

ROERICH SOCIETY

July 25, 1933

To the Trustees of the Roerich Museum:

As president of the French Roerich Association, I herewith protest that the two panels "Kazan" and "Kerjenez" created by Professor Nicholas Roerich for the Kazan Railroad Station at Moscow have been brutally destroyed.

Professor Roerich's art being considered amongst the leading masterpieces in the whole civilized world, it is most regrettable that the world should have to learn of such negative reactions that are taking place in this twentieth century.

In the name of art and Culture may the educators not only of Russia, but of all civilized nations prevent such occurrences in the future.

Cordially yours,

Madame Laure Kahn-Weil
President of French Roerich Society in N.Y.

18 SEP 1933

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Sociedad Cultural Colombianos de Amigos Del Museo de Roerich

August 2nd, 1933

Dear Mr. Horch:

It has pained us to learn that some official of the Soviet Government has destroyed the paintings by Professor Roerich which once adorned the walls of the Kazan Rail road Station at Moscow.

Why such vandalic act has been perpetrated is difficult to understand unless some unexplainable mission of the destructive forces uses such means to lend to the manifestations of the spirit the Phoenix like quality which makes them emerge from their ashes with new life more expressive, more brilliant, and more beautiful.

Perhaps it serves to give us cause to meditate and establish the contrast between the creative and the destructive. Perhaps it is to show us that vigilance must be ever constant, and a relentless watchfulness is indispensable to protect the fruits of art and culture from its ever present enemies.

May those who have the fragments keep them in order to reconstruct the whole in the near future. In the meantime, with pain and compassion we protest for this unfortunate deed.

Faithfully yours,

Roerich's Colombian Cultural Association

Alfredo J. de Leon
Maureen de Leon

President

18 SEP 1933

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SOCIETY OF FRIENDS OF ROERICH MUSEUM
310 RIVERSIDE DRIVE
NEW YORK CITY

August 3, 1933

Mr. Louis Horch,
President of Roerich Museum
310 Riverside Drive
New York City

My dear Mr. Horch:

It has come to our knowledge that two panels painted by Prof. Nicholas Roerich, for the Moscow Railroad Station, have recently been removed and ruthlessly destroyed by representatives of the Soviet Government.

May we ask you, as President of the Roerich Museum, to register our earnest protest against such indefensible vandalism, such barbaric violation of the very foundations of civilization and culture.

The works of Master Artists are universally recognized as belonging to all Humanity and all time. Especially is this true of the works of Prof. Roerich who has so magnanimously dedicated his life and his genius for the betterment of humanity. In the name of Humanity we appeal to all who are privileged to have in their keeping any such priceless treasures created by the Spirit of Man, to guard and preserve them in reverent joy, as links of life essential, which will bring the struggling nations together in spiritual harmony and helpfulness.

Can Russia hope to win recognition as a civilized nation if it desecrates the spiritual heritage of our common humanity!

While we protest in sorrow and indignation, we cherish still the hope that this may have been an unfortunate and irreparable accident, and that the proper authorities will see to it that there is no further harm of this kind committed.

Faithfully

Bertha Kunz Baker
for
Poetry and Drama Guild of Roerich Museum

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Grupo Interamericano de La Sociedad Roerich

August 7, 1933

Dr. Louis Horch
New York, N.Y.

My dear Dr. Horch:

We have been informed of the atrocious vandalism performed at the Kazan Railroad Station at Moscow on two beautiful and valuable panels painted by that great master and philosopher Professor Nicholas Roerich, whom the world should revere and of whom Russia should be proud of having been his cradle.

The Grupo Interamericano, which represents the ideals of the intellectual elite of Latin America, protests vigorously against such cultural crime. The "Criminals" must be punished as outlaws.

The creative work of artists are children who are born by the most exquisite senses of man.

Russia, who today vainglories of her admiration for art, blemishes it. Russia should be proud of Roerich, of his great movement for the preservation of art, for his creation of the Banner of Peace, Russia should bow to him for the finest things in man, love, beauty and art are found in him.

Allow the Grupo Interamericano to join the great caravan of adherers to protest against the scene of cultural slaughter.

Yours very truly,

Pedro Juan Labarthe