



---

**Romanov News**  
**Новости Романовых**

*By Paul Kulikovsky*

**№87**

June 2015

---



## On the birthday of Passion Bearer Empress Alexandra Feodorovna

Empress Alexandra was born on 6 June 1872 at the New Palace in Darmstadt as Her Grand Ducal Highness Princess Victoria Alix Helena Louise Beatrice of Hesse and by Rhine.

She was the sixth child and fourth daughter among the seven children of Grand Duke Louis IV of Hesse and by Rhine, and Princess Alice of the United Kingdom, the second daughter of Queen Victoria and Albert, the Prince Consort.



Alix was baptized on 1 July 1872 according to the rites of the Lutheran Church and given the names of her mother and each of her mother's four sisters, some of which were transliterated into German. Her godparents were The Prince and Princess of Wales, the Russian Tsarevich and Tsarevna, The Princess Beatrice of the United Kingdom, The Duchess of Cambridge, and Princess Anna of Prussia. Her mother gave her the nickname of "Sunny," a practice later picked up by her husband, while her British relatives gave her the nicknames of "Alicky" in order to distinguish her from her aunt-by-marriage, the Princess of Wales (and later Queen of the United Kingdom), who, while having the given name Alexandra, was known within the family as Alix.

Alix in a letter to Nicky -

*"My very own beloved one,  
I cannot find words to express all I want to, my heart is  
far too full. I only long to hold you tight in my arms &  
whisper words of intense love, courage, strength &  
endless blessings. More than hard to let you go alone, so  
completely alone - but God is very near you, more than  
ever. You have fought this great fight for your country &  
throne, alone & with bravery & decision. Never have they  
seen such firmness in you before & it cannot remain  
without good fruit.*

*Do not fear for what remains behind: one must be severe  
& stop all at once. Lovy, I am here, don't laugh at silly old  
wify, but she has trousers on unseen... Whenever I can  
be of the smallest use, tell me what to do - use me - at  
such a time God will give me the strength to help you,  
because our souls are fighting for the right against the  
evil... we, who have been taught to look at all from the  
other side, see what the struggle here really is & means.*





*You showing your mastery, proving yourself the Autocrat without who Russia cannot exist.*

*Had you given in now to these different questions, they would have dragged out yet more of you. Being firm is the only saving. I know what it costs you; [I] have & do suffer hideously for you. Forgive me, I beseech you, my Angel, for having left you no peace & worried you so much - but I too well know your marvelously gentle character - & you had to shake it off this time, had to win your fight alone against all. It will be a glorious page in your reign & Russian history, the story of these weeks & days & God, who is just & near you, will save your country & throne through your firmness.*

*God anointed you at your coronation. He placed you where you stand & you have done your duty. Be sure, quite sure of this & He forsaketh not His anointed. Our Friend's prayers arise night & day for you to Heaven & God will hear them. Those who fear & cannot understand your actions will be brought by events to realise your great wisdom. It is the beginning of the glory of your reign. He said so & I absolutely believe it. Your Sun is rising & today it shines so brightly. And so will you charm all those great blunderers, cowards, lead astray, noisy, blind, narrow-minded & false beings.*

*All is for the good, as Our Friend says, the worst is over. Now you speak to the Minister of war & he will take energetic measures, as soon as needed - but Khvostov, will see to that too if you name him. When you leave, shall wire to Friend tonight through Ania & He will particularly think of you. Only get Nikolasha's nomination quicker done - no dawdling, its bad for the cause & for Alexejev too - & a settled thing quieten minds, even if against their wish, sooner than that waiting & uncertainty & trying to influence you - it tires out ones heart.*

*Bitter pain not to be with you - know what you feel, & the meeting with N, won't be agreeable - you did trust him & now you know, what months ago our Friend said, that he was acting wrongly towards you & your country & wife... Near you all is well - when out of sight others at once profit - you see they are afraid of me & so come to you alone [when the Tsarina is not there] - they know I have a will of my own when I feel I am in the right - & you are now - we know it, so you make them tremble before your courage & will.*

*God is with you & our Friend for you - all is well - & latter all will thank you for having saved your country. Don't doubt - believe & all will be well & the army is everything—a few strikes nothing, in comparison, as can & shall be suppressed. The left are furious because all slips through their hands.*

*Now goodnight lovy, go straight to bed without tea with the rest & their long faces. You have Gregory's St Nicolas to guard & guide you... I clasp you tenderly to my heart, kiss and caress you without end - want to show you all the intense love I have for you, warm, cheer, console, strengthen you, & make you sure of yourself. Sleep well my Sunshine, Russia's Savior. Remember last night, how tenderly we clung together? I shall yearn for your caresses, I never can have enough of them. I kiss you without end & bless you. Holy Angels guard your slumber - I am near & with you forever & ever & none shall separate us.*

*Your very own wife  
Sunny  
August 1915"*



## Commemorations of Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich in Lokot

June 12-13<sup>th</sup> in the village Lokot in Bryansk region was celebrated the Day of Russia and commemorated Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich. Lokot is the administrative center of Brasovsky area, in the south-east part of Bryansk Region, which is to the south-west of Moscow, on the border with Ukraine and Belarus.

In 1899 Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich had inherited the estate Brasov upon the death of his brother Grand Duke George Alexandrovich. The main building - a wooden palace - was located in what is now called Lokot, while a vast part of the estate was in the neighbor village Brasov.



Located near the river Nerussa, it was mentioned in the 1st half of XVII century, as the farm Lokotskoy Kolodez near the ancient village of Brasov. In 1742, the surrounding land Sevsky County, were part of the camp Brasovsky which Empress Elizabeth bestowed to General Field Marshal S. Apraksin, who in 1797 moved his residence to Lokot. At this time there was arranged a magnificent property with a 2-storey palace, with a 4 -

storey tower, ponds and fountains.

In 1882 Emperor Alexander III bought the Brasov estate, for 4 million 200 thousand rubles, and gave it to his son Grand Duke George Alexandrovich. Then started a lot of improvements of the estate: water canals was laid, made a huge park with ponds and walkways, elevated several multi-storey stone buildings, and created companies making food, alcohol and wood.

In 1899 Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich became the owner, and he initiated many developments in the estate. A railway station was made in Brasov (line Bryansk-Lgov), the stables was increased and dedicated horse breeding was started, an iron and mechanical plant was established and much more. At the same time Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich took care of 19 churches, monasteries, schools, several guest houses for orphans, and hospice for the elderly. Two thousand people was occupied at the estate. He invested a lot of money in the development of the estate, but it was worth it - its revenue was increased from 125 thousand to a million Rubles a year.

During the second world war Lokot was occupied and the palace housed the Nazis commandant, and on 5 March 1943, Soviet planes bombed several important German facilities in the village and one bomb hit the palace...blasting the wooden building into pieces. After the war, on the foundation was built a new building. There was the people's court, then a village council. In the 80's the one-story wooden house burned down.





A road is now running on top of the basement of the former palace. However, at one end of the U-shaped basement the earth has caved in and uncovered a part of the basement. There is white bricks at the bottom, possibly from an earlier building, and then red bricks on top of them.



The lower garden is basically still there in its original shape. Ascending downwards from the road (the palace) towards a big hole in the lawn, there once was the Swan Fountain. On the side of the lawn are the paths into the park. Once they marked the entire park landscape as the imperial double-headed eagle. On the other side of the street there are now standing buildings, among them are the local tax administration office.

In the garden there is standing an empty pedestal, where once was a statue of Lenin to mock the former owner of the estate. A big board shows photos of Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich, of the palace and gives some additional information.



*A contemporary painting of the Brasov Palace as it is seen from the garden. A photo of 1944, in which German soldiers are standing at the Swan Fountain, with the palace in the background.*



*Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich (without hat) at the Swan fountain. The palace seen from the other side, towards the upper garden.*



At the end of the garden is a steep hill down and at the bottom are several small lakes or ponds, which at the time of Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich were used for fish farming, and today are used for "fishing for pay". Nearby are also a few of the other building from the original estate, including the stud farm, which is still in operation.

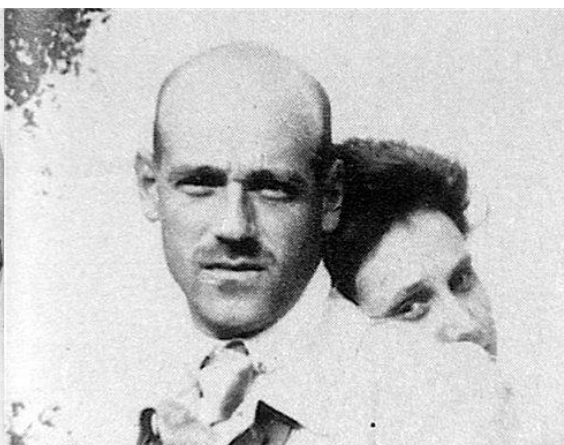


*Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich (sitting) with Natalia Sergeievna holding him, and guests at a table on the terrace in front of the palace in Brasov, May 1911.*

*Right - Rachmaninov with George Brasov, son of Michael and Natalia, in the baby stroller.*

*Below, left - Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich and Rachmaninov sitting on a bench in the Brasov park.*

*Below right - Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich bending over his son George Brasov in the baby stroller.*





On the 12th of June was held a song festival devoted to the Romanov House. Local residents and guest could enjoy the interregional festival of Russian romance, which was supported by the Russian Nobility Assembly.

A local sightseeing tour went through both the village Brasov and Lokot, showing all the sites related to Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich and other historical sites. One of them being the St. Vasilyevskaya Church, in Brasov, built between 1778 and 1780 at the expense of adjutant Colonel S.S. Apraksin of Kiev Infantry Regiment instead a of an old wooden church. One of the few remaining churches in Bryansk in the style of early classicism. Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich often came there and was giving money for its maintenance.

In the evening was a prayer in the small chapel in the house of Natalia Nikolaevna and Yuri Ivanovich Shishkov. The central icon in their home-chapel is the Mother of God "Tenderness", to which many faithful comes.



After the prayer were a dinner and a presentation of the new book by Svetlana Nikolaevna Rozhkova, historian and director of the Lokot children library. The book titled "Double-Headed Eagles of Brasov Estate" is devoted to Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich.

Its 160 pages tells about the history of the Brasov estate and the fate of its last owner Grand Duke Mikhail Alexandrovich. The presentation of the life in the estate is based on research of rare documents. There are many very rare B/W photos, some of them published for the first time, and some new photos in color. The book's content then moves forward to the love story of Michael Alexandrovich and Natalia Brasova, which is connected with the Brasov Estate. It also includes correspondence between Michael Alexandrovich and Natalia Sergeevna.

The book is published by "Bryansk", Isbn No. 978-5-94632-187-7, with the support of the chairman of the Bryansk filial of "Russian Geographical society" E. V. Borisov and the furniture company "DMI Dyadkovo".



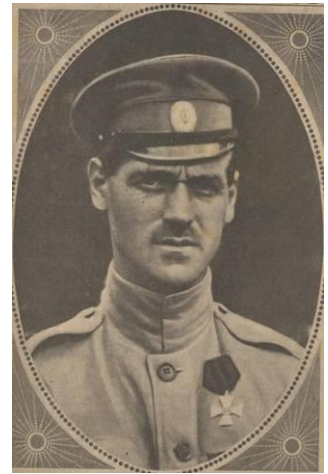
*Pages from the book - "Double-Headed Eagles of Brasov Estate" - showing some of the photos with Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich and Natalia Sergeievna in their Brasov estate.*



Next day, at 06.00 in the morning, started Liturgy in the Kazan Mother of God in the Ploschanskoy monastery in Brasov area.

Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich visited this monastery several times. One of the visits was recorded in the "Orel Diocesan Gazette" -

*"In 1911, April 16 the Grand Duke was pleased to visit the monastery. His Highness arrived to the monastery at 11.30 the day after the meeting at the Holy Gate, proceeded to the cathedral church, where, after a brief prayer with the proclamation of "Many Years" kissed the cross and the Kazan icon of the Mother of God. Then, His Highness was pleased to visit the abbot's quarters, where, as they say, dined tea and honored abbot gracious conversation. After tea, His Highness visited the holy well of the monastery, and then departed from the monastery to his Brasovsky estate."*



Just before 08.00 the cross procession in memory of Grand Duke Mikhail Alexandrovich (97 years since the day he was martyred in Perm) went to the road. With the blessing of the Bishop of Bryansk and Sevsky the procession walked along the road Kiev-Moscow, on the roads of the village Lokot, past the former distillery, stables and stud farm. The procession was headed by dean of Ostrogradsky district Archpriest Vladimir Safronov. For the procession came not only local people from Lokot, but also from other parts of Russia.

In the front believers carried orthodox banners and a black-yellow-white imperial flag, then followed the head of city administration Sergey Nikolaievich Lavokin carrying an icon, and in the middle came the icon Mother of God "Tenderness", behind it Ludmila and Paul Kulikovsky together with Archpriest Vladimir and clergy from the monastery, followed by about 150 believers - all who to the glory of God decided to go this route with a total length of 12 kilometers.





At the location of the former Brasov Palace, the procession stopped and gathered for service around the memorial stone - unveiled on 13 June 2012 by Sergei Lavokin and Paul Kulikovskiy. Then Archpriest Vladimir Safronov turned to Paul Kulikovskiy and invited him to step into the middle and say some words.



Paul Kulikovskiy - *"On this day - 13 June - I have mixed feelings. It is both a holiday and a very sad day. It is a holiday for me, as on this day, 133 years ago was born my great-grandmother Grand Duchess Olga Alexandrovna - the younger sister of Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich. She survived the Red Terror, as she left her motherland in 1920, and never return. The fate of Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich was quite different. As you properly already know, here in Lokot, or Brasovo, Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich was living happily for a short period of time, with his wife Natalia Sergeievna - Countess Brasova - and their son George Michailovich. Now 97 years ago - In the early hours of 13 June 1918 Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich and his secretary Nicholas Johnson were shot and buried in Perm. Michael Alexandrovich was the first of the Romanovs to be killed by the Bolsheviks, but he would not be the last. It was also the start of the Red Terror, in which millions of innocent people was murdered. Still the remains of Michael Alexandrovich and Johnson are not found. The search is going on again in Perm."*

Then the Head of administration Sergei Lavokin and Paul Kulikovskiy put a basket of flowers at the memorial stone.



The procession continued towards the Church of New Martyrs and Confessors further down the road.

This church was built in 2003-2007 in honor of the martyrs and confessors of Russia, including the Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich. The church is a rebuilt former building of a turpentine factory (from



1903), later a house of culture, but before the construction of the turpentine factory at this place was a chapel. In the church today are both old and new icons, and among the new ones is one big icon of the Holy Royal Martyrs.



Children welcomed the procession with flowers, scattering the petals from baskets. Pilgrims next to the church could have tea and a small meal. The big icon of the Holy Royal martyrs was standing just in front of the entrance to the church on a table, and in front of it started the memorial service for all the martyrs.



Since our last visit there, a memorial cross had been erected. On it the inscription says:

"Cathedral of Saint Russian New Martyrs and Confessors. Town Lokot.

In XX century the persecution of the Church was in great scale in the Soviet Union. A lot of faithful were executed and died in prisons, camps and in exile. In 2000 on Jubilee Archbishop Convention formulated the attitude of Russian Orthodox Church to the act of bravery of repressed people, died in the name of Christ under the tortures.

To glorify the triumph of new martyrs on Jubilee Archbishop Convention Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia Alexy blessed the creation of the Icon of "Convention of Russian New Martyrs and Confessors suffered for the Christ revealed and unrevealed", in

which more than thousand devotees of the Church were glorified. In 2000-2008 about 600 New Saints were included to New Martyrs Convention. Saint Royal Martyrs - Emperor Nicholas II and his family took special place in New Martyrs Convention.



In February 1918 Grand Duke Michail Alexandrovich Romanov, younger brother of Emperor Nicholas II, owner of Brasov estate, exiled from Gatchina to Perm, was brutally murdered at night from 12 to 13 of July 1918 in the outskirts of Perm, 6 km from Motoviliha.

Previously a House of culture was located at this place. In 2000 Archbishop Bryansky and Sevsky Melhisedek blessed the reconstruction of the House of culture to an Orthodox Cathedral. The house was given under the jurisdiction of the Diocese and the reconstruction of the dilapidated building to a church started. Archbishop Bryansky and Sevsky Melhisedek inspected the former House of culture and blessed to construct the Cathedral of Saint Russian New Martyrs and Confessors at the place of the century old building created by Michail Romanov in the town Lokot.

In 2008 the first Divine Liturgy was held in the church on the holiday of Transfiguration of the Lord. On 6 of November 2012, Bishop Bryansky and Sevsky Alexander on the fest of the icon of Mother of God "Joy for All Who Sorrow" performed the rite of the great consecration of the church.

#### *"Under the shadow of Brasovsky alleys"*

At 12.00 the official guest and the city administration met at the memorial to Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich and then walked together through an alley of "white statues" down to the amphitheater in the park. The "white statues" were girls in white dresses and painted all white on their skin, making them looking like mythological figures. The audience loved it and tried to make their picture with them.



In front of the stage, at some distance, was made a row tables for the guests, who after sitting down, could enjoy the celebrations marking the "Day of the House of Romanov", also referred to "Under the shadow of Brasovsky alleys" - including a "Romanov Ball" and "Royal Tea".



The guests included Acting Deputy Governor of Bryansk T.S. Bolkhovitina; the deputy of the State Duma V.A. Malashenko; deputy director of the Bryansk Department of Culture E.A. Marina; Ludmila and Paul Kulikovsky, representatives of the House of Romanov; and Alexander Y. Korolev-Pereleshin, first vice-leader of the Russian Nobility Assembly and Alexander Scheffer, head of culture department in the Russian Nobility Assembly.

It was very hot and something to drink would have been nice, but on the tables stood only empty tea cups.....

The festival opened with an fanfare, announcing the arrival of "Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich" and his beloved "Natalia Sergeievna" - actors dressed up -, who then walked to their seats in the tent for the royal personage.

Then people from different local areas in ball dresses of local folk costumes, came forward with tea in samovars and plates of pastries, filling up the tables.



The audience got a "Romanov Ball" with all the traditional dances - mazurka, the cotillion, polonaise, and polka - with the dancers dressed in costumes of the past century. Then followed traditional Russian folk dancing and singing.

Only a few of the performers was professionals, most of them was local groups. They did it splendid and received big applause from the audience. There was also the possibility to go shopping in an



shopping arcade, or taking the children to attractions - horse riding, roundabouts, and jumping on trampolines.

After hours of entertainment and "Royal tea", the official guests were invited to the stage to make speeches.

The head of the administration Sergei Lavokin said he was grateful to the villagers who had supported the idea of the festival taking place for the fifth time - "Thanks to our benefactors, with which we are all able to organize this. Thanks to my fellow countrymen, who treated it with enthusiasm and love of the past."



Paul Kulikovsky added - "I am very pleased to see how much the church, city administration and people from near and far away, are doing to keep the memory alive here in Lokot. This holiday is expanding every year, both in activities and people coming, but the main event is still the commemoration of Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich and the Holy Royal Martyrs. Thank you all for coming - making this a special day."

Later in the day some people from the audience shared their impressions;

Vera Kubatina: - "Today, a wonderful day, and we are all very pleased that the festival, which takes place for the fifth time in our land, is gaining momentum. Our history is an occasion for pride. In Great Russia there are not many places visited by representatives of the royal family, and even fewer of those places where they lived. Our village sheltered Mikhail Romanov, who "disobeyed" his crowned brother and married for love, not for money. Natalia Brasov adorned the modest, but still a royal palace. It is a pity that in school days we were not told about this beautiful and memorable historical event here in village Lokot. Now our grandchildren know the history of their region, moreover, can take part in the celebration dedicated to the Day of Remembrance of the Romanovs. Today - a celebration of the soul! Songs of such wonderful artists, good organization, the place itself with the cool shade of royal avenues - all this joyful and makes us believe in a bright future."

Alain Yurasova: - "I was born in the village of Lokot, but has long been living with my parents in Moscow. In summer, I come to my grandparents for holidays. The fact that in our village lived a brother of the last Russian tsar, Mikhail Romanov, I know from stories of my grandmother. The fact that at the site of today's celebration was a palace, fountains, I also know. And I believe I know why our village is named Lokot (Elbow). Allegedly because it was just a bend on the road between Moscow and Kiev. I like to learn something new about the history of my small motherland, and I'm proud that I was born in a landmark place."

---

## 100 years ago died Grand Duke Konstantin Konstantinovich

Grand Duke Konstantin Konstantinovich died 15 June 1915 in Pavlovsk. He was a poet and playwright, writing under the name "K.R.", initials of his given name and family name, Konstantin Romanov.

Born 22 August 1858 in the Konstantin Palace, Strelna, he was a grandson of Emperor Nicholas I, the fourth child of Grand Duke Konstantin Nikolaievich and his wife Princess Alexandra of Saxe-Altenburg.

From his early childhood KR was more interested in letters, art, and music than in the military upbringing required for Romanov boys. Nevertheless, the Grand Duke was sent to serve in the Imperial Russian Navy. KR was unsatisfied, and left the navy to join the elite Izmailovsky Regiment of the Imperial Guard, where he served with distinction.



KR was both a patron of Russian art and an artist in his own right. A talented pianist, Grand Duke was Chairman of the Russian Musical Society, and counted Tchaikovsky among his friends. He founded several Russian literary societies. He translated foreign works (including Schiller and Goethe) into Russian, and was particularly proud of his Russian translation of Hamlet. An accomplished poet and playwright, KR also took great interest in the direction of his plays. The Grand Duke actually appeared in his last play, "King of Judea," playing the role of Joseph of Arimathea.

The Grand Duke's artistic talent and devotion to duty endeared him to both Alexander III and Nicholas II. The

former appointed KR as President of the Russian Academy of Sciences, and later as Chief of All Military Colleges. He was also made an honorary member of the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences in 1902, with reference to his chairmanship of a Swedish-Russian surveying commission.

KR and his wife were among the relatively few Romanovs on intimate terms with Nicholas II and the Empress Alexandra, who found KR's devotion to his family a welcome respite from the playboy lifestyle of many of the other Grand Dukes.

He was also a close friend of the Grand Duchess Elizabeth and wrote a poem about her expressing his admiration when she first came to Russia to be married. He was also one of the few members of the Imperial Family to go to Moscow to attend the funeral of Elizabeth's husband, Grand Duke Sergei Alexandrovich, who was killed by a terrorist's bomb.





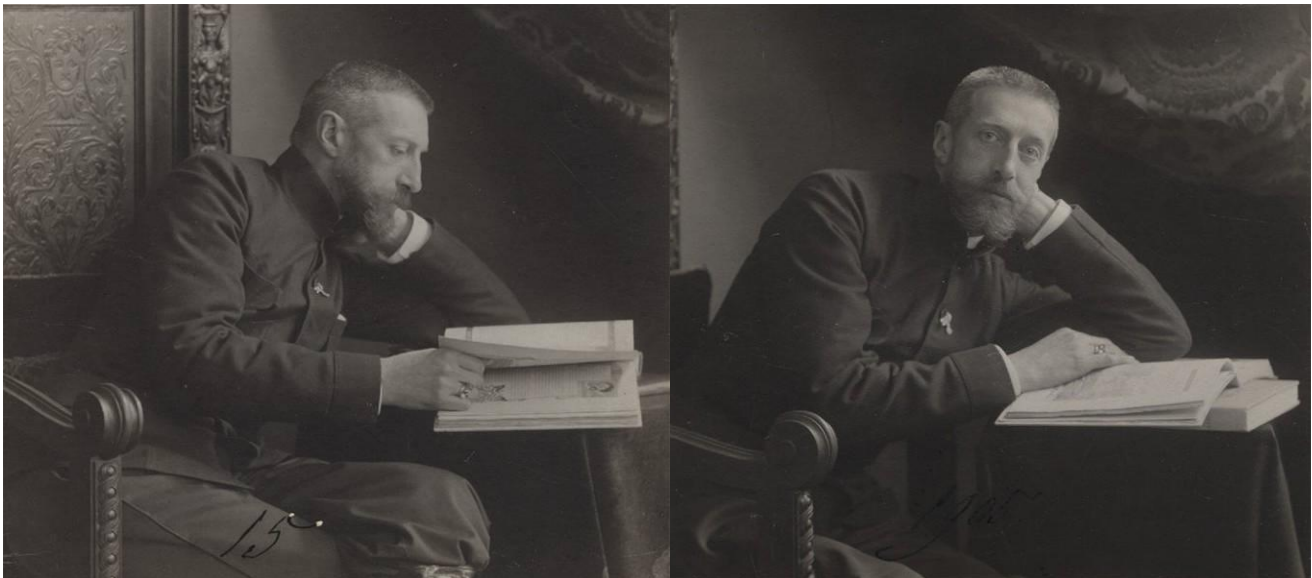


He and his family made their home at Pavlovsk, a suburban palace of St. Petersburg, and a favorite residence of KR's great-grandfather, the Emperor Paul I.

The couple would have a total of nine children: Prince John (1886–1918); Prince Gabriel (1887–1955); Princess Tatiana (1890–1979); Prince Constantine (1891–1918); Prince Oleg (1892–1914); Prince Igor (1894–1918); Prince George (1903–1938); Princess Natalia (died at exactly two months in 1905); and Princess Vera (1906–2001).

The outbreak of World War I found KR and his wife in Germany, where they were taking the cure in Wildungen. Caught in enemy territory, the couple attempted a quick return to Russia. Their plans were disrupted by German authorities, who claimed the Grand Duke and his wife were political prisoners. Grand Duchess Elizabeth sent a message to the German Imperial couple asking for their help. Eventually KR and his entourage were allowed to depart Germany and transported to the first Russian station. The weakened KR had to proceed by foot across the front lines. By the time K.R. and Elizaveta arrived in St. Petersburg, now renamed Petrograd, the Grand Duke was in a dismal state of health.

The first year of the war took a cruel toll on his immediate family. Five of his six sons served in the Russian Army, and in October 1914, his fourth and most talented son, Prince Oleg, was mortally wounded fighting against the Germans. The following March, his son-in-law Prince Bagration-Muhransky was killed on the Caucasus front. KR's health and spirit were broken by these blows, and he died on 15 of June, 1915.



## Romanovs rescued by Cossacks

*Ivan Prytyka, MK Kuban, 27.05.2015.*

*An exclusive interview with a descendant of Alexander III.*

He prefers to be called Pavel Eduardovich, not Paul Edward, as appears in the passport. Pavel Kulikovsky - great-great-grandson of Alexander III, the first of the Romanovs, who "returned" and lives in Russia. He is trying to restore the history of the royal family and get acquainted with their historical homeland without any resentment at the past. And he found in the Kuban what he did not expect.



In the back of the hall of the hotel was seen a couple, and my excitement becomes banal jitters. I thought that it is the lot of young journalists, and here I am - embarrassed as a boy. Perhaps genetic memory? Not every day you meet a man whose ancestors ruled the Russian Empire for three hundred years.

A delicate and elegant woman is holding the arm of a tall man with a military bearing. I know that Pavel E. is purely civilian person, but another definition of impeccable posture cannot find. Being in a room, even with a lot of people, I still would have recognized him, Pavel Kulikovsky looks like his crowned ancestors.

- Welcome - slight accent in unpronounceable word for foreigner, friendly smile and my inner stiffness disappears.

- Do you speak English? No? If you do not mind, I will translate, - says the wife of Pavel Kulikovsky, Ludmila. She is also smiling and the interview immediately turns into a conversation.

In our program is a visit to the Church of the Nativity, which is located in the Jubilee region of Krasnodar. Why this church was chosen I do not know, neither my interlocutors. Organizers keep the intrigue.

Past the windows of the car float views of Krasnodar, prompting the first question:

### **- How you find our city?**

- There is still little we have seen here. This is our third visit to the Kuban, but in Krasnodar we are mostly just in transit. This time, I managed to see a little bit of your city. I can only judge by the center, it is very interesting. Lots of greenery, unusual architecture, clean. And some special, very warm atmosphere.

In general, with the Kuban we have a lot in common. My great-grandmother, Grand Duchess Olga Alexandrovna (the sister of the last Russian Emperor Nicholas II: approx. Aut.) fled the Red Terror, and had lived for a year in the village Novominskaya. She came there from Crimea with my great-grandfather and personal body-guard of Empress Maria Fedorovna (Kuban Cossack Timofei Jashik). Jashik helped my great-grandmother who didn't want to go abroad. She believed until the last moment that she could stay in Russia.

My great-grandmother and great-grandfather lived first in the house of Jashik's family. Later she rented a house nearby. There, she ran the household, worked in the fields and painted. There in Novominskaya my grandfather Guri was born. So, a direct relationship.





Grand Duchess Olga survived many troubles and did a lot of good for people. That has influenced our destiny: we can say that thanks to her I met my wife. She had prepared an exhibition of Grand Duchess Olga Alexandrovna paintings in the United States, as Ludmila worked there as the cultural attache at the Russian Embassy in Washington. We met and since then we are together.

**- For the first time you came to Russia in 1992. Did your image of the homeland coincided with reality?**

- I arrived in the then Soviet Union and a lot of what I knew about the country was true  
- queues, deficit of many things, material poverty. But I was struck by the people themselves. I went there and thought to myself, as a representative of the royal family how I will be treated, if not hostile, then surely with suspicion. Fortunately, I was wrong. During the first walk in St. Petersburg and in Peterhof people came to me and became acquainted, talked about the sights, invited me as a guest. They were so insistent that I understood if I do not accept the invitation they would be offended. Once I lived with an ordinary family. Of course, it was very different from what I was used to, and I assume more like how most Soviet people were living, but the warmth of the host was wonderful. Then I started to come to Russia almost every year. And in 2008 we decided to move to Moscow.



**- Ludmila, and you were not against such a solution?**

- I am wife. What else to say? We lived in Hamburg. Calmly, securely. One day, I come home, and Pavel said, "Get ready, we're going to Russia." He was offered in the company, where he worked to take the job as general director for the branches in Russia, Ukraine, Belarus and Kazakhstan, at the Head office in Moscow. Pavel agreed without hesitation, because he dreamed for a long time to live in Russia. I could only nod and went to pack our bags.

*These kinds of people*

**- A warm welcome in St. Petersburg is quite clear - your ancestor laid this city. How Kuban met you?**

- Kuban is very different from people in other regions. This can be understood even without talking to anyone. The first time we went by car from Moscow. When we reached the border to Kuban, we were exhausted after broken roads, roadside garbage, and depressed to look at the abandoned wooden houses. But once we entered Krasnodar region, the first car we met was a lorry and workers who was picking up garbage from the roadside. The road was good. Fields planted. The villages looked neat.

**- That we have many guests say ...**

- Here people like to be right to say, do not put their head into the clouds. They are in a good way, close to the ground. For them, the main thing - family, children, home. Hence, with respect to one and another.

**- Maybe as a European?**

- I am often asked: Russia - is it Europe or Asia. My opinion, Russia cannot be measured with the usual yardstick and state models. This is a unique country. Ideally, you should take only the best from other cultures, and adapted it to Russian conditions. It is a difficult path, because no one went that way. So Kuban is not like Europeans or Asians, they are people like nowhere else.

**- And what do you remember from the previous visits to the Kuban?**

- First time I came to Novominskaya, I was struck by the feeling that time stood still. With pictures of my great-grandmother I was introduced to the stanitsa, so I easily found the place from which she made her landscapes. Complete authenticity. And the people have not changed. Only such people were not afraid in that terrible time to host members of the royal family.

During our first visit we stayed in the house of Timothy Jashik's relative. The owner, a sturdy old man, not just insisted that we had stay with him. He called his daughter ahead of time to help in the organization of the reception. She came, I believe, from Orenburg. Can you imagine the breadth of hospitality. Kazak, what else to say.

**- Do you like Kuban kitchen? Borsch tried?**

- Frankly, soup is not my favorite dish, but overall Kuban kitchen it is very tasty and varied cooking. Our main task during the visit to the Kuban was not to offend people by eating a lot and not to undermine our health, - laughs Pavel Kulikovsky, and then our car stopped at the gate of the Church of the Nativity.



*Way to the church*

It was hot outside and I suggest Paul Eduardovich to leave his jacket in the car.

- No, really, it is not right - the descendant of the tsars, dressed in full, looks at the domes, and slowly walks to the entrance to the church. To welcome them comes rector Archpriest Alexander Ignatov. The descendant of tsars and his wife humbly bow for blessing.

- Our church is situated on the edge of the town. So the people we have here do not just drop in on the way, the Lord leads them. Now the Lord brought you - says father Alexander and invites to get acquainted with the church.

Frankly, I was afraid that going to the church would be like an excursion. But I

calmed down after a glance at Pavel Eduardovich and Ludmila Anatolievna. In their eyes there wasn't a drop of idle interest, but only a sincere desire to learn something sacred, for themselves.

Meeting starts at the lower level. I've been in this church, but somehow never wondered why every level is called in a special way. It turned out, in vain. For everything there is a story.

- "Now we are in the lower level, consecrated in honor of the Holy Myrrh-Bearers - explains rector. - It is not by accident. If you pay attention, we have a lot of women in the parish. So it happened that husbands take care of their daily bread, and his wife pray for them. Women here are amazing, I cannot even imagine what we would do without them. And the history is the following. Here was built the walls, but the roof was not yet put. It was a regular service, when suddenly it burst into heavy rain. The water was coming and praying people first had to stand on one brick, then a second. One of the women asked permission bailing. I agreed, but asked to do it quietly - the service goes on. The water they bailed. And then I was approached by the woman for a blessing, as it should be folded hands and I saw that they were in blood. In order not to make a noise, a woman put her hands under the bucket. Then I asked the blessing of the patriarch to consecrate the lower limit in honor of the Holy Myrrh-Bearers. His Eminence Isidore gave the blessing and March 22, 1998 the lower limit of the church was consecrated."

Pavel Kulikovsky listens carefully translation by his wife, then he takes her hand. Together they move from one icon to another, listening attentively to the story of father Alexander.

*Native shrine*

In the upper church are preparing for service. Sunlight on the gold frame, the smell of incense and flowers, flickering candles - I catch myself thinking that this editorial task for me is not work, but something more. Looking at the Kulikovsky couple I understand: for them this is not just a visit. But the biggest shock is ahead.



Father Alexander invites everyone, including me and the photographer to get closer. According to him, the story he tells today, not many people know, even though it is full of wonderful characters.

- Have you been to Yekaterinburg? - He asked Pavel Eduardovich. He shakes his head. - Then what is going to happen, it will be for you a miracle.

About six years ago, the Kuban priest and Cossacks drove to Yekaterinburg - the place of execution of the royal family. Father Alexander, too, was among the pilgrims. Now at the location is erected the Memorial Church on Blood in Honor of All Saints Resplendent in the Russian Land. From all over the world people come here to worship the relics.

- And I and all the others were deeply touched. Naturally, we wanted to take with us any sanctuary to people in the Kuban, so they too, could touch it. And then the miracle happened - father Alexander leads us to the left corner of the church, continuing the story.

When the Kuban people were going home, they met pilgrims from France, who had come to worship Saint Royal Martyrs. With them they brought a gift box with imperial church relics. Among the shrines was a lock of hair cut from the head of Nicholas II when he was three years old.



- Our request was heard and the strand of hair was separated. Once home, we made a reliquary and placed it in a shrine. You can bow to it - rector of the Nativity of Christ leads us to the royal hall. Inside is a large icon, which depicts the Holy Passion Bearers: Nicholas II, Tsarina Alexandra, Alexei, Olga, Tatiana, Maria and Anastasia. On the stand - a gold reliquary.

Pavel Eduardovich is stunned. He stands before the shrine and is silent. It seems that everything around him had ceased to exist. But he goes closer, bends down and kiss the shrine. Then he gives way to his wife, who also barely contain her excitement. They have found here what they could not even expect.



We have a long walk in the church. Then we go to the Sunday school and the children's home service. Distinguished guests lively interested in everything. Lyudmila to father Alexander presents the latest issue of the magazine "Russian history", where she works as deputy editor. But it is time to go further. For today the Kulikovskys are scheduled another meeting in the city administration and an interview on the radio.

#### *Just a man*

In the car, Paul Eduardovich starts talking.

- I'm not ready for a trip to Ekaterinburg. What happened there - this is a personal tragedy. It is very hard to gather strength, but I'm sure I will go one day. Today, one more

step. A huge step. It was a real shock. I did not expect that here, in the Kuban region, I could touch a shrine of Royal Martyr. A real miracle. Faith has revived in Russia. Have you noticed how many children? And the faces of the women? These are bright and good.

Generally Russia in recent years has taken a great leap forward in its development. For example, I was in Sochi and saw a world-class city. Of course, I have closely followed the Olympic Games and realize that everything is done on the highest level. But to see the transfigured Sochi is worth it. And they have a circuit for Formula 1!

- He is a great connoisseur of the royal races - says Lyudmila and laughs. - Before that, we were in Olginka at the festival for Kuban media people and there we met the media commentator on Formula 1 Alexey Popov. With difficulty I managed to tear them apart!



**- And for whom did you cheer at the Olympics?**

- Oh, that is not hard to say. Of course, for Russia! And in the beginning, we are very worried because of the fact that there were not many medals. But then everything fell into place. The only pity was that hockey could not win.

**- Pro sports is clear, and what else you love?**

- Music. Very different kinds. Of course, with great love I hear Russian classics: Tchaikovsky, Glinka, Mussorgsky. But at the same time I cherish great sympathy for hard rock, rock 'n' roll, contemporary pop music. An exception is the Soviet period. And not because of personal animosity to everything soviet - history should be treated with respect - I just think that music and the ideology is incompatible. And at the time the songs was one of the tools of propaganda. I do not make music myself, I prefer to enjoy it.

**- Your family has always with great joy supported art.**

**Alexander III was an avid collector. Grand Duchess Olga made beautiful paintings. And are you a painter?**

- Only on hobby level. No, I can draw, say, a horse, and no one will call it a dog. But beyond that my talents have not been tested. I think for the most part I inherited the ability to

appreciate beauty, not to create it. But my daughter has inherited some talent from her great-great-grandmother. She paints pictures and they have been exhibited in Europe.

**- You noble origins helps in business?**

- Just the fact that it is easier to get acquainted. When it comes down to business, all sorts of preferences are nullified. In business, people and money works, not titles. What I have achieved in my professional field is the result of years of painstaking work. Here only the Russian language I cannot cope. But with Ludmila, who is a wonderful teacher, I can managed it.

Now we reach the city administration, where our paths diverge. Kulikovsky has a difficult day. I - a difficult realization that I just talked to a man whose family has played a crucial role in the fate of my homeland.

Returning to the editor, I go to a secondhand bookshop. Bought the book "The Romanov dynasty." I will read it in the evenings.





## Meeting with Prince Rostislav Romanov



*Prince Rostislav Romanov is a painter in love with colors. Here in Gum, the famous department store in Moscow, Red Square.*

By Antoine Michelland, Point de Vue, 28.05.2015.

His great-grandmother, Grand Duchess Xenia, was the sister of Tsar Nicolas II. Born in Chicago, raised in England, he discovered the motherland 13 years ago and decided to live there one day. On the eve of his 30th anniversary, Point of View spoke to the inspired prince.

On April 30, 2015, in Moscow, the remains of Grand Duke Nicolas Nikolaievich and his wife the Princess Anastasia of Montenegro

receive absolution in the heart of Donskoy Monastery, founded in 1592 by the son of Ivan the Terrible. In a few minutes, the deceased who ended their long exile in France posthumously, will rest forever under the Russian land. In the first row of the audience, with Prince Dimitri Romanovich of Russia, president of the Romanov Family Association, and his wife, not far from Sergei Narychine, chairman of the Duma, Metropolitan Hilarion and Patriarch Kirill, a lanky young man meditates, his face serious, almost painful.

Rostislav Romanov, recalls another ceremony, already old, the state funeral of Tsar Nicolas II and his family in 1998. The little prince was then 13 years old. This was his first coming to Russia. Accompanied by his father, Rostislav Rostislavovitch, descendant of Nicolas I, great-grand-son of Alexander III, nephew of Nicolas II.

"For a child of exile as I was, and my father before me, this discovery of Russia, this almost carnal encounter, could be frightening. But, instead, I immediately felt that intense joy and well-being, I had the impression to melt the soul of the motherland. "



At that moment, Rostislav promises that he will live one day in Russia. However, fate strikes. Shortly after returning to England, while the family celebrates Orthodox Christmas, the father of the little prince pass away. A world collapses. Rostislav, born May 21, 1985 in Chicago, was still a baby when his parents moved to London. His mother, Christia Ipsen, is the daughter of a great American industrialist. The senior prince Rostislav left the North Western Bank of America for a British company. A beloved father left too early, but a close family.

"With my sister Alexandra, who works in fashion, and my little brother Nikita, interior designer, we were all a close-knit clan five. That does not stop me to ask my father to go on board when I was 7 years. He was surprised, but many of my comrades were boarders and spoke of it as a great adventure. My father agreed. It was wonderful, very attentive to me. I remember that he went itself choose me a special fountain pen for left."

The small Rostislav is in love with the English countryside, its landscapes, its lights. The last gift from his father? This eighteenth mansion of Rye in Sussex, he buys in order to install his family. "My mother was tired of London and was full of plans for this house. Dad did not have time to live." Rostislav dark in depression disappears when the father he so admired.

And finds salvation in art, thanks to John Hincheliff, his mentor at boarding Milton Abbey. The teenager draws, paints in hard, as they escaped from an inner prison. He draws his inspiration in Russian art, Kandinsky, Levitan, Kuindzhi, and refine soon share his training at the University of Falmouth.

In 2006, new business in Russia, "an opportunity to reaffirm my desire to settle there. Two years later, I went to spend five months in St. Petersburg, a city that I love wandering in, the boulevards, observe the architecture, pick the colors." It was also at this time that Rostislav becomes the representative of the association of the Romanov family in Russia.

He lived in 2009 in the capital of the tsars in Moscow, where life seems harder, but where he also found friends. Including Jacques von Polier, a French who had just restarted Raketa watches and the manufacture in Petrodvorets was founded by Peter the Great. Rostislav became adviser of the creative department of the brand and draws, in 2013, a watch for the 400th anniversary of the Romanov dynasty.



*Rostislav at the Tretyakov Gallery in Moscow, between the portraits of the Grand Duke Paul Alexandrovich of Tsar Nicolas II and his great-uncle.*



*Time to paint a watercolor, Prince Rostislav rolled tubes and brushes in front of the Kremlin.*

In the meantime, the prince in between English cottage in Hastings and stays in Russia, made an exhibition in Fabrika Moscow: "The opening was December 3, 2011, the anniversary of my father it was. My first solo exhibition, called "Domes", seventeen paintings and three sculptures."

Painter inspired Rostislav is divided between Britain and Moscow. "Russian Colorist" as is defined, he loves above all the movement of the trees and ensures that in Russia, the leaves are greener than elsewhere. Fifth in the order of succession to the title Head of house of the imperial family, he comes after his cousin Prince Dimitri, the current Head of House, and four cousins childless to date. Status contested only by supporters of their cousin, Grand Duchess Maria Vladimirovna.

Rostislav dream is to soon buy a home on the coast of Finland, not far from St. Petersburg. "I will spend the summers painting. And the winters, I will go to the city, St. Petersburg, capture the snow, the atmosphere at the end of my brush." Until then, he will celebrate his 30th birthday in London, time for a simple lunch at Buck's Club, with some friends. "I will also make a tea party in Moscow, later with steaming samovars. What to wish me? To gain wisdom and make many exhibitions in Russia. My country, my soul."



## "House of Romanov offered to return to Russia"

23.06. 2015, Izvestia

*Deputy believe that in the crisis the return of the royal dynasty will become a symbol of revival of spiritual power of the country.*

Representatives of the House of Romanov is offered to return to Russia. The Deputy of the Legislative Assembly of the Leningrad Region Vladimir Petrov sent a corresponding appeal to the official representatives of the House of Romanov, permanently residing abroad - Princess Maria Vladimirovna, Spain and Prince Dmitry Romanovich, Denmark (copies of the letters are at the disposal of "Izvestia"). The MP

intend to develop a bill establishing a special position of representatives of the royal family and stimulating their return. In particular, it is assumed as the official residence of the Romanovs to provide one of the abandoned palaces in St. Petersburg, or the Crimea.



*"Your Imperial Highness Grand Duchess Maria Vladimirovna! - Appeal the deputy the head of the Imperial House of Romanov. - Throughout the history of the reign of the Romanov imperial dynasty has been one of the foundations of the Russian state ... Now there is a difficult process of restoring Russia's greatness and the return of its global influence. I am sure that in such an important historical moment the members of the Imperial House of Romanov cannot remain aloof from the processes taking place in Russia."*

Petrov is convinced that *"the return of the descendants of the last Russian autocrat to their historic homeland contribute to smoothing the political contradictions in the country, remaining after the October Revolution, and become a symbol of the revival of the spiritual power of the peoples of Russia."*

The MP believes that the Romanovs could participate in the state ceremonial events.

*"The descendants of the royal family can play in the life of Russian society an important symbolic role. As in many European countries, the Romanovs could become a symbol of conservation of traditions and national culture", - the statement says.*

In the near future the Legislative Assembly of the Leningrad region plans to develop a bill *"On the special position of representatives of the royal family"* to create conditions for the return of the descendants of the Romanovs. For example, as the official residence of the Romanovs in Russia the MP proposes to allocate one of the palaces in the suburbs of St. Petersburg and the Crimea.

*- "Until now, many beautiful royal palaces in the suburbs are empty or used for other purposes. I think if one of those palaces in the Leningrad region will be used as the official residence of the royal family, it will only benefit" - says Petrov.*

According to him, the residence can be arranged in Ropsha, Pavlovsk Palace near St. Petersburg or at the Livadia Palace in Crimea.

Alexander Zakatov, Director of the office of the "head of the Russian Imperial House of Romanov", noted that representatives of the house are ready to move into Russia.

*- "Imperial House has repeatedly said that they are ready to return to Russia for permanent residence, our representatives are increasingly in Russia and eager to move - he says. - Princess Maria*

*Vladimirovna, as a private citizen could return at any moment, but it is the head of the imperial house and is responsible to its ancestors, and its return must be worthy. She does not claim any ownership or political powers and privileges, but she wants, as in most countries of the world, that the Imperial House is a historical institution and part of the historical heritage. It is recognized in cultural studies, but it should be expressed in a legal act. Only then will the imperial house move to Russia. Now in Russia there is not even a residence for members of the House."*

Zakatov also fears that the Romanovs will be involve in the political game in Russia.

*- "Imperial House is not involved in any political struggle. There are certain circles that would like to involve it, for example, the monarchists or opposition. Therefore, if there is a return without legal status, then there will be grounds for political speculations" - he says.*

In addition, according to Director of the Office, the return of all the Romanovs may even harm Russia.

*- "Throughout the world are thousands, or even tens of thousands of children that do not apply to be members of the imperial house. It is a wide range, and it is unknown whether Russia benefits from them. There are those who have long been detached from the community of the imperial house, they do not speak in Russian, and has a different religion. The status is based on the House of Romanov dynastic law. Family Law, established by Emperor Paul in 1797, it always points to the person who has rights and duties as the head of the house, those who are members, who have titles and so forth."*

Note that there are now two main branches of the Romanov family - Kirillovich and Nikolaevich. The first call themselves the imperial house in exile, headed by Maria Vladimirovna, the second is the union of the descendants of the House of Romanov, headed by Prince Nikolai Romanovich.

The professor of the School of History School of Economics Oleg Budnitskii, says the rightful heirs to the throne are considered "Marchuk".

*- "After the assassination of the legitimate heir of the royal family under the law of succession came Grand Duke Kirill, who at that time lived in Germany. He proclaimed himself emperor in exile in 1924. But he was not popular in the house of Romanov, although genealogically he was the heir. From him goes the Kirillovich branch, considered heir to the Russian throne", - says the historian.*

*- "After the revolution, the Romanovs were in different countries - Germany, France, England, Denmark, where now live their descendants. In the 1990s, the idea was popular for their return. They often came to participate in activities and they were met on a high level."*

Head of the Institute of Political Studies Sergei Markov believes that the return of the Romanovs will not affect the mood of the citizens.

*- "In most countries, people have no respect for the imperial home, except for the UK and the Netherlands, - he says. - In Russia, the descendants of the Romanovs are either as innocent victims of the shooting of the family by the Bolsheviks, or as traitors who in the critical years of the tsarist monarchy behaved irresponsibly. Many believe that the abdication of Nicholas II led to civil war."*

- - -

The above article was immediately copied to several hundred other newspapers and on the internet the reactions came flooding in, a few in support of the idea, but mainly with criticism and strong irony. Who is Vladimir Petrov since he think he can invite Romanovs to live in a palace in Russia - *if he wants to see them, he can invite them to his own dacha!*

The next day it continued with comments and Vladimir Petrov was happy for all the PR he got.

Video - <http://www.5-tv.ru/news/97780/>

- - -



## "Dmitry or Maria to the throne"

24.06.2015 Lenta.ru

### **Who among the descendants of the Romanovs would you like to see on the Russian throne?**

*Petrov* : A strange question. I have sent an appeal to the Princess Maria Vladimirovna in Spain and Prince Dmitry Romanovich in Denmark. They are both descendants.

### **I mean that most of the descendants of the Romanov recognize as the head of the House Dmitry Romanovich, and only the descendants of Grand Duke Kirill Vladimirovich (a cousin of Nicholas II) consider that it is Maria Vladimirovna.**

*Petrov* : Well, it is, as they say, not my deputy business to solve the royal question. Let them find out between themselves. For the country it is not very important. We will remain a presidential republic. It is not parliamentary, not Putin republic. It is presidential. Therefore it is not so important who in particular from the Romanov House will return. It's kind of a symbol.



Vladimir Petrov

### **The symbol of what? What is the meaning of this return?**

*Petrov* : First, over the past 100 years, our country has experienced many upheavals accompanied by the cardinal change of ideology. Different groups of people quite differently estimate the same historical events and facts. Conflicts arise in perception. And such a symbol as the return of the Romanovs and the recognition of their role in the creation of the Russian state, it seems to me, would smooth out these differences.

And secondly, if you remember the words about spiritual unity and development of patriotism in Russia, the return of the Romanovs - is just one step towards the revival of national consciousness. Following the victory at the Olympics, the reunification of the Crimea and the 70th anniversary of the Victory in the Great Patriotic War.

### **What your voters think about it?**

*Petrov* : More likely my constituents will not understand me. My district in the Southwest region, it is depressed. People are unemployed, 55 percent of the population receives benefits. Accordingly, their mentality is closer to the socialist than a monarchist. Looking to the future, the next election, it was not my best move. But I expressed my attitude and I think what I have done is good for the country.

### **According to opinion polls three quarters of the our population have such a mentality,. It is time to talk about Stalinism, not socialism. Do we need the descendants?**

*Petrov* : I don't see anything wrong in it. People who extol Stalin period, they do not admire repression and Holodomor. They talk about the iron order, about industrialization and other achievements. Also Romanov House did a lot for Russia for their 300-year rule. It would be ridiculous not to notice it. It is a pity that some do not have enough brains to compare the map of the Russian Empire in 1915 and of Russia-2015. We must remember our history.

### **The fact of the matter is that the history of the House of Romanov ended sadly for Russia.**

*Petrov* : What's so surprising? The same can be said about all color revolutions. As the Bolshevik, and the revolution in Tbilisi and Kiev. The approach is the same.

### **Representatives of the House have replied something?**

*Petrov* : The representative of the Office of Maria Vladimirovna, Alexander Zakatov said that the return is possible, but under certain conditions. First, you need a law that will determine the special status of the Imperial House as a historical institution and part of the historical heritage. This law is necessary so as to identify the merits of the House to the country. Secondly, the princess does not claim any ownership or financial content, nor privileges and powers of the state, but asks that the Imperial house is shield from being drawn into the political struggle.

**That is, they are really ready to go back to Russia?**

*Petrov:* Even expressed some enthusiasm.

**And you, before such offer, consulted someone, discussed it?**

*Petrov:* I discussed this with my team. I discussed with historians and heraldic. With people who has contact with the House of Romanov.

**No one is embarrassed that Maria Vladimirovna's right to the throne is not certain due to an illegal and a morganatic marriage in her lines?**

*Petrov:* As a matter of principle I do not want to delve into these processes. Let them determine who is the greater tsar.

**How to explain Russians why a hundred years later a woman with Georgian roots (the mother of Maria Vladimirovna - Georgian princess Leonida Bagration-Mukhrani) has a claim to the throne?**

*Petrov:* Here the question is not about personality, but what it symbolizes. The power of this symbol. The icon painting technique is not important, but the fact is that this painting is a holy image. So for a person for whom the Imperial House is more than just people, a descendants of the Romanovs for him is such an important **symbol**.

**But what functions will perform the Imperial House? Whom these people will be in Russia?**

*Petrov:* I still find hard to tell, what will be are their credentials, their formal and ceremonial duties. This is to be achieved in the negotiation process. I do not rule out a broad discussion on this issue with the involvement of the public and the expert community. But I think they should perform the same function that performs the church today. I mean unification and consolidation of the society. The only difference is that the Orthodox Church, how great it is, would not have the same effect, it unite only the Orthodox believers. Muslims rally around the Islamic leaders, and so on. A House of Romanov will be the unifying force that will rally around the representatives of all religions and nationalities.

**Even in countries with existing monarchies attitude in society towards them is very cool. Will be accepted descendants of the Romanov dynasty in our country after hundred years?**

*Petrov:* I think there is no need to rely on the opinion of the majority. We must listen to the educated people, the professionals and specialists. We are not interested in a miner or collective farmer, to tell about how well the director has used artistic means to realize their creative vision in the film "Leviathan." For this there are critics. And in any of the former empire there is a closed caste, which all want to get into, but not everyone is allowed. In the USSR it was the Politburo. In modern Russia - the politburo-2. In European countries, there is a narrow circle of the aristocracy. So Russia will not prevent another such center of attraction. Bureaucratic caste is closed and very specific, and Imperial House can become the center where people can seek ambitions. A new elite will be formed without authority, but giving people a way to self-realization.

**But to realize this elite, it is necessary to start with getting titles of nobility.**

*Petrov:* Well, it's actually a matter of technology.

**To buy?**

*Petrov:* Why not? If buying indulgences, then why not to buy a title. We are laughing about it, but to be serious, I want to mention another important point. The return of the Romanovs is an important event in terms of the policy of our state. We can be blamed for the Crimea and for anything else, but their return to Russia - a positive assessment of the democratic processes taking place in our country. Let it look a little cheap popular, but it shows that we are not a terrible gray wolf, but a normal country, where Imperial House returns.

**Good move, in terms of propaganda.**

*Petrov:* Certainly better than Gerard Depardieu with Russian passport.

---



## "The Grandeur of the Russian Empire"

25 June to 13 September - Saratov State Art Museum.



The exhibition in the Radishchev State Museum of Art is dedicated to the unique period of the Russian history which took place almost 200 years. More than 170 masterpieces of Russian, West European and Eastern work of the XVIIIth – XIXth centuries are demonstrated there.

The represented monuments are of special historical and memorial significance apart from their high artistic value. Most of the exhibits come from the Imperial Ryust-Kamera, Court Office, Emperor's chambers, Services store room of the Winter Palace, Kremlin cathedrals and the main collection of the Armoury Chamber.

The XVIII century marked the determinate and effective reforms of the army and weaponry as well as formation of the order system and building of the new country capital undertaken by Peter the Great. All these events are connected with the name of the first Russian Emperor.

The exposition starts with items reminding of reforms in the military sphere and weaponry, as well as organization of new factories in Sestroretsk and Olonets instead of closed armory workshop of the Kremlin. There is a dirk of Peter I from the Preobrazhenskiy Palace, officer insignia, sword and mortar which appeared in the Russian army in the early XVIIIth century.



Just like in the XVIth – XVIIth centuries, hunting stayed one of the most popular entertainments at the court. There are impressive specimen of Russian and West European weapons exhibited, such as

gorgeously decorated saddle pistols made in Tula, rifle from Petersburg, Bohemian carbine by constructor Leopold Becher and pistols by Turin, the court armoury master of Louis XIV of France.

The construction of the new capital with its palaces and celebrations required producing of new household utensils, furniture and interior decorations. The exhibited tapestry portrait of Peter the Great was executed at that manufactory open in the newly built capital in 1717 after the decree of Peter I. Large, highly artistic pieces made of precious materials, such as the silver dish executed by the Moscow master Alexey Ratkov and presented to Catherine II by the citizens of Smolensk, were also used for interior decoration.



Special significance was given to such representative silver items as silver dinner sets which appeared in the XVIII century to serve as household utensils and were at the same time an evidence of the high status of the owner. The exhibited Paris service is executed by Paris and Saint Petersburg silversmiths.

A group of precious jewelry pieces is demonstrated to relate the atmosphere of the court entertainments, amusements and balls of the gallant XVIII century. The exhibition represents toilet bags and watch on ribbon as well as snuffboxes, which were used not only for keeping snuff tobacco, becoming widespread in the XVIII century Russia inside, but also for nonverbal communications between ladies and cavaliers.



New administrative and territorial division of the country, which began in 1708 with the creation of provinces by Peter the Great, was continued by his successors. Radical reform in this area was undertaken by Catherine II. Representative silver tableware was executed by her order for delivery to provinces. The exhibition presents items from the Mitavskiy service by Saint Petersburg master N. Lund and the Kazan service by Parisian silversmith R.-J. Auguste.

A group of memorial silver pieces related to the development of Siberia in the XVIIIth century occupies the special place at the exposition. The exhibition includes a silver cup, presented to the Irkutsk voevode



(military chef) Larion Sinyavin by Peter I and a group of utensils made for the family of the Governor of Siberia D. I. Chicherin by masters from Tobolsk, a large center of silversmithery in the XVIII century Russia.



The beginning of the XIX is inseparably linked with the name of Alexander I. It's during his reign that the wars with Napoleon, primarily, the Patriotic war of 1812, have occurred. The exhibition presents his personal items – porcelain utensils made at the Imperial manufactories in Sèvres and Dagoty, France, presented to him by Napoleon on the occasion of the conclusion of the Tilsit peace treaty; combatant weapons used during the war of 1812; the memorial plaque with the text of the Manifesto of the Holy Alliance. Some skillfully executed weapons represented at the exhibition are produced at the factories in Izhevsk and Zlatoust, opened during the reign of Alexander I.

Moscow, destroyed by the enemy invaders, demanded restoration. The process of building begun during the reign of Alexander I continued under Nicholas I. Constuction of the Grand Kremlin Palace, the part of which the new building of the Armoury Chamber is, had the special importance. This section of the exhibition is represented by keys to the Spasskie (Saviour) and Borovitskiye gates of the Kremlin with the monogram of Nicholas I, as well as a new porcelain set made at the Imperial porcelain factory for the new Palace and tapestry produced at the Petersburg Imperial Tapestry Manufactory to serve as decoration for one of the rooms.

There is also a group of exhibits illustrating the formation of the Russian award system. Apart from the Russian orders and insignia, they include items connected to the award system, such as a granted bucket and sabre and award weapons of the XIX century.

The concluding section of the exhibition is dedicated to the coronations of the Russian monarchs. It presents unique items reflecting the traditions respected during these celebrations which usually lasted for several days.



## In State Historical Museum opened the exhibition "Baptizer of Rus"



Entry to the opening of the exhibition in State Historical Museum was through the old main entrance, which is unusual - Going straight from the Red Square into the front lobby.



Above the lobby a choir was singing, then followed welcome speech by Director Alexei Levykin, and speeches by Metropolitan Hilarion and others.

The exhibition is about the Baptism of Russia, which took place in 988 and is associated with the name of Prince Vladimir - Born c. 958 and died 15 July 1015, Prince of Novgorod, Grand Duke of Kiev, and ruler of Kievan Rus from 980 to 1015.



The reign of St. Vladimir was the most important period for the formation of the state of Russia. Submission to a single center of Slavic lands and creation of state borders of Kievan Rus took place in a tense struggle with neighboring tribes and states. The socio-political development of the country and the demanded changes in the ideology - the old pagan cults - were already unusable. Proclamation of Christianity as the state religion (in the Byzantine model) became one of the most important factors in the millennium ahead, determined the historical fate of the people and the state, its spiritual and cultural development.



This was not the barbarian periphery of Europe, but a young, ambitious power, before which opened up new possibilities. From Byzantium to Russia came printed traditions, skills building stone structures, iconography and chronology. For the first time began coinage - gold and silver coins. Russia became an united country, and by the beginning of the twelfth century, the vast territory from the Carpathians to Novgorod and from the



Bug river to Oka river was Russian nation, united by language, culture and faith.

The memory of St. Vladimir is reflected in iconography and painting, in Russian chronicles and literary works in the arts and crafts XI-XX centuries. The subject range of the exhibition includes all the variety of museum exhibits: manuscripts, printed books, icons, splints, engravings, monuments of arts and crafts and small sculpture, ecclesiastical objects, and archaeological treasures.

The preparation of the exhibition was not easy. In fact State Historical Museum had only two objects related to St. Vladimir, so they had to ask all the leading museums in Russia, and luckily most had something and agreed to lend it - Moscow Kremlin Museums, the State Hermitage Museum, State Russian Museum, State Tretyakov Gallery, and the Russian State Archive of Ancient Acts. The exhibition - manuscripts, printed books, icons, splints, engravings, monuments of arts and crafts, church utensils, archaeological treasures XI-XX centuries, as well as more than 100 items from the famous Gnezdovo treasure.



An important place in the exhibition is devoted to the famous Gnezdovo with 105 items, and the most important monuments of ancient writing - Sviatoslav Miscellany (1073), the second oldest Slavic dated (and Old) manuscripts, and Mstislav Gospel (up to 1117).



Among the items on display can be found some related to the Imperial Order of St. Vladimir, established in 1782 by Empress Catherine II in memory of the deeds of Saint Vladimir, the Grand Prince and the Baptizer of the Kievan Rus.

The exhibition runs until 12 October 2015.

Video - 1) <http://mediashm.ru/?p=7356#7356>

2) <http://www.vesti.ru/doc.html?id=2633715#>

---

## In Tsarskoye Selo opened the exhibition "Russia and Denmark. 1700-1900"



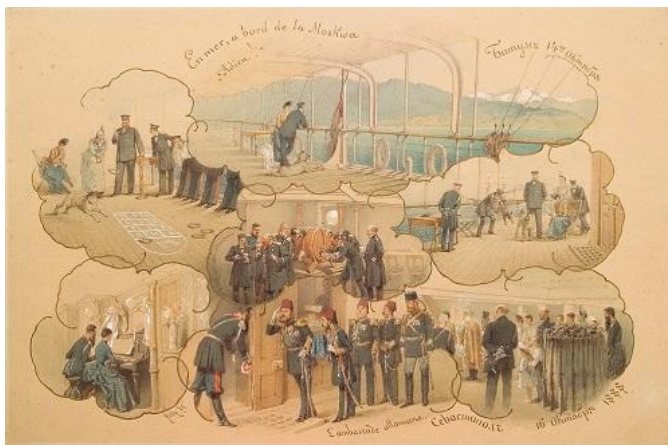
On 20 June in Zubov Wing of Catherine Palace opened a major exhibition "Russia and Denmark. 1700 - 1900". This international exhibition is timed to the 300th anniversary of Peter I visit to Denmark. The exhibition tells about the arrival of Peter I in Denmark in 1716; the role played by Catherine II in the decision on the "Gottorp question"; the daily life of Maria Feodorovna, which as 19-year-old Danish princess came to Russia in 1866 to marry the heir to the Russian throne, and after the 1917 revolution, was forced to return home.

The opening ceremony was attended by the Consul General of Denmark Thorbjørn Lykke Lindmark,

Director of the Historical Museum of Frederiksborg Castle Mette Skougaard, head of Carlsberg Group Foundation Flemming Besenbahr and from the Russian side was the vice-governor of St. Petersburg Alexander Govorunov, Director of the Department of Cultural Heritage, Ministry of Culture of the Russian Federation Mikhail Bryzgalov, chairman of the Committee for External Relations of St. Petersburg Yevgeny Grigoryev and director of the State Museum "Tsarskoye Selo" Olga Taratynova.



The exhibition features about 200 exhibits. The exposition consists of items of the Danish National Museum of History in Frederiksborg Castle. The exhibition also includes exhibits of the State Museum "Tsarskoye Selo", objects from the museum collections of the Hermitage and the State Museum "Peterhof". This is paintings, drawings, sculpture, decorative and applied art, costume, furniture, and pictures.





Visitors will see memorabilia of representatives of the Russian imperial house and the Danish royal family, as well as portraits of the imperial Russian and Danish family, including rare paintings, first brought to Russia. Among them - the portrait of Catherine II by Vigilius Eriksen, "Trophies of imperial hunting" by Hans Ole Bras, and works of Lauritz Tuxen.

The service of the Royal Copenhagen Porcelain Manufactory "Flora Danica" from the collection of the National History Museum at Frederiksborg Castle is also for the first time delivered to Russia. The service was created in 1790's after the conclusion of peace, and "eternal Danish-Russian alliance" and was intended to be presented to Catherine II.



The idea of holding such an exhibition Tsarskoye Selo was born in 2013 at the opening ceremony of the exhibition "Denmark and the Russian Empire 1600-1900" at the castle of Frederiksborg. Russian-Danish relations of more than five centuries, has always been based on the principles of friendship, respect and mutually beneficial cooperation. This in no small measure contributed to the close ties between the imperial house of Romanov and the Danish royal family. It is therefore absolutely logical to hold the exhibition, devoted to the relations between the two countries in the summer residence of the Russian emperors parade in Tsarskoye Selo.

The exhibition "Russia and Denmark. 1700 - 1900" will be open until September 20, 2015.

Video - 1) <http://topspb.tv/news/news76836/>  
2) <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r2bObisZr8I#t=217>

---

## Peter the Great in Denmark in 1716

### *The "Czar's House" in Denmark*

On the way to a scheduled arrival as the Danish king's allies during the Great Northern War, the Russian Tsar Peter the Great in the night of 14 July 1716, unexpected landed by ship in the city Gedser, 150 km south of Copenhagen. A message was sent to the nearby Nykøbing Castle of his coming. In haste was the Nykøbing bourgeois ladies deployed to prepare food for Tsar and his entourage.



However, Peter the Great was known as a headstrong and unorthodox person measured with Western Europe's eyes and he proved it once again. After arrival by carriage to Nykøbing, instead of going to

the castle in Nykøbing, he preferred to eat in the local inn and stay in the guesthouse of postmaster Ivar Rosenfeldt.

The royal visit was reminded by setting up a plaque with the inscription "Ihre Czarische Maiestät zu Moscovien Peter Alex Witz hat hier gespeiset Anno 1716 di 15 July IRF" - His Majesty Tsar of Moscovia Peter Alexeivich have here dinned year 1716 on 15 July. It was the first of a total of five visits to the tavern. It has ever since been called the "Czar's house".



Later a painting of Peter the Great was put up in the "Czar's House".

In 1898 Henriksen, the owner of the inn, received funds from the then Russian Tsar Nicholas II, for the restoration of the building (See middle photo).



In 1989 the "Czar's house" was visited by Danish Queen Margrethe II. The signs can still be seen in the restaurant in the "Czar's House".

*Peter the Great went on horseback up in the round tower*

When the Russian Tsar Peter the Great visited Copenhagen in 1716, he wanted to visit the Round Tower to see the observatory, which he was very interested in. And the Tsar could obviously not walk to the top of the tower, so on 2nd of October 1716 Peter the Great was riding his horse in front of his wife Catherina that followed in a carriage.



This recounts Astronomer Peter Horrebow (1679-1764), who was the observatory director. The Tsar asked many interested questions to him, among others, about the synchronization of clocks using astronomical events. Peter Horrebow says that the Tsar looked at Venus and Jupiter (d. October 1st), it means that the visit must have been early morning as Venus first got up at 3 o'clock and the sun rose at 6:21 (CET).

Peter the Great visited again the tower on the 13 October at 7 pm in the morning to look at sunspots and the planet Venus which then had a phase of 34%.

The Round Tower is a 41.55 meter high tower, located in the inner city of Copenhagen. The height of 34.8 meters refers only to the viewing platform above the street level. In addition is the observatory, which is 6.75 meters high. The tower is particularly known for its spiraling staircase that leads almost all the way up to the viewing platform.

King Christian the Fourth of Denmark built the most original building complex consisting of Trinity Church and the Round Tower. Construction of the tower began in 1637, and in 1642 it was finished, while the church first built finished in 1656

The word Trinity alludes possibly to the complex triple function: the Church, the university library and the university's astronomical observatory.

*The tallest person in Roskilde Cathedral*

Tsar Peter the Great visited Roskilde Cathedral, some 30 km west of Copenhagen, which is the Danish Kings and Queens' necropolis - like the Cathedral of St. Peter and Paul in St. Petersburg. On one of the polished granite pillar in the Christian First chapel, which is first on the right hand when one enters Roskilde Cathedral, are marked the height of royal guests. At the top is also Peter the Great with a height of 2,03 cm. At the bottom of the marks is King Chulalongkorn of Siam, now called Thailand, who visited Roskilde Cathedral in 1907.





### *Not all memories are positive*

Peter the Great was installed in a big house close to the King's castle, a property belonging to the director of the East India Company, William Edinger. This had previously been a lodger for the Russian ambassador, Prince Dolgoruky.

On July 23, at seven o'clock in the evening arrived Tsarina Catherina to the city. The Tsar and the King had driven to the city gate to meet her and they made a solemn entry at the North Port, while trumpets was blowing and guns were fired. The king must bid her welcome by toasting her with a bowl of a gold trophy studded with precious stones, which was subsequently given the guest as a gift.



The Danish court entertained Peter the Great and Catherina with operas, comedies, banquets and parties. They visited Rosenborg, Frederiksberg, and Kronborg Castle. For Peter the Great's entertainment was arranged a hunt in the Deer Park.

Peter the Great cultivated his interest in science and engineering at visits to museums, where he got a piece of petrified bread and a couple of Lapland clogs to his collection being set up in Saint Petersburg. He also investigated fortifications, guns, gunpowder, warships and so on.

The Tsar's huge physiognomy, the simple clothes he often wear, and his rough language made a brutal and terrifying impression. Many described his tacky daily dress. Even at its entry into the city, he was wearing his everyday attire, described as an old and stained red dress of coarse cloth that could be buttoned up to the throat; a white linen shirt with white thread buttons and without vest; brown pants tied below

the knees; a pair of gray socks, described as not being "better than our peasants sell in the market"; black leather bands with brass buckles; pointed shoes with brass buckles, narrow linen cloth around his neck with a large silver button with a glass stone in front. The suit lacked sleeves, so you could see the coarse shirt and his sunburnt arms. In his hands he had dirty gloves, and in his hand a big, thick stick with leather strap in. In a worn pendant he wore a cutlass, which was characterized as more like worth an executioner than a rapier. On the curly and braided black hair he wore a cap that was covered with green oilcloth.



At parties he took upon him either a green cloth robe with gold crews or red with silver crews and his full orders. The Tsarina's dress was described as "magnificent". Even on ceremonial occasions Tsar language was so bluntly that it caused offense at the polished Danish court.

On 26 October, Peter the Great and Catherine ate for the last time together with King Frederik IV and Queen Louise in Copenhagen Castle. The next morning Tsar and Tsarina left the city.

To the expenditure was then added the demands for payment for the accommodation by the Copenhagen citizenship who volunteered with help. There was also 11 complaints on the Russian guest rampaging destruction, bordering on vandalism. Among the devastation in Wilhelm Edingers farm was 440 broken panes of glass. Edinger demanded a total of 3.556 Rigsdaler in payment, but like so many of the townspeople, his claim was substantially reduced, and he was only paid 1.005 Rigsdaler. The stories of the Tsar and the Russian presence in Copenhagen and Denmark lived on in the memory. And later when in Copenhagen was seen something chaotic, it was commonly said - "Is it the Moscovit, who is in town again!"

As an end note - the planned Danish-Russian invasion of Sweden in 1716 never happened.

*Peter the Great got the highest Danish order*  
The Order of the Elephant is the highest order of Denmark. It has origins in the XV century, but has officially existed since 1693. On the painting to the right is seen Peter the Great with the Royal mantel and the Order of the Elephant on his chest, just above the sash for the Russian Order of St. Andrew the first called.



The order he got on 18 of February 1713, after a victory in Gottorp by the combined Danish and Russian army. In 1711-15 the major battles in the Great Nordic War took place in northern Germany. On the 29th of January the Danish King Frederik IV and Peter the Great met in Rendsborg. On 18 February the Danish army conquered the fortresses around Gottorp, and the area became a Danish province. The same day Tsar Peter the Great received the Danish Order of the Elephant, while the Danish King Frederik IV received the Russian Order of Saint Andrew.

---

## "Romanov & Grimaldi, Three centuries of history"

An exhibition organized by the Archives of the Palace of Monaco, under the direction of Thomas Fouilleron. In cooperation with the Audiovisual Archives of Monaco, the Grimaldi Forum - Monaco, the New National Museum of Monaco, the Federal Agency of the Archives of Russia, the State Archive of the Russian Federation, and in the framework of the Year Russia to Monaco.



July 13 to September 6, 2015

Library and Apartments of the Prince's Palace

The Grimaldi adopt the title of Prince of Monaco in 1612. The Romanovs access the Russian throne in 1613. In 1663 a Russian ambassador discovers Monaco and its monarch. The exhibition aims, through the presentation of documents of Monaco and Russian archives, but also paintings, objects of art and memory, to trace the dynastic relations, more or less close depending on the period between sovereigns of Russia and the rulers of Monaco. At the end of the nineteenth century, the imperial family discovered the French Riviera and Monte

Carlo. Consular and diplomatic relations were officially established between the two states in 1877. Prince Albert I also tied with Russia scholarly, scientifically and personally. Received in 1884 by Alexander III, admitted by Nicolas II to hunt buffalo in the imperial domain and was received in Peterhof in 1913. In 1896 for the coronation of the Tsar, the Crown Prince Louis led the Monegasque delegation.

Russian National Archives has enabled the volume of the Nicolas II diary, referring to the visit of Prince Albert I, to be exhibited in the library of the Prince's Palace, next to the autograph newspaper Monegasque ruler who also recounts the circumstances of his meeting with the emperor. Other notable Russian documents to make the trip, the original travel relationship of the first Russian to have discovered Monaco, in 1663; but also an album of photographs, taken in Monte Carlo in 1898 by the Grand Duchess Xenia, sister of the last Tsar.



The State Museum of St.

Petersburg has agreed to loan two portraits of Tsars: Alexander I and Alexander III. The Palace Het Loo in the Netherlands, and the Museum of Fine Arts Menton complete the gallery of the last Russian sovereigns, with busts in bronze of Alexander II and Sèvres porcelain, and of Nicolas II and Alexandra Feodorovna. As for the first Tsarina Alexandra, who arrived in Nice in 1856 and launched the fashion of the Russian resort on the Riviera, it is represented by a portrait on loan from the Museum Massena Nice. Finally, the contribution of the Oceanographic Museum of Monaco has allowed to discuss scientific relations of Prince Albert I.

The exhibition will be inaugurated by HSH Prince Albert II on 9 July.



## In Chita started the fundraising for the monument "Tsarevich Nicholas"

The non-profit foundation "Historical Heritage" announced the start of the fundraising for the installation of the monument in Chita of Tsarevich Nicholas.

"In 2016, is it 125 years from the time of stay of Tsarevich Nicholas Alexandrovich, the future emperor of the Russian Empire, in the Trans-Baikal region. In memory of this in the neighborhood of Tsar's Square in the Cossack area will be installed a monument to the Tsarevich.



The Acting Head of the Administration of Chita Oleg Kuznetsov signed June 5 a decree, approving the emergence of a new area - the Cossack. In the design of the neighborhood was born the idea to establish a monument to Tsarevich Nicholas in connection with the 125th anniversary since his stay in the province and the 125th anniversary of the beginning of the construction of the Trans-Siberian railway - the committee for the construction was headed by the Tsarevich. The project of the future monument of Tsarevich Nicholas is made by Krasnoyarsk sculptor Constantin Zinich. In late March, the sculptor was in Chita, visited the site of the future monument, talked to historians and ethnographers. Sketch by the sculptor is showing a young man, a young officer, as he at the time of the visit in the Trans-Baikal was 23 years.



## In Rostov, a statue of Empress Catherine II is ready in clay



In Rostov has the sculptor Victor Soghomonyan and his assistant Andrew Polyanichko completed the work on a clay sculpture of Catherine II. The sculptors wanted to reproduce a monument that was standing in Rostov in 1894-1920. However, there is no certainty that the monument will be on the streets or squares of Rostov. Firstly, for casting in bronze is needed about 3 million rubles, which there is not, and secondly, some need to figure out where to put the Empress.

The Nakhichevan-on-Don Armenian community has offered to pay half the cost of the next phase of the work - transformation of the clay sculpture into plaster. It is about 150 thousand rubles. The

remaining money will be paid after the completion by the community.

Rostov authorities needs to let the public express their opinion - do you need a monument to Catherine II in the city or not.



## **In Moscow was opened a monument to St. John of Kronstadt**

The monument dedicated to the priest and miracle worker became the third in the country and the first in the capital.

On Sunday, 14 June, in the metropolitan area Zhulebino was unveiled a monument to St. John of Kronstadt. The monument is placed at the church, named in honor of the saint.

In the capital, it was the first monument to John of Kronstadt, similar monuments are in Irkutsk and Kronstadt. The opening of the monument was timed to the day of memory of the saint, on 14 of June. The monument was consecrated by Bishop Orekhovo-Zuyevo and chairman of the Synodal Department for Church Charity and Social Service Panteleimon.



Project was initiated by the parish church in Zhulebino - it exists since 2006 and is now located in a wooden church. Parishioners also put forward the idea of the construction of a new church, it brought together more than 50 million rubles - is now under the city program of construction of new churches and near the wooden church is erected a stone.

John of Kronstadt was canonized by the Russian Orthodox Church in 1990, but he received veneration during his lifetime. Anton Chekhov after his trip to Sakhalin, wrote that he had seen portraits of the priest in every home.



John of Kronstadt was the rector of St. Andrew's Cathedral in Kronstadt. To his sermon, thousands of believers gathered, the priest was invited to other cities, and in St. Petersburg it literally was chased by a crowd of believers. Holy famous as the miracle worker who opened the gift of healing. He was invited to the dying Emperor Alexander III, as well ordinary people call him "a famous priest."

One of the major areas of activity of John of Kronstadt was the charity: every day, he donated money to the poor and needy, organized the House of help in Kronstadt and the monastery in St. Petersburg (now - St. John monastery in Karpovka).

This year marks the 25th anniversary of the glorification of the saint. The festivities take place in Kronstadt, at his place of ministry in the Arkhangelsk region, where he was born, and in other Russian cities.



### 13 June was hosted in London a presentation of the movie "Gentlemen. Save the Emperor"



The director and actor Oleg Fomin made in the London Recital film a screening of the historical film "Gentlemen. Save the Emperor." The film tells the story of the last days of the Russian Tsar Nicholas II and his family. The film was awarded the "Grand Prix" for Best Director at the IV International Film Festival "Nobles world." The film is starring Oleg Fomin and Marat Bashar, and Eugene Stychkin Anna Azarov, Alexander Bukharov, Anatoly Bely, Sergei Batalov, Vladimir Vinogradov.

The film's director, Oleg Fomin, together with Viva Projects and Waterloo Academy, invited visitors to enjoy a pleasant atmosphere in the company of interesting people. Among the guests - representatives of the creative and business elite, aristocratic nobility, the secular person the world of cinema, fashion, music and art - among the guest was Prince Rostislav Rostislavovich Romanov, and Sergei Markov, Director for the Russian Fund of Prince Michael of Kent. The film was shown in Russian with English subtitles.



Before the film there was an auction in support of the Foundation of His Royal Highness Prince Michael of Kent. At the charity auction was drawn lots related to the topic of Tsarist Russia:

- A unique exhibition - color copy of Golitsyn home in Okhotny Ryad, printed on a 3D printer;
- Lot of archive Oleg Fomin - an icon of the whole family of Czar Nicholas II;
- Items from the Russian-British designer with images of Russian Tsars, Ivan the Terrible and Nicholas II;
- Collection of wine with the image of Tsar Nicholas II, made from grapes 1992;
- Painting and casket handmade by artist and sculptor Marina Alyabushevoy (the mother of the actress Olga Kurylenko);
- Dinner in Russian restaurant in London in the company of the director and actor Oleg Fomin and actress Olga Kurylenko;
- Cake in the form of the royal crown of Tsar Nicholas II (for 50 people);
- Cocktail hat from the English designer.

See the promotional video - <http://mk-london.co.uk/news/u14/2015/06/06/8376>

## A bust of Grand Duke Peter Nikolaevich at Djulber Palace to come?

Known Yalta sculptor Igor Lysenko supported the initiative of the Moscow scholar Victor Tsoffka to perpetuate the memory of Grand Duke Peter Nikolaevich Romanov and gave their consent to establishment of his bust within the palace Djulber.

This palace was built by architect Krasnov, commissioned by Grand Duke Peter Nikolaevich, and became an iconic place for the whole of the imperial family. Here in 1918-1919 was kept by the Bolshevik members of the royal family including the Dowager Empress Maria Feodorovna, and from here they went to the cruiser "Marlborough" to permanently leave the Crimea and Russia.

The head of the Koreiz library-museum Inna Smirno is also planning to apply to the Russian Culture Fund with another initiative of Victor Tsoffka - to return from France the ashes of Grand Duke Peter Nikolaevich to Koreiz. Sculptors Lysenko expressed confidence that it will be supported by the public and intellectuals of Yalta. It is also mentioned that the remains of Grand Duke Peter Nikolayevich and Grand Duchess Militsa Nikolaevna could be reburied in the church of Saint Nina in Charax.



---

## At the Winter Palace was created a "park"

Green grass, living trees in tubs and even statues on pedestals is being put on the Palace Square at the Winter Palace. Peter the Great in mosses, intricately carved lawns and horn orchestra - For two days is it being turned into an exquisite park, dedicated to the 52th World Congress of the International Federation of Landscape Architects.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3JmUn2V0V0>





## Imperial Yacht Museum re-opened

June 6 after the restoration was re-opened the Imperial Yacht Museum, located at the pier in the Lower Park in Peterhof.

From October 2014 to May 2015 restoration work was carried out on the building facades, roofs, woodwork, restoration fillings, and in the basement was installed new water, heating and slabs on the floor.



The museum tells the story of a little-known chapter in the history of Peterhof - the summer residence of the Russian emperors on the sea, which had its harbor for the imperial yacht that belonged to the Russian Navy. The exhibition halls of the museum appears in an updated form. In the Great Hall is now a multimedia project. You can look out of a window and see a boat rocking on the waves, and then in a display see the chronicle of the life of the imperial family. You can also see reports about the most important imperial yacht. There is created a reconstruction of the cabinet of the emperor on a yacht, with a unique gathering of furniture in Russian-Byzantine style, which is a rarity, a table in the "Russian style", navigation devices, etc.

From the funds of the State Museum "Peterhof" the exposure has been added with: a portable inkwell of Tsarevich Alexei, door sign "A.E. Derevenko", and a whistle from the yacht "Standart". One of the displays tells visitors about the entertainment and recreation of the royal family on the yacht.

Video - 1) <http://topspb.tv/news/news75476/>

2) <http://www.tv100.ru/news/muzej-imperatorskih-yaht-sozdal-rekonstrukciyu-rabochego-kabineta-nikolaya-ii-s-yahty-shtandart-108773/>

3) [http://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article\\_id/135623/](http://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article_id/135623/)



## New "Picture House" museum in Oranienbaum

On 2 of June the Peterhof Museum opened a new museum in Oranienbaum - called "Picture House". The house is built in the middle of XVIII century according to the project of Rastrelli. It served as a receptacle for the court theater, painting collections, library and cabinet of curiosities of Grand Duke Peter Fedorovich.

During the restoration of the house it was returned to the original architectural appearance, and recreated an exhibition of a private collections, unusual for its time. For visitors five permanent exhibition halls are opened: Art Gallery, the Cabinet library, two rooms and two tiers of displays, and a Kunstkamra room.

In the beautiful decoration of the rooms of paintings and two tiers of windows are more than 80 paintings by Western European masters of XVI-XVIII centuries. Due to the surviving schemes of the

original Tapestry hanging, which Jacob Staehelin compiled in 1762, it was possible to identify and return to their historical place five original paintings from the collection of Peter Fedorovich. The collection of curiosities of the Grand Duke, along with the scientific, mineralogical and numismatic collection, includes a large number of Chinese "curiosities." During the XVIII century in Europe and Russia continued unabated interest in China and Chinese culture, which manifested itself not only in the prime of chinoiserie style, but also in collecting works of Chinese art from both the aesthetic and ethnographic value.



The interior of the Cabinet Library reconstituted carved cupboard, which contained the book collection of the Grand Duke, with more than 4,000 volumes in all areas of military, natural sciences and humanities.

A special place in the exhibition is devoted to the unique pieces of furniture made by order of Peter Fedorovich to store collections of minerals, porcelain and jewelry.

July 1, 2015 at the Opera Hall in the "picture house museum" visitors will not only see, but also become direct participants in a fabulous spectacle - the reconstruction of a fragment of the opera "Cephalus and Procris". The viewer will be in the atmosphere of the theater of the XVIII century, see "inside out" scene and spectacular scenographic techniques.



Video -

[http://mh.tvkultura.ru/video/show/brand\\_id/19725/episode\\_id/1202787/video\\_id/1180769/viewtype/picture](http://mh.tvkultura.ru/video/show/brand_id/19725/episode_id/1202787/video_id/1180769/viewtype/picture)



## "Russian Samovars"

The Museum Of Russian Art, in Minneapolis, USA  
From June 6, 2015 to January 24, 2016

The exhibition of Russian samovars will delve into the Russian tradition of tea drinking through a remarkable display of samovars, drawn from the significant collection of Sheldon Luskin, a resident of Florida. Translated as 'self-boiler,' samovars are metal urns used to boil water for tea. Before the introduction of electrical appliances, they were essential to Russian tea drinking traditions. The samovars from the Luskin collection originate from various 19th century producers. Boasting a variety of imaginative designs, the samovars on display will familiarize Museum visitors with this unique art form and Russian traditions of hospitality.

The samovar collection of Sheldon Luskin started in 1971 in Greece when Sheldon bought his first Tula samovar made at the famous Batashev samovar factory. The collection includes samovars made of a variety of materials. The gem of the collection is the silver samovar designed by Faberge for the household of Grand Duke Michael, son of Nicholas I. Other noteworthy silver pieces were designed by Ivan Khlebnikov, Peter Sevriugin and other well-known silversmiths of 19th century Russia.

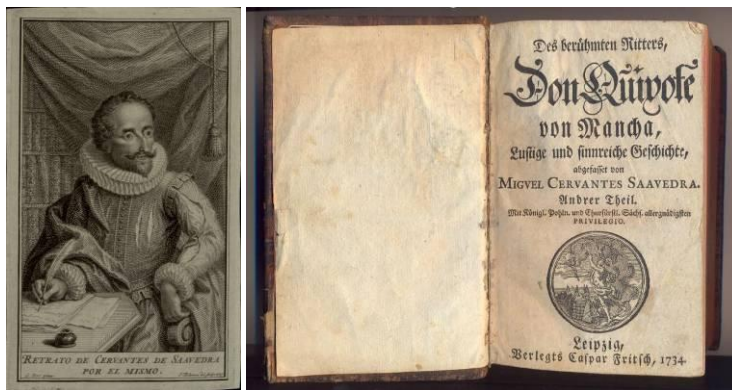


## "Don Quixote in Russia and Don Quixote on the throne"

06/10/2015 - 09/13/2015



Tsaritsyno Museum opened the exhibition "Don Quixote in Russia and Don Quixote on the throne", in the framework of the inter-museum project "Book of the Century" and timed to the 400th anniversary of the publication of the full version of the novel by Miguel de Cervantes' "The Ingenious Hidalgo Don Quixote de la Mancha" in Spanish.



The novel about the glorious knight Don Quixote de la Mancha was published in Madrid in 1605 (Part 1) and in 1615 (Part 2). Russia also became acquainted with the hero of Cervantes but 100 years later - in 1716 Peter I had brought from Paris, one of the pictures by Sh A. Coypel, which in European shops was woven as a tapestries of the series "The History of Don Quixote." A first translation of the novel into Russian was made from French in 1769, in the era of Catherine II. The Empress was fond of ideas

of chivalry, at the beginning of her reign in St. Petersburg began to arrange knightly carousel (they continued the ancient tradition of jousting, but were absolutely bloodless), and in 1776 began construction in Tsaritsyno residence in the spirit of a medieval castle. This unique architectural ensemble in the Gothic style - a perfect place for disclosure topics Russian quixotic.



The exhibition focus on two "incarnations" of the hero of Cervantes: Paul I and his youngest son Nikolai I. Exhibition halls are devoted to these emperors (the first went down in history as the "Russian Don Quixote", and the second - as "Don Quixote autocracy"). They tell about their beautiful ladies, tastes,



hobbies and political allegiances. With the help of multimedia technologies is reconstructed image of Crimson living room in palace of Paul I in Gatchina with the woven Coypel tapestries from the series "Don Quixote" (they are from 1782, Louis XVI presented them to Grand Duke Paul Petrovich and Grand Duchess Maria Feodorovna).

The exhibition includes rare editions of the novel "Don Quixote" in Russia, and numerous engravings, paintings, ball gowns and ceremonial uniforms of Russian monarchs, armor, dueling pistols, letters and even love notes - only about 500 objects from the collections of the State Literary Museum (co-organizer of the exhibition), the State Hermitage Museum "Peterhof", "Pavlovsk", "Tsarskoye Selo" and "Gatchina", the State Historical Museum, the Pushkin Museum, Pushkin State Museum of Theater Bakhrushin, Russian State Library, the Russian National Library, the Russian State Archive of Ancient Acts, the State Archive of the Russian Federation, Foreign Policy Archive of the Russian Empire Historical and Documentary Department Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation.



Director of the museum-reserve Tsaritsyno Natalia Samoilenko - "Father of Nicholas I - Paul I - played knight in earnest: he was the Grand Master of the Order of Malta. In Europe he was called the Russian Don Quixote. But all is not clear. The hero of Cervantes - the Knight was strange and even a little crazy. Paul I, too, was different and eccentricity."

Exhibition curator Olga Barkovets commented: "Can you imagine the

situation that Russian Tsar publishes in the newspaper not to carry out a war with killing people. Instead let the first people of the state, governors of states, carry out personal duel and so to sort out their conflict. Absolutely an quixotic proposal. Main Russian Don Quixote was searching his whole life for the Beautiful Lady. Two spouses and two mistress. But the dream of Dulcinea did not come true, Paul remained internally lonely. His life ended tragically: he was killed in his own castle. It is in the spirit of chivalry legends."

Many researchers believe that the Knight marked the beginning of a new cultural era, a new balance of funny and tragic, irreconcilable conflict between the noble soul and cruel world, uncertain boundaries between high motives and illusions. How to answer the questions of Don Quixote, the world still does not know.

Video - [http://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article\\_id/135244/](http://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article_id/135244/)





**On 6 of June in Gatchina, there was held consecration of a unique image of the Archangel Michael**

Saturday, June 6, in the church of Gatchina Palace took place consecration of a unique image of the Archangel Michael, the heavenly patron of Emperor Paul I.

The icon is made by the best modern painters of Yaroslavl school specifically for the palace church. Design developed by the museum staff, together with the workshop "The Face" (Cherepovets).

In the bottom of the icon can be seen the St. Michael's castle or Engineer Castle, built on order by Emperor Paul I. It was here, only 40 nights after he moved into his newly built castle, that he was murdered on 12 March 1801, in his own bedroom.

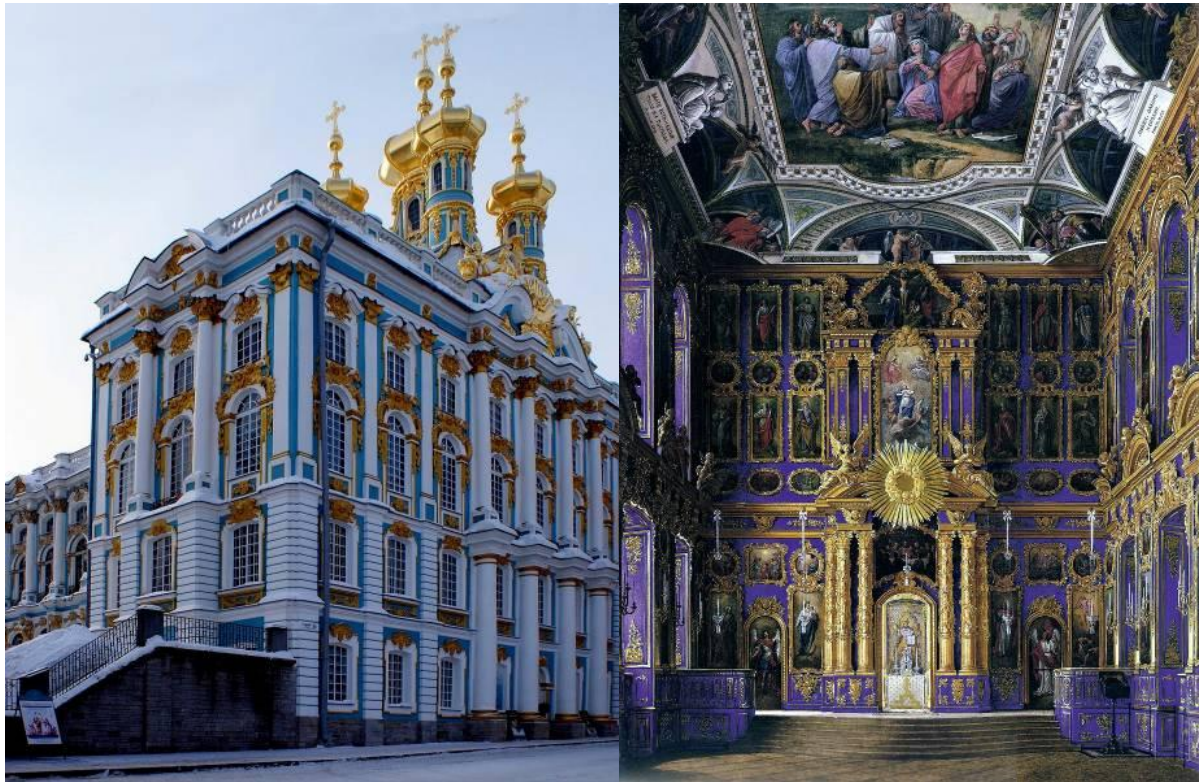
There is a soldier in the uniform of the Pavlovsky Guard Regiment - established in 1796 by Emperor Paul I.

And to the right can be seen Emperor Paul I praying on his knees.





**Museum "Tsarskoye Selo" has announced a tender for the restoration of the interiors of the Church of the Resurrection in the Catherine Palace for 1 billion**



According to the website of public procurement, the application for participation in the competition are accepted until June 19. The result will be announced on June 23. The winner will be engaged in the restoration of the brickwork in places of high humidity, the plaster walls and ceilings, preserved stucco decoration of the ceiling and wall decor. He will also have to re-create fragments of carved wooden decoration on the walls with gilded columns with frame made of wood and wooden sculptures. In addition the conservator will have the responsibility for the preservation and restoration of the ceiling painting, conservation and reconstruction of the remaining lost icons. All the restoration work to be completed before July 1, 2018.

Recall that the palace church of the Resurrection was twice restored after fires in 1820 and 1863. During World War II it was severely damaged by the destruction and looting. After the war the church was preserved. The last restoration carried out in 2002. Already enhanced design, installed plastic windows, reconstruction of utilities, heating, electricity and ventilation.

**Reconstruction of the Alexander Palace will cost half a billion rubles.**

Applications was accepted until June 25. The contractor will have to restore the stucco finish of premises and facades, as well as to reconstruct utilities. All work on the contract must be completed by December 2017. Major repair has not been for almost 60 years.

Video - <http://topspb.tv/news/news75386/>



## Empress Catherine the Great and Emperor Alexander I in "Timely art"

At the Exhibition Hall "Manege" in Kazan Kremlin opened the exhibition "Timely art. The sculptor Leonid Baranov, his friends and heroes."

Residents and guests of Kazan will see more than 130 sculptures, paintings and graphic works by 37 artists all from modern Russia. Many of them are members of the Russian Academy of Arts.

A central place in the exhibition is occupied by works of the outstanding Russian sculptor, Honored Artist of Russia Leonid Baranov. His characters are emperors and empresses, famous writers and poets - Catherine II in the form of the Greek goddess Athena, psychoanalyst Sigmund Freud with a patient, Jesus Christ in the sun and a lot of other familiar characters. Each work - not only and not so much a portrait image, but a psychological portrait, a symbol of a bright personality.



All the works complement each other. So the sculpture of Alexander I, on the background of beautiful paintings depicting Caesar looks on equal terms, and realistic scenery gradually replaced by surrealistic paintings.





## New projects in the Faberge Museum in St. Petersburg



Several Faberge experts, from Britain, United States and Finland arrived in St. Petersburg for a Faberge Museum Advisory Board meeting on 4th and 5th of June. On the agenda was "the visit of the century" - a temporary deployment in Russia of Easter eggs from the Museum of Virginia.

The experts met for two days to discuss projects - one being a major conference in October, which this year will be devoted to Faberge in stone, and another the probable temporary exhibition from the Museum of the Virginia. It is planned for November 2015. But there is still a long process of negotiation, which, alas, is not affiliated with the museum business, but only with policy."

A full scientific catalog of the collection of the Museum was also discussed - what final form it should take - art album, book or electronic publication. Also, soon to be published are a number of books written by the members of the expert council.

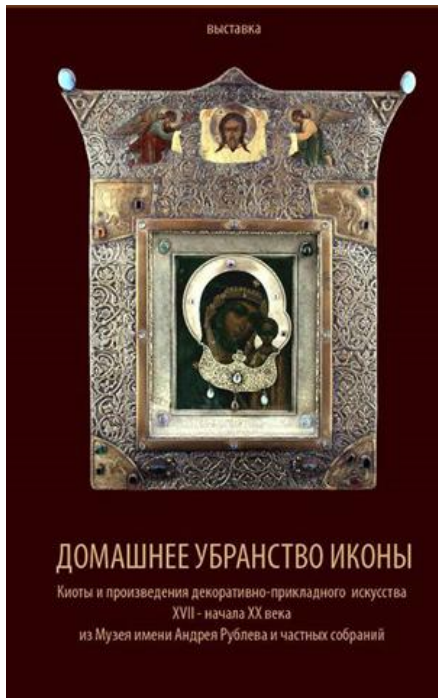
Video - <http://topspb.tv/news/news75344/>



On June 5, Kieran McCarthy, art expert and director of Wartski, a London-based firm of antique dealers specialising in the work of Carl Fabergé, gave a lecture in the White Column Hall of the Fabergé Museum, devoted to the Third Imperial Easter Egg, his unique finding that shook the art world. The Third Imperial Easter Egg (1887) was until its recent rediscovery under intriguing circumstances among the eight lost Imperial Fabergé Eggs.

See the full lecture here.... <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fu19RWZNGmq>

**Exhibition "Home icons, kyoto and works of decorative art of XVII - beginning of XX century from the museum of Andrei Rublev and private collections"**



On 3 June, 2015 Ludmila and Paul Kulikovskiy attended the opening of the exhibition in the Central Museum of Ancient Russian Culture and Art named after Andrei Rublev, which for the first time introduces to audience the peculiarities of domestic veneration of icons in different layers of Russian society since the late XVII until the beginning of XX century. In addition to exhibits from the museum collection is presented objects from eight private collections.



The exhibition will feature about 250 works, with an amazing variety of Kyoto's, icons in precious settings, lamps, objects of personal piety, furniture components for noble house churches and merchant rooms.



The wide chronological coverage reflects the exposure of different stylistic directions of Russian Orthodox art from the late Middle Ages to Modern Times.

The masterpieces of Russian decorative carving middle of the XVIII century is a standing Kyoto in Rococo (from gallery "Russian estate"), which could prevail in a church space or an residential interiors, harmoniously combined with the ambiance of the room. The decor of the shrine used typical of that era ornamental motifs - winding vine, flower garlands, and bowls.

The exhibition will be open until 26 September 2015 in the premises of the exhibition hall of the museum.



Video - [http://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article\\_id/134866/](http://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article_id/134866/)





## In Lipetsk a copy of the hand of Peter the Great was installed



In the Lower Park in Lipetsk was installed a cast copy of the hand of Peter the Great. You can see the new attraction in one of the arches at the source of mineral water. In the XIX century it was at Vannes building in Lipetsk and now our contemporaries will be able to see the hand again in the Lower Park. Once Peter the Great, looking at the ironworks, accidentally slipped and his hand fell into the molding on the ground. In order to perpetuate the memory of the Tsar worker, the master cast a plate stamped with the royal arms.



In the XVIII century at the entrance to the ironworks, which was located in what is now "Lower Garden", was hanged the plate with the cast of the hand of Peter I.

In the XIX century it was in the Milovanov factory made in the form of an octagonal medallion, one side with the relief image of the palm of the hand, the other side with an inscription explaining that it was "a image of the hand of Peter the Great." These medallions can be purchased at the Lipetsk Mineral Waters in the memory of the city.

The decision to install a copy gave the director "Lower Garden" Alexey Tarasov. The author of the work was the teacher Valentina Chernova.

---

## Restored suit of Peter I will be presented in Vologda

According to the museum staff of "Peter House", the garments from the unique collection of clothes of the first Russian emperor arrived in Vologda from the Hermitage Museum in 1955.

The suit consists of a jacket-bostroga sewn by type of clothing of a Dutch artisans and sailors, and wool pants of French cut, which is also part of a sailor suit. Now Vologda restorers - Daria and Olga Petrova Kiryanov - have restored them to the original appearance of the costume.

Researchers point out that real casual wear of Emperor is a rarity. Sailor summer suit Peter I wore





as a casual wear, as well as possible, at a masquerade, for which he often dressed in work attire.

In addition, in June, everyone will be able to visit the mini-exhibition on the history of "House-Museum of Peter I", which this year celebrates its 130th anniversary: it was opened June 5, 1885 on the "day of His Imperial Highness Sovereign Grand Duke Vladimir Alexandrovich in the city of Vologda."

Video -

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aPLN746XVkg>



### The monument to Catherine II in Simferopol could be restored by 2016

Under favorable circumstances, in the spring of 2016 could be held its opening ceremony. According to the deputy head of the State Committee for Protection of Cultural Heritage of Crimea Vyacheslav Zarubin, in Moscow has started work on the future monument, which is to be delivered by the end of this year in the Crimean capital.



Design of the sculpture was ordered and financed by the public organization "Russian unity." Artists Alexander Chekunov and Dmitry Startsev tries to restore the original version made by Professor Laveretsky. For the work on the design are used postcards and photographs of those years, and even the memory of Maximilian Voloshin, when he, while still a student, in a humorous manner described some details of the monument.

The monument to Catherine II, who in 1783 published a manifesto on the joining of Crimea to Russia, was originally set to Simferopol in 1890 on the territory of the city garden. The monument is a bronze statue of the Empress on a granite

pedestal. In her right hand Empress hold a scepter and detailed map of the Crimea. And around the foot of the monument are statesmen of the era of Catherine the Great, who carried out the annexation of Crimea to Russia - Prince Grigory Potemkin and Vasily Dolgoruky, Alexander Suvorov, and Russian envoy in Turkey, Yakov Bulgakov. But 29 years later, the monument was destroyed by the Bolsheviks.

Already in the "Ukrainian days" of the Crimea, on the site of the destroyed monument, and despite the protests of Ukraine nationalist Majlis, was set a foundation stone with the inscription "At this point in Simferopol will be restored monument to Empress Catherine the Great." The idea to revive the historic property acquired new strength and a special meaning after the events of the Crimean spring.

---

### Emperor Nicholas II on the commemorative coin "155 years of the Bank of Russia."

On the occasion of the 155 YEARS anniversary OF THE BANK OF RUSSIA have been issued two commemorative coins, on 3 rubles in silver and on 1000 rubles in gold. On the gold 1000 Rubles can be seen the cipher of Emperor Alexander II and the image of Emperor Nicholas II, as he appeared on gold rubles during his rule.

There is a relief fragment of the facade of the Central Administration of the State Bank in St. Petersburg (1860-1918), and above it - a symbolic clock with a mechanism in the form of banknotes and coins, the text: "the grant of loans against securities, precious metals, goods operations with state interest-bearing securities, consolidation monetary system, exchange of banknotes into specie, fastest handling speed, for storage accepting deposits", and the inscription "Bank of Russia founded in 1860".

Coin nominal value of 1,000 rubles, gold 999, weight 155.5 g, 50 mm in diameter, the quality of coinage "proof-like", with a circulation of 155 pieces. Coins are placed in a capsule and gift box. Attached to them is a certificate of authenticity.



### "Matilda. In the splendor of the imperial court"

Pavlovsk Museum, May 29 - June 29, 2015

Rose Pavilion of Pavlovsk Park presents unusual and even unique exhibition "Matilda. In the splendor of the Imperial Court."

The exhibition presents the court, ballroom and ballet costume in the background scenery of a new large-scale historical film, "Matilda", which makes the well-known Russian director Alexey Uchitel. The crew of the film gave to the State Museum-Reserve "Pavlovsk" the opportunity to show at the exhibition unusual exhibits - props for the movie. It's kind of a friendly act, because nearly a month in the Rose Pavilion were shooting scenes "rehearsal room" in a film dedicated to the famous ballerina of the Imperial Theatre, the amazing woman Mathilde Kshesinskaia and her romantic relationship with the Emperor Nicholas II.

The screenplay, which covers the period from 1894 to 1896, to





the coronation of Nicholas II, is written by Alexander Terekhov, winner of "The Big Book" and "National Bestseller". The director and his team sought the greatest veracity and authenticity of the characters and the historic surroundings. The costumes for the film made by artist Nadezhda Vasilieva. For all the characters have been individually tailored suits by masters. There were sewed costumes for 300 extras who were present at the filming of the scene of the Emperor's coronation in the Assumption Cathedral in Moscow. The most amazing thing is that for this was built a grand cathedral decoration in full size in one of the halls of the former Northern plant in St. Petersburg. They also made decorations of the imperial train corridors and dressing rooms of the Mariinsky Theatre. All this is the merit of art directors Vera Zelinsky and Elena Zhukova. The shooting took place in the original interiors of the palaces of St. Petersburg.

Starring as Nicholas II and Alexandra Feodorovna are German theater actors from the Berlin theater "Schaubühne", Lars Aydinger and Louise Wolfram. In the role of Empress Maria Feodorovna - Ingeborg Dapkunayte, director of the Imperial Theatres - Yevgeny Mironov. Name of the main performer viewers will learn only during the premiere.

The film is not yet completed, but in the Rose Pavilion of Pavlovsk Park is from May 29 to June 29 opened a unique exhibition of 31 movie costumes from "Matilda", which were produced by a genuine samples of the late XIX century.

---

## *Romanov* **buzz**



Monument to Peter the Great may be erected in Omsk in honor of 300th anniversary of the city. Omsk State Museum of Regional History on 2nd of June held a joint meeting of the regional branch of the Union of Russian ethnographers and academic council of OGIK Museum. On the agenda there were several issues, including the Omsk anniversary monument.

Omsk Department of Culture asked the scientific community to provide assistance in the definition of major historical personalities whose images will be immortalized in the monument base for the 300th anniversary of Omsk.

Participants of the meeting decided on two figures: Emperor Peter I as the organizer of the campaign, and Lieutenant Colonel Ivan Buchholz - founder of the prison. There was also discussed a third figure in two versions: the collective image of the Omsk fortress builder under construction on the background of the prison, as well as the figure of Siberian governor Matvey Gagarin.

Naturally, in the meeting was raised the topic of a name of the memorial. Scientists have stopped at two versions: "Monument to the founders of the city" or "Monument to the 300th anniversary of Omsk."



In the Monastery of the martyrs and confessors of the Russian Church, erected in Alapaevsk in the place of martyrdom of Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna, Nun Varvara and members of the House of Romanov, was consecrated domes and crosses of the new church dedicated to the Holy Royal Martyrs.

"The Cross is the beauty of the church, royal power, true statement, Pavel praise, the plague of demons" - says the rite of "Delivering a cross on top of the house, the newly formed church." During the consecration the priest prays that the Lord preserved what is sanctified, and put an angel to what is consecrated.



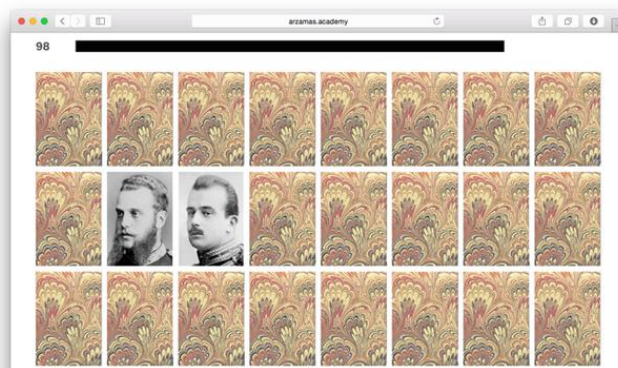


### Play "Memory" with the Romanovs.

By the beginning of the century the imperial house, which including the children and grandchildren of the Romanovs, has grown to 120 people. Arzamas offers to play the classic game of "Memory" - and find 12 repetitive portraits of the Romanovs. Rules of the game:

1. In one move, the player can turn over only two cards.
2. If a player has turned the same - cards disappear from the field.
3. The task of the game - to clear the field of cards in less than two minutes.

Link - <http://arzamas.academy/materials/651>



A tourism cluster with the center in the Palace of Oldenburg in Ramon district is to be organized in the Voronezh region. The idea of creating a recreational zone announced head of Rostourism Oleg Safonov at a meeting of the organizing committee on preparation and carrying out of actions of the "Voronezh - the cultural capital of the CIS-2015" on Tuesday, June 9th.

- There's a very interesting castle, designed in the style of Western Europe. It is visited every year more than 30 thousand persons - based on tickets sold. Now park is restored, there are plans for the reconstruction of the palace. In fact, based on it, you can create a project "House of the Romanovs" - a story of the royal dynasty, which is interesting to people. Today in Russia there is no such a project. It is interesting and promising direction - said Safonov.

- If there is a ready project documentation, in 2016 the project will be included in the federal target program "Development of domestic tourism," - said Oleg Safonov.



At the Admiralty Embankment next to the monument to Peter I ("Tsar Carpenter") was at 6:00 on 9 June placed a huge white cake. This was how the artist Denis Toth decided to congratulate the founder of the city on his birthday.



This year marks the 300th anniversary of the founding of the Grand Palace in Peterhof, and the 70th anniversary of the opening of palaces and gardens to the public after World War II. For three hundred years the palace has witnessed dramatic events.

Rastrelli's pompous palace - the confident hero of the day met its fourth century. Engineers estimate the state of the monument on a solid "four". They say the secret is that the architects at the time were able to negotiate with the Petersburg capricious weather.

Lydia Tsarik, head of a large palace GMZ "Peterhof" says - "ever-evolving threats from the ground ... but Jean-Baptiste Leblond - one of the first architects of the palace - developed a special drainage system."

Recently returned to its place a unique vase from the Imperial Porcelain Factory. Nino Vakhania, Head of Service of expositional GMZ "Peterhof", "This is a vase, we found quite by accident in the St. Petersburg antique salon. It was standing in the corner, crowded with other objects. And when we saw it, I immediately knew it is our vase. The whole year trying to get it back."

Video - [http://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article\\_id/135208/](http://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article_id/135208/)



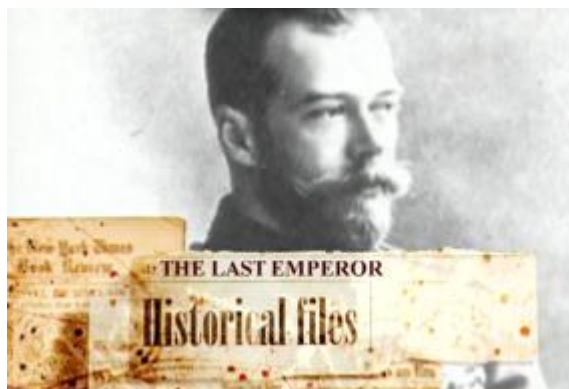




Video - "The destiny of the last Russian Tsar – Nicholas II" (Part 1+2) - In English.

Part 1 - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PIJ3yz2FrEU>

Part 2 - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tcsrFVOJ7gU>



Nizhny Novgorod started the rehearsals for the play "Paul I". The premiere will take place on the eve of the VII Russian theater festival named after Maxim Gorky, which will be held from 15 to 21 October and will be called the "Maxim Gorky and the era." The name is no coincidence: this time in the festival will feature performances put not only on the works of Gorky, but also his contemporaries. Elena Nevezhin will be directing the play of Dmitry Merezhkovsky.



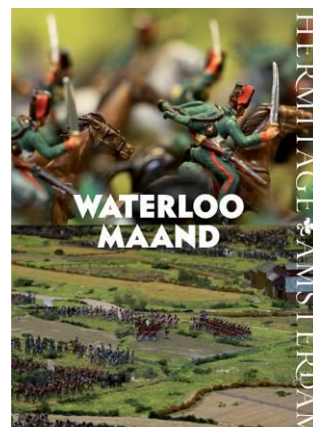
On 20 of June, 1803, 212 years ago, the first balloon went into Russian air. Emperor Alexander I officially gave permission to the famous balloonist Jacques Garneru permission to fly. It should be noted that the latter arrived in St. Petersburg in 1803 with a letter from the minister Talleyrand from France. It happened in the garden of the Cadet Corps in St. Petersburg. The balloon was fixed by ropes held by soldiers standing on the lawn. It should be noted that to see this could not all people, because the right to be there cost two silver ruble. Nevertheless, the huge garden could not accommodate everyone, because it was already clear that this is a historic event.

Note - that the world's first balloon flight was made a little earlier, in 1783, 21 November. Then the flight was made by chemist Jean Francois Pilatre de Rozier and the Marquis Francois faithful companion d'Arland.



From 5 of June to 21 of June there was a Waterloo battle model on display in the Hermitage Amsterdam.

The model of the Battle of Waterloo (scale 1:72) covers 33 m<sup>2</sup> and contains more than 9,000 soldiers and 1,500 horses. The model shows the battlefield as it was shortly before the first charge. The terrain is true to life and built to scale. Piet Prinsen of Castricum spent 28 years building the model, which is the largest in the Netherlands. It measures 700 x 476 cm in total, with bevelled edges. All of the regiments are presented in the correct uniform colours, banners and other accoutrements. Given the scale of the figures (about 2.5 cm high), this was obviously a painstaking and time-consuming task.





On the national day of Russia, Friday, 12 June, at 22.40 the TV Channel Kultura showed the American movie "Anastasia" - described as "The Russian Revolution overthrew Russia's right to the Romanov dynasty. Those close to the emperor and titled persons tried to escape abroad, while Nicholas II, his wife and children were shot. Subsequently, in the Russian emigration there were rumors that one of the members of the royal family still managed to escape and survive."

The feature film made in USA, 1956, is directed by Anatole Litvak. Cast: Ingrid Bergman, Yul Brynner, Helen Hayes, Mayor Tamiroff, Martita Hunt, Felix Aylmer, Sasha Pitoeff, Ivan Desin, Natalie Schafer, and Gregoire Gromoff.



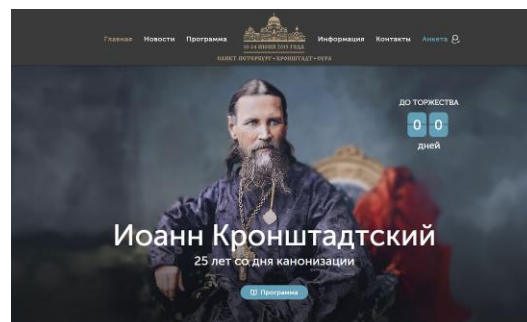
A video about "the mystical funeral of the imperial family". In July 1998, a funeral service was held in Yekaterinburg in the Church of the Ascension, before the transportation of the remains of the last Russian Tsar and family to an aircraft. It was a sunny summer day, the sun was shining, but when the martyrs was carried by hands to the waiting cars, heavy rain poured, no lightning, and there was no wind. Just from the sky was rain, which seemed to wash away the sin of all Ural'tsev.... After the remains were placed in the car, the rain stopped instantly. All of this can be clearly seen on this video recording ...

Video - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?t=342&v=0F153J9cUdQ>



In June 2015, the Russian Church celebrates the 25th anniversary of the canonization of the holy righteous John of Kronstadt . In honor of this event, a special website dedicated to the saint and celebrations in honor of his glorification was made.

Link - <http://xn--2015-43d9ggg.xn--p1ai/>



A scandal happened on 16 June in the at the Engels airbase (Airbase for Russian Air Force long-range aircrafts). To the airbase came from Fr. Vissarion (Samusev) for the blessing of the crew. According to the priest, his prayers were read, after which he sprinkled on the staff and guests of the airbase holy water - and on what looks like an icon of Stalin! The ROC have admitted that the cleric has shown gross incompetence and spiritual foolish, having made this prayer before the image of uncanonical, not recognized by Russian Orthodox Church, and not an icon in the truest sense of the word. The priest explains his actions with inexperience and confusion (his term of service in the rank of priest - one year). For this canonical violation the clergy will apply disciplinary measures.

However, it should be emphasized that the ruling bishop and the clergy of the diocese of Intercession were not made aware of the fact that the event will be built around the club members Izborsk's image, which content has received fair criticism and public discontent.

Saratov archdiocese claims that the actions of the head of the Izborsk Club A.A. Prokhanov can be called blatant provocation. It is not the first time A.A. Prokhanov makes this provocation. His attempts by any means to organize religious worship depicting Stalin is regrettable and indignation.

The hierarchy of the Russian Orthodox Church has repeatedly stressed that the canonization of the persecutor of the Church and the organizer of the bloody mass repressions is not possible and this very idea is absurd. Attempts to rehabilitate Stalin, made A. A. Prokhanov and members of the Izborsk Club, based on the gross distortion of religious and patriotic feelings.

While recognizing that the actions of the Intercession of the diocese cleric introduced many Orthodox



Christians into temptation and confusion, Saratov Metropolis brings them apologies and calls for church structures and authorities are wary of cooperation with Izborsky Club and personally A.A. Prokhanov.



In memory of the 110th anniversary of the Battle of Tsushima Military Historical Museum of Artillery Engineering and Signal Corps opened an exhibition of an unique object - a memorial plaque with the icon "Agony in the Garden" in memory of Lieutenant Sergei Petrovich Ogarev, heroically killed by a mine on the battleship "Navarino" 15 (28) of May 1905 in the Tsushima battle, 27 miles from the island of Karasaki. The Battle of Tsushima, held May 14-15, 1905, during the Russian-Japanese War, was the most tragic page in the history of the Russian fleet.

Among the victims of the battleship "Navarino" was lieutenant Sergei Ogarev, whose childhood friends recalled a modest and diligent young man. Grieving parents, Senator Petro and Mary B. Ogarevs (nee. Meshcherskaya) tried every possible way to perpetuate the memory of their son - the publication of a small book, obituary, and works of charity, paying beds in hospitals, rooms in the house, cheap apartments on the Hare Lane, scholarships to the poor. They also initiated the construction of a church in St. Petersburg, "Christ on the waters" in memory of the sailors who were lost at Tsushima, including Navarintsevs.

In 1911, the church "Christ on the waters," was built at the end of the Promenade des Anglais in St. Petersburg. Along the walls were installed panels of dark green and dark red marble. Above them is a stone "like tombstones, boards» in white stone, and on them were placed bronze plaques with the names of all those sailors killed or died of wounds. All were named: admirals, commanders of ships, headquarters units, ship's officers, mechanics, doctors, priests, monks, artists Vereshchagin, the conductor and all the lower ranks to the youngest inclusive. In ancient Slavonic were inscribed the names of battleships, cruisers, destroyers, and all other ships. Under each of the names of the ships of the squadron were given where they were, and the date of the battles in which participated, with the number of the victims (of 8269 people).

Unfortunately, in 1932, on the Church "Christ on the waters" was demolished. And until today in Russia there is no monument to the valiant crew of the battleship "Navarino". In the funds of the Military Historical Museum of Artillery, Engineers and Signal Corps remained one of the plaques, which once was created for placement in the church. In honor of the 110th anniversary of the Battle of Tsushima, it will be presented at the exhibition "Tsushima icon".



In the training center of the Navy in St. Petersburg, which is on the territory of which was the Church of the Mother of God "Merciful" ("It is truly meet"), was the first meeting of the board of trustees for restoration of cultural heritage sites of religious significance. It discussed priorities and a plan for the restoration of the church until 2017. Following the meeting, it decided to start the development of design documentation for further comprehensive restoration of the church.

Church of the Mother of God "Merciful" was founded in 1889 to commemorate the coronation of Alexander III and Maria Feodorovna. The building of the church from the 1930s until 2012 was part of the Russian Defense Ministry and the Ministry for a long time used it for training for divers. In the center of the church was located a 36-meter high diving tower, the largest of such facilities in Russia, with torpedo tubes, pressure chamber and a swimming pool. In 2013, the church passed to the gratuitous use of the St. Petersburg diocese of the Russian Orthodox Church.





An exhibition of Wax Figures was opened on 17 June in the Museum of Kustanay, Kazakhstan and will take visitors until August 2. The exhibition features just 38 figures, including Winston Churchill, Franklin Roosevelt, Suvorov, all the family of the last Russian emperor of the Romanov dynasty, and for the youngest are exhibited cartoon characters as "Gulliver", "Shrek", "Ice Age", and "Just you wait!".



The XXI International Festival of Sacred Music "Mighty God" was held in Mogilev on June 24. Mogilev enjoyed a concert of the State Symphony Capella of Russia by the People's Artist of Russia Valery Polyansky. Then, in the church of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary ceremony of awarding the choral and vocal groups of the festival.

In the Palace of culture of the region was an exposition "The Imperial family." The exhibition included copies of documents, diaries, eyewitness accounts and photos from their albums from the collections of "the Romanovs" in the parishes of Feodorovsky Sovereign's Cathedral in Tsarskoye Selo, St. Petersburg, local museums in Mogilev and from the collection of the Moscow photographer Malofeeva.



What a name for a lifeboat - "Saint Nicolas II". However the story about it is not so good. The "Saint Nicolas II" lifeboat is docked "for safety", as it is not adapted to the conditions specific for navigation in Capbreton, so it is nailed to the dock and cannot sail. In other words, it is not rescuing anybody - such a shame. The situation angers the locals.



Almost two years ago, on 8 June 2013, the then Minister of the Sea, Frédéric Cuvillier, attended the baptism of this vessel, during a flying visit to Capbreton. A ship for which 540,000 euros were disbursed by the Regional Council, and additional funds were given by private donations. It was the second boat in 25 years of existence of the local station, where 17 volunteers perform about thirty interventions per year.

"We have identified two problems: a bar problem, ie reactivity compared to the transmission system and a keel problem" says Xavier de la Gorce, the National President of the SNSM, and insists: "We will find a solution".



Scientists from the Institute of Archaeology has decrypt an old German inscriptions on a tombstones of the 17th century, which were accidentally discovered during construction work in the center of Moscow on Mytnaya street. It turned out that the tombstones belong to the family of Kellermann, who actively participated in the diplomatic and commercial life of Muscovy.

- These findings are one of the rare evidence of active participation in the life of Muscovy by immigrants from Western Europe, the people who built the tower of the Kremlin, churches, monasteries and fortresses, have been teaching how to make guns and to storm an enemy city. They came to Moscow princes employed as "instructors", were jewelers, engineers, doctors and pharmacists, translators and ambassadors - says Leonid Belyaev, the Head of the Department of Archaeology of the Moscow Rus. The first tombstone is dated 1635 year - it is in the reign of Mikhail





Fedorovich, the first tsar of the Romanov dynasty. The inscription says that Heinrich Kellerman was buried under the slab.

The second tombstone is 20 years younger, dating from 1653, and the text on it is much more interesting, as it mentions a text by the preacher Martin Hiller from Reichenbach (Lower Silesia). In 1625 Hiller wrote some lines in an eulogy for the city mayor, Horst Melchior, and here it is borrowed and put on the stone. As little as 25 years have passed since the text ended up in Moscow. Scientists emphasize that the discovery has once again shown the close connection of the Moscow state and Western Europe in the pre-Petrine times.

The family Kellermann is not well known to Russian sources, but some information there is. Henry Kellerman, is believed to have got to Moscow during the war in Livonia, during the period from 1558 to 1583 years. Heinrich Kellerman was listed among the "Moscow shopping foreigners" and served as a translator and partly diplomat - he was in England as part of the embassies in 1613, 1614 and 1617, was engaged in the sale of furs in Riga for the replenishment of the treasury.



One hundred military cigarette cases are presented in the Museum of Faberge in St. Petersburg. The exhibition presents about a hundred boxes of gold, precious stones and engravings of the XIX century. The exhibition mainly presents cigarette cases of World War II, made from scrap materials - steel, taken from the enemy military equipment and spoiled bowlers. But there are a few related to Tsarist Russia and the Romanov family.

Videos: 1) <http://topspb.tv/news/news76986/>  
2) <http://www.tv100.ru/news/v-muzee-fabertzhe-otkryli-vystavku-antikvarnyh-portsigarov-108910/>  
3) <http://www.otr-online.ru/news/v-peterburge-otkrilas-45413.html>



"The Romanovs. Rising in holiness" opened 18 June in the History and Art Museum, in the city Elektrostal in Moscow Region. The exhibition tells about the life and work in charity of Russian Grand Duchess, St. Martyr Elizabeth Feodorovna and her husband Grand Duke Sergei Alexandrovich.

Video - [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Thd\\_njhOIR0](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Thd_njhOIR0)



In the Chinese Palace in Oranienbaum continues the large-scale restoration. One by one is opened an updated room. There are restored murals and unique flooring. And in the dressing room are out back restored furniture. Here it is placed as it was under Catherine II. Currently is open seven halls of the famous palace which the Empress called "jewelry box". Interior decoration is recreated using inventories, watercolors and photographs of 1901. Almost all of the things here - historical.

The restoration of the palace is not finished. Now well underway is the Great Hall. It is planned to open in September. The plans for the future - the damask bedchamber, and the Cabinet and Boudoir of Emperor Paul. This is the next phase of the restoration, which will return to Petersburg a real tourist pearl in all its glory.

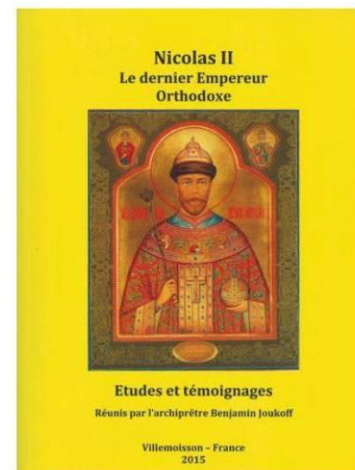
Video - [http://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article\\_id/136183/](http://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article_id/136183/)





Emperor Nicolas II the last Orthodox - by Andre Philippe Créviaux includes studies and testimonies, gathered by Benjamin archprêtre Joukoff to Villemoisson. The life of this prominent figure of the twentieth century has inspired many historians, theologians, journalists, filmmakers. So many books, theses, articles, plays and films have emerged ... The contemporary events could erase memories the fall of the monarchy, the October Revolution, the genocide of a people ... Yet it is not so, that past remains present very heavy today and the interest in the Tsar Nicolas II has been growing. The man of the twenty-first century can he perceive the mystery linked to the Tsar and the secret origins of the collapse of the Christian Russian Empire? The eviction of "he who restrains" the Apostle Paul mentioned, does it not accelerated the "mystery of iniquity" which is propagated in the world today?

This book attempts to provide answers to these questions by introducing a new dimension in understanding the past events of nearly a century.

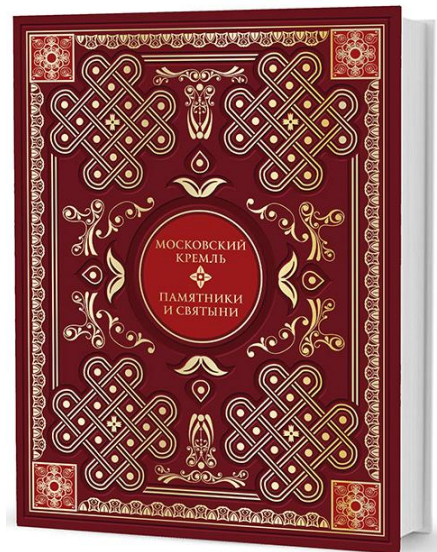


The book, titled 'Moscow Kremlin. Monuments and Shrines' was presented in Moscow on 2 June. The author, the spokesman for the Federal Security Guard Service Sergei Devyatov, said that he had worked on the book for about six years. The book has been released with a print run of 1,350 copies. It has more than 2,000 illustrations and has been done in both Russian and English.

"The Kremlin is a purely Russian phenomenon. Historical records have information about 62 Russian kremlins, some of which have survived to this day. The Moscow Kremlin's role is dominant and its phenomenon is in that it is a center of Moscow's major political life and a concentration of supreme Orthodox spiritual authority, while being a citadel and a powerful fortress" - Devyatov said.

The publisher, Yelena Rychkova, said that the book depicts the history of the Kremlin, starting from the 12th century to the present day, as well as the history of the persons and events connected with the Kremlin all throughout this period. "The book is rich in illustrations and is very informative" - she said.

"The reader will find several plans of the Kremlin in the book, dated 1812 and 1910, the last pre-revolution plan, the present-day plan and the plan drawn in 1920 and signed by Leon Trotsky's wife Natalya, with notes about the value of various buildings and recommendations as to which buildings need to be kept" - Rychkova said.



The 550-page book contains unique materials and documents taken from archives, including photographs and plans of the Chudov and Ascension monasteries, formerly located in the Moscow Kremlin, which now might be re-established. There are also watercolor of the interior in the Nicholas Palace, also destroyed, but also included in the list of building that might be re-established.

It is possible to visit the private rooms of the Grand Kremlin Palace, but it is difficult to get permission and not many have seen it. so it is wonderful to see several photos from the private rooms.





The cover of the 2nd version of the book, which is the one that will come for sale in shops later.

The last plan of the Moscow Kremlin from Tsarist time - 1910.

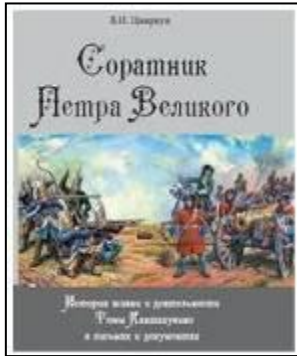
Two watercolors of the interior design in the small Nicholas Palace in Kremlin - 19th century.



Contemporary photos of the suite of the private room in the Grand Kremlin Palace.

The Red Drawing Room in the suite of the private room in the Grand Kremlin Palace.

## Associate of Peter the Great: History of life and work of Thomas Cantacuzino in letters and documents

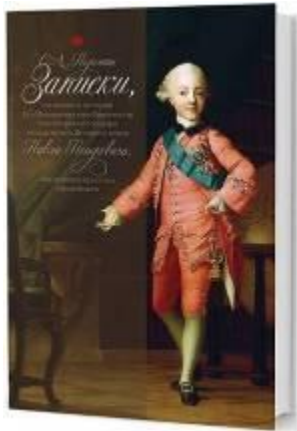


This monograph by V.I. Tsvirkun is devoted to the history of the life and work of Thomas Earl Kantukuzino. One of the fellows of Russian monarch Peter the Great was unfairly bypassed by the attention of researchers.

*Publisher: Nestor History, St. Petersburg. Hardcover, size 145 x 215 mm, 216 pages. Isbn 978-5-4469-0478-5*

---

## Notes on the history of His Imperial Highness the Tsarevich and the faithful sovereign Grand Duke Paul Petrovich



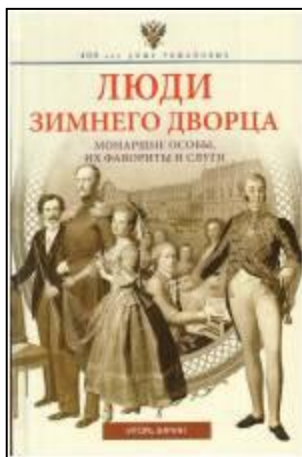
"Notes" of Grand Duke Paul tutor S.A. Poroshin is one of the most important historical sources and literary monuments of the XVIII century. They are precious for the history of the court of morals of society, and to explain some of the traits of Emperor Paul I. Diary of Poroshin is so diverse, such a wide range of facts cited in it, that it is still a relevant source for professionals and all those interested in Russian history and culture of XVIII century.

The new edition of "Notes" accompanied by a commentary on the text and numerous illustrations, unique in its content and has not been previously published. It includes documents relating to the education of the Grand Duke, and materials on the history of the study and publication of the manuscript of S.A. Poroshin. New edition has a significant addition - an index of names.

*Publisher: Kuchkovo Pole, Moscow. Hardcover, size 200h 260 mm, 592 pages. Isbn 978-5-9950-0459-2*

---

## Users of the Winter Palace. Monarchs, their favorites and servants



In this book, Professor I.V. Zimin gives the results of his regular research on aspects of everyday life of the Russian monarchs in the Winter Palace. In addition, he tells in details about the traditional ceremonials, festivals and entertainment in the royal house, of the physician who served the sovereigns, the organization of the protection of the Winter Palace in different periods of its history, and about what happened in the palace in the revolutionary 1917.

*Publisher: Tsentrpoligraf, Moscow. Hardcover, size 145 x 215 mm, 718 pages. Isbn 978-5-227-05919-2*

---



Under the hammer...

**Romanov related items in Auctions**



**Kabinet, Moscow, Russia, on 20 June;**

A badge "For the support of the Imperial Train", in the name of the commander of the 1st Regiment of the Railway S.A. Zabel. St. Petersburg firm "Faberge", workshop A. Tillander, 1915. Size: 41 x 33 mm. Weight: 12.73g. Gold, enamel, diamonds. Preliminary assessment: 820 000 - 900 000 rub.

A unique example of Russian jewelry art. Sergey Zabel (1871-?) - Russian military leader. Educated at the 4th Moscow Cadet Corps. Started service 09.01.1888. He

graduated from the Nikolaev engineering school. Service in the 1st Railway Battalion began as Lieutenant (10.08.1889).

In 1898 he graduated from the Nicholas Academy of Engineering. Captain (1898). Since 1902 - tutor Nicholas Academy of Engineering and the College, since 1904 - full-time teachers Nicholas Academy of Engineering and the School of Fortification. Lieutenant Colonel (1904). Member of the Russian-Japanese War of 1904-1905. Chief of Staff of the 1st Sapper Brigade (1906-1910). Colonel (1908). The chief of staff of the engineering inspectors Petersburg Military District (1910-1914). Since January 1914 the commander of the 1st Regiment of the Railway (from 06/05/1915 - His Imperial Majesty's Railway Regiment). Major-General (1914). The head of the imperial train.

After the October Revolution he served in the Red Army. Cavalier Orders: St. Stanislaus 3rd degree (1894); St. Anne 3rd degree (1901), St. Vladimir 3rd degree (1909), St. Stanislaus 1-st degree (1915).

Since 1914, General Sergey Zabel commanded His Imperial Majesty's Railway Regiment, provides all rail trips for the royal family, maintain and guarding the imperial train and a dedicated railway line from the Imperial Pavilion Vitebsk Station in St. Petersburg to Tsarskoye Selo. According to the French ambassador, M. Paleologue "This regiment performs an essential task because the idea to blow up the royal train is one of those that took over the minds of Russian anarchists". In the 1860-1870-ies. trains have become a major transport for Russian emperors during trips around the country. Especially for the maintenance and protection of the royal train in 1867 it was created the 1st Railway Battalion based Guards Battalion. Lower ranks of the 1st Battalion of Railway railroad brigades were formed, including the drivers and those working in railway workshops, which served the royal train. In 1909, the 1st Railway Battalion was reorganized into the 1st Train Regiment and employs about 1,000 personnel.

From 1906 in the regiment were registered Emperor Nicholas II and Tsarevich Alexei Nikolaevich. At the beginning of 1914, when the post of commander of the regiment joined SA Zabel, 1st Train Regiment constantly guarded railways leading to the nearby residence of the emperor. In 1915 the regiment received the name of His Imperial Majesty's Railway Regiment and the rights of the Young Guard. It was completed from those "having served one year in parts of the engineering troops, literate, having certain skills artisans, well-built, healthy and perfect behavior." The Tsar loved the Railway



Regiment, often came to the barracks, talked with the soldiers. In 1915, the train was equipped with a car garage for transportation of the private vehicles of the emperor. From 1916 to function as "special protection Highest train travel", was created separate wagons for the protection of the imperial trains. On 35 carriages and platforms the "special train" consisted of a battery of artillery and air defense detachment. By state battery included machine-gun team of 16 people and 4 anti-aircraft guns on trucks. In addition, the car with a spotlight and a generator, two motorcycles with sidecars for scouts and two cars carrying ammunition and food. The service staff included 79 technicians. In 1916 the regiment received the right of the Old Guard. Part of the personnel of the regiment on the train, took part in the fighting in the South-Western Front during the Lutsk breakthrough.



Badge to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the State Chancellery Russian Empire, a private workshop. Size: 59.3 x 37.8 mm. Weight 27.9 g. Bronze, enamel, gilding. Hallmarks: on the reverse side - a detailed label "Zhilov." Signs of bronze fabricated by the state order was in small quantities. The State Chancellery, or the Office of the State Council, was established in 1810 according to the plan of government reforms of M.M. Speranskii, who became its first director - secretary of state. The Office was divided into offices for which the head of each of them was the Secretary of State. Involved in the preparation of cases for hearing, processing magazines debate and

preparation of extracts from them for the emperor and in charge of the archives of the State Council. At the turn of XIX-XX centuries. officials of the State Chancellery were "bureaucratic Guard", some later became ministers.

Preliminary assessment: 100 000 - 150 000 p.



Badge to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Finnish Senate Russian Empire, a private workshop. 1916-1917 years. Size: 77 x 51 mm. Weight: 48.4 g. Silver, enamel, gilding. Hallmarks: barrette on the inside - assay certificates as a hammer with wings, a crown; hallmark "813 H" mark of the City of Helsinki (boat) and annual «L5». The right to carry a sign was given to persons who February 22, 1916 consisted of the following positions: Chairman, Vice-Chairman, the members of both departments and the Prosecutor of the Imperial Senate of Finland, as well as to those who were serving in the Senate on the day of the anniversary.

Preliminary assessment: 120 000 - 150 000 p.





Badge of the 2nd Siberian military hospital train named Grand Duchess Maria Pavlovna, in the name of N.M. Matsievsky.

Russian Empire, a private workshop. 1905. Size: 38.5 x 23 mm. Weight: 14.37 g. Silver, enamel. Hallmarks: Assay "84" of the St. Petersburg district, with the initials of the assay inspector "AR". On the edge - an engraved inscription: "N. Matsievskaya." "Lapin XLIX, № 113.

During the Russian-Japanese war of 1904-1905. Russian Red Cross Society organized 18 military hospital trains and 3 floating hospital ships "Queen", "The Eagle" and "Kostroma". Preliminary estimate: 15,000 - 20,000 b.

Badge to commemorate the coronation of Emperor Alexander III

St. Petersburg, a private workshop. 1883. Size: 35.5 x 20 mm. Weight: 6.49g. Silver, enamel.

Hallmarks: on the suspension ring-Assay "84" with the emblem of St. Petersburg, list of names "MC." Preliminary assessment: 6000 - 9000 p.



Badge in memory of the miraculous rescue of the imperial family

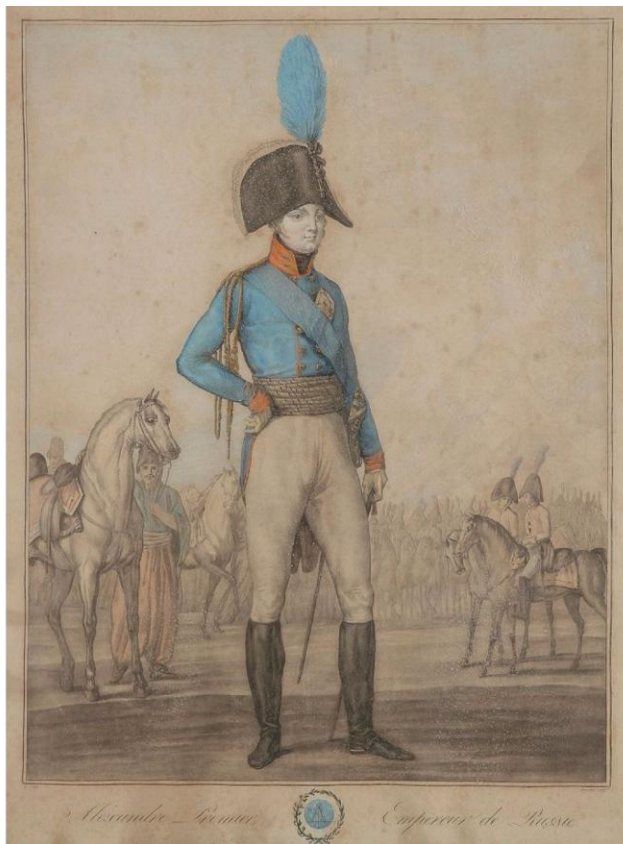
St. Petersburg, a private workshop. 1888. Diameter: 20 mm. Weight: 4.29 g. Silver, enamel, gilding. Hallmarks: Assay "84" of the St. Petersburg district Assay Administration (with the emblem of St. Petersburg), list of names "G.Z."

Preliminary assessment: 5000- 6000 p.



Badge to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the Moscow branch of the firm "Faberge" Russian Empire, a private workshop. 1912. Diameter: 21 mm. Weight: 5.96 g. Silver, gilding.  
The Moscow branch of the firm "Faberge" was founded in 1887 by Carl Faberge and his companion - a British citizen Alan Bo. As Carl Faberge himself permanently residing in St. Petersburg, Alan Bo ran the Moscow shop and factory until 1906, when he was replaced by Otto brighter.  
Preliminary estimate: 30 000 - 40 000 rub.

**Ader Nordmann, Paris, France, on 22 June;**



Alexander I of Russia.  
Etching in colors. Horace Vernet (1789 Paris - 1863 Paris) (attributed to). In a part of the nineteenth century gilt bronze sconces. Some foxing. 49 x 39 cm (to view).  
Estimate: 1000 - € 1200



Portrait of Nicolas I in the uniform of General, bearing the Cross of Saint George (variant of a work by the workshop of Franz Krüger, 1835). Oil on canvas. 93.5 x 74 cm. Anonymous. Russian School, circa 1840.



In the Russian museums are preserved several portraits of Nicolas I, executed precisely in this iconographic release, including those of Maikov (1840), Golike (1843), Gudovsky (1844) and Slaviansky (1854). The work that we propose differs from the table in the workshop Krüger (currently Borodino Museum) Nicolas that I carried the Cross of St. George, he receives only 1 December 1838. We also note a difference interesting at the position of the arms.  
Estimate: 1800 - € 2500

Print - the birth of the heir Alexis Nikolaevich 1904. Chromolithographie. Edited by R. and A. Golike Vilborg. September 1904.  
45.2 x 32 cm.  
Estimate: 250-300 €

Photographic portraits of Tsarevich Alexis Nikolaevich March 1906, at the age of one year and eight months.  
Two silver prints of CF HAHN. Tsarskoye Selo.  
Annotated and dated on the back. 16.4 x 10.8 cm.  
Estimate: 200-250 €





Collection of photos from Ai-Todor (property of Grand Duke Alexander Mikhailovich, in Crimea).

- Tea in the garden. 1911. With Sofia Dmitrievna Evreïnova (maid of honor of the Grand Duchess Xenia Alexandrovna), Vladimir Andreyevich Chatelain (aide to Grand Duke), Grand Duke Alexander Mikhailovich, Grand Duchess Xenia Alexandrovna, Prince Dimitri Alexandrovich, Maria Vladimirovna Chatelain (wife of VA Chatelain), Countess Ekaterina Leonidovna Kamarovskaïa (préceptice Irina Alexandrovna), Prince Rostislav Alexandrovich. All identified at the back. 14 x 8,5 cm.

- On the grand staircase. The Grand Duchess Xenia Alexandrovna and her last three children, Dimitri, Rostislav and Vassili (probably also in 1911). 14 x 8,5 cm. (Shown in picture below.)

- Two postcards, views of Ai-Todor, directed by the great Duchess Xenia Alexandrovna in 1936 Maria Vladimirovna Chatelain. They are both written by the hand of the Grand Duchess and signed (Xenia)

Estimate: 150 - 200 €



Set of 4 Postcards:

- Grand Duchess Xenia Alexandrovna. Postcard watercolor. Bouquet of tulips in a crystal vase. Monogrammed lower right KA. Response to Easter greetings to Maria Vladimirovna Chatelain. Dated April 11 without year indication. 11.1 x 9.1 cm (Shown in picture left)

- Grand Duchess Xenia Alexandrovna. Post card. Brown wash. Kiosk. Monogrammed lower right KA. New Year Greetings to his godson Nicolas Chatelain. Dated 1935 New Year's Eve 1934

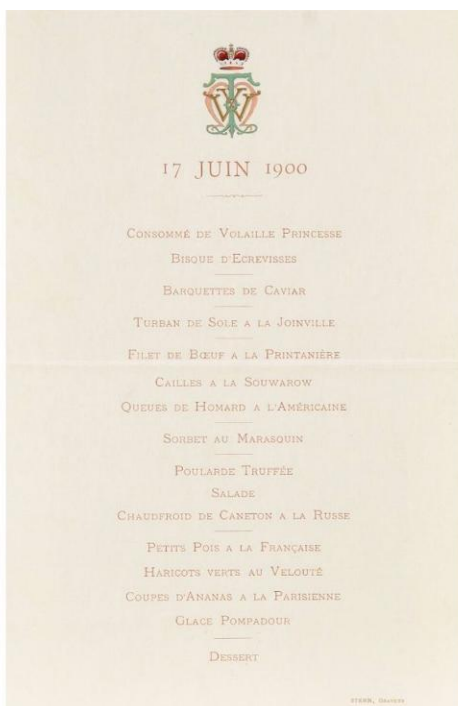
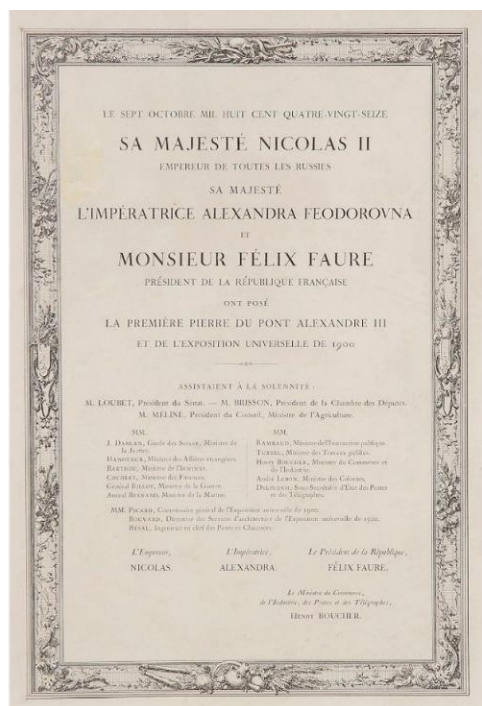
- Post card. Brown wash. Landscape. Easter greeting autographs Vladimir Andreyevich Chatelain. Xenia Signed and dated 11 April 1934. 8.8 x 11.3 cm

- Monogrammed VG 1922. Copy of the postcard of the residence of Leontiev in Moscow by Nicolas Fomin series of postcards published in 1904 in the community benefit Saint Eugenie. Sent to Maria Vladimirovna Chatelain (whose mother was born Leontiev) with the Grand Duchess Xenia Alexandrovna

Estimate: 200-300 €



Grand Duchess Olga Alexandrovna - wild flowers Bouquet. Watercolor. Mailed Easter Greeting Card sent by Xenia Alexandrovna from Windsor to Nicolas Chatelain, her godson and signed Your godmother. Dated April 15, but the year is not indicated. Estimate: 200-300 €



Two documents from the Universal Exhibition of 1900:

- A copy of the minutes signed during the laying of the foundation stone of Alexander III bridge by the Emperor Nicolas II, Empress Alexandra Feodorovna and President Felix Faure October 7, 1896 . The original document is placed in a box with coins and medals, cabinet is placed in a cavity of the block of granite porphyry Russian closed by a slab of marble workers Parisian gift.

34.6 x 24.5 cm

- Menu engraved by Stern, dated June 17, 1900, with a beautiful monogram under crown of Prince Vyacheslav Nikolayevich Tenichev. On the back a music program by the Kremlin fanfare.

24.7 x 16.6 cm

The Prince V.N. Tenichev, ethnographer, archaeologist, sociologist, rich industrial, husband of the famous Princess Marie Tennisheva. It was Commissioner General of Russia for the 1900 World Exposition

Estimate: 150 - 200 €

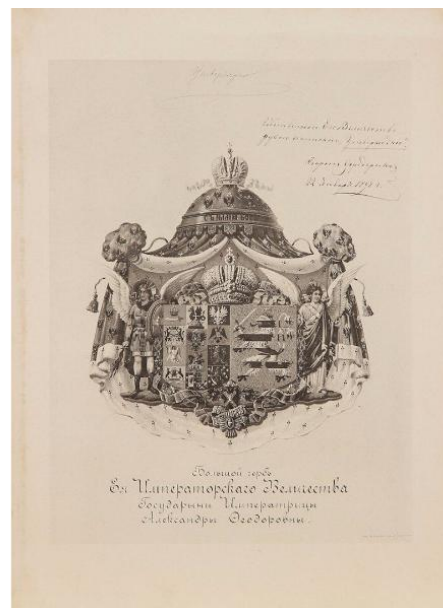
Collection of prints and facsimile autograph letters with signatures;

- 11 prints representing the emperors and empresses of Russia: Peter I, Catherine I, Peter II, Elizabeth, Peter III, Catherine II, Paul I, Alexander I, Nicolas I Alexander II and Alexander III. 29.5 x 21 cm

- 2 prints representing the Emperor Weapons and those granted Empress Alexandra Feodorovna in. Early twentieth century. 29.5 x 21 cm (*Shown in picture above.*)

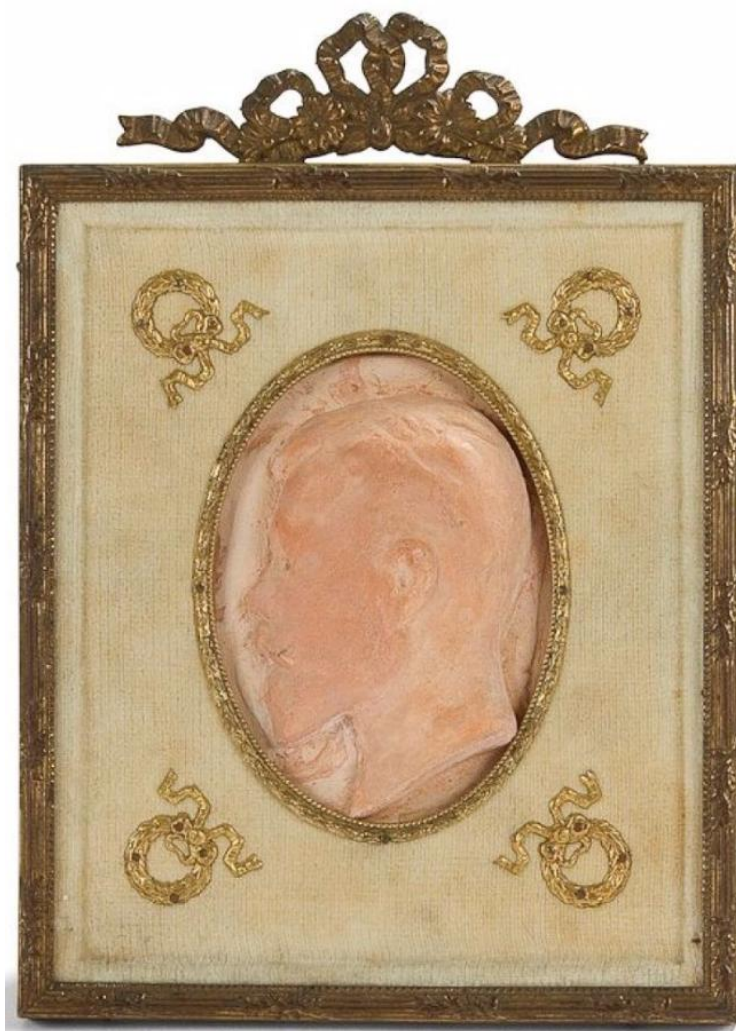
- 11 documents with signatures in facsimile: Peter I, Elizabeth (2), Catherine II (2 + 1 unsigned), Paul I, Alexander I, Nicolas I, Alexander II and Alexander III. Late nineteenth - early twentieth century. Wettings and accidents. Various sizes (from 24 x 15 to 27.5 x 20 cm)

Estimate: 250-350 €



George I, King of the Hellenes in general's uniform of the first regiment of Russian infantry "Nevski" referred Chef since 4 May 1867. E. Hohlenberg. Copenhagen. Circa 1900. Silver print 15 x 15 cm.

Estimate: 150 - 200 €



Nicolas II in profile, early twentieth century. Terracotta. Profile facing left. No visible signature.

Presented in a setting of old gilt bronze Louis XVI style. Dimensions: 7.4 x 9 cm (15 x 12.5 cm for the frame).

Estimate: 100-120 €



Nicholas II in Sevastopol. Photography. 11.5 x 22 cm. 1910. Annotated on back by N. Solodkoff (in pencil). Provenance: Nicolas Solodkoff (1892-1964)



Emperor Nicolas II accompanied by Grand Duke Nicolas Nikolaevich inspects detachments of the cavalry of the guard leaving for Manchuria. 1904-1905. Silver print. EC Hahn & Co. Dry Marking of the photographer. Tsarskoye Selo. 16 x 22 cm. Estimate: 200-250 €

Emperor Nicolas II inspects a machine-gun detachment of the cavalry of the guard leaving for Manchuria. 1904-1905. The men are armed with submachine-gun Madsen Mod. 1902.  
Silver print. EC Hahn & Co. 16 x 22 cm  
Estimate: 200-250 €



Eight Silver prints, among them:

- Anonymous (C.C. Bulla). The maneuvers at Krasnoye Selo. Circa 1910. 15.2 x 20.6 cm
- CC Bulla. Saint-Petersburg. Religious service during maneuvers. Photographer pad back. 16.2 x 22 cm.
- silver print limited. Peterhof 1910. The Emperor is among officers of the dragoons of the Guard regiment. Three officers are appointed to the back: Krusenstern (Colonel Alfred von Fedorovich) Pietrzkiewicz (captain Alexander Karlovich) and Witt (Lieutenant Pavel Konstantinovich). In the photograph, the captain Ershov is placed just right. 10.4 x 8.4 cm. (*Shown in picture right*)
- C.C. Bulla. Saint-Petersburg. The emperor visiting an Academy (). 1913 - 1915. Right, Captain Nikolai Pavlovich Sablin. Photographer's stamp on the back. 23.2 x 30.3 cm.

Estimate: 500-700 €







Silver print. Emperor Nicolas II inspects the cuirassiers, lancers, hussars, at Tsarskoye Selo manege. 1904. EC Hahn & Co. Dry Marking the photographer. Tsarskoye Selo. 16 x 22 cm  
Estimate: 200-250 €



Six silver prints, among them:

- Anonymous (CC Bulla). Regimental Day in the presence of empresses. Circa 1900.
- Anonymous (CC Bulla). Close view of the tent of empresses. 16.5 x 21.6 cm.

- The carriage of the Empress. CC Bulla
  - Anonymous(CC Bulla). Arrival of the Emperor to the parade ground.
  - End maneuvers. Circa 1900. Photographer's stamp on the back. CC Bulla
  - CC Bulla. Saint-Petersburg. Parade of recruits artillery, conducted by the Grand Duke Sergei Mikhailovich before the Emperor. Circa 1900. Handwritten annotation in German and the photographer stamp on the back. From 15.5 x 22 to 18 x 24 cm
- Estimate: 500-700 €



A cup in memory of the Emperor Alexander III. Glass lithyalin. A green background decorated with gold, on one side with a portrait of Emperor Alexander III and on the other the imperial eagle of the Romanovs, added (probably later) "God with us" on top of St. George. Russian work (?) Of the twentieth century. H.: 14 cm - L.: 10 cm.

Badge of the fiftieth anniversary of the direct involvement of Her Majesty the Empress Maria Feodorovna (1847-1926, Empress Dowager, wife of Alexander III) in the charity works of Empress Marie Feodorovna (1757-1828, wife of Paul I). Created in 1916 gilt bronze enamel. Mounted on pin

Estimate: 150 - 200 €



**Künker, Osnabrück, Germany, on 25 June;**



Alexander I. 1801-1825. 50 Zlotych  
1818, Warsaw, Poland. 9.80g. Gold  
Estimated price: 10,000.00 €

Alexander I. 1801-1825. 25 Zlotych  
1825, Warsaw, Poland. 4.89g. Gold.  
Very rare in this condition. Only 636  
copies made.  
Estimated price: 10,000.00 €





Nicholas II. (1894 to 1917). Silver Medal in 1895 (Cyrillic), by V. Nikonov and M. Skudnov, on the construction of Vladimir Cathedral in Kiev. Crowned bust of Prince Vladimir with cross in his left hand, in the background the Cathedral. Other side a view of Vladimir Cathedral.

The Vladimir Cathedral is the most important Cathedral of the Kiev. The plan to build the cathedral was started in 1852, to celebrate the 900th anniversary of the introduction of Christianity in Kievan Rus by St. Vladimir. The construction began in 1859. The consecration of the church took place in 1896. At the building several architects and artists were involved. The 49-meter-high cathedral has seven gilded domes. It is richly decorated with mosaics and frescoes. The paintings inside are by renowned Russian painters such as Mikhail Nesterov, Viktor Vasnetsov and Mikhail Vrubel.

Estimated price: 20,000.00 €



Nicholas II. (1894 to 1917). Silver Medal o. J. (1899), unsigned, by A. Vasyutinsky, on the construction of the St. Catherine's harbor in Murmansk. Head of Emperor Nicholas II ./ View of the harbor. 68,16 mm;162.05 g.

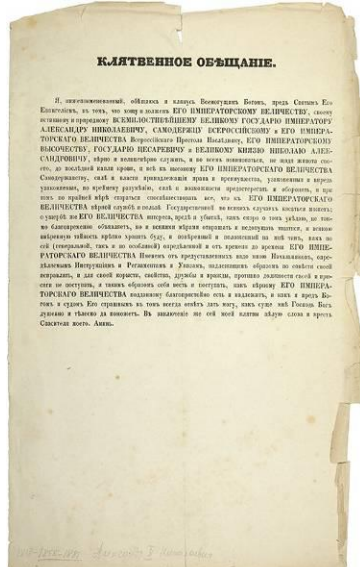
Estimated price: 1,500.00 €





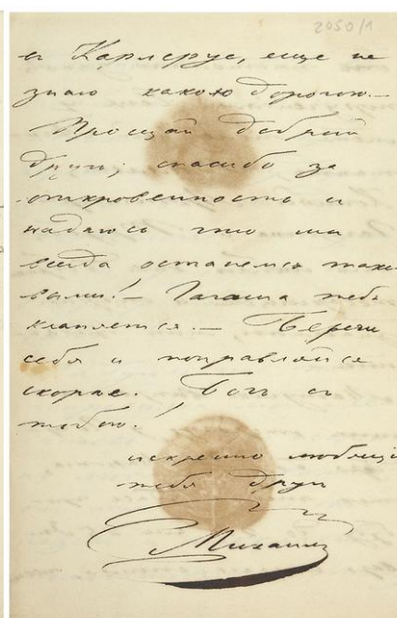
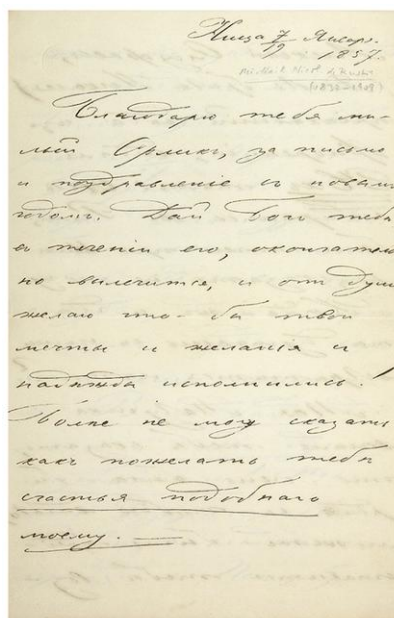
Nicholas II (1894 to 1917). German silver medal, 1902, unsigned, "In memory of his visit in Reval (Tallinn), August 1902". Uniformed portrait of Emperor Nicholas II // Bust of Wilhelm II Of Prussia. Silver 950. 33.39 mm. 14.99g. Estimated price: 300.00 €

### Nikitsky, Moscow, Russia, on 30 June;



Full text of Oath to serve true nelitsimerno His Imperial Majesty the Emperor Alexander Nikolayevich. 1 Page. Size 35 x 21.8 cm. Estimate: 5,000 - 6,000 rubles.

A handwritten letter to the Grand Duke Mikhail Nikolayevich. Dat. January 7, 1857. [8]. 20.8 x 13.5 cm. The excellent state of preservation. In the upper corner of the paper embossed "Fab. GV Nevsky. "



"Thank you, darling Orlik, for the letter and Happy New Year. God bless you for it, completely cured, and sincerely wish that your dreams and desires and hopes fulfilled! More I cannot say as to wish you happiness like mine. Alex Olsufiev (brother Nicholas), who arrived here from Florence, the form Hx (underlined three times) there: they were going to Rome, nothing more about them ... I cannot



tell my mother told me to tell you that would be very pleased to meet again with you Health ... thank God it badly: it was very good, but due to the cold should beware of the summer will probably still be treated in Vilbadene, for me and my darling unforgettable! So, to return to Russia, and consequently the arrival in St. Petersburg the bride will be before the end of July. It's hard to wait that long: more than a year to be the groom !!! Do not you wish that ... Here in Russia, as seen from the newspapers (because I have no one wrote about it) a lot of changes in the cadet and youth education and civil chinoproizvodstve; so also in the acquisition of the nobility."

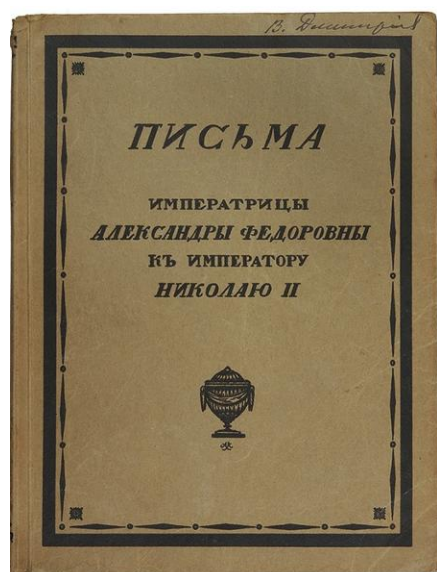
Grand Duke Mikhail Nikolayevich (1832-1909) - the fourth son of Emperor Nicholas I and Empress Alexandra Feodorovna. Member of the Crimean War, the governor of the Caucasus and the Caucasian Army. From 1855 he was appointed member of the State Council. From 1856, he was engaged to Princess Augusta of Baden Cecilia, the daughter of Grand Duke Leopold of Baden. Since August 16, 1857 in marriage.

Estimate: 110,000 - 115,000 rubles.

Staehelin, J. Memoirs of Peter III, Emperor of Russia // A separate reprint from "Reading the Imperial Society of Russian History and Antiquities." Bk. 4. [St. Petersburg], [1866]. 67-118 seconds. 26.8 x 17.8 cm. In possessory wafer. Tears pages.

Mintslov number 474, number 1216 Lobashkova.

Estimate: 5,000 - 5,500 rubles.



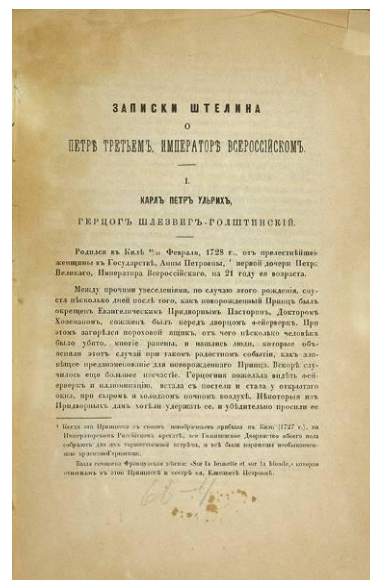
Letters from Empress Alexandra Feodorovna to Emperor Nicholas II. From English. V.D. Nabokov. Berlin, 1922.

In two volumes, published letters date back to the beginning of the First World War, by July 1914, and until December 1916, when Nicholas II was often at GHQ. Letters was in Yekaterinburg after the assassination of the royal family in a black box engraved with the initials NA. The texts of the letters supplemented with notes. A second index is attached to the names mentioned, who played a political role in those years.

Estimate: 6,000 - 6,500 rubles.

Photo of Grand Duke Alexander Alexandrovich (future emperor Alexander III), Vladimir Alexandrovich, Duke Albert of Saxe-Altenburg, and Duke Nicholas Leuchtenberg Maximilianovich. Levitsky. St. Petersburg., [1860]. Size 8 x 5.5 cm. Photo is placed on paper.

Estimate: 14,000 - 15,000 rubles.



Bust of Emperor Alexander III. Sculptor Karl Fedorovich Koch. Copper alloy casting, chasing, patination. Size 21.5 x 21.5 cm. On the back of the bust on the left is the casting date: 1892. The emperor is depicted in a frock coat with General Order of St. George second degree. It is known that in 1892 in Livadia Tsar Alexander III awarded General Koch a ring with sapphire and diamonds, perhaps for the execution of the bust. Other casting sculptural portrait of Emperor Alexander III by K. Koch is not known. Later, in 1892-1894 on porcelain by the factory Kuznetsova were made a model after Koch's bust in terracotta.  
Estimate: 130,000 - 140,000 rubles.





## Did you know....



... That in a corner of the iconic gold-gilded board room of the New York Stock Exchange is a large Faberge urn gifted by Emperor Nicholas II.

On June 21, 1904, it arrived at the New York Stock Exchange - a stone and silver urn crafted by Carl Fabergé. Total height 87", height of urn 40", base diameter 24", urn 20" across at widest point. It is carved from red jasper, trimmed with silver and sits on a pedestal of green jasper. The urn was a token of appreciation from Tsar Nicholas II to this American financial institution "for its help in floating a \$1 billion loan in 1902 to the Russian government, a large amount for its time".

Before the 1917 revolution, Russia had numerous stock and commodity exchanges, and its debt was traded internationally. The Imperial Russian Loan, as it was officially known, went into default shortly after the revolution and was officially suspended from trading on the New York Exchange in 1921.

