FROM RUSSIA WITH LOVE

A SYMPOSIUM ON RUSSIAN LITERATURE, MUSIC, ART, AND FILM AT RIT
THURSDAY, APRIL 18, 2013

Campus Center Reading Room and Bamboo Room (2nd floor)
Student Alumni Union Room 1829 (1st floor)
Please contact Dr. Elena Sommers (Department of English)
elena.sommers@rit.edu for more information and events schedule
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STUDENT ALUMNI UNION ROOM 1829 (1st FLOOR)

PLEASE CONTACT DR. ELENA SOMMERS (DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH)
AT ELENA.SOMMERS@RIT.EDU FOR FURTHER INFORMATION.

8:30 am
Coffee and pastries

8:40 - 9:00 am
Welcome and opening remarks
Elena Sommers, Department of English, RIT
James Winebraile, Dean, COLA, RIT

9:00 - 10:30 am
Dostoevsky: 2x2=4;Crystal Palace=death;
Tolstoy:what does it mean to live a Good Life?
John Givens (University of Rochester):
"Tolstoy’s Jesus versus Dostoevsky’s Christ: A tale of Two Christologies"
Brian Shooker (Dept. of Philosophy, RIT):
"Dostoevsky and Nietzsche"
Topher Froehlich (RIT student):
"Loathing, Loving, and Laughing with the Underground Man"
Babak Elahi (Associate Dean: COLA; RIT) with Hector E. Flores (Dean of Graduate Studies, RIT)
"The Global Heirs of the Underground Man"

9:00 - 10:30 am
Poetry and Music
Carl Atkins (Dept. of Performing Arts and Visual Culture, RIT):
"Red, White, and Blue: Jazz in Russia from 1920 to the present"
Michael Samowski (Dept. of English, RIT):
"Exile, Escape, and Reprieve: Poetry of Displacement from the Russian Revolution through World War II"
Diane Forbes (Dept. of Modern Languages and Cultures, RIT):
"The Evolution of Akhmatova’s Poetry: From Self to Other"
Gail Hosking (Dept. of English, RIT):
"Reading of Akhmatova"
RIT String Quartet, select movements from Borodin’s Quartet in D;
Introductory comments by Michael Ruiling (Dept. of Performing Arts and Visual Culture, RIT)

10:30 - 11:30 am
Staged Reading (Q & A to follow):
Dostoevsky, "The Legend of the Grand Inquisitor"
David Munnell, director (Dept. of Performing Arts and Visual Culture, RIT)

11:30 am - 12:30 pm
Lunch break

12:30 - 2:00 pm
As it Politics
Jose Alanz (University of Washington):
"Flashy Pictures: Comics, Social Activism, and Russian Youth"
Elena Sommers (Dept. of English, RIT):
"To Depict the New Woman is to Invoke Her: Public Awareness Advertising and Russia’s ‘Boost the Birthrate’ Campaign"
Ari Miskovic:
"Radical Cultural Documents: The Politics of Russian Portraiture 1869-1891"
Dinah Holtzman (Dept. of Performing Arts and Visual Culture, RIT):
"From Russia with Lust: The Sadomasochistic (Homo) Erotica of Sergei Eisenstein’s Mexico"

2:00 - 3:00 pm
Global Nabokov
Julian W. Connolly (University of Virginia):
"From Russia to America - the Depiction of Nationality in Nabokov’s Work"
Maxim D. Shrayber (Boston College):
"Nabokov and the Heritage of Western Pomerania"

3:00 - 4:00 pm
Nabokov (student led panel): "Author, Narrator, Reader: Love and Morality in Lolita."
Daniel Suzanne Smith (co-facilitator)
Ashleigh Butler (RIT student):
"The Metamorphosis of Love and Woe"
Kara Gills (RIT student):
"Morality in Lolita"
Caitlin Purdy:
"Love in Lolita: Reconciling Art and Truth"

4:00 - 5:00 pm
Waiting for America - reading, Q&A, and book signing by an award-winning author, Maxim D. Shrayber
Waiting for America is the first English-language book to explore the experience of Soviet Jews waiting, in transit, to enter the New World. In 1987 a young Jewish man, the central figure in this captivating memoir, leaves Moscow for good with his parents. While waiting, in Austria and Italy, for a US refugee visa, the book’s twenty-year-old poet quenches his thirst for sexual, political and cultural discovery through his colorful European misadventures.

5:00 pm - 6:00 pm
Closing remarks (10 min) and reception

6:00 - 8:00 pm
Film: The Mermaid.
2007, (Russia’s entry for the Foreign Oscars, World Cinema Directing Award at Sundance) - an artistically/digitally inventive, coming-of-age story ending in death, where a teenage girl moves to Moscow, meets an advertising executive, falls in love, saves his life 3 times, and dies, after she is transformed into the face of his Moscow advertising campaign that markets properties on the moon into the face of his Moscow advertising campaign that markets properties on the moon.

Uncle Vanya.
2007, (Russia’s entry for the Foreign Oscars, World Cinema Directing Award at Sundance) - an artistically/digitally inventive, coming-of-age story ending in death, where a teenage girl moves to Moscow, meets an advertising executive, falls in love, saves his life 3 times, and dies, after she is transformed into the face of his Moscow advertising campaign that markets properties on the moon into the face of his Moscow advertising campaign that markets properties on the moon.

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