

REEU NEWSLETTER

RUSSIAN/EAST EUROPEAN STUDIES PROGRAM
Jackson School of International Studies

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Bob Walsh and the Goodwill Games

For those who have been living in a cave the past four years, it is our duty to inform you that the Goodwill Games are coming to Seattle this summer. The largest athletic event this side of the Olympics, the Goodwill Games originated somewhere in the recesses of Ted Turner's mind in 1985. In the wake of the American boycott of the Moscow Games in 1980 and the Soviet boycott of the Los Angeles Games in 1984, Ted Turner came to local Seattle promoter, Bob Walsh, with the concept of an athletic event which would be alternately hosted in the Soviet Union and the United States. Seattle was offered the opportunity to be the first U.S. host city for the 1990 games. The concept has now become a reality which will actualize on July 20th with the Welcoming Ceremonies for the athletes in Husky Stadium and last until the Closing ceremonies on August 5th. We recently interviewed Bob Walsh, President of the Goodwill Games Organizing Committee. The following article reflects some of his observations.

Bob has been affiliated with the Goodwill Games since January 1986, or six month before the first games took place in Moscow. While holding the games in Seattle may now sound like an excellent opportunity to foster the new spirit of openness in U.S.-Soviet relations, Bob says that the idea did not meet with instant approval by the Seattle community when first proposed. Washington D.C. was also initially hesitant about the idea. According to Bob, President Reagan even refused to grant visas to some athletes to participate in the 1986 Goodwill Games in Moscow.

The prevailing mood has certainly shifted since then. Bob points out that the attitude of the current President and his administration is now quite supportive. Just recently Bob met with several members of the

President's staff. He notes that a special Task Force, under the direction of V.P. Quayle, has been formed, which consists of representatives from twenty government agencies. The President himself is on record with official expressions of approval and encouragement for the Games. As for the future, Bob naturally hopes that the Games will continue, although their format cannot be foreseen. Right now, the 1994 Games are set to take place in Moscow and Leningrad. Ultimately, the future of the games will rest with Turner and the Soviets.

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(University of
Washington, Seattle).*

Bob emphasizes that there are major differences between the 1990 Goodwill Games and those of four years ago. The current Games are being organized by the Seattle Goodwill Games Organizing Committee, a non-profit organization. TBS has merely purchased the television rights. In 1986 TBS organized the event, which Walsh believes was a serious mistake. While the impression persists that Turner originally organized the Games to boost his sagging television network, the fact is that the Games lost money. Walsh feels that this was inevitable, as television stations are not experienced in organizing such large-scale events. He believes that creating a non-profit organizing committee was the only way to make the Games successful. While the Committee doesn't expect to make a profit, Walsh is confident that neither will they take a loss (and thereby burden the city with a large debt). The community, in fact, is expected to benefit in many respects. For example, the University will certainly gain from the installation of the new track at Husky stadium, which will serve as the venue for the track and field competition. In addition, any profit that they might make will be donated to Washington amateur athletics.

Another significant difference between the 1986 games and those of '90 is the scope of the project. The first Goodwill Games was strictly an athletic event. While this year's Games promises to be an even greater competition between the world's top athletes, the Seattle Goodwill Games offers far more than athletics. The associated Arts Festival is already challenging the athletic competition in interest and importance. There will be three major art exhibitions--two in Seattle and one in Tacoma--of works from the Soviet Union, most of which have never before been seen in the United States. The Bolshoi Ballet, the crown jewel of the Soviet arts scene, will be performing *Ivan the Terrible* and other repertory pieces. A combined company of the Bolshoi and Kirov opera companies, along with some important American singers, will perform Prokofiev's *War and Peace* for the first time in almost twenty years in the U.S. Moscow's Sovremennik Theater will make its debut in the U.S. There will be a Goodwill Games Film Festival, featuring Soviet and Eastern European films. A music festival of the *Shostakovich Quartet* is being developed. And these are but the most publicized of the many excellent Games-related artistic events that we can look forward to in Seattle this summer.

Such a full schedule has naturally kept the Organizing Committee busy. As its President, Bob has spent a lot of time in the Soviet Union in the last four years. He says he flies over about every two months. This has put him in a fortunate position to witness the changes going on there, and his first-hand impressions conflict with the more positive reports presented in the media. While he readily admits that change is necessary, he feels that things have gotten a lot worse for most Soviet citizens in the past four years. There has been a sharp increase in

crime; a growing unemployment problem, as enterprises are allowed to fail and workers are laid off; and greater shortages of consumer goods, including food. While he is quick to state that the old system didn't work well, its one virtue was that at least it was stable. Nobody worked but everybody had a job. People made their 300 rubles a month at their jobs and another 1,000 on the black market--no doubt with items stolen from the state--and they knew how to manage. Also, they knew far less about the outside world, and therefore had less cause for discontent. Now, everything is different. In Bob's opinion, Gorbachev is the most unpopular leader since Stalin. As history confirms, reformers are often disliked because they bring change, and change is invariably upsetting to most people. Bob sees it as especially hard on older people.

One result of the lessening of control has been a rise in crime, violence and anti-Semitism. Under the old system, Jews were discriminated against; they couldn't emigrate or rise above a certain level. Now, many of the injustices have been ameliorated, but there has been a backlash of anti-Semitism. Bob says that it has become dangerous for Jews to walk the streets at night. He says that he recently was asked to accompany some friends back to their apartments in the evening because they were afraid to go alone.

Bob met his wife Nina during his visits to the Soviet Union. She was one of the translators assigned to him during the summer of 1987. They were married the following year. He says they are the first U.S.-Soviet couple to be married in the U.S. without Soviet permission that has been recognized by the Soviet government. Nina maintains her Soviet citizenship and still travels with him on his visits to the Soviet Union as his translator.

Among his most prized possessions from the Soviet Union (after his wife, of course) is the Memorial Medal recently awarded to him by the Supreme Soviet for his co-ordination of relief efforts for victims of the Armenian earthquake. He organized flights with rescue workers, medical assistance, and supplies beginning the day after the earthquake. He got the first plane into Armenia, a Flying Tiger 747 with 50 doctors. Due to the nature of the emergency and the enormity of the disaster, the Soviets allowed people and flights into Armenia, bypassing the usual channels. Still, in order to normalize and oversee the delivery of aid sent from all over the world, Bob was asked by the Soviets to serve as a clearinghouse for shipments to the victims.

Art Into Life: Russian
Constructivism 1914-32

The first large-scale exhibition devoted to Russian Constructivist art, primarily from the 1920's, will be presented in Seattle and Minneapolis in 1990. "Art Into Life: Russian Constructivism 1914-32" is being organized by the Henry Art Gallery (UW), the USSR Ministry of Culture, and the E.V.Vuchetich National Art Production Union (in association with the Walker Art Center, Minneapolis). It will premiere July 4-September 2, 1990 at the Henry Art Gallery, as a major cultural offering in conjunction with the Goodwill Games and the Goodwill Arts Festival. Following the Seattle showing, an expanded version will be given at the



Walker Art Center and it will then travel to Moscow for a special showing in spring 1991 at the State Tretyakov Gallery.

The phrase "Art into Life" was commonly used during the Constructivist period to express the fervid spirit of a generation of young artists who suddenly found themselves participating in one of the great dramas of early 20th-century history--the rebuilding of Russian society after the 1917 Revolution that swept the old tsarist order from power.

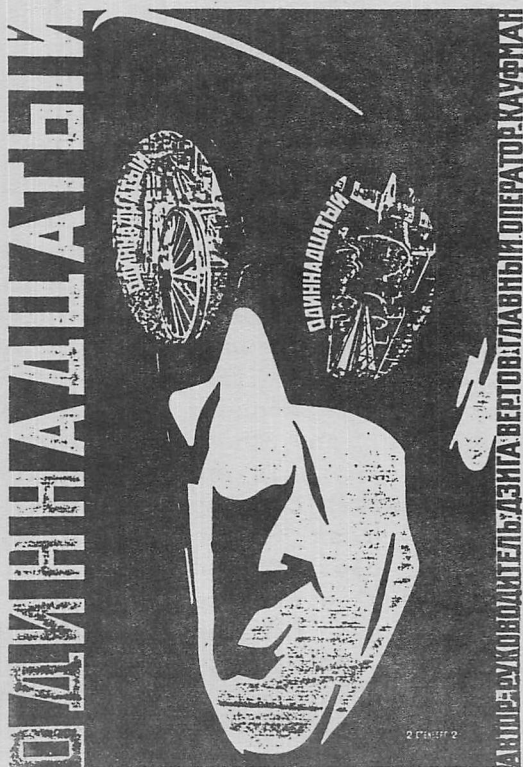
"Art Into Life" will illuminate this vividly creative epoch when young artists abandoned their studios in favor of the streets, schools, factories, and theaters, where they worked to serve their vast new public. In their enthusiasm, they turned their talents to the creation of a remarkable array of objects. These ranged from agitprop manifestations such as posters and orators' stands to objects for everyday use such as clothing, textiles and furniture. They also pioneered new approaches to architecture, theater design and photography.

Russian Constructivism, shaped by compelling aesthetic as well as historical forces, first took root in 1914 and began flowering around 1921. Highlighting that memorable era when Russian avant-garde art attracted worldwide attention, the exhibition will include many examples by Constructivism's leading exponents, virtually all of whom worked in a

variety of artistic media to express their ideas. Among those to be represented are Vladimir Tatlin, Aleksandr Rodchenko, Varvara Stepanova, Lyubov Popova, Konstantin Medunetskii, the Stenberg and Vesnin brothers, Gustav Klucis and Ivan Leonidov.

Despite its dedication to the creation of a new society, the Constructivist movement was curtailed by Stalin's 1932 order abolishing artist organizations and effectively establishing Socialist Realism as the approved art for the state. In the following decades much Constructivist art was destroyed or sequestered from public view; however, important examples have survived in the storerooms of several Soviet museums, notably the State Tretyakov Gallery and the architecture museums in Moscow, as well as the Russian Museum in Leningrad. In addition, important paintings, drawings, and sculptures by leading Constructivist artists, including examples by Rodchenko and Stepanova, were preserved by the artists' families. Works from these Soviet public and private collections, supplemented by key loans from museum and private collections in the United States and Western Europe, will be included in this highly detailed exhibition.

Russian Constructivism radically transformed Western notions about theater set design, typography, poster design and cinema. Much of the work continues to look startlingly contemporary and remains a source of inspiration for artists and architects today. Consisting of over 300 objects, "Art Into Life" will occupy the Henry Art Gallery's entire exhibition space and include many works which have never been shown in the U.S. American and European scholars will participate in a major international symposium to be held at the Henry Art Gallery in July 1990. In addition, it will present a program of early 20th Century cinema. A 276-page catalogue, co-published by the Henry Art Gallery and Rizzoli International Publications, Inc., will contain essays by leading American, Soviet and Western European scholars, as well as previously unpublished Constructivist documents and artworks.



Imre Boba Retires

After 30 years devoted to scholarship and teaching at the UW, our much honored professor of medieval East European history will be retiring this Spring. Imre Boba is a fascinating and delightful man, who has done much to enrich our program and the education of the many who have studied under him. His discoveries about the formation of states in East Europe have brought him international recognition. The most famous and controversial of these revelations concerns Boba's conclusion that the great Moravian empire was in fact neither great, nor an empire, nor located where it was said to be--in Czechoslovakia--but in Yugoslavia. This re-positioning signifies a different field of operation for the founders of Eastern Orthodoxy, Cyril and Methodius, and has been warmly applauded by the Yugoslavs. Boba was even honored by the Bulgarian Academy with two medals. Czech and Slovak scholars, on the other hand, have been understandably chagrined at the news, and prefer to stand by the old theory, though this involves rejecting such evidence as the bones of St. Methodius discovered by Boba in Mitrovica (ancient Sirmium) just west of Belgrade.

It is ironic that Boba's research has resulted in flattered and bruised national egos, since the spirit of the man and his intentions run exactly counter to the outcome. Born in Hungary in 1919 of a Polish father and a Hungarian mother ("these two countries were among the few in the area that got along"), Boba was sent to live with relatives in Poland after the death of his father (1930). Nine years later, before the outbreak of the War, he recrossed the Hungarian border, where he graduated from the only high school in Europe where Polish was then taught.

Boba was impressed as a child with how many problems in the world are caused by an exaggerated sense of nationalism. His instinct was to side with the minority group in each town and village of his childhood--with the Poles when surrounded by Ukrainians; with the Hungarians when everyone was cheering a Polish team. With a bent towards math, physics, and chemistry, Boba sensed that his particular ability was for precision and rationality. In choosing history for his field of study, he hoped to be able to clarify issues commonly blurred by patriotic fervor.

He received his Absolutorium in History and Philology from the University of Budapest in 1944. During WW II Boba worked for the Polish underground in Hungary. For his contribution to the Polish resistance, smuggling Poles across the border to the West, Boba received the Military Cross of Merit from General Anders, Commander of the Polish Army. When the war ended, Boba was assigned to the Polish Army in Italy, and with them settled in England.

In 1952 Boba joined Radio Free Europe (Munich) as a research librarian, and, later, assistant to the political advisor. His wife Elizabeth, an American, was administrative assistant in the Monitoring

section there. Seven years later, as communism seemed eternally ensconced in East Europe, Boba decided to realize his aspirations to become a professor, and the family (including by now two daughters) made plans to move to the U.S. Under the guidance of Prof. Donald Treadgold, Boba completed work on his Ph.D. in History at the UW in 1962, his dissertation being entitled "Northmen, Nomads & Slavs." In the same year he accepted an appointment to the University faculty. During the early years of his association with the UW, he was also consultant to the Suzzallo Library's Slavic Section, building the foundation of the current East European collection.

Rzeczpospolita Polska



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ZOSTAŁ NADANY

Dr. Ince BOBA

SREBRNY

KRZYŻ ZASŁUGI

Z MIECZAMI

NACZELNIK WZŁ

W. Anders
General dyw.

LONDYN, DNIA 15. VIII. 1947

Over the many years of his professorship in the Department of History and the Jackson School, Professor Boba has continued to research the formation of East European states. He has been a member of several international organizations and a frequent participant in international conferences dealing with his area of interest. Recently Boba was honored with a *Festschrift*. The last issue of the *Ungarn-Jahrbuch* was dedicated to Professors Boba and Bogay (of Munich, who collaborated with him on scholastic issues).

Military Cross of Merit,
signed by General Anders

Boba speaks of his coming retirement with typical philosophical amusement. After concluding the teaching aspect of his academic career, he expects to devote a greater part of his time to research and writing. In progress now are the first two books of a 10-volume history of East Europe edited by Professors Treadgold and Sugar (five volumes have been published to date). Boba says he began this project 25 years ago and can now foresee an end. Otherwise, he is constructing a history of Transylvania and of some lesser known 'lost kingdoms' of East Europe such as Slavonia (in the Balkans) and the 10th Century independent realm of the Slavniks which long lay "unnoticed" between Bohemia, Hungary, and Poland.

We will miss Professor Boba, for he is irreplaceable. We thank him for the time he has been here with us, and wish him an enjoyable and creative retirement.

Liliana Ruxandoiu Arrives

Liliana Ruxandoiu joined the Slavic Languages and Literature Department in February as a Fulbright visiting associate professor. She will teach ROM 401-402-403 (Elementary Romanian) Spring and Summer Quarters. For the next academic year she plans to add to her course schedule an introduction to Romanian culture and civilization, as well as an introduction to the history of the Romanian language (which might be interesting for students in Romance languages also).

Born in Bucharest, Liliana Ruxandoiu received her M.A. in Philology from the University of Bucharest in 1962, and her Ph.D. from the same university in 1970. In 1970/71 she did research at Indiana University, Bloomington, and gave talks at the University of Chicago and University of Washington, Seattle. She was a participant in the Salzburg Seminar in American Studies (1980). Dr. Ruxandoiu presented papers at many international meetings. This summer she has been invited to be a guest speaker of the Holston Language Association (Bristol, TN).

Dr. Ruxandoiu has written books on Romanian dialects, on the Romanian language between the XIIth and the XVth centuries, and on sociolinguistics. A new work, *Narrative and Dialogue in Romanian Prose: Elements of the Pragmatics of Fiction* (Romanian Academy Publishing House, Bucharest), will come out this summer. Her publications also include studies and articles in series and collections and in Romanian and foreign journals. They encompass a large number of problems: stylistics, pragmatics, phonology, sociolinguistics, and dialectology.

At the University of Bucharest she teaches the history of the Romanian language and Romanian dialectology, as well as special courses (pragmatics, sociolinguistics, and comparative linguistics). Her husband, Pavel Ruxandoiu, teaches Romanian folklore at the same university. He will join her in Seattle this coming autumn.

Soviet Theater in Seattle

The Intiman Theatre has scored a major coup. They will be hosting Moscow's Sovremennik (Contemporary) Theatre company for two productions this summer. The Sovremennik is one of the most celebrated theatre groups in the Soviet Union. It is the only Soviet theatre company participating in the 1990 Goodwill Arts Festival. This will be their first appearance in the United States. Founded in 1956 by young actors Oleg Efremov, Igor Kvasha, Galina Volchek (its current artistic director), and Lilia Tolmachova, among others, the Sovremennik was born not long after Stalin's thirty year reign. During this time of widespread social change known as "The Thaw," the company drew wide public attention and support by presenting previously forbidden material which addressed some of the problems of Soviet life. After Khrushchev's fall from power and the return to stricter political control over the arts, each Sovremennik production underwent the scrutiny of censors and bureaucrats. Many plays simply could not be performed. The Sovremennik was traditionally at the forefront of the fight for freedom of expression in the theatre. Today, the Sovremennik is still in the vanguard of Soviet theatre.

The Sovremennik Theatre will be presenting two plays during the 1990 Goodwill Arts Festival. The first will be a production of Chekhov's "The Three Sisters," starring Marina Nayolova, a major star in the Soviet Union, in the leading role of Masha. It will open July 3rd and run through July 21st at the Intiman Playhouse. The second production, to be co-sponsored by the Goodwill Arts Festival will be a new play by Alexander Getman based on the memoirs of Evgenia Ginzburg. Ginzburg was the mother of emigré novelist Vasilii Aksyonov. A member of the Communist party during the 30's, she was one of millions affected by the Stalinist purges. She was arrested and sent to prison, first in solitary confinement, later to the labor camps in Kolyma. The first volume of her memoirs, in Russian "Krutoi Marshrut" (literally Hard Road), has been translated into English under the title "Into the Whirlwind." This production opens July 25th and runs through August 5th. It will play at the Bagley Wright Theatre. Both plays will be performed in Russian, with simultaneous translation provided via Sennheiser headsets. For ticket information, call the Intiman Box Office at 626-0782.

The Intiman Theatre is requesting volunteers to assist the troupe of sixty Soviet actors who will be here for six weeks. They need volunteers to help with hospitality and transportation. Ability to speak Russian is helpful, but not required. In addition, some people are needed who speak Russian to help with the actors. Anyone interested in volunteering should call Meg Stevenson at 626-0775.

Leszek Kolakowski to Give
Spring Distinguished Lecture

Leszek Kolakowski, philosopher, scholar, and author of the definitive 3-volume *Main Currents of Marxism* will present a talk, "Mind and Body: Ideology and Economy in the Collapse of Communism." The lecture will be held at 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, May 1, in Meany Theater on the UW campus. It is a non-ticketed event, open to the public and free of charge (call 543-7327 for more information).

Kolakowski was professor and chairman of the Section of History of Philosophy at Warsaw University until his expulsion by the government in 1968 for political dissent. Following his removal he became visiting professor at McGill University in Montreal and subsequently taught at the University of California at Berkeley and at Yale. A Fellow of the British Academy and a Foreign Member of the American Academy of Arts and Science, Kolakowski currently divides his year between Oxford, where he is a Senior Research Fellow at All Souls College, and the University of Chicago, where he is a member of that institution's prestigious Committee on Social Thought. He has authored over 30 books which deal primarily with the history of philosophical and religious ideas and the philosophy of culture. He has also written plays and three books of tales.

It's Not Tchaikovsky, but it's Russian

Talk about timing! Barely two and a half months before the Goodwill Games come to Seattle, Meany Hall is offering its own glasnost connection. On May 4, Russian rock and roll band Zvuki Mu--the Soviet Union's number one underground band (no longer underground due to Glasnost)--will be performing at Meany at 8 p.m. The band's visit to Seattle will be part of a two-week tour of the West Coast. For Meany Hall staff, this concert is big news indeed. "Rock and roll is not a normal thing for Meany," comments marketing director Jan Steadman. "This is truly something that will probably be a 'never before, never again' situation."

For those unfamiliar with Russian rock, Steadman offers a colorful description of the band: "It's the farthest thing you can imagine from American rock and roll. Their music and their movements are very harsh. It's very interesting." And the band's leader? "The best way I can describe him is as an adult rock and roll Pee Wee Herman," Steadman says with a laugh. "His body movements are just like Pee Wee's." The band has already made it onto the cover of *Rolling Stone* magazine.

For reservations or ticket information, contact Meany Hall at 543-4880.

NEWS FROM SLAVIC LANGUAGES & LITERATURE DEPARTMENT

Slavic L & L Team to Help Bulgarians Computerize Study Programs

Professor James Augerot and graduate student Jim Hoath from the Department of Slavic Languages and Literature spent the quarter interim week at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences in Sofia. After a series of productive discussions, a tentative agreement was reached whereby the two will collaborate with the Bulgarians in setting up computer programs in linguistic studies for the Academy. Details will be given in subsequent issues of this Newsletter (stay tuned!).

Russian House Closed for Renovation Spring Quarter

The annual Slavic film festival co-ordinated by residents of the Russian House, a popular spring quarter event in recent years, will not take place due to Russian House's closure for renovation this quarter. Housing and Food Services is beginning a process of interior remodeling and structural upgrading that will span several years and represent a major investment in the building. The current phase will improve the bathrooms and plumbing, and will result in a reconfiguration of some residential and hallway space. Some residents have been accommodated in Hansee and Mercer Halls, while others have preferred to move off campus. The current remodeling project is due for completion in time for the beginning of summer quarter, when Russian House is in greatest demand by students from across the U.S. and Canada. Located across the street from the dorms to be used by the Goodwill Games athletes, Russian House will be the only UW residence hall in the Northeast section of campus that will be open to students this summer.

The House primarily serves students in the Slavic Languages and Literature Department and Russian and East European Studies, though any student of Russian, International Studies, or other disciplines whose program requires research in Russian is eligible for residence there. Russian House residents "in temporary exile" can still be reached at the old telephone number: 543-6820. They are just as busy this quarter as ever answering requests from the public for translators, interpreters, and tutors. Housing and Food Services' investment in the Russian House is clearly not only an investment in the University of Washington's outstanding nationally-recognized Russian language program, it is a recognition of the valuable public service that Russian House offers through its students.

Since House residents have split up for the quarter, they felt it would be too difficult to successfully coordinate such a large project as the film festival. Though we will miss this annual bit of culture, we look forward eagerly to the completion of the remodeling, and will follow further developments at the "Russkii Dom" with interest.

Hosted by the UW Slavic Club,
Slavic Department, and the Russian and East European Studies Program

Sts. Cyril and Methodius Day



Saturday, May 12
7:00 PM
at the
Russian Center
704 19th E., Capitol Hill
(doors open at 6:00 PM)

Tickets:

Students and Seniors \$5

General Public \$8

For further information call: 543-6848

This year's celebration of Sts. Cyril and Methodius Day will be held Saturday night, May 12th, at the Russian Center, 709 19th Ave. E., Seattle. An annual event of long standing, Sts. Cyril and Methodius Day celebrates Slavic and Eastern European culture in food, song and dance. Doors will open at 6:00 p.m.; the program will begin at 7:00 p.m.; dancing and general merriment will follow. More information about tickets and schedule of events will be available by flyer in April. Those wishing to receive a flyer or other information should contact the Slavic Club, DP-32, UW, Seattle 98195, or call David Graber at the Slavic Dept., (206) 543-6848.

From the Baltic to the Pacific

The 12th International Conference on Baltic Studies, entitled "From the Baltic to the Pacific," will be held June 21-4, 1990 at the University of Washington. The conference is sponsored by the Jackson School of International Studies and the Association for the Advancement of Baltic Studies, in cooperation with Pacific Lutheran University. There will also be a pre-conference Symposium on June 20th on Baltic Exchanges at Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma.

Over one hundred scholars are expected to participate. Among the conference attendees and participants will be the Presidents of six or seven major Baltic Universities, including representatives from Vilnius University, Kaunas Polytechnical Institute, the University of Latvia, Riga Technical University, Tartu University, Talinn Technical University and the Estonian Business School. Many of these schools have long and distinguished histories. Tartu was founded in 1632. Riga Technical University was the first technical institute in the Tsar's empire. Baltic educators are using this conference to help formulate educational plans that will guide their countries into the next century.

Plenum sessions have been organized in virtually every conceivable discipline in the humanities and the social sciences. They include sessions in art, bibliography, ecology, folklore, ethnomusicology, history, history of science, linguistics, literature, musicology, sociology, political science, demographics and economics. In addition, there will be plenum sessions on advancing Baltic studies, including a student round table. There will also be a student session on history.

The Keynote Address, scheduled for the opening session at 9:00 a.m., Thursday, June 21, will be given by Dr. Donald W. Treadgold, Professor of Russian History at the University of Washington. Professor Treadgold gave the keynote address at the 2nd Baltic Studies conference twenty years ago. Other special events include a Plenary Session on Changes in Higher Education in the Baltic, also on Thursday, with several rectors in attendance. Thursday evening at 5:15, the participants will embark on a cruise across the Pacific Sound to Kiana Lodge for dinner and entertainment. On Friday June 22nd, a conference luncheon will feature the Presidential Address, given by Andrejs Plakens, President of the AABS. There will also be a AABS membership meeting at 2:00 p.m. On Friday evening, a reception for guests from the Baltic and an evening with Baltic poets will be held. On Saturday evening at 7:00 p.m., there will be a conference reception, banquet and ball.

For further information, contact Gunder King at 535-7251 or write to him at the School of Business Administration, PLU, Tacoma, WA, 98447.

Notes on the Romanian Revolution

Liliana Ruxandoiu

"I accepted also the dead I knew would come, as symptomatic of a new world that would have to be born."

(Mircea Eliade, Autobiography, Part I, Harper & Row, San Francisco, 1981, p.292)

Everything began the first day of the students' holidays (called at that time "winter holidays"). Most people in Bucharest knew very little about what was going on in Timisoara (our largest southwestern town), except through rumors. But there was something oppressive in the air. Like during the XIV Congress of the Communist party. The streets were invaded by armed patrols of both militiamen and civilians, and in all institutions (including the University and its residence halls) special guard measures had been taken. A detailed inspection of all the rooms in the faculty buildings had been officially required on December 20 at noon, aimed at discovering anti-presidential leaflets. Such leaflets had been easily spread at metro stations, using the air stream created by moving trains.

On December 21, with no previous announcement, a large "popular" meeting was convoked in Palace Square (in front of the communist party headquarters, not far from the University). The purpose was to express "people's" complete agreement with the declaration made by Nicolae Ceausescu on Romanian TV, in which events in Timisoara were presented as the action of a restricted group of hooligans, helped by western agents.

It might be added that the students--and their professors--never participated at this kind of meeting, which had become an important part of "political" life in Romania. The president did not trust intellectuals and especially students, who (to paraphrase the classic line of Marxism) had nothing to lose. Apparently, the leaders figured the students' holidays would be a safe time to hold a rally. But the official reasoning proved to be wrong.

On December 21, in the morning, I was in the main philology office (situated on the ground floor), having an informal discussion with a few colleagues. On my way to the University, I had seen the usual staging for the "popular" meetings: people carrying flags, portraits of the two "most beloved" leaders, slogans, all being assembled with a striking lack of enthusiasm. At about 11:30 a.m., instead of the customary applause and ovations directed to "the wisest son of our people," we suddenly heard whistles and boos. Looking outside, we saw large groups

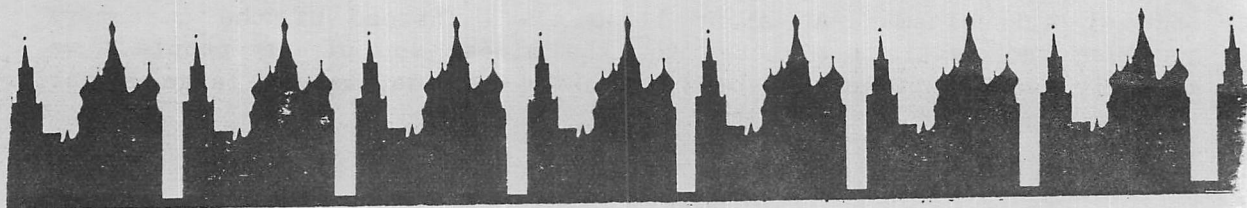
of young people running from Palace Square to Magheru Blvd., pouring down all the narrow streets connecting Victory Avenue with this broad boulevard. They threw down the portraits and trampled them with their feet in an angry frenzy, yelling "Liberty! liberty!" Among these young people we recognized some of our best students.

In a short time, a huge crowd occupied the boulevard, demanding Ceausescu's ouster. The new slogan was "Ceausescu--murderer!" As if in confirmation of the truth of these accusations, tear gas exploded into the street. Automatic rifles started firing, and tanks coming from the southern part of the town charged at great speed in a desperate attempt to disperse the crowd. Soldiers with plexiglass shields appeared, emerging even from the sewer system. The exits to the cross streets were blocked, some with heavy tanks. The boulevard was transformed into a huge trap.

But the unarmed people fighting for their rights did not give up. They were intimidated neither by the bullets, nor by the security and militia forces abusing and arresting them. Waving the flags from which they had torn the communist emblem, they occupied the central part of the capital, refusing to leave until the final victory against the dictatorship. "We won't leave!" became the cry.

All the next morning, the Romanian national radio stations transmitted only "revolutionary and patriotic" (read communist) songs, as if nothing had happened. At noon, the suicide of General Milea (the Minister of Defense) was announced, and a state of emergency decreed. This, however, lasted no more than fifteen minutes, because the army fraternized with the people in the streets. Later, we understood General Milea's act: he had refused to fire against his own people. The drivers of cars coming from downtown were making the victory sign. They already knew that Ceausescu and his wife had fled Bucharest, fearing for their lives.

It was not the end of the fight: in the days after the *ad hoc* created National Salvation Front took power, more blood flowed all over



Romanian Revolution. cont.

the country. People had to face the desperate resistance of heavily armed and well organized Security troops loyal to Ceausescu. Terrorists were all over the place, even in the buildings of our faculty.

From the very beginning, the students and most of their professors went to the University. They tried to organize a permanent guard system, in order to prevent the occupation of the buildings and the destruction of the library and laboratories. At the same time, they went to hospitals to aid the doctors and nurses, brought food to soldiers, helped control people in the metro stations, saved books after the heavy fire at Central University library, moved paintings to safe places at the National Gallery. They did not sleep for hours and hours, they were all over the place, pale and tired, happy and, at the same time, fearful for their young revolution.

When things somehow settled, the students began thinking of the future. Several students' unions were created and a fight for their rights began. They wanted self-determination on all matters that directly affected them. Now they have their own representatives on the faculty board of directors and can reject any decision of this organ. They want to decide themselves what they will learn and from whom, how they will live as students, and how they will find careers. They reject all kinds of paternalism, without rejecting the cooperation of professors they trust.

Maybe some of their demands are exaggerated. But this is normal after so many years of automatically obeying rules imposed "from above," after so many years of complete lack of perspective. Students do not want to study any more Marxism. Girls do not want to undergo a program of military training. They want broader knowledge, they want to travel beyond their small corner of the world, and to feel that they have options. Some steps have already been made. I would like to see all their dreams realized.



Moscow: Treasures & Traditions
(June 1-September 30, 1990)

"Moscow: Treasures & Traditions," a major exhibition of more than 200 works of art dating from the 15th Century to the 20th century, will go on view for the first time outside the Soviet Union on June 1, 1990, at the Washington State Convention & Trade Center in downtown Seattle. The 1990 Seattle Goodwill Games and the related Goodwill Arts Festival served as the impetus for the exhibit's exclusive U.S. tour.

The exhibit is organized by the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibit Service (SITES) and the USSR Ministry of Culture in association with the Seattle Organizing Committee of the Goodwill Games and the Seattle Art Museum. The State Kremlin Museums, the State History Museum, and the State Tretyakov Gallery, among others, contributed to the collection.

On display will be icons, paintings, engravings, fine metalwork of gold and silver, porcelains and historic costumes, which reflect the creative life of Moscow. Noteworthy among the objects on view will be a 15th century icon of the "Miracle of St. George and the Dragon" from the State Tretyakov Gallery. The image of Saint George, zealous defender of the Christian faith, was widespread starting in the 11th century and was subsequently incorporated into the coat of arms of the State of Muscovy.



Highlights from the Kremlin Museums will include: an altar cross (1562) of gold and gems made in the Kremlin Workshops and presented by Czar Ivan IV "the Terrible" (1530-1584) to the Solovetsky Monastery in northern Russia; a 16th century helmet which belonged to his son and heir; and a plate emblazoned with the coat-of-arms of the Russian state (1667) made in the Kremlin Workshops of gold and precious stones and bearing the name and title of Czar Alexei Mikhailovich (1629-1676), son of the founder of the Romanov dynasty.

History and Art

Moscow attained a dominant position as early as the 13th century, emerging decisively as the political and spiritual center of the state of Muscovy during the subsequent 200 years in the struggle to throw off

Mongol-Tartar rule. The skilled artists and craftsmen of Moscow who worked for the court and church, creating luminous icons, jeweled masterworks of gold and silver, and arms and armor of great beauty and practicality, defined a national style that would remain synonymous with the Russian heartland and be revived by future generations of artists.

In the time of Peter the Great, the imperial court was moved to St. Petersburg, but Moscow remained the center of ecclesiastical power and ceremony as well as the country's leading mercantile city. In the eyes of the Russian people, Moscow, not St. Petersburg, continued to symbolize the heart of the nation. From 1700 to 1850 without court patronage, much of the manufacture of Moscow's decorative arts was moved from the city to the aristocratic estates surrounding Moscow where serf artists were trained to produce fine porcelain, glass, and textiles. At the same time, the Moscow School of Painting was established and became known for portraits of distinguished patrons and depictions of the surrounding landscape.

During the War of 1812, in heroic efforts to save the Kremlin and rout Napoleon's army, almost 80 percent of Moscow was burned. Once a city of log houses, Moscow was later rebuilt with brick and stone, which contributed to the revival and renewed interest in painting and the decorative arts.

By the middle of the 19th century, railroads were built and industrialization spread. Moscow, throughout history the largest city in Russia and most prominent commercial center in the country, continued to thrive. Artists turned away from the formal academic traditions found in St. Petersburg and began to look to everyday life for inspiration.

The revival of interest in Russian history at the end of the 19th century created a new tradition in the decorative arts, which focused on Russian historical designs and themes. An enthusiastic appreciation of vanishing folk art traditions and a revived interest in Slavic history completed the rich mixture of influences. Many prosperous merchants and intellectuals such as Pavel Tretyakov avidly collected and displayed the finest of Russian realist paintings in their new town houses while other prominent industrialists introduced to Moscow the most avant-garde works of western Europe.

From these influences, Moscow artists would create the astounding innovation of the 20th century reflected in the works of the Constructivists and others. On view will be "Red Square" (1917) by Vasily Kandinsky (1866-1944) and "Three Peasant Women" (c. 1928) by Kasimir Malevich (1878-1935).

A full-color book, co-published by the University of Washington Press and SITES, will accompany the exhibition.

New Books by the Faculty of the
Russian and East European Studies Program

PROFESSOR DANIEL CHIROT, Director of the Russian and East European Studies Program, *The Origins of Backwardness in Eastern Europe: Economics and Politics from the Middle Ages until the Early Twentieth Century*, ed. by Daniel Chirot, published Fall 1989.

A convincing case is made for very deep roots of current Eastern European backwardness. Its conclusions are suggestive for comparativists studying other parts of the world, and useful to those who want to understand contemporary Eastern Europe's past. Like most of the world, Eastern Europe developed slowly. The weight of established class relations, geography, lack of technological innovation, and wars kept it from growing richer. In the 19th century the West exerted a powerful influence--more political than economic. Nationalism and the creation of newly independent nation-states began to shape national economies, often in unfavorable ways. One of the most important lessons here is that while economics may limit the freedom of action of political players, it does not determine political outcomes. The authors offer no simple explanations but rather a theoretically complex synthesis that demonstrates the interaction of politics and economics.

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR GALYA DIMENT, Slavic Languages & Literature Department, *The Art of Quarreling Selves: Goncharov, Woolf, and Joyce*. Completed, and under consideration by University of Michigan Press.

Analyzes the notion of split autobiographical selves as they appear in *The Common Story* by Goncharov, *Ulysses* by Joyce, and *To the Lighthouse* by Woolf.

PROFESSOR EMERITUS PETER F. SUGAR, History Department, *A History of Hungary*, Peter F. Sugar, General Editor, pub. July 1989

This volume begins with the region's history from geological times to about 900 A.D. Then comes the history of the Hungarians up to that time, and the post 900 A.D. period (the time when the Hungarians appeared in Hungary) gives the history of the country and people up to 1989. Professor Sugar wrote the Preface, Introduction, Epilogue and the chapter on Transylvania, in addition to editing the entire collection of articles and translating articles from German and Hungarian.

Forthcoming Books from our Faculty

DANIEL CHIROT, Director, REEU Program, has a contract with Free Press for a book on modern tyrants, to be published in 1992.

PROFESSOR DONALD W. TREADGOLD, History Department & Jackson School of International Studies, *Freedom: A History*, to be published by the New York University Press, Fall 1990.

This 833 page manuscript traces the development of pluralistic societies towards constitutional government, democracy, and freedom from the ancient Sumerians to the beginning of 1990.

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR KAZIMIERZ POZNANSKI, Jackson School of International Studies, *Economic Policies, Western Technology, and the Polish Crisis* (co-authored), London: MacMillan Co., 1990.

This book analyzes the sources of the protracted economic difficulties in Poland. It demonstrates that in addition to excessive imports, the failures of demand management (i.e., price/wage policy) contributed to the 1979-81 decline. Political stalemate is identified as a key factor in preventing the Polish government from quickly arresting that crisis and forestalling another one in 1989-90.

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR PEDRO RAMET, Jackson School of International Studies, *The Soviet-Syrian Relationship since 1955: A Troubled Alliance* to be published June 1990 by Westview Press.

This book deals with the political, economic and military facets of the Soviet-Syrian relationship from 1955 to 1989, with special attention also to the East European involvement in Syria, and the triangular relationship with the PLO.

Catholicism and Politics in Communist Societies, ed. by Pedro Ramet, to be published in June 1990 by Duke University Press.

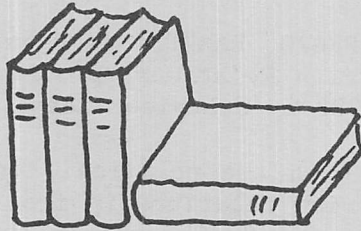
Professor Ramet edited this book, wrote the introduction and a chapter on the Catholic Church in Yugoslavia. In addition, this book includes chapters on the USSR, most of the Eastern European countries, China, Vietnam, Cuba, Pope John Paul II, and the Vatican apparatus.

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR GALYA DIMENT, Slavic Languages & Literature Department, *The New Myth of Siberia: Siberia as Hell and Heaven*, edited by Galya Diment, who is also writing the Introduction and an article.

A variety of contributors examine the myth of Siberia as hell as it appears in the literature of Dostoyevsky, the Decembrists, and the 20th Century literature of the Gulag, as opposed to Siberia as heaven, a myth ever central in the writings of the regional Siberian writers of 19th century and further developed by Rasputin, Zalygin, and Astaf'ev. Several publishers have expressed interest.

VISITING PROFESSOR LILIANA RUXANDOIU, Slavic Languages & Literature Department, *Narrative and Dialogue in the Romanian Prose: Elements of the Pragmatics of Fiction*, Bucharest: Publishing House of the Romanian Academy (to appear this summer).

The author suggests a way of approaching fictional prose rather than stating an original theory of the literary text. Using the conceptual and methodological apparatus of pragmatics, she presents a series of commentaries on some well known Romanian prose writings, focusing on the continuous interference between the conversational and narrative strategies. Conversational as well as politeness strategies in several prose texts are subjected to minute analysis. English abstract and subject index available.



A Week Like Any Other (Novellas & Stories)

by Natalya Baranskaya - in English tr.
Seal Press, Feb. 1990, tr. Pieta Monks

When the title story first appeared in *Novii Mir* in 1969, it created an immediate sensation. Letters of appreciation flowed in from Russian women, grateful to see their plight in print. This was, in fact, the author's intention, as she believed the myth of the Soviet

woman--enduring, strong, nurturing at home, intellectual equal of men on the job--was doing great harm. This role model was put before women unrelievedly in literature as elsewhere, and "women tore themselves to pieces trying to do everything, and still do. They're constantly under stress, they cry suddenly, collapse. Their relationships with their husbands are ruined. Their children fall ill [because of poor daycare conditions]."

"A Week Like Any Other" shows how the excessive demands of her daily life exhaust a young working mother. From early morning til near midnight, the character races frantically to fulfill her obligations at the lab and at home. With very human frailty, she is always enough behind schedule, has always made enough mistakes, to fear being fired or otherwise doomed. It is hard not to sympathize with the heroine, who is so panicked and burdened, so conscientious and self-critical, that the reader is led both to cry and laugh at the hopelessness and absurdity of the impasse she is in.

The author wrote this story after retirement, probably after a life similar to the above. Her husband was killed at the front and she raised two young children by herself. In her writing, she draws heavily on her personal experiences as a single woman, revealing both the strength and vulnerability of such persons. She rejects the feminist label, seeing life in her own way. On the one hand, she deplores the loss of femininity and tenderness among modern business women. She believes having children is natural, and mothers need to be with their children. Then again, she grew up in a period when Russian women were first beginning to work outside the home on a massive scale (born 1907) and remembers this as an exciting time of seemingly endless possibilities. It never occurred to her to not work, and she thinks most Russian city girls today feel the same way.

Baranskaya is currently writing a novel about the war, as seen through women's eyes. In her village, there was no family not left mourning at least one person. "I think those of us who have experienced it must tell those who have not about the full extent of the horror of war." She wants to convey a sense that war does not end when a truce is signed, that pain affects one's whole being and is ineradicable. "People must understand what our war was, and they will understand how it lives on in our emotions. It is not only in our memories and hearts, either that the last war lives on. There are still today many, many crippled survivors of the last world war, men without arms or legs, or both, hidden away somewhere in a hospital or asylum, so completely crippled that nothing remains of the former man. And there are many, many people who were turned insane by their experiences during the last world war."

This is a writer of deep feeling, clear vision, wit, and originality. Her books, both present and to come, should be for many a source of deepened understanding about Soviet society.

Uzbek National Puppet Theater
Jeanne Gabriel

In conjunction with Seattle's Goodwill Games, the Northwest Puppet Center proudly presents the Uzbek National Puppet Theater from Seattle's sister-city, Tashkent. Twelve puppeteers will perform "The Adventures of Fatima" with the traditional and original features of Uzbek puppetry in a particularly vivid fairy tale.

The Uzbek performance opens at the Northwest Puppet Center, 6615 Dayton Ave. N., on Friday, June 1, at 7:30 p.m. and will run for two week-ends. Showtimes are June 2 at 11:00 a.m. & 1:00 p.m., June 3 at 1:00 p.m. & 3:00 p.m., June 8 at 7:30 p.m., June 9 at 11:00 a.m. & 1:00 p.m., and June 10 at 1:00 p.m. & 3:00 p.m. Special weekday shows will be scheduled for schools. Tickets are \$3 child, \$5 adult, and may be purchased in advance at the Phinney Neighborhood Center.

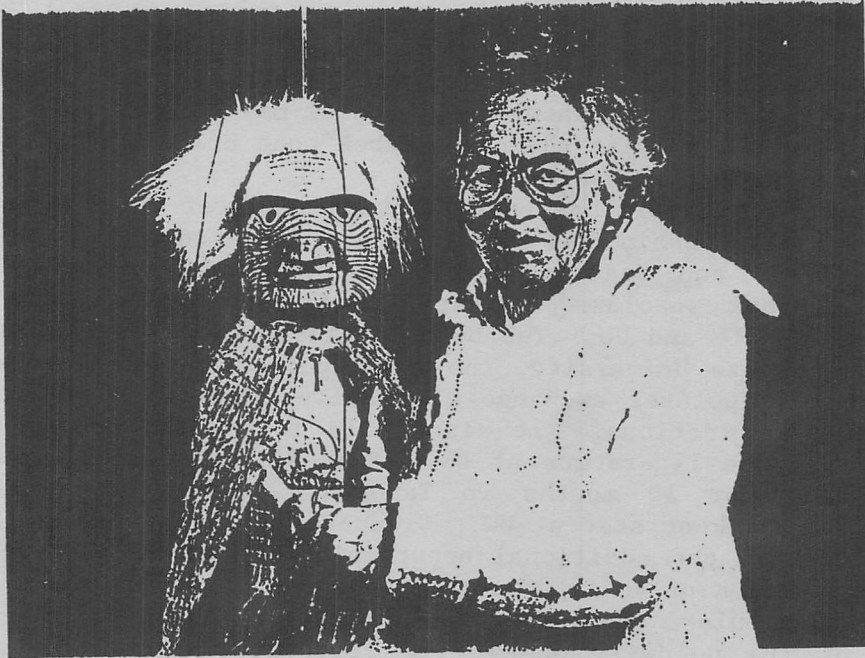
On the evening of June 2, the Northwest Puppet Center will host a Gala Benefit to help cover travel costs. Along with a traditional Uzbek puppet show, an auction of Uzbek artwork and artifacts will take place. Marionettes created by the Carters will be auctioned and stories and songs will be presented by the Elders from the Makah Tribe.

The Uzbek performances in the Northwest complete a cultural exchange between the Northwest Puppet Center and its counterpart in Tashkent. Four Elders from the Makah Tribe will perform "Q'we.ti--Tales of the Makah Tribe" with the Carter Family Marionettes in Tashkent this March. In turn, the Uzbek National Puppet Theater will perform for the Makah Tribe in Neah Bay as part of their tour this June.

Uzbek puppet theater was derived from epic and mythological tales and the art of the puppet show was handed down from father to son. An ancient art, puppet theater was a means of expressing the thoughts and aspirations of the working people. Through comedy or satire, it served as a medium for chronicling daily events. (Puppeteers were sometimes jailed following particularly pointed satire against the ruling khans.)

The Central Puppet Theater of Uzbekistan opened in Tashkent in 1939. It advanced the artistic and moral education of its young audience. Through humor and high artistic development, it made its moral pronouncements on vices such as egoism and greed and edified virtues of kindness, friendship, and cooperation. Today the theater derives its tales from classical literature while continuing in its tradition of folk art. As a prominent puppet theater, it is widely acclaimed for having retained its national features and originality while developing a high level of creative artistry.

Along with the 10 puppeteers, the visiting Uzbek National Puppet Theater will include a director, an artistic director and a translator. Volunteers are needed to host the Uzbek puppeteers in their homes from May 25-June 10. If you are interested in hosting 2 puppeteers, we'd be pleased to hear from you. Call 782-3955 for further information.



Student Association for Inner Asian Studies

Students interested in Inner Asian or Central Asian Studies meet regularly with the purpose of exchanging scholarly information and holding presentations and seminars on the areas of Inner Asia. The students come from a variety of departments, such as: the Russian and Eastern European Studies Program, Anthropology, Asian Languages and Literature, Geography and the Near Eastern Languages and Civilization Program. The Association will conduct a Student Symposium on Inner Asia on April 7, 1990 from 9:00 a.m to 1:00 p.m. in Denny 215. A newsletter of the Association will soon be published. For more information, please contact Bob Beer, Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilization at 543-6003

Uzbek in the Summer

For the second year in a row the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilization will be offering courses in intensive Uzbek during the summer quarter, from June 18 through August 17, 1990. Intensive Elementary Uzbek will be taught by Professor Ilse Cirtautas, Chair of the program. She will be assisted by graduate exchange student Ablahat Ibrahim and Hamit Zakir, both native speakers of Uzbek. Students with at least a first year knowledge of Uzbek may be able to enroll in a special class and work with the noted Uzbek poet Erkin Vohidov, who will be this summer's poet in residence.

Since 1972, Seattle has been Tashkent's sister city. Through the years, this relationship has resulted not only in close cooperation between Tashkent and Seattle, but also between UW and the Seattle community. Uzbek scholars, writers, poets and artists are regular visitors to Seattle and UW. The UW maintains a direct exchange program with Tashkent State University, the major university of the Uzbek SSR. The agreement stipulates exchange of faculty, graduate students, joint research and publications. It also calls for assistance in teaching Uzbek language and literature at UW. Each year two graduate students from UW study for 10 months in Tashkent, while two post-graduate students from Tashkent stay at UW. Graduate and undergraduate students of Uzbek may have the additional opportunity to be selected for a six-month stay in Tashkent to improve their command of Uzbek.

Extracurricular events will include an Uzbek Film Festival, organized by the Goodwill Games Film Festival and introduced by the acclaimed Uzbek director Elyor Eshmuhammedov, presentation of videotapes and documentaries, lectures on Uzbek literature and culture, performance of Uzbek dances and music and preparation of Uzbek national dishes.

Students continuing at the University of Washington may be selected for participation in the exchange programs between UW and Tashkent State University. A limited number of fellowships that can be applied toward tuition, room and board are available. For registration and fellowship information, please contact Professor Ilse Cirtautas, Chair, Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilization, UW, 219 Denny Hall, DH-20, Seattle, WA 98195, Tel. 543-6033.



Summer Language Courses at UW

The Department of Slavic Languages & Literature will be offering a wide range of intensive language courses this summer. As in the past, there are four levels of intensive *Russian* available. Additionally, intensive intermediate *Czech*, taught by a native speaker, will be offered. In February we welcomed Liliana Ruxandoiu, a well-known Romanian linguist, to our faculty (see page 14 for her account of recent events in her country). She will teach Beginning *Romanian* in Spring quarter, and will offer subsequent courses (402, 403) on an accelerated basis during Summer 1990. The entire sequence as well as an advanced course will be repeated beginning Autumn 1990. Additionally, the Department of Near Eastern Languages & Civilization will be offering courses in intensive *Uzbek* at various levels (see preceding page).

Lithuania

Lithuania needs your help! Join "The Friends of Lithuania at the UW." For further information, call Ilse Cirtautas, Chair, at 543-6033.

Uzbek Circle

Students of Uzbek meet regularly on Fridays from 12:30-1:30 p.m. in Denny 215 for the purpose of expanding their comprehension of Uzbek, discussing events in Uzbekistan, listening to lectures on Uzbek literature and culture, and viewing Uzbek films and videotapes. The Uzbek Circle also welcomes visitors from Tashkent. Among the soon-to-arrive visitors are Shavkat Alimov, Minister of Higher Education of Uzbekistan and former president of Tashkent State University. They are expected to be on campus April 16-20, 1990. During the same week Tursun Rinshidov, Vice-President of the Uzbek Academy of Sciences, also will be an honored guest of the Uzbek Circle. Among the visitors to arrive in May is a group of artists of the Uzbek Puppet Theater (see article on p. 23) who will be performing in Seattle. For more information, call the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilization at 543-6003.

Graduate Student Conference--April 20 & 21

REEU will hold its first student conference April 20 and 21. Individual panels will be devoted to industrial crisis in Eastern Europe, music and politics, religion, and processes of reform. The conference will be held in Communications Room 126 from 10 a.m. to 5:45 p.m. on April 20 and 10 a.m. to Noon on April 21. Faculty, students, and general public are welcome to attend the sessions.

Library News

The Slavic Section of the Suzzallo Library is located on the mezzanine level. The Slavic Section office is open 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. daily. Everyone is welcome. We can also be reached by phone, anytime between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Susan Burke joined the staff of the Slavic and East European Section in January, filling the Assistant Slavic Librarian's position vacant since last summer. Susan comes to us from the University of Illinois, where she worked at the Slavic and East European Library.

Political turmoil in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe is bringing about interesting developments in the publishing world as well. New titles are beginning to appear with increasing frequency. In order to keep up with the news from "The Bloc," the following newspaper titles were added to the collection recently:

Adevarul -- Romania. (new in 1990)
Al'manakh Panorama -- Los Angeles
Atmoda -- Independent Latvian paper. In Russian and English
Gazeta Wyborcza -- Solidarity daily
Literarny Tyzdennik -- Slovak. Organ of the Slovak
Writers' Union (available in the Slavic Section)
Literaturnaia Rossiia -- Moscow. Subscription reinstated.
Tygodnik Solidarnosc -- Solidarity weekly.

The following new titles are currently on order:

Argumenty i fakty -- Moscow
Lidove Noviny -- Prague
Literary Gazette International -- Moscow. (English language
version of Literaturnaia Gazeta.)
Romania Libera -- Bucharest
Romania Literara -- Bucharest
Sovietskaia Litva -- Vilnius

OF INTEREST TO HIGH SCHOOL TEACHERS

Summer Course for High School Teachers: Teaching About the USSR

Professor Steve Kerr of the Education Dept., UW, will be offering a new course, designed to provide educators with methods for improving instruction about the USSR. The course examines ways that elementary and secondary teachers can present content about the Soviet Union in a variety of subject areas. Assistance is provided in identifying up to date instructional materials. Special opportunity to learn about the Soviet Union from cultural exchanges arranged in conjunction with the 1990 Goodwill Games and Glasnost era. Diplomatic accords are also highlighted. The course will meet Monday, Wednesday, Friday from 3:30-5:40 p.m. Call 543-2320 or 1-800-543-2320 for a Summer Quarter bulletin, application form, and complete registration instructions. Registration begins April 30. There is a \$25 application fee.

Outreach

Dr. Lawrence W. Lerner, Assistant Director of the Russian and East European Studies Program of the Henry M. Jackson School of International Studies, UW, will be available this summer for consultation with high school social studies teachers. If you would like to discuss your courses and get suggestions about classroom materials, feel free to make an appointment with Dr. Lerner. His phone number is 206-543-4852 and he is located in Thomson Hall 203-A.

Educators Experience the Soviet Union

Dates: 7/17-8/3. Tour will include Moscow, Sukhumi, Tblisi, Leningrad. Open to anyone in the education field. There will be a workshop in Moscow with Russian educators and students. 5 credits available through Antioch University. \$2950 includes all meals, transportation, and accommodations. Tour Director Phyllis Grimes has made eleven trips to the Soviet Union in the last few years. If interested, contact Judith Lowe, Children Around the World Resource Center, POB 40657, Bellevue 98004, before April 20. Or call 643-0172.

Goodwill Film Festival
Capitol Hill Cinemas: July 20-29
(highlighting Uzbekistan & Kazakhstan)

Presented by the Seattle International Film Festival, this ten day festival will feature the world and North American premieres of twenty films from the United States and U.S.S.R. Co-titled "The Forum of Young Cinema," the series will focus on films by and about the young, reflecting the changes at work in our two societies, and how these changes affect the young people of America and the Soviet Union. Seminars about growing up in a post-cold war world will feature film critics and guest speakers. The festival also includes a special showcase of the films of Seattle's sister city, Tashkent, and an exhibition of great film poster art from both countries. Among the films to be shown is Eshmuhammedov's film, "The Shock," which has been highly praised by Gorbachev, and "The Needle" by R. Nugmanov, a young Kazakh filmmaker. Tentatively, the list of titles includes, additionally: "Little Fish in Love" and "Revenge" from Kazakhstan; and from Tashkent: "Little Man in a Big War," "Wolves," and "Soldier's Fairytale." Tickets will be available through the Seattle International Film Festival when the program is announced in May. Look for details or call 324-9996.

Seattle International Film Festival
May 16-June 10, 1990

The Seattle International Film Festival, now in its 16th year, is the largest non-competitive festival in North America, annually featuring over 150 films from 35 countries during a period of 3½ weeks. A complete program guide will be available in the May 8th issue of the *Seattle Times*, as well as at various locations throughout the city. Tickets go on sale May 8th at the Egyptian Theatre (corner of Pine & Broadway). Listed below are the Russian and East European film selection for the festival. Locations as yet unknown. Films will be divided among the Egyptian, Capitol Hill Cinema, and Harvard Exit.

Dni Satmenyia (Days of the Eclipse), Alexander Sokhurov, Director, USSR.

(Filmmaker strongly committed to social issues.) Young doctor goes to the wilds of Central Asia. Destruction of the multi-national state is shown as linked with the forced relocations of the Stalinist era, when cultures and national identities were lost. Spectacular camera work shows influence of Tarkovsky.

Jena Kerosinshika (The Kerosene Seller's Wife), Alexander Kaidanovsky, Director, USSR.

Intriguing, offbeat film about a surgeon betrayed by his evil twin brother and imprisoned. Three years later the brother is chairman of the local Soviet, while his victim is eking out a living as a door-to-door seller of kerosene. Political message here about the evils of corruption, said to be at the core of the Soviet Union's problems. Rich visuals, invariably witty and often startling.

Fontan (The Fountain), Yuri Mamin, Director, USSR.

Hilarious tale of an old man from somewhere in the Asian desert forced to move to a large Russian city to live with his daughter and son-in-law. A devout Moslem who knows no Russian, he is put in charge of the precarious plumbing of a decrepit apartment house. The building is a microcosm of Soviet society, and provides an opportunity for some piercingly funny comments on the political climate currently blowing through the Soviet Union.

Karaul (The Guard), Alexander Rogozhkin, Director, USSR.

Based on a real incident. Newcomer to Military Guard victimized by fellow soldiers, who routinely vent their frustration and aggression according to a pecking order. Humiliation and anger culminate in his shooting the whole fraternity, then being hunted as a criminal. Color briefly replaces black-and-white during the finale, then is clouded over again by a veil of monochrome.

Konec Starych Casu (The End of the Good Old Days), Jiri Menzel, Director, Czech.

(Menzel is director of the 1967 academy award winning film "Closely Watched Trains") *Konec Starych Casu* is a lightweight but disarming comedy of class, sex, and capitalism in post-World War I Czechoslovakia. The film is structured around a series of running gags, misunderstandings and gaucheries. Menzel is adept at low-key humor, and here his timing is perfect as always. Menzel fans will also enjoy his long-banned "Larks on a String" (see below).

Skrivanci Na Nitich (Larks on a String), Jiri Menzel, Director, Czech

Twenty years on the shelf. Bitter-sweet comedy of considerable charm and invention, it satirizes the "re-education" of "bourgeois elements" in the early '50s after the Communist takeover of the

country. Set on a scrap heap close to heavily polluting factories, a small group of "bourgeois" types are forced to do manual labor under the command of a functionary with a working-class background, who does little himself. Daring and provocative for the period, it is at its best when at its blackest.

The Documentator, Istvan Darday and Gyorgyi Szalai, Hungary.

Hungarian husband-wife film-makers depict the rise and fall of a Budapest videotheque. The dilemma confronting post-communist Eastern Europe (and specifically its film culture) is here framed in such a way as to mediate virtually everything through the TV monitor and engage the Soviet cinetheorists of the '20s.

Stan Strachu (State of Fear), Janusz Kijowski, Polish.

1989. Janek Malecki, an actor, son and brother of prominent Party members, gets caught up in whirl of political events when martial law is declared in Poland, though he wanted to remain uninvolved.

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