, try to restore the real picture of that time, to show the Sovereign's personality, based on the memoirs of contemporaries and the search of historians, and not on imposed stereotypes. The project director Polina Belykh noted in the commentary that the authors intentionally avoided personal judgments (there is no offscreen text in the film) and unnecessary emotions, presenting only the facts on the basis of which the viewer independently draws conclusions.



A video showing Princess Olga Andreevna in South Africa, talking about her book.  
Video - [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LF64xj\\_Ygac](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LF64xj_Ygac)



The State Hermitage will display the shirt of the last Russian Emperor Nicholas II with blood, which he wear at the time of the assassination attempt in Japan, the museum's general director Mikhail Piotrovsky told reporters.

"We are cleaning the suit of Alexander II, in which he was dying, and we expose the shirt with the marks of blood that was on Nicholas II during the assassination attempt in Japan," he said. According to him, the shirt of Nicholas II will be exhibited in the Great Church of the Winter Palace.

The attempt on the life of the Tsarevich Nicholas Alexandrovich took place in the Japanese city of Otsu on April 29 (May 11) in 1891. The heir to the throne who visited the country as part of the eastern journey was attacked by police officer Tsuda Sandzo when, together with the two Princes - the Greek George and the Japanese Arisugawa - returned to Kyoto after visiting the lake Biwa.

Tsuda rushed to the carriage, in which the rickshaw drove Nicholas, and the saber managed to strike two blows. Although Nikolai's injuries were not severe, he interrupted his stay in Japan, on May 1 (13) he returned to the cruiser "Memory of Azov", where he celebrated his 23rd birthday, and six days later sailed to Vladivostok. Tsuda Sandzo was sentenced to life imprisonment, but a few months after the decision was passed, he died in a prison on the island of Hokkaido.



A video, showing the "Tsar days", a feast day in the church of the Passion-Bearer Tsar Nicholas II in Annino.

Video - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iZQT0IsOiK0>





In Leningrad region, a unique monument of wooden architecture is restored - five-domed church of Dmitry Solunsky, built in the late XVIII century. The building was replaced floor by floor, and domes were completely restored.

The Church of Dmitry Solunsky in the heart of the village of Shcheleki is a masterpiece of wooden architecture of the XVIII century, a monument of federal significance. The special operation for the rescue lasted two years." A completely new method of restoration of rotten wood came up. I call it surgical," said the author of the restoration project Mark Kolyada.

Fungal fragments of logs were cut out. Instead, they literally planted fresh wood. The original details were changed to new ones in exceptional cases. A few years ago, the Church of Dmitry Solunsky was on the verge of destruction. The magnificent work of ancient Russian architecture was the last wooden five-domed temple survived in the North-West. Four years ago, the carved church in Shcheleiks finally received funds for restoration. However, the previous contractor broke firewood. It was necessary to sever the contact urgently and to involve another company in the rescue of the monument.

"All the drums, the domes were thrown, they were lying around. Even enterprises that protected the products from moisture, wind, rain, snow were not provided for," explained the director of the restoration company, Mikhail Nimburg.

Deadly for the walls, fungus and humidity almost finished off the architectural masterpiece. The frame of the bell tower gave a dangerous roll. I had to dry urgently the walls, ceilings, until the frosts broke out. And the poppies were assembled anew.

"The colossal difficulties are to find carpenters who could build and repair the 18th century timber at the same level," Mark Kolyada added.

The masters who kept the secrets of Russian wooden architecture were searched all over the country. Found them in Petrozavodsk. Very soon, even stoves will appear in the church. Shcheleik resident Alexander Zaichikov, with the blessing of his father, already hammered nails into the future iconostasis. He always looked after the church of Dmitry Solunsky, even when few people believed in saving the monument.

"I am a believing person, my soul was ill for the fate of our church. It was bitter to the depths of the soul, it hurt to see how the temple was being destroyed," said Alexander Zaichikov.

The tree on the new domes should be completely darkened. This is the only way to achieve an incredible visual effect. The sun, falling on this natural patina, makes the dolphins play thousands of shades of pure silver.

Video - [https://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article\\_id/226465/](https://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article_id/226465/)



February 11, 2018 a personal exhibition of the Moscow artist Philip Moskvitin "Russia Heavenly", dedicated to the 100th anniversary of the memory of the imperial family was opened in the Multimedia Historical Park "Russia - My history", in Sverdlovsk region .

The exhibition features portraits of the great historical figures of Russia: Emperor Nicholas II, Patriarch Tikhon, St. Innocent (Veniaminov), St. Nicholas of Japan (Kasatkin), General Yudenich, Baron Wrangel, Admiral Kolchak.

Metropolitan Kirill of Ekaterinburg and Verkhoturye and Galina Yurievna Golovina, Deputy Minister of Culture of the Sverdlovsk Region, attended the event.

The exhibition will be open from 11 February to 11 March from 11:00 to 20:00.





February 16, an unusual exhibition "History of the Headscarf" opened in the Kurgan Regional Art Museum. The exposition presents unique products of the late XIX - early XX centuries - commemorative scarves of the Russian Empire, Germany and France, as well as samples of Russia's most famous manufactories and propaganda posters of the Soviet period.

The whole history of Russia is immortalized in headscarves: the celebration (crowning) of Emperors, military victories, as well as outstanding historical figures and architectural monuments. The Russian manufactories are represented by scarves of the reign of Nicholas II, are dedicated to his coronation in 1896 and the celebration of the 300th anniversary of the Romanov's House in 1913. There are commemorative scarves issued in 1912 to the 100th anniversary of the Patriotic War between the Russian Empire and Napoleonic France, as well as shawls of the period of the First World War. One of the rarest presented samples of a scarf, dedicated to the historical personality, is "The feat of Ivan Susanin."

The collection of the Kurgan Diocese contains commemorative scarves of Germany, whose stories are related to the history of the First World War. For example, patriotic handkerchiefs with portraits of folk heroes, the commander-in-chief of the army of Germany Paul Von Hindenburg and Kaiser Wilhelm II (emperor of Germany), issued for propaganda purposes.

The exhibition will also present works of art from the funds of the art museum, which depicts a Russian shawl as part of a national costume and Russian culture, as well as works of Russian art of the XIX - XX centuries. on the theme of the Patriotic War of 1812 and portraits of the Emperors Alexander I and Nicholas II. The exhibition will run until March 20.



For the first time in Samara are exhibited the relics, which the soldiers were handed by Emperor Nicholas II. To the homeland there were returned by the cadets of the Russian diaspora and now they are traveling around the country.

The banners of the Sumy Cadet Corps and the Absheron Infantry Regiment were in the centre of the exposition. They went through many battles: evidence of this - the traces of bullets and bayonets. No wonder they say: to save the banner - to preserve honor. The loss of the banner was the greatest disgrace for the regiment or the army. Fighters at the cost of their own lives protected it from the enemy. This tradition has survived today. " We see: icons were on one side of the banners, on the other - the monograms of the Emperor who ruled at that time. In this case, Nicholas II handed these banners, as he was considered the supreme commander of the armed forces," explained the first-year student of the Samara Theological Seminary Feodosy Zlobin.

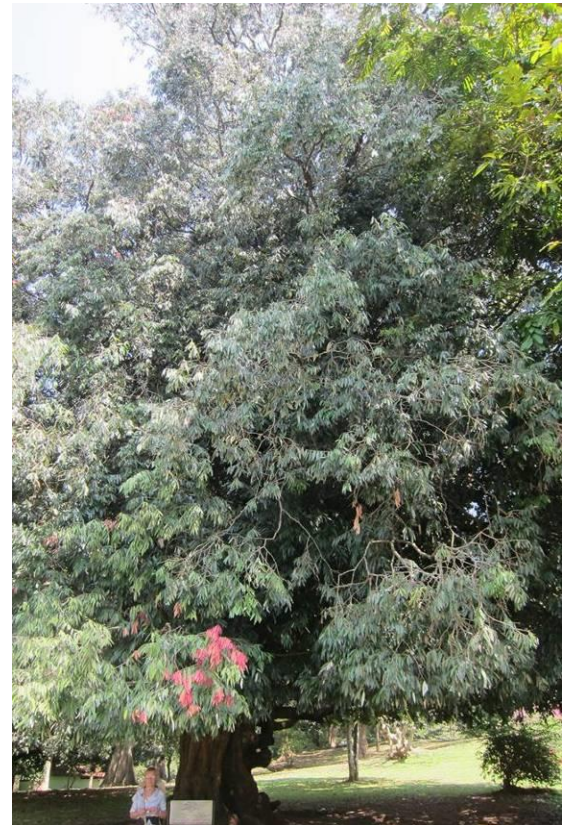
The exhibition is one of the events timed to the 25th anniversary of the World Russian People's Council. The exposition was opened for three days and closed on February 17.

Video - [https://www.youtube.com/watch?time\\_continue=90&v=cSJUT4m66NE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=90&v=cSJUT4m66NE)





During Tsarevich Nicholas Alexandrovich's Eastern journey of in 1890–91, he visited Ceylon (Sri Lanka), where he planted a *Mesua Ferrea* tree - a slow-growing tree, known for its heaviness and hardness of its timber. The tree still exist today and in 2011 got a plaque installed in front of it. (Many thanks to Alexander Chervonenko for the photos).



Soon the British will see a series about a Russian Empress. The role of Catherine the Great will be played by the English actress Helen Mirren, real name is Elena Mironova. In the image on the screen of the monarch's faces, the actress has a great experience - she played the queens of Britain three times.

Helen Mirren is a British actress with Russian roots. In an interview with NTV, she admitted that many episodes would be filmed in Russia, in the homeland of her ancestors, which she was very happy about.

Lisa Herson, reporter: "Helen, your new film tells about the wounds of the past that never heal. Your father's family was forced to go to Britain and could not return to Russia after the revolution. Their pain, longing for their homeland ever calmed down? "

Helen Mirren, actress: "Yes, that's right. I grew up with this feeling of pain. My father was taken away from Russia when he was 2 years old. He let go of his past. He did not live by it, but my grandfather - certainly. It was an unhealed wound all his life. His mother, his sisters stayed in Russia. He knew that he would never see them again. It was unbearably painful, like the loss of Russian culture, language, history - everything.

I remember when I was little, 5-6 years old, he lived in the past, all the time drawing pictures from the past. He drew a map of his estate, which was 3-4 hours away from Moscow, near the town of Gagarin. And he remembered all this to the smallest detail, drew and told me where there were stables, where was rose limes, roses which planted his mother. He remembered all this to the smallest detail. Many, many years later my sister and I got to the places that belonged to our grandfather, we could walk through his land. It was a very strong impression. We saw this landscape, a huge sky, trees, clouds.

Of course, everything disappeared, nothing left of the house and garden, but just to be there, to breathe this air ... My sister and I planted a rose. I think it dried up a long time ago. Our great-grandmother loved roses and bred them on this earth. We planted a flower in memory of her. This was my strongest impression of visiting the past."

Lisa Herson : "The story of the film partially resembles the story of your family. In the film, you are the widow of a arms dealer. Your grandfather was selling weapons to Russia. What do you know about it?"

Helen Mirren: "Yes, he came to Britain as a representative of the tsarist government, the Russian army,

to conclude an agreement on the supply of arms from Britain to Russia. Russia at that time needed new weapon, there was not enough. The Russian-Japanese war has just ended. He came to Britain around 1915."

Lisa Herson : "In this film you play an American. And what Russian heroines would you like to play, besides the role of Sophia Tolstoy, which you already played?"

Helen Mirren : "I'm about to fulfill the role of Catherine II. Of course, in her later years, in the years of Potemkin. And I sincerely hope that we can make the film this year. And I really hope that the shooting will take place in Russia. It will be good, because there is nothing like Russia, nothing that closely resembles it. It is not only buildings, not only magnificent palaces. But this landscape, it's a sweep. There is so much heaven in Russia. I really want to return to Russia."

Video - <http://www.ntv.ru/novosti/1977626/>



A unique historical museum to the centenary of the death of the Romanov family will appear in Nizhny Novgorod. This became known at a meeting of members of the regional department of the Imperial Orthodox Palestine Society. Clergymen, historians, journalists and businessmen gathered in the Uspenskaya church of the Ascension Monastery, where the future museum will be located. It is planned that in one of the halls an exposition will be placed dedicated to the 100th anniversary of the execution of the Imperial family. Repair work lasted for six months, but it took more than three years to collect the exhibits. The Nizhny Novgorod museum will open its doors this spring.



February 16, the Presidential Library hosted the first concert of the educational project "Music of the Russian statehood" - "Peter I and Musical Russia".

According to Alexander Vershinin, Director the Presidential Library, the project was born within these premises - the library was always accompanied by music since its opening. And this is not accidental: one of the main directions of the institution's work is the preservation of the cultural and historical heritage, including the musical.

The music of Russia and Western Europe was presented by world-famous bands and performers. The program of the evening includes performances by the Admiralty Orchestra of the Leningrad Naval Base, the Danilov Monastery's Festival Choir, the Barocco Concertato Early Music Ensemble and the rhythmic show of drummers. In particular, the famous chant "The Heavenly King", the composition "On the foundation of the city of St. Petersburg" and other musical rarities were performed.

On weekdays and solemn days, all campaigns of Peter Alexeevich were accompanied by "Songs of His Majesty" - henceforth so called in the documents of the former sovereign song singers. The Tsar himself often took part in the singing. Peter the Great accompanied the choir on the banks of the Neva, when the first stones of St. Petersburg were laid. So the tradition of musical accompaniment of all great beginnings was born.

It was during the time of Peter that the first orchestras appeared - the military. As a child, the future Emperor was the drummer of the 1st company of the "funny" Preobrazhensky regiment. Former amusing, and then Guards regiments - Semenovskiy, Izmailovskiy, Preobrazhenskiy and others move to the new capital. Military marches and secular works were heard in St. Petersburg. One of the first Russian marches, written in the era of Peter, was the march of the Preobrazhensky regiment.

The decree of Peter "On the dignity of the guest, at the assemblies" made a radical change in the cultural leisure of the urban population. In it, in particular, there were also such points: "Without singing, there is no fun in Russia, but they begin by the sign of the master. Do not enter the rage, listen to the





neighbor - (after all) roaring alone. Musicality and sweetness, on the contrary, you will gain many praises from guests".

The organizers of the concert cycle are the Foundation of the International Festival of Classical Music "Palaces of St. Petersburg" and the Presidential Library. The project "Music of the Russian statehood" was carried out using the grant of the President of the Russian Federation for the development of civil society provided by the Presidential Grant Foundation.



In the Great Menshikov Palace in Oranienbaum the house church and its decoration: the gilded iconostasis and paintings are restored.

The icon "Baptism of the Lord" is returned to the walls of the house church of the Menshikov Palace. This is how the collection of amazing paintings is filled, which was created in the 18th century and destroyed in the XX century.

"It was given permission to build a workshop in the church. In this regard, the iconostasis was dismantled, the whole wall painting was removed, all this was taken to Peterhof, it was stored in one of the outlets of Monplaisir and, unfortunately, was burnt during the war," said the expert on the study of the objects of cultural heritage of the architectural department of the GMZ Peterhof Marina Pavlova. Rare photos from the archive of the Peterhof Museum-Reserve helped restorers look into the past and revitalize black and white colors. "In the process of work at the site of the iconostasis, we found the original finish of Rinaldi, which we preserved at the level of the second register, the second tier," explained the chief architect of the Peterhof, Sergei Pavlov.

Not only the stucco decoration made by Antonio Rinaldi was preserved, but also the carved balustrades, which remember the first owner of this palace - Prince Menshikov. He called the house church in honor of the healer Panteleimon not by chance. Menshikov explained: in the days of the memory of this saint the greatest victories were won in the Northern War, Gangut and Grengahm remembered. Then he did not even guess what role this church would play in his destiny.

Emperor Peter II was invited to the solemn ceremony of consecration of the church, but he did not come, referring to the disease. Menshikov made a great offense that day, he sat in the imperial chair and was immediately reported to Peter II. Five days later Menshikov was arrested.

All the property of Alexander Menshikov was confiscated from the palace, nothing was touched in the church. Historically, this church was adorned with four dozen icons and a gorgeous gilded iconostasis, created in the Moscow workshop of Ivan Zarudny after the model of the Western European baroque altars. All this was reconstructed, the walls and the dome of the church were restored.

"At first, two years ago the church was restored. It was difficult to find the right engineering solutions on the dome. In general, the restoration of painting took a bit more than two years. I think it's fast," said Elena Kalnitskaya, General Director of GMP" Peterhof".

Scientific approach and, as always, delicate work, which will soon be appreciated by everyone.

Oranienbaum church will be opened on August 9, the Day of Remembrance of the Holy Great Martyr Panteleimon.

Video - [https://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article\\_id/225466/](https://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article_id/225466/)



In St. Petersburg (on Gorokhovaya Street, 64), probably, a museum of Grigory Rasputin will soon appear. The place was chosen not by chance, historians believe, it was here that he lived. Here many original things have survived: handles, a chain of doors, which was at the time of Grigory Efimovich. This bell also survived, in which, in January 1916, Felix Yusupov phoned to take Elder Gregory to the last supper in his life.

In the Soviet era, the apartment was turned into a communal apartment. Recently, engineer Dmitry Filatov bought two rooms, and try to turn them into a museum of Grigory Rasputin.

"This is a place that is very close to the current Vitebsk railway station, and then to the Tsarskoye Selo station so that Rasputin can very quickly come to the station and come, if necessary, to Tsarskoe Selo, where the Romanov family lived," Filatov added.

Restorers are working in the apartment now. While only one room is ready, this is Grigory Rasputin's office. It has an antique wardrobe and chairs. On the walls - photos of the Imperial family and relatives of the elder. The rest of the rooms are in poor condition. After the revolution, almost nothing has been repaired. However, thanks to this, many items have been preserved.

"This has been preserved since the construction of the house. In this cupboard, apparently, stored products such as flour, sugar, because there was ventilation, now it is sealed. The pipe went out into the street. And here was a ventilated cabinet, " - said the restorer Lyudmila Dumchenko. Now restorers clear the ceiling and walls. Look for the color that was here at Rasputin. When the work is finished, it is still unknown. However, Dmitry Filatov hopes that it will not stop those wishing to see where the famous elder lived.

Video - [https://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article\\_id/225165/](https://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article_id/225165/)



The exhibition "Pictures of Russian History" was opened in the Tretyakov Gallery. It acquaints the public with the work of artists of the second half of the XIX-early XX century, the contemporaries of the master of historical painting Vasily Surikov.

Pre-Peter Rus XVI-XVII centuries. Little-known paintings by Grigory Sedov, Konstantin Makovsky, Sergei Ivanov, Andrei Ryabushkin. At one time, many of these paintings were awarded. For example, the work of Makovsky, which the artist himself called "Agents of Dmitry Pretender kill the son of Boris Godunov," in 1862 received a small gold medal of the Imperial Academy of Arts.

Choosing plots, artists studied the historical works of Karamzin, Zabelin, Kostomarov, trying to reliably convey every detail. Although there were retreats. On a canvas by Grigory Sedov, a gold ring in the hands of Tsar Alexis Mikhailovich is objected to by historians. The church allowed young couple to exchange of rings later - at the turn of the XVIII - XIX centuries. All these canvases, made more than a hundred years ago, were stored for many years in the treasuries of the Tretyakov Gallery.

"Most of the works that we see in this room are rarely exhibited in permanent exhibitions and appear there from time to time. In fact, now we are trying to make our policy of permanent exhibiting of our collection much more flexible than it was before," said General Director of the State Tretyakov Gallery Zelfhira Tregulova.

The main accent of this exhibition is on the work of Klavdia Lebedev "Marfa Posadnitsa. Destruction of the Novgorod Veche." The painting (four by two and a half meters in size) was submitted to the Tretyakov Gallery in 1968 from the Museum of the Revolution. And here for the first time in 50 years it is demonstrated after the completion of complex restoration works.

"It needed restoration, as it did not have a stretcher or frame, and was dirty", - said the exhibition curator Tatyana Karpova.

The exhibition will last until July, but Lebedev's picture is unlikely to return immediately to the vault. The Tretyakov Gallery is now considering the possibility of exhibiting it in Veliky Novgorod.

Video - [https://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article\\_id/227685/](https://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article_id/227685/)



The exposition "Sergei and Elizabeth: the history of mercy" continues to inspire people. For the second year the Tula branch of the IOPS conducts a traveling exhibition dedicated to the life and work of Grand Duke Sergei Alexandrovich and Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna. The exhibition has already visited various museums, libraries and educational institutions of the Tula region, and each time it "sounds" in a new way.

At the end of February, the exposition was opened in the walls of the Tula Model Library No. 3 named after. V. F. Rudnev. The library's manager Tatyana Mikheeva and the library staff prepared a book thematic exhibition "405 Years of the House of Romanovs", which contains publications dedicated to members of the last ruling dynasty.

During the preparation of the exhibition, the members of the IOPS also took into account the fact that this year is declared the Year of the Volunteer. For the exhibition, the subject series was selected, which is intended to emphasize a simple idea: every year is a year of voluntary and unselfish service to





one's neighbors. Describing in detail the life and work of Sergei Alexandrovich and Elizabeth Feodorovna, the exhibition organizers have paid special attention to their service as directors of the Imperial Orthodox Palestine Society.



A collection dedicated to the 100th anniversary of the feat of the holy Imperial Family was published by the sector of church and parish schools of the Department of Religious Education and Catechization of the Yekaterinburg Diocese.

The collection includes materials from the 13th Congress of Orthodox Law teachers, conferences, articles about holy Royal Passion-Bearers and their loved ones who shared the tragic fate of the Imperial Family.

The purpose of the new publication was a comprehension of the feat of the holy Imperial Family and the possibility of educating children on their example. Among the authors of the materials placed in the collection are clergymen, candidates of pedagogical, historical, philosophical and psychological sciences, teachers of the Yekaterinburg theological seminary, representatives of the Department of Religious Education of the Yekaterinburg Diocese.

The materials presented in the collection will be useful for teachers of Sunday schools, catechists, parents and everyone who works in the field of Orthodox upbringing and education, noted in the department of religious education and catechesis of the Diocese of Yekaterinburg. You can buy the collection in the sector of parochial schools of the Department of Religious Education and Catechization of the Yekaterinburg Diocese at the address: Yekaterinburg, ul. Repin, 6, room 220, 221. For more information call: +7 (343) 228-15-36.



On February 27, the Russian TV-channel "Kultura" broadcasted (again) the documentary "400th anniversary of Romanov Imperial House". The descriptions said - "In the autumn of 1900, Emperor Nicholas II traditionally, along with his family, rested in the Livadia Palace in the Crimea. In early November, he felt unwell, rapidly developed into a severe form of typhoid fever. When the Emperor became very ill, a secret meeting was held in Yalta's Rossiya Hotel. They decided what to do in case the Emperor died. What about succession to the throne? Since the time of Emperor Paul I, the right to the throne in Russia has been passed through the male line. A son Nicholas did not have, only three daughters ..."

Video - [https://tvkultura.ru/video/show/brand\\_id/39045/episode\\_id/246761/](https://tvkultura.ru/video/show/brand_id/39045/episode_id/246761/)



On February 28, in the Yusupov Palace on Moika was a solemn transfer of a copy of the wedding tiara of Princess Irina Yusupova as a gift to the palace from the jewelry house AXENOFF. This event is timed to the 104th anniversary of the wedding of Prince Felix Feliksovich Yusupov, Count Sumarokov-Elston (junior) and Princess of the Imperial Blood Irina Alexandrovna Yusupova.

The famous tiara was created more than a century ago by the jewelry house Cartier (Paris, France), commissioned by the Prince for



Princess Irena, and was one of the most striking decorations in her collection. When the Yusupovs found themselves in exile, precious items, along with other princely family relics, remained in Russia. However, in 1925 the trace of this priceless decoration was lost.

A copy of the wedding tiara was recreated by designer and artist Peter Aksenov, who made decorations for the series based on Tolstoy's "War and Peace" by British television company BBC, and for the Russian television series "Ekaterina" with Marina Alexandrova in the title role.

The copy of the Yusupov tiara is recreated in silver, colorless topaz and rock crystal. Now this unique decoration can be seen in the bedroom of Princess Irina Yusupova.

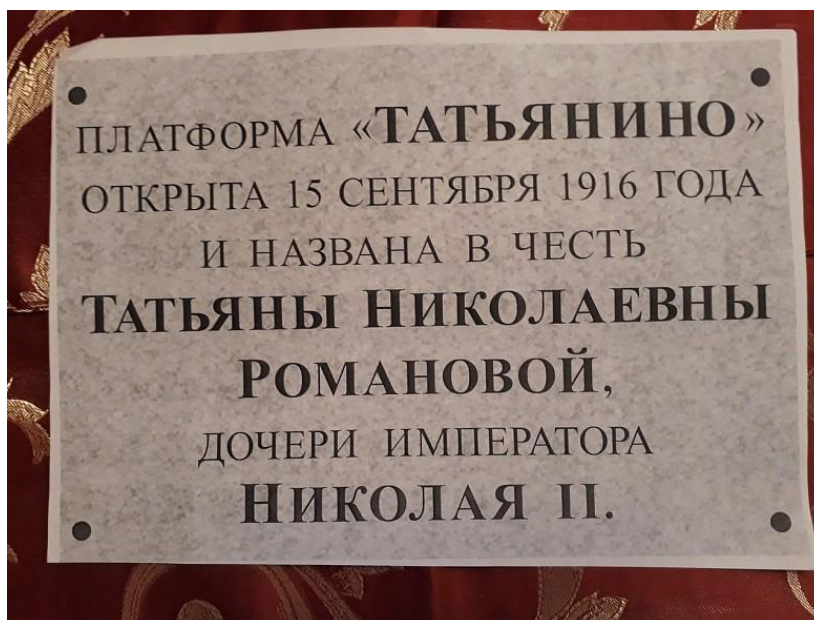


The gallery "QUADRATS" in the Sokolniki Park, Moscow, opened the multimedia exhibition "Nicholas II". The exhibition was the first event in the multimedia format dedicated to the last All-Russian Emperor Nicholas II. The organizers decided to time it to a tragic date: a hundred years have passed since the day the Tsar's family was killed. The authors of the project share the facts about the great man and thus revive the historical truth, remind visitors that under Nicholas II Russia was a strong, powerful and prosperous power. You will see the "revived" paintings of famous painters on the reign of Nicholas II. Thanks to the bright cinematographic design, the exhibition will equally interest young people and representatives of the older generation. The exhibition runs every day from 10 to 22 hours.



In Gatchina, a memorial plaque will be installed in honor of the daughter of Emperor Nicholas II. March 8 at 13.00 on the building of the new station on the platform "Tatyanino" will be installed a commemorative plaque in honor Tatiana Nikolaevna, daughter of Emperor Nicholas II and Empress Alexandra Feodorovna.

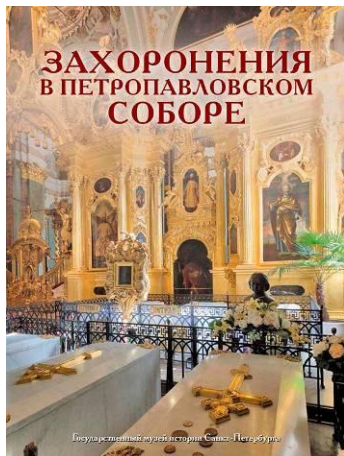
As reported Sergei Skovpnev the GOS head of the club of local lore "Old Gatchina", the memorial sign is made in granite.







## Burial in the Peter and Paul Cathedral



Assess the level of popularity of the monarch in terms of the number of funeral gifts and find out the exact weight of monolithic royal tombstones can be found in a new book published by the State Museum of the History of Petersburg. It is called "Burial in the Peter and Paul Cathedral", and is a "guide" to the tombs in the Peter and Paul Fortress.

"It is not a revolutionary" book, but can be called, "progressive" - says the author of the publication, the main research officer of the museum Marina Logunova.

"In the guidebook I lay down all the information about the graves in the Peter and Paul Cathedral. All this, of course, was mentioned earlier in scientific reports, but this was not mentioned in the popular scientific literature. It was possible to specify much, like to name exact places of a burial place of members of the Imperial Family, which earlier often were

specified incorrectly. To make it clear that the weight of gravestones over the graves of Alexander II and Maria Alexandrovna is "not about 5.5 and 6.5 tons," but 5.1 and 6.7 tons. All material is divided into blocks and is equipped with illustrations. First is told about the structure of the cathedral, then, sequentially, about the burials,"- said Logunova.

According to the author, the initial task - "to make an informative publication" - led to the fact that in a small volume of the book the facts from 1708 "when the daughter of Peter I for unknown reasons was transported to the burial-vault in the city, then not considered a capital". Logunova included in the "Burial" a detailed analysis of the "family blocks" in the burial vault.

"I write about what was paid special attention to by the priests of the Peter and Paul Cathedral before the revolution. The complex of gifts began to form after the burial of Alexander II. He had 165 gifts, and Alexander III - 760. People brought icons, wreaths, rings, lamps. It could even be carpets and eggs" - the researcher notes.

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## Lists for the knights of the Russian orders of 1699-1796



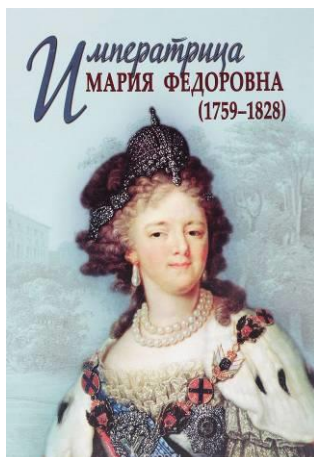
By Nikolai Nikolaevich Bantysh-Kamensky (1737-1814), historian, archivist, and publisher, since 1800, the head of the Moscow Main Archive.

"Lists of the Knights" printed for the first time in 1814, are among the most important reference books on the history of Russia. Originally the book came out under a different name, and only thanks to the archival research of P. A. Druzhinin was its true author established; in 2006, the 2nd edition was prepared, corrected. This edition is considerably enlarged: 205 cavaliers were added to it, information about the awarding of which were found in archival and printed sources. The book will be an indispensable reference for all those interested in Russian history, genealogy, heraldry, iconography.

*Publisher: Drone, Moscow. Hard cover. Pages: 320. ISBN: 978-5-904007-16-4*

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## Empress Maria Feodorovna (1759-1828)



Collection "Empress Maria Feodorovna" contains documentary evidences of the contemporaries of the Empress, prominent statesmen of Russia of the XVIII - early XIX century.

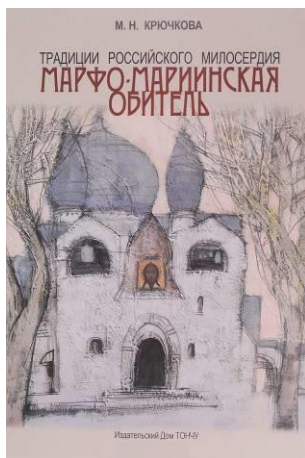
The book includes a detailed biography of Maria Feodorovna, written by a prominent historian, specialist in the era of Paul I, E.S. Shumigorsky. The chronological description and historical analysis of "Her deeds" is contained in the work of G.I. Villamov, State Secretary of the Empress for the "Office of the Empress Maria."

For the first time essays and articles dedicated to the memory of Empress Maria Feodorovna published in Russian. Their authors: the director of the Tsarskoye Selo Lyceum E.A. Engelgardt, the historian I.K. Kupriyanov, the prominent Russian teacher of the XIX century L.N. Modzalevsky, and statesman S.S. Uvarov.

*Publishing House: Tonchu, Moscow. Hard cover. 752 pages. ISBN: 978-5-91215-134-7*

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## Traditions of Russian charity. Martha and Mary convent



In the centre of the narrative is the bright image of Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna Romanova, ranked by the Russian Orthodox Church to the saints, and the history of her creation of the Martha-Mary Convent of Mercy. The long and difficult way of creating a monastery, her tragic fate is described in detail in the book.

The author of the book scrupulously investigates (including with the involvement of foreign archives) the biography and evolution of the creator and the first abbess of the monastery - from Princess Ella of the Protestant faith to the Orthodox Elizabeth.

It is noteworthy that the book written by Mother Elizabeth is published in the year of the 100th anniversary of the tragic events that occurred in Russia. When writing the book, numerous documents, researches of scientists, memories and unique archival materials were used. The publication contains photographs illustrating the most significant events in the life of Grand

Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna.

*Publishing House: Tonchu, Moscow. Hard cover. 496 pages. ISBN: 978-5-91215-141-5*

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## "The Romanoffs 100 Years Later"

Daniel A. Willis have announced his new book "The Romanoffs 100 Years Later" is out. The description says - "This summer the Romanoff family will gather in St, Petersburg, Russia to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the murder of the last Tsar and so many of his relatives. But who are these 21st century Romanoffs and what are they doing with the lives now, a century on? To mark the occasion, royal historian Daniel A. Willis will answer these questions in his newest book, The Romanoffs 100 Years Later. The book will be released by Bygone Era Books on February 27th as a trade size paperback and will include many photographs and a detailed genealogy of the Romanoff family. The list price is \$29.95. It will debut at the Colorado Book Festival at Denver Public Library on March 3rd.

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## Women's awards of the Russian Empire. For charity.



The book "Women's awards of the Russian Empire. For charity" is devoted to the little-studied topic - badges, specially established to reward women who have shown themselves in the state, scientific, medical field, for their work for the benefit of society.

The author of the book S.S. Levin gives a detailed account of the history of the institution, the existence and legal aspects of such women's awards of the Russian Empire as the insignia of the Red Cross, the Romanov insignia "For works on agriculture", "The insignia of the soloist of His Imperial Majesty. "

On the pages of the book you can learn about the medals awarded to women "In memory of the Patriotic War of 1812", "For diligence", "For useful", as well as on award bracelets, rings, ciphers, awarded from the Imperial Award Office.

*Publishing House: Tonchu, Moscow. Hard cover. 296 pages. ISBN: 978-5-91215-145-3*

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## Bookmarks and the Family of the Romanovs



The book represents to date the most complete and detailed description of more than 500 ex-libris and their variants, which belonged to 89 members of the Romanov family, as well as their palace and manor libraries. It reproduces 284 ex-libris, as well as portraits of the owners of bookmarks and other graphic materials. The book is provided with extensive comments, pointers. It is intended for historians, culturologists, workers of libraries and museums, collectors and bibliophiles, for all who are interested in the history of Russian culture.

The book "Bookmarks and the Family of the Romanovs" is a fundamental work in the field of ex-literacy, it has value as a scientific reference publication. A simple book sign that determines the ownership of the publication will reveal many interesting and cognitive episodes of Russian cultural life.

*Publishing House: Tonchu, Moscow. Hard cover. 272 pages. ISBN: 978-5-91215-126-2*



*Grand Duchesses Olga, Tatiana, Maria and Anastasia Nicholaevna, Grand Duchess Olga Alexandrovna, Prince Peter of Oldenburg, Emperor Nicholas II, Empress Alexandra Feodorovna, and Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich.*



## Romanov related items in Auctions

With annotations. Beginning XX century.  
Estimate: 15000 - 20000 rub.

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На десятом году мирного царствования Государя Императора Николая Александровича, Россия приняла и вступила в войну с Япониею, которая затанца против России злобу еще с тех пор, как Государь не позволил ей оставить за собою отнятые ею у китайцев земли, при которых и Порт-Артур, сбитый затем Россией в аренду у Китая. Желая все таки во что бы то стало укрываться на Азиатских материках, Япония ринула захватить Корею, но и здесь встретила отпор со стороны России, которая было очень неважно имела сильную Японию своею сухопутною осадкою. Тогда Япония, собрав все свои силы, напала на Россию даже без объявления войны. Русския войска начали стигаться в Маньчжурю, за 6000 верст от селения России, и почти каждый полк был напутствуем Царем перед отправлением в далекие края на войну и получал от него благословение святою иконою. Величественная и трогательная картина благословения Царем своих полков навсегда запечатлелась в сердцах воинов и служила им сильною поддержкою в тяжелях минуты боевой солдатской жизни. Так как русские полки собирались в Маньчжурю весьма медленно, употребляя на проезд по единственной сибирской желѣзной дорогѣ не меньше полутора мѣсяца, а японцы могли перевезти свои полки моремъ в течение 5 дней, то в первые мѣсяцы войны численна сила японцевъ во много разъ превышала силы русскихъ, благодаря чему японцамъ удалось отразить отъ русской арміи Порт-Артуръ и осадить его. Съ іюня 1904 г. началось оборона Порт-Артура, которая по своему героизму не уступала оборонѣ Севастополя. 40-тысячный гарнизонъ русскихъ успѣшно отбивался отъ 120-тысячной арміи японцевъ, снабженной чудовищными осадными орудіями, которая бросала въ въ многострадальную крѣпость, съ разстоянія 6—8 верстъ, снаряды по 30 пудовъ вѣсомъ. Одновременно съ этими три японскихъ арміи, силою по 60—70 тыс. человекъ каждая, тѣшили нашу 200-тысячную полевою армію съ трехъ сторонъ, и осенью 1904 г. послѣ двухъ жестокихъ многодневныхъ сраженій, у Японца и на рѣкѣ Шлахъ, остановившись передъ нею у Мукдена, въ ожиданіи взятія Порт-Артура.

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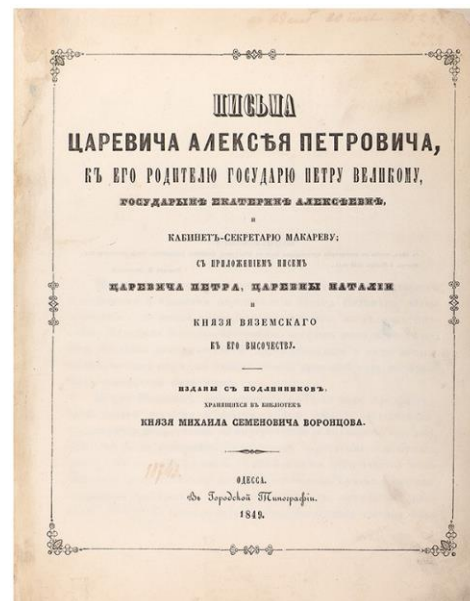
**Nikitsky, Moscow, Russia, February 22**

*Letters from Tsarevich Alexei Petrovich to his parent, the Emperor Peter the Great, the Empress Ekaterina Alexeevna, and the secretary's office Makarev; with the enclosure of the letters of Tsarevich Peter, the Princess Natalia and Prince Vyazemsky to His Highness.*

Published from the original, stored in the library of Mikhail Semenovich Vorontsov. Odessa, 1849. Size 26.3 x 21.5 cm. In the owner's all-leather binding with a gold frame on the front cover. The front page is washed, the combined print on the last page.

Alexei Petrovich (1690-1718) - Prince, Grand Duke, son of Tsar Peter I and Queen Evdokia Fedorovna.

Estimate: 40 000 - 42 000 rubles.



*The highest approved ceremony of the transfer of the deceased Empress Maria Alexandrovna from the Great Court Cathedral of the Winter Palace to the Peter and Paul Cathedral.*

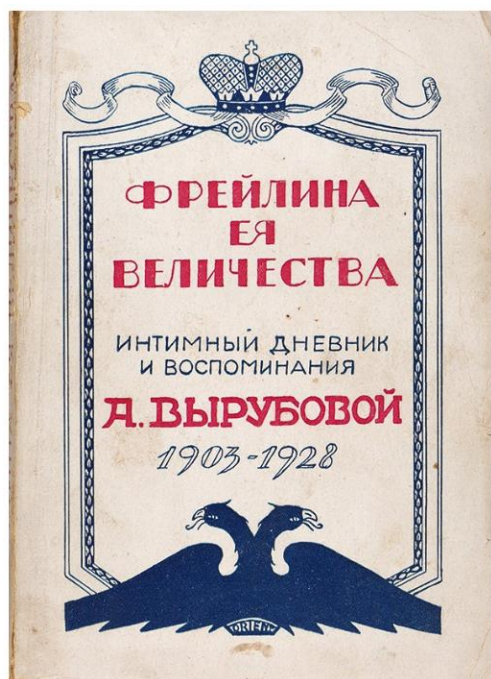
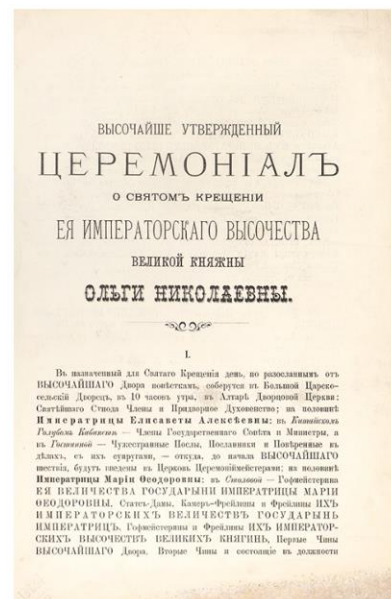
SPb .1880. 132 p. 33.6 x 20.9 cm.

Estimate: 2 500 - 3 000 rub.

*The highest approved ceremony of the holy baptism of Her Highness the Grand Duchess Olga Nikolaevna.*

St. Petersburg. 28.7 x 19.3 cm. Edition in Russian and French.

Estimate: 2 500 - 3 000 rub.



*Her Majesty's Maid of Honor: intimate diary and memoirs of A. Vyubova.*

Riga, 1928. 264 p. 20 x 14

cm. In the illustrated publication cover.

First edition.

Anna Alexandrovna Vyubova (born Taneyeva) was the great-great-granddaughter of Mikhail Illarionovich Kutuzov. Her father for 20 years occupied the responsible post of state secretary and chief of His Imperial Majesty's Chancery. The same post was occupied by his father and grandfather under Alexander I, Nicholas I, Alexander II and Alexander III.

At the same time, in the public consciousness Anna Vyubova was convinced that she was a commoner. This is not correct. Even ceasing to be a maid of honor on the basis of marriage, Anna Vyubova remained, in fact, the main friend of the Empress. Alexandra Feodorovna called her "big baby". The "little baby" of the Empress was a son - Tsarevich Alexei. There was, perhaps, in Russian history a woman whose name was

slandered energetically. Rumours about the vicious life of Anna Vyrubova plied in the people even before the revolution. It was said about her that this was precisely what she had introduced into the entourage of Tsar Rasputin, that she and Rasputin were involved in various outrages, that she allegedly seduced the Empress herself.  
Estimate: 12 000 - 14 000 Roubles.

***Cooper Barrington LLP, Nr Llangollen, United Kingdom, February 24***

Painting of Catherine II Empress of Russia 1729-1796. 19thc. Label to verso Catherine 2nd Empress of Russia. Gilt framed under glass 14 x 16 Inches.  
Estimate: £100 - £150





**Shapiro, New York, USA, March 7, 2018**

*A Faberge gold, enamel and diamond `Tsarevna` brooch, workmaster Oscar Pihl, Moscow, 1887-1897.*

Opaque white life-belt inscribed *Tsarevna* in Russian, with entwined gold ropes, the naval flag attached to diamond-set flag-pole wrapped around life-belt, marked with 56 standard, workmaster's mark OP in Latin for Oscar Pihl, Moscow, 1887-1897, in original fitted brown leather case stamped with Faberge: Moscow. St. Petersburg. Odessa; width: 3.5 cm. (1 3/8 in.), weight: 17.2 g.

Estimate: \$6,000 - \$8,000



**Veilinghuis de Ruiter, BW Klaaswaal, Netherlands, March 9**

Gold Medal, "Marriage" Rouble, St. Petersburg mint.

Russia. 1841. Conjoined busts of Grand Duke Alexander Nikolaevich and Princess Maria Alexandrovna (later Emperor Alexander II and Empress Maria Alexandrovna). 36 mm.

Estimate: €30,000





**Nikitsky, Moscow, Russia, March 15**

*Portrait of Princess Sophia Alexeevna (1657-1704).*  
Print of the XIX century. Mezzotint. D: 34 x 24.5; L: 37.5 x 27.5 cm.

Daughter of Tsar Alexei Michailovich. Ruled as regent of Russia from 1682 to 1689. Her brother was Ivan V and half-brother Peter I. Estimate: 10 000 - 11 000 rub.



*The announcement of the accession to the throne of Emperor Nicholas II and Empress Alexandra Feodorovna. 1896.*

Chromolithography. 40.5 x 29.5 cm.

Estimate: 28 000 - 30 000 rub.





***Auction House Eppli, L.-Echterdingen, Germany, March 24***

Medallion from the context of the coronation ceremony Tsar Nicholas II. It may be the memory of a musical event, held on May 8, 1896 in the Petrovsky Palace in Moscow. Oval gold pendant. Patina, rubbed, alloy 750/1000 (gold test), 2.5g gold rough. Cyrillic inscription "Петровский Дворецъ 8.V.1896",



***Cottone Auctions, Geneseo, NY, US, March 24***

Plates made during the reign of Nicholas I (1825-8155) for Tsarevich Alexander Nicholaevich and Grand Duchess Maria Alexandrovna. Dia. 10". Provenance: Armand Hammer, NY. The William Hengerer Co., Buffalo, NY. A Buffalo, NY Family.

