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Excerpt: from the large ENCYCLOPEDIA.

RUSSIAN ART.

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The new era.

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The most important modern artists are V.Kandinsky, Roerich, Larionov, Gonstcharova, Chagal, Ostrumova, Punin, Iacovlev and Anrep

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ROERICH, NICOLAS CONSTANTINOVITCH (1874-) Russian painter of Scandinavian origin, established his reputation by painting pictures of Russian prehistoric life and the wanderings of Vikings. After beginning with realistic pictures, his manner evolved under the influence of Byzantine Icon and of Oriental Art, towards the technique of ancient Russian frescoes and his wall paintings for the Kazan railway station at Moscow representing ^{ing} combats between Russians and Tartars, are considered his most important work. He executed a number of works for the theatre: for the Russian ballet he painted the scenery in Prince Igor, for Stravinsky the setting of Peer Gynt. He wrote the libretto for and also designed the scenery and the costumes of The Rite of Spring, for which Stravinsky composed the music. After the Russian revolution of 1917 he settled in America, and his art grew more and more abstract, tending towards occult mysticism. In 1924 he undertook a journey to India, which gave him new inspiration for his later work.

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