



CHURCH OF ST. VLASSY (YAROSLAVL)
by
Nicholas Roerich

**YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED
TO
ATTEND AN EXHIBITION OF
BOOKS OF SOVIET RUSSIA**

Arranged Through the Cooperation of the
**UNION OF SOVIET SOCIETIES FOR FRIENDSHIP
AND CULTURAL RELATIONS WITH FOREIGN COUNTRIES**

May 19 through July 19, 1963

During this period the Museum will also
show a special exhibition of Paintings of
Ancient Russia by Nicholas Roerich.

Loaned by the OAKLAND ART MUSEUM

GALLERY HOURS

Daily except Saturday from 2 to 5 p.m.

Admission Free

Nicholas Roerich Museum

319 West 107th Street, New York 25, N.Y. UNiversity 4-7752

"A good book is the precious life-blood of a master-spirit, embalmed and treasured up on purpose to a life beyond life."

Milton wrote the above in his *Areopagitica* in 1644, and nearly 300 years later Maxim Gorky referred to a book as "the most intricate and greatest wonder of all the wonders created by man," indicating that a good book, whether 17th century English or 20th century Russian is something to be treasured and marvelled at. Books and their contents span many centuries, and today, more than ever, books span continents and link peoples — bringing them closer and within a greater understanding — and creating a massive force for world peace the importance of which grows with the years.

It is not expected that everyone attending the Nicholas Roerich Museum's Exhibition of Books of Soviet Russia will be able to read the printed words contained therein, but it is hoped that such an Exhibition will by its presence draw the attention of those interested in the peripheral arts of the bookmaker — printing, binding, illustration, graphic arts, and so forth. And for those not interested in any of these things there still remains the delight of seeing Mark Twain and his Mississippi as pictured by a Russian artist (who perhaps used his own great river the Volga as a model) and of seeing Twain's words themselves printed in the unfamiliar but beautiful Cyrillic characters.

The contribution to World Literature by Russia occupies an honored place, highlighted by the work of such men as Pushkin, Gogol, Nekrasov, Dostoevsky, Tolstoi, Chekhov, Gorky, and others, whose books are represented in the Exhibition. Recently, Russia's tumultuous history and changing destiny, have brought to the surface new ideas, new writers, and a powerful drive toward the future. A new literature has arisen, virile, constructive, and, as in the past, bearing the compassion and humanity characteristic of its heritage.

Among the popular and beloved writers of today whose works are represented in the Exhibition are Sholokhov, Simonov, Korneichuk, Polevoi, Leonov, A. Tolstoi, Stelmach, Ehrenburg, and others.

Poetry is much loved by the Russian people, and recently the way has opened for a number of talented young poets, and has become a powerful means of self-expression in all realms of life. Contemporary poets are represented by Tvardovsky, Aseev, Voznesensky, Rogdestvensky, Yevtuchenko, Kupola, Shevchenko, Rustaveli, Kotlyarevski, and by two anthologies — "The Poets of Leningrad" and "The Poets of Moscow."

In the realm of Art Publishing, splendid editions dedicated to painting, sculpture, graphic arts, and design are manufactured in Russia. Among those on view are such examples as "Aivazovski," "Graphic Artists," "Kustodyev," "State Russian Museum," "Hermitage Ikons," "Bolshoi Ballet," and monographs of the works of such artists as Rokotov, Repin, Grabar, Levitan, and others.

As in America, children now have a vast literature of their own. On exhibit are books dealing in all things from Fairy Tales to Science and Space Flight, written by such favorites as Gaidar, Marshak, Chukovsky, Bazhov, Katayev, Ostrovsky, Polevoi, to mention a few, and illustrated by the country's leading graphic artists.

The present Exhibition of Books of Soviet Russia, sent to the Nicholas Roerich Museum through the cooperation of the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries, attempts to show some of the great works of Russian Literature, past and present, as they appear published in Russia today.

"When we shall again learn to love a book disinterestedly, as a pure creation of art and heartily safeguard it, then also some of the most difficult of life's problems will solve themselves — without discussions, without evil thoughts and clashes."

Nicholas Roerich (*Himavat*)

Special arrangements can be made with the Museum for groups to whom talks and explanations pertaining to certain authors will be given.



NICHOLAS ROERICH MUSEUM

319 West 107th Street, New York 25, N. Y. UNiversity 4-7752

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Dear Mr. and Mrs. Parker,
Am sending you hearty greetings
and the catalogue of our current
exhibition "Books of Soviet Russia". It
is a beautiful exhibit and attracts
many visitors.

I trust you are both well —

Best wishes, cordially

Sina Fosdick

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PAX CULTURA

September 1, 1964

Mrs. V. Scott Parker
Khokhlovsky
Per. 15 Apt. 39
Moscow, U.S.S.R.

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Curator

My dear Valentina:

I have just returned from my vacation and found your dear letter. I cannot tell you how sad I was in reading it, realizing that you have lost your wonderful life companion. When I first read about it in our newspapers late in May, I could not believe my eyes that such a thing happened. When I last saw him, I saw before me a man of robust health, in the full power of his remarkable intellect, and great kindness for everyone. The fact that he went so suddenly makes me hope that he didn't suffer greatly. Of course, the heart is the most sensitive organ and, unfortunately, some of our best people, because of their great spiritual and intellectual activities, are apt to suffer from heart disease.

I am happy that you are continuing Ralph's work with Mr. Hurok - I am confident that your splendid knowledge of both languages, Russian and English, will be greatly valued by Mr. Hurok and his staff. Should you want some of the eminent Russian artists who are being engaged by Mr. Hurok in their concert work in America, to come to see our Museum, I will be very happy to welcome them. All you have to do is just write me in advance so that I could telephone Hurok's office or the Consulate and arrange the best possible time for them to come to see us.

Regarding Irene Lunacharskaya, I certainly would love to welcome her at our Museum, but you did not write when she is coming - she may have already been here! I have been away during the last five weeks and arrived home only yesterday. You also do not give me the addresses of Prof. Engelhardt and Dr. Paul Doty - it is very doubtful that I can locate them. I knew A.V. Lunacharsky - he was a great man.

The ex-libris of Ralph is unusual - I think you have a great talent for drawing and I wonder if you use it otherwise. The epitaph on his stone is very beautiful - he was a truly dedicated man in his work and in his great love for your country.

I trust your dear daughters will be of great consolation

(over)

to you but, above all, you will find your consolation in the work of Ralph, in which you always took such great interest.

With much love to you and hoping to hear from you again, I remain,

As ever, yours,

Sina

SF:glc

P.S. I have telephoned the U.S.S.R. Mission to the UN - the Public Relations Office - but they did not know whether Miss Lunacharskaya is still here. I will try to telephone them again later.



PAX CULTURA

S. Fosdick, USA

NICHOLAS ROERICH MUSEUM

319 West 107th Street, New York 25, N.Y.

PM
25 NOV
1964

3 12

Дорогой друг

Мно ранний привет к
Новому году и пожелания
от сердца в Вашем горе.
Получила от Вас и узнала
со статьей о Вашем труде
какой это был прекрасный
заголовок! Очень благодарю
за статью - показываю
друзьям.

Как недавно праздновали
30 летие со дня рождения Ник.
Конст. Рериха - вышло
возмше брошюра -
Всего светлого
Ваша З. Э. Роедик

Nicholas Roerich, 1874-1947

LAHUL

В. Паркер
Хохловский пер. 15, кв. 39
Москва, СССР

Mrs. V. Parker
Kholovskiy Per. 15, kv. 39
MOSCOW

USSR

airmail

МЕЖДУНАРОДНОЕ

МОСКВА
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