



## of human bondage



Harry Potter can perform all the magic tricks he likes, but until he's got laid as many times as James Bond he will forever remain Britain's second favorite literary export. And since this week sees the release of James Bond movie "Quantum of Solace" we've decided to take a moment to ponder what England's most deadly secret weapon would have thought of 21st-century Moscow. Would he have been staggered by the prices of his beloved vodka martinis (page 5)? Would he have enjoyed dinner at BlackBerry Cafe on page 12? And could he still save the world from evil Russian villains (page 4) while dealing with the hang-over after a night out at new club Neft (page 15)? The answer to all these questions is almost certainly "yes," plus he definitely would have shagged Hermione by at least book three. Eat it, Harry.

• Will Berry — Editor-in-Chief

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For addresses, see page 16.

## 7 days at a glance

**6** If the management at 16 Tons is to be believed the future of Russia is clad in checkered shirts and pristine Converse. Tonight they plan to launch a new era in Russian indie pop by presenting "Future Sound of Russia," the latest compilation album from AeroCCCP Records. The 18-track album features the best Russian music has to offer, including Punk TV, Bajinda Behind the Enemy Lines, Be Quiet and Drive and Dairy High. All of them will be performing tonight from 9 p.m. and cover starts at 500 rubles.

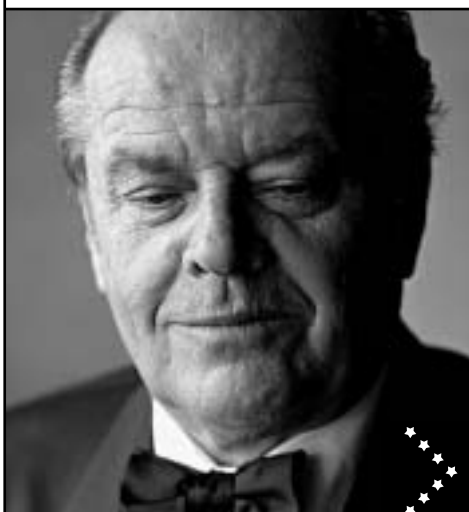
**7** Franco-Japanese record label Kitsune have launched the careers of every international indie band you've ever claimed to love, including Klaxons, Bloc Party, Boys Noise, Digitalism and Cazals. Now they have set their sights on Russia and tonight they are launching their label in Moscow with a party at Justo. Founders Gildas Loaec (who also manages Daft Punk) and Masaya Kuroki will also be playing a DJ set with samples from their release "Kitsune Maison 6." Entry to the party is free from 11 p.m. pending feis kontrol.



**8** Between "French Kiss" and "Paris, Je t'Aime," by now you'd have thought Hollywood had grown bored of Paris. Written, directed, produced by and starring Julie Delpy, "2 Days in Paris" follows a young American couple looking to reignite their relationship. After a disastrous weekend in Venice (what a dump!) they set their sights on Paris, where run-ins with relatives and old flames stretch their relationship to breaking point. Catch it tonight at 35mm at 5 p.m. and 9:10 p.m. Entry is 250 rubles.

**9** Riding into town a day before Timbaland, Busta Rhymes and co bring new levels of misogyny to Olimpiisky, Stereo MCs, a pasty bunch of honkies from Nottingham, England, bring a subtler blend of hip-hop and electronica to the vast chamber of B1Maximum. The band's heyday of the early '90s may be long behind them, but they continue to release records (as well as remix tracks for the likes of Madonna and Jungle Brothers) and are back in Moscow tonight to promote their latest album "Double Bubble." Starts at 9 p.m. Cover is 1,500 rubles.

**10** Contemporary art space Vinzavod is donning its finest beret to host an exhibition of past winners of French Pernod Ricard Art Word Awards, a French version of the British Turner Awards. The prize rewards the finest young artists in France and this fascinating retrospective features winners from the last ten years of the competition, including Matthieu Laurette's abstract 2004 winner, a fake convention poster entitled "Deja Vu: The Seventh International Look-alike Convention at DIA's Fall Gala." The exhibition runs until Nov. 29 and entry is free.



**11** Sergei Bermenyev has photographed over 250 of the world's most famous faces, ranging from Hollywood titans such as Jack Nicholson and Robert de Niro to political figures such as Kofi Annan, but the person he was most proud to meet was Kino lead singer Victor Tsoi. So from today until Nov. 30 the Moscow House of Photography is presenting an exhibition of Bermenyev's photos entitled "Tsoi and Others," featuring a collection of black-and-white photos of Tsoi, as well as many portraits of other less significant stars. Entry is 100 rubles.

**12** Austrian actress Romy Schneider was the darling of European cinema during the '60s and '70s. She died tragically in 1982 at the age of 43 after overdosing on a lethal cocktail alcohol and sleeping pills, an act many consider a suicidal reaction to the death of her 14-year-old son Daniel the previous year. To celebrate her life the Miele Gallery is hosting an exhibition entitled "The Unknown Romy Schneider" featuring 41 photographs from both her personal and professional life. The exhibition runs until Nov. 26 and entry is free.

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## cover notes

### "Quantum of Solace"

- "Quantum of Solace" is the 22nd film in the James Bond franchise. Daniel Craig reprises his role as Bond, while Ukrainian actress Olga Kurilenko plays his ridiculously hot accomplice Camille.
- Director Marc Forster, who also directed "Monster's Ball," describes the finished film as "tight and fast ... like a bullet."
- It follows on directly from the events of "Casino Royale." With his beloved Vesper Lynd dead, Bond now seeks revenge against the Quantum organization.
- The title "Quantum of Solace" was taken from a short story in Bond creator Ian Fleming's 1960 book of short stories "For Your Eyes Only." However, no elements from the original story make it into the film.
- "Quantum of Solace" hits cinemas in Russia on Nov. 6. Flick to page 14 to find out if it's any good. • WB

## cityscope: flat hunting

**H**ow hard can it be to find a room in Moscow? A city this big must have somewhere for everyone.

If only it were so easy. Two weeks ago I moved into a nice modern flat in Marino. Ten days later I was homeless once again, having discovered that my flatmate was hiding dictatorial inclinations within a Jekyll and Hyde personality disorder. Given 30 minutes to get out, I managed to preserve my dignity and all of my possessions, other than the bed that I bought on the day I moved in.

Faced with the task of having to find a room for the second time in a fortnight, I began to realize how meagre the accommodation options for foreigners are in Moscow. Those of us who aren't international businessmen or ambassadors are confined to a handful of creaky websites, stuffed with incorrect email addresses and non-existent phone numbers.

Flatmates.ru, the most popular of the English language options, is initially the most appealing. Its personal profiles, complete with photographs and personal info, are welcoming and accessible.

Just take a closer look at what's on offer: Local con artists posing as foreigners who promise to send you the keys to their Red Square penthouse if you'll wire them the first month's rent in advance and single Russian men looking for women half their age to share a single room in exchange for cooking and cleaning services who are let down by inappropriately sinister photos.

I don't have any good solutions to this problem; if I had I would have found somewhere to live by now. But if anyone else is in the same situation I would be happy to put you in touch with a charming Russian girl offering a cheap room in the south of the city. It even comes with a fantastic new Ikea mattress. • DE



## news bites

- Will Smith (pictured), Woody Harrelson and Rosario Dawson will star in Gabriele Muccino's "Seven Pounds," about a man who alters the lives of seven complete strangers. It is set for release in Russia on Jan. 15, 2009.
- From Nov. 7-30 the Moscow Museum of Modern Art will host an exhibition of works by Grigory Sretensky and Nina Stenshinskaya. These contemporary artists are considered the modern heirs of the wildly controversial Jack of Diamonds art movement from the early 20th century.
- An exhibition of works by Italian artist Mario Sasso will be on display at the Moscow Museum of Modern Art on Yermolayevsky until Nov. 16. Sasso's unique brand of art combines the media of pictures, video, cinema, television and computer imagery to create disorientating effects for the viewer.
- Beatles-loving German poppers Fools Garden play B1Maximum on Nov. 7 at 9 p.m.
- An exhibition of clothing, accessories and footwear from the 19th and 20th centuries entitled "Vintage. A History of Fashion" will be on display at the Tishinka mall from Nov. 6-9.
- American pop and R 'n' B sensation Santogold will be supported by Canadian electro outfit Tiga and swearsy British dance punkers Shitdisco at this year's Nokia Trends Lab. It's being held at Gaudi Arena on Dec. 5 at 10 p.m.
- Yury Grymov's latest film "Chuzhiye" ("Aliens"), about five volunteer doctors from the U.S. who head to an unnamed Arabic country to provide medical relief and evacuate children during a civil war, is set for release in Russia on Nov.

## seven russian bond villains



**1 Rosa Klebb** — "From Russia with Love." Probably the only female secret agent in the Soviet Union who Bond didn't have sex with, Rosa Klebb was the kiosk babushka from hell. Using her killer haircut and poison-tipped daggers in her shoes, Klebb rose through the ranks of the KGB to become head of spy-killing department Smersh.



**2 Auric Goldfinger** — "Goldfinger." Not only did this ginger lunatic Smersh treasurer try to saw Bond's balls off with a lazer and set a nuke off at Fort Knox, he was also a cheat at golf. Unforgivable. Goldfinger was so obsessed with gold that he would have women painted head to toe in it so that he could literally have sex with gold. Weird.



**3 General Orlov** — "Octopussy." An old-school megalomaniacal Soviet general, Orlov wanted to roll back the years by launching a full-scale military attack on Western Europe. Pointlessly enlisting the help of an Afghan prince, Orlov decides that the best way to justify the invasion would be setting off a nuclear bomb in an East German circus.



**4 Max Zorin** — "A View to a Kill." A product of a Nazi medical experiment seized by the Soviets, Zorin was genetically engineered to be both super intelligent and psychopathic. After being told that he's too much of a nutter even to work for the KGB, Zorin decides to blow up Silicon Valley by triggering an earthquake at the San Andreas Fault.



**5 Alec Trevelyan** — "Goldeneye." The son of a betrayed Cossack at the end of World War II. In a flagrant breach of international child labor laws, Trevelyan was recruited by MI6 at the tender age of six. Bitter, he grows up to hatch a plot to destroy the British economy using an irony-laden double whammy of smug one-liners and French satellite technology.



# spotlight

**Shaken, Not Stirred.**  
Bond drinks vodka martinis and gets laid all the time. Coincidence?

**Chapurin Bar, 350 rubles.**

**Booze Bub, 200 rubles.**

**GQ Bar, 500 rubles.**

**Conservatory Bar, 850 rubles.**

**Tema, 180 rubles.**

**Gradus Bar, 170 rubles.**

# how to be a bond girl



TEXT **EMMA JENKINSON**

First things first, plain Janes just won't do. To cut the Bond Girl mustard you need a name. Girls fond of the **double entendre** should take inspiration from Bond Girl greats like Pussy Galore, Plenty O'Toole and Xenia Onatopp (the latter being the one with the Bond-crushing thighs). If the "exotic" love interest is more your style then Octopussy, Kissy Suzuki and Solitaire are the model Bond Girls for you.

Women wanting to assert their independence before finally succumbing to Daniel Craig's (sorry Bond's) seduction techniques should get a **prefix**; Agent Strawberry Fields in "Quantum of Solace" is a good example. Next up is a gym membership; Bond Girls have **abs not flab**. They spend an inordinate amount of movie time in **swimwear**, **see-through nightdresses** or simply wrapped in a **post-coital bed sheet**. Ursula Andress as Honey Ryder set the tone when she emerged from the sea clad only in a white bikini in the original Bond film "Dr. No." A good workout (of whatever kind) will ensure you're on true Bond Girl form.

Not just eye candy to fill the time between fast car and gun stunts, Bond Girls are actually masters of the art of the **one-liner**. When practicing yours take inspiration from Holly Goodhead in "Moonraker." When Bond is astonished to find that Doctor Goodhead is actually a woman her sarcastic reply is "Your powers of observation do you credit, Mr. Bond." While feisty accomplice Mary Goodnight from "The Spy Who Loved Me" tells it to lover-Bond straight: "I admit I'm tempted — but killing a few hours as one of your passing fancies isn't quite my scene."

Bond Girls also have to be able to **die a good death**. Whether goodies or baddies, most come to a sticky end. Even Diana Rigg's Countess Vincenzo — the only one to become Mrs. Bond — gets a bullet in the end. The more dramatic the death the better, especially if you get to play around with body paint a la "Goldfinger" and this year's "Quantum of Solace" (death by gold leaf and oil slick respectively).

Finally, if you want to be the ultimate Bond Girl, remember the women with the most sway over 007 were two he **never bedded** (at least on screen anyway). Miss Money Penny has always had Bond wrapped around her little finger and all she gave away were a few lingering pecks on the cheek. Then there is MI6 chief M. With ultimate power over the man with the license to kill, Judi Dench showed there is no better way to get what you want from Bond.



13. The film has created a great deal of controversy after Condoleezza Rice "advised" that the film not be viewed in the U.S. due to its anti-American sentiments.

- The 2008 Multifest Great Festival of Multifilms will continue running from Nov. 6-16 at cinemas around town. The festival includes over 300 animated short films for children and adults from all over the world. For a full festival schedule visit multifest.ru.
- On Nov. 22-24 Latvian Alvis Hermanis, one of the most significant European directors of his generation, will direct a production of "Rasskazy Shukshina" ("Tales of Shukshin") at the Theater of Nations.
- Trip-hoppers Rubies hit Ikra on Nov. 29 • WB



**6 Xenia Onatopp** — "Goldeneye." A Georgian-born former Soviet Air Force pilot, Onatopp is Trevelyan's fetishistic top henchmen who orgasms while squeezing her victims to death with her thighs during sex. Creaming her jeans as she guns down a room full of Russian computer boffins, it's a surprise Trevelyan ever got anything done with her around.



**7 Renard** — "The World Is Not Enough." Decidedly less sexy than Onatopp, Renard is a KGB assassin-turned-terrorist who is incapable of feeling physical pain after being shot in the head. Despite being hard as nails, Renard is totally bitchwhipped, and he hijacks a Russian nuclear submarine to help his girlfriend dominate the world's oil markets. • WB

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## burning loins

Robert Downey Jr. caught the attention this week when on the set of his latest film the crotch of his trousers set alight. The lovable fiend was shooting the lead role in Guy Ritchie's latest effort "Sherlock Holmes" when embers from the detective's trademark pipe accidentally added some additional fire to Downey Jr.'s loins. One onlooker said: "Robert leaped from his armchair and jumped up and down, slapping his crotch and howling, 'Oh God, I'm on fire!'" Socialite Life Magazine report that it was co-star Jude Law, in his capacity as Dr. Watson, who came to the rescue pouring water over the actors love box.

Theories are rife that the relationship between Arthur Conan Doyle's much loved characters went way beyond the professional and despite this latest incident it seems that the ardor between Holmes and Watson is far from extinguishable. When asked about the incident, Downey Jr. jibed: "I haven't experienced such burning since that gonorrhoea cleared up."

## around the world

### speared

Britney Spears, the world's favorite train wreck, has launched a new initiative to turn the tables on those members of the paparazzi upon whom she blames so much of her painfully public demise. As part of this counter-attacking ploy, each week Spears will post a new video clip on her website of one of her snap-hungry entourage making a fool of themselves, brandishing them "paparazie of the week." The first edition shows a pap trying to steal a shot of Britney and falling over



backwards in the act with the caption: "This photographer eats some dirt while trying to get a shot of Britney." Mm ... touche. Clearly footage of him legs akimbo, commando and having a nervous breakdown was hard to come by.

## pitgirl pussy

Although more accustomed to the filling sports pages, one can no longer deny newly crowned Formula One champ Lewis Hamilton his rightful place in the celeb columns. Hamilton romped home to his debut F1 title in a nailbiting finish at the Interlagos track in Brazil on Sunday. The prodigy snuck into the fifth place he needed at the penultimate corner, claiming the title and consolidating his status as a global superstar.

However, Lewis wasn't the only one in Sao Paulo setting pulses racing over the weekend. By his side throughout and gaining equal attention in the pit-lane was the 23-year-old's Pussycat Dolls girlfriend, Nicole Scherzinger. The lead singer oozed sex appeal amongst the championships glamorous surroundings. The trackside presence of the 30-year-old seems to complete the near flawless Lewis Hamilton "brand." On hearing that she is considering a cross-over to acting, Max Moseley was heard commenting that he has an intriguing role she may be interested in playing,



### bruno bashing

Sacha Baron Cohen, of Ali G and Borat fame, has whipped up controversy Stateside again, this time by appearing as his homosexu-

al fashion designer alter-ego Bruno at an anti-gay marriage rally in California. The rally was being held in support of Proposition 8, a legal movement hoping to reverse the legalization of gay marriage in the States. Cohen reportedly infiltrated the event in disguise before unveiling himself as the flamboyant Austrian homosexual. He is currently shooting the character's film "Bruno: Delicious Journeys Through America for the Purpose of Making Heterosexual Males Visibly Uncomfortable in the Presence of a Gay Foreigner in a Mesh T-Shirt" for which the star is set to make a reported \$30 million.

### palin duped

By the time this goes to print, the U.S. presidential elections will be well and truly over and we'll hopefully be heralding John McCain as the 44th President of America (obviously not). If you didn't back Barack then please report to the nearest vet to be put down. However, it is worthy to mention that last week that vile woman Sarah Palin was duped by Montreal-based comedians The Masked Avengers into thinking she

was on the phone with French President Nicolas Sarkozy. Topics of conversation included helicopter hunting, Carla Bruni in bed and a song she's written in Palin's honor titled "Joe the Plumber."



## goddess heidi

Heidi Klum is the latest celebrity figure to fall foul of religious authorities, who this week burned her bridges with Hindu communities in America and India after donning an elaborate costume to her annual Halloween party in New York where she came dressed as the Hindu goddess of time and change, Kali. What may have seemed like a little fun for the German supermodel has deeply upset Hindu scholars, who feel Klum should make a public apology for posing as a sacred figure. Indo-American statesman Rajan Zed says: "Goddess Kali is highly revered in Hinduism and she is meant to be worshipped in temples and not to be used in clubs for publicity stunts or thrown around for dramatic effects."

When asked by Celebrity News why she chose the Hindu goddess (hand-job potential aside) Klum commented that: "She is so mean, she killed all these different people and has fingers and little shrunken heads hanging off her everywhere." Fair enough. Besides, the Prophet Mohammed is so out this year.

### done the line

Actor Joaquin Phoenix announced last week that he plans to quit acting to concentrate on his music career. The "Gladiator" star (not to be confused with porno clas-



sic "Glad He Ate Her"), delivered this news in an interview with a U.S. TV show. The actor's career has been full of ups and downs, including the death of his brother River Phoenix in his own arms in 1993, a spell in rehab and an Oscar nomination for his performance in "Walk the Line." However, the star is now adamant that music production will receive his full attention. He is currently starring alongside Gwyneth Paltrow in "Two Lovers," which premiered at the Cannes Film Festival earlier this year. Phoenix was unable to attend the premiere after being admitted to hospital with viral gastroenteritis. Sounds like a load of hot gas to me.



# name of the rose

The Rozamira Cross-Cultural Forum is one of the biggest cultural events of the year. Featuring art, cinema and music from artists from all the nations of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, there's something for everyone. And then some.

TEXT **CYRIL PARKES**



A city as diverse as Moscow is, by definition, constantly presenting new cultural experiences. Simply by hopping on the metro, you can sometimes find yourself surrounded by people from all over the world, with various languages overlapping like some sort of linguistic bouillabaisse. The Rozamira Cross-Cultural Forum embraces this sense of heterogeneity, featuring artists from the countries of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization — Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Kazakhstan, China, and Russia — all working in various media.

The festival promises a wide selection of music, film, photography, painting, theater, and dance, combining “the boundless energy of primitive natural culture with interactive and dazzling theatrical displays of modern art.” The course of a month, festivalgoers will have the oppor-

tunity to see exclusive cinema from world-renowned directors, art installations from young Russian, Central Asian, and Chinese painters and sculptors, and check out concerts that span everything from techno to a multinational orchestra.

The beautifully photographed steppes of Kazakhstan serve as a backdrop to German director Volker Schlöndorff's “Ulzhan,” a story of an enigmatic Western interloper who abandons all the trappings of his normal life to be reborn in an unknown wilderness. Schlöndorff, whose “The Tin Drum” won an Oscar in 1981 for best foreign-language film, paints this portrait of love and reinvention without political or reconciliatory leanings — the film is simply a meditation on life. It shows at the Udarnik Theater on Nov. 12 at 7:30 p.m.

Legendary Russian photographer Lyalya Kuznetsova pres-

ents “Beyond Bukhara,” a series of portraits she took of the Jewish community in Bukhara. A former aviation engineer, Kuznetsova took up photography in 1978 and now seeks the harsh truths of humanity through her lens. For this project, her first in almost 15 years, she teamed up with writer Lyudmila Petrushevskaya, whose texts accompany Kuznetsova's images; these two voices, one literal and one visual, attempt to portray life in this region with the utmost attention to honesty. This series will run from Nov. 14 to Dec. 14, at Dom Spiridonova.

One presentation, titled “Laughter/Death,” will run until the 18th of the month at Diehl + Gallery One. This section of the forum, curated by Mariya Baikova and Kristina Shteynbrekher, features young new artists from Russia and Central Asia who explore the concepts of humor, ecstasy, and mortali-

ty, as well as the effects of the first two on the human condition in the shadow of the latter. After becoming a smash hit in London recently, this exhibition features sculptures, video art, paintings, and installations by artists that all champion the notion of laughing in the face of death: Kazakh video artist Almagul Menlibaeva, a nomadic visionary who works all over the globe; Diana Machulina, a 27-year-old Russian whose installation “Eternal Life” problematizes the concept of immortality; 21-year-old Kazakh photographer Gaisha Madanova, who addresses issues of space and representation; and satirical conceptual artist Vyacheslav Akhunov, from Uzbekistan.

At the Solyanka gallery from Nov. 10-30 will be a collection of

with two strings as they are on those with 18, so this should be a memorable evening. “The Voice of Kyrgyzstan,” Salamat Sadi-kova, will bring her komuz, a three-stringed Kyrgyz lute, to the gala show as well, along with her experience on stages in multiple countries, from Turkey to the United States to Japan. Violinist and composer Aleksei Aigui brings his group 4:33 (named after American composer John Cale's famous piece in which the performer is instructed to play nothing for four minutes and 33 seconds) to the Moscow International House of Music for a concert with the multiethnic quartet Hambar. The two groups will work together, using traditional melodies from Mongolia and southern Siberia, and thusly become a

## “Laughter/Death” features works by artists that all champion the notion of laughing in the face of death.

55 paintings of Central Asia by Soviet artists. These images of socialist realism, painted during Stalin's reign, portray life under the watchful eye of the Communist State. Works from artists such as Semyon Chuikov, Irina Zhdanko, Alexander Volkov, and Olga Sokolova aim to provide “evidence of the all-encompassing void of the situation under totalitarianism.”

The musical selections at Rozamira are equally engaging and disparate. A special Rozamira symphony will open the festival, written for the forum by Sofiya Gubaidulina, a Russian composer born in the Tatar Republic; Gubaidulina's compositional prowess lies in her willingness to combine Western harmonic devices with traditional Russian, Asian, and Caucasian folk instruments. Tajik multi-instrumentalist Davlatmand Kholov and his five sons will bring a huge selection of traditional Central Asian instruments to the stage at Dom for a gala concert on the last night of the festival that promises to introduce the audience to new timbres and melodies. The Davlatmand ensemble is equally adept on instruments

“tuning fork” that will create a “new musical language.” There's also plenty of contemporary electronic music being represented. Anton Kubikov, half of the Moscow electro group SCSI-9, and Igor Vdovin, will both have DJ sets during the festival.

So there — is that enough? Almost a month's worth of diversity, from instruments rarely seen to intellectual curiosities from cultures far more disparate and exotic than anything we could find in the metro (before 11 p.m., that is).

*The Rozamira Cross-Cultural Forum runs from Nov. 6 until the end of December at venues around town. For a full festival schedule, please visit [roza-mira.com](http://roza-mira.com).*

### ■ ADDRESSES ■

**Udarnik Theater**, 2 Serafimovicha Ul., Metro: Novokuznetskaya, Tel. 225-8700; **Dom Spiridonova**, 9/8 Mal. Gnezdnikovskiy Per., Bldg. 1, Metro: Tverskaya, Tel. 629-5984; **Diehl + Gallery One**, 5/13 Smolenskaya Nab., Metro: Smolenskaya, Tel. 244-0248; **Galereya na Solyanke**, 1/2 Solyanka Ul., Bldg. 2, Metro: Kitai-Gorod, Tel. 621-5572; **Dom Cultural Center**, 24 Bol. Ovchinnikovskiy Per., Bldg. 4, Metro: Novokuznetskaya, Tel. 953-7236; **Moscow International House of Music**, 58 Kosmodamianskaya Nab., Metro: Pavletskaya, Tel. 730-1011

# bootylicious baikal

Flash Dyer's journey down the Trans-Siberian railway comes to an end at Lake Baikal. She's got no regrets, except being bitten by a tiny Mongolian vampire.

TEXT **FLASH DYER**



**O**n arrival in Irkutsk after three days of solid Trans-Siberian railway living, we rocked up at 3 a.m. to find a very cramped and somewhat muddy vokzal with only a few dingy hotels in sight. However, as is often the case in Russia, you only have to look a little further and you will be bamboozled by what you find. Irkutsk has many beautiful wooden cottages with vibrantly painted shutters just fighting to line its streets, and plenty of interesting history too. Many Decembrists were banished here after the failed revolt of 1825 against Tsar Nicholas I. Irkutsk,

therefore, became the major center of intellectual and social life for these exiles, and much of the city's cultural heritage comes from them; the aforementioned wooden houses adorned with ornate, hand-carved decorations, are in stark contrast to the standard Soviet apartment blocks that surround them. By the end of the 19th century there was one exiled man per two locals.

There is a Decembrist Museum which was the house of the chief Decembrist, Sergei Grigoryevich Volkonsky, a member of the Russian nobility. Our lovely guide, Yuliya, told us about their family and especially his sick-

ly wife Mariya who Pushkin devoted many of his poems to. But I shan't tell you any more, you'll have to go visit yourself. The rest of our time was spent wandering around admiring the churches, war vehicles, and the lovely flowering park with a bursting fountain — features common to any other Russian town, with the exception of those delightful wooden cottages I keep mentioning. We even stumbled across a pub called Liverpool which was devoted to The Beatles — they must have known we were coming. You don't need much more time in Irkutsk, lovely as it is, the best was yet to come.

Our bus the following day took us on an extremely bumpy journey to the ferry, along which we encountered restrooms leaving much to be desired, but, as always, there is some wonderful people watching to do. I just don't know why girls bother wearing hot pants in the first place.

Once we were safely across it finally dawned on us that we were on the island of Olkhon, surrounded by the infamous Lake Baikal. At a staggering 1,637 meters the often named "Blue Eye" or "Pearl of Siberia" is the deepest lake in the world and holds approximately 20 percent of the world's freshwater, more than all the American

**The view from Olkhon Island over Lake Baikal was nothing short of orgasmic.**

Great Lakes combined. At the ripe old age of 25 million years it is also the oldest lake in the world.

Olkhon Island is a marvel in itself, the sun shines for 300 days a year and you must stay at the 100 percent ecologically friendly hostel for intrepid travellers called Nikita's Homestead, set up more than 10 years ago by a very friendly Russian couple, Nikita and his wife Natasha. Located in the village of Khuzhir, the hostel's main buildings are all wooden with images of local animals and people in local dress carved into the panels. For only 750 rubles a night you get a room, a shared bio-toilet, the opportunity to wash in the communal banyas and, best of all, delicious home-cooked breakfast, lunch and dinner. The communal eating area also provides you with the opportunity to get acquainted with fellow travellers, which is very useful for organising group trips and bonfires on the beach at night. There are many activities on offer such as horse-riding, private banyas, trips around the island on every kind of vehicle you can think of (the car reminded us of a rollercoaster being pummelled by giants, so don't make our mistake and go with a hangover), massages and yoga. You do have to be patient with the staff, who are abundant in number but not so efficient in organisation, but then we had come to expect that by then. I recommend them all, especially the horse riding as you will be led on a walk/canter by a 15-year-old boy called Victor who likes car racing films and science fiction and was born and raised on the island. Our walk also afforded the best possible views of the lake. Of course I haven't yet mentioned the view from the island, which was nothing short of orgasmic. It genuinely exceeds your wildest expectations. We even had time for a little sunbathing and dipping into the ice cold water. It may give you chilblains but apparently you can add on an extra 25 years to your life every time you venture in, so by my calculations I shall now live to be about 315. Excellent. The only criticism I have of the place is that I was bitten by a Mongolian child working in the kitchens. She clamped her teeth on me for just under a minute, leaving me with a permanent mark, so watch out — she may look sweet but she has fangs of steel.

Baikal is well worth a visit. You leave with your mind and soul utterly refreshed and seeing a natural phenomenon is something you don't do every day. Take it from Victor — when I asked him if he'd ever been off the island, he said, "No. Why would I ever want to leave?"

## tips for travelers

• **Getting there** — Aeroflot fly from Moscow to Irkutsk daily from Sheremet'yevo airport and return flights start at around 250 euros. If you have a lot of reading material to get through, trains from Moscow to Irkutsk start at 4,000 rubles, though the journey takes several days. Transfer from Irkutsk to Lake Baikal by bus or coach from Irkutsk bus station starts at around 2,000 rubles.

• **Where to stay** — In Irkutsk the hostel above the bus station is fine and cheap at 250 rubles per night, plus it has a smoking room that looks like a former KGB interrogation chamber. As for Olkhon Island, at Nikita's Homesteads you should book to avoid disappoint-



ment. Breakfast is porridge, pancakes and eggs, lunch may be soup, rice and meat; dinner is much the same with alternatives of fish and salad; there is also delicious shashlyk up for grabs. Prices vary according to the season.

• **When to go** — The temperatures, which drop to well below zero during winter, can put some people off, but the view of the frozen Baikal is well worth it. Most travellers may prefer to go in summer when the lake is stunningly clear.

• **Getting around** — As the Baikal area is used to catering to tourists, you find that a surprising number of taxi drivers speak passable English.

## ADDRESSES

**Volkonsky House Museum**, 10 Volkonsky Per., Irkutsk, Tel. (3952) 27-7532; **Nikita's Homestead**, 8 Kirpichnaya Ul., Olkhon, Khuzhir, Tel. (914) 895-7865, olkhon.info/en/

# indestuxable

Tuxedos are devices that make every man in the world look like James Bond. We tell you where to get your hands on the city's finest monkey suits.

TEXT **DOMINIC ESLER**



The tuxedo may go out of fashion one day, but it won't be for a long time. Especially not while Bond's latest incarnation continues to make men everywhere insecure. For those who can afford it, a

not bowties and cummerbunds. You could also try Canali, which offers its own Italian tuxes at the higher price of 57,796 rubles, although their shirts (5,390 rubles) cost less than half of those at Armani. They also sell bowties (7,000 rubles).

**Good tuxedos certainly don't come cheap. The lower end of the spectrum begins at about 50,000 rubles.**

good tuxedo is always a worthwhile acquisition, and Moscow hosts an inevitably wide range of top class offerings. Thank God; it doesn't pay to get it wrong with Daniel Craig striding across every billboard in town.

Good tuxedos certainly don't come cheap. The lower end of the spectrum begins at about 50,000 rubles, the price you'll pay at the new Emporio Armani outlet in GUM, which also stocks dress shirts (11,000 rubles) but

If you're willing to forego the label, you can order a tuxedo made just for you, for around the same price. There are two types of tailored clothing: made-to-measure and bespoke. Made-to-measure involves adjusting an existing design to the customer's measurements, and is usually the cheaper option. Executive Fashions offers made-to-measure tuxes starting from 40,000 rubles. These are produced in either Hong Kong or Italy, so be

prepared for a wait of either six weeks or two-and-a-half months. The company also sells made-to-measure shirts for 5,000 rubles, and offers cufflinks and cummerbunds together at the combined price of 7,000 rubles.

Bespoke tuxedos, made according to the customer's exact specifications, are the ultimate luxury, although the cost depends on how grandiose your ambitions are. The Imperial Tailoring Company, whose tuxedos are made in England and require a five-week wait, charges from 60,000 to 120,000 rubles — although there is no real upper limit. Bespoke shirts here range from 5,000 to 10,000 rubles.

These prices may be high enough to make you tremble, but they still don't approach the cost of a really expensive suit. Brioni, who have designed tuxedos for Bond over the years, including in "Casino Royale" (and is probably the most expensive men's tailor on the planet), has several branches in Moscow. Their tuxedos will set you back around 200,000 rubles and their shirts 25,000 to 30,000. And Craig's navy-blue tux in "Quantum of Solace?" You won't be picking one up any time soon, because it was specifically designed for the actor by Tom Ford, although you could ask politely at the American tailor's newly-opened Moscow venue.

For those without access to this kind of money, there is only really one option. That is to rent a tux at a fraction of the price, which can be done easily. Try the wedding-dress hire companies, such as Fleur, which offers Oscar de la Renta tuxedos for three-day periods at a cost of 5,500 rubles (including cummerbund and bowtie), with a whopping deposit of 22,000 rubles.

## ADDRESSES

**Emporio Armani**, GUM mall, 3 Krasnaya Pl., Metro: Teatralnaya, Tel. 620-3328; **Executive Fashions**, 8/1 Mal. Dmitrovka Ul., Metro: Chekhovskaya, Tel. 785-2136; **Imperial Tailoring Company**, 130-132 Gostiny Dvor, 2 Ribny Per., Metro: Ploshchad Revolutsii, Tel. 232-1441; **Canali**, 26 Tverskaya Ul., Metro: Tverskaya, Tel. 937-0076; **Brioni**, 31 Kutuzovskiy Pr., Metro: Kutuzovskaya, Tel. 933-3036; **Tom Ford**, Barvikha Luxury Village, 8th kilometre of Rublyovo-Uspenskoye shosse, Metro: Krylatskoye, Tel. 225-8897; **Fleur**, 3 Tverskoy Bul., Metro: Tverskaya, Tel. 697-1740

## feis kontrol



Jon Paul

When trainee lawyer Jon isn't eating yellow snow, he's getting robbed by women twice his age.

**Where do you hang out in Moscow?**

Asleep on the metro.

**What is your most prized possession?**

My collection of photos of me inside Rai, Soho Rooms, Dyagilev and Famous. I see them as proof that I've made it in life.

**What's the wildest thing you've ever done?**

Did the Trans-Sib during the dead of winter. You need brass balls to pull something like that.

**What's the best advice you've ever been given?**

"Don't eat yellow snow." Sadly that advice came too late.

**If you weren't a trainee lawyer, what job would you like to do?**

Either a professional sportsman or a travel writer. I hate being tied to a desk all day.

**If you could change the world, what would you do first?**

I would make my apartment and office shorter distances from their respective metro stops.

**Favorite love song?**

"Suspicious Minds" by Elvis.

**What is the most played song on your iPod?**

My iPod got stolen. I guess those white earphones make you a target for bullying street babs ...

**Least favorite sexual position?**

Doggy. It's always over before it starts.

Do you have what it takes to get through element feis kontrol? There's only one way to find out: if you send a blank email to the address [feiskontrol@elementmoscow.ru](mailto:feiskontrol@elementmoscow.ru), we'll forward you next week's questions.



## STYLE BITE OF THE WEEK

James Bond may now wear an Omega on his wrist but — until he smashed it using it as an improvised knuckle-duster in "On Her Majesty's Secret Service" — in the original Ian Fleming novels he always wore a Rolex Oyster Perpetual. Make sure you treat the Rolex you buy at their first specialized store in Russia in TsUM with a great deal more care.

weekly entertainment newspaper

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# must see

nov. 6-12



• Frenchman Michel Plisson conducts at the Moscow Conservatory on Nov. 11.



• Jazz ensemble Spyro Gyra play new songs at the House of Music on Nov. 12.



• Canadian Chris Whitley blows his own trumpet at the House of Music on Nov. 7.

## theater

• Opening this week at the Sovremennik is a new production of **"Igrayem ... Shiller!"** ("Let's Play ... Schiller!"), a stage version of Schiller's "Mary Stuart," which tells the story of the tragic conflict between Mary Stuart of Scotland and Queen Elizabeth of England. Stars Marina Neyelova and Yelena Yakovleva. *Sovremennik Theater, Nov. 7, 7 p.m.*

• A stage version of Mark Twain's classic novel **"The Adventures of Tom Sawyer"** is on stage this week at the Theater of Young Spectators. The play follows a mischievous young orphan's adventures on the Mississippi River. *Theater of Young Spectators, Nov. 8, 7 p.m.*

• Yasmina Reza's comedy **"Art,"** about three friends who fall out when one of them buys a hugely expensive painting consisting of only white-painted canvas is on stage at the International House of Music this week. Stars Igor Kostolevsky, Mikhail Filishkov and Mikhail Yanushkevich. *International House of Music, Nov. 8, 7 p.m.*

• Legendary theater director Lev Dodin brings his production of Fyodor Abramov's dramatic dialogues **"Bratya i Syostry"** ("Brothers and Sisters") to the Maly Theater. Stars Tatyana Shestakova and Mikhail Samochko. *Maly Theater, Nov. 9, 2 p.m.*

## opera and dance

• Henry Purcell's **"Dido and Aeneas"** premieres this week at the House of Music. Based on a key passage in Virgil's "The Aeneid," when Aeneas is forced to

leave his lover Dido because it is his destiny to found Rome, the opera is considered Purcell's only pure opera and one of the crowning achievements in the history of British classical composition. *International House of Music, Nov. 6, 7 p.m.*

• Pyotr Tchaikovsky's fairy-tale opera **"Tolanta,"** about a girl who not only does not realize that she has been blind from birth but also has never been told that she is the daughter of the king of France, continues its run this week. *Bolshoi Theater, Nov. 8, 12 p.m.*

• The Helikon Opera on the Arbat celebrate the life and work of George Gershwin this week with a fabulous production called **"Gershwin Gala."** Although officially dubbed an opera-jazz show, the show will attempt to include the same wide variety of genres explored by Gershwin during his career. *Helikon Opera, Nov. 9, 7 p.m.*

• Based on the Mikhail Lermontov poem of the same name, Rubenstein's **"Demon"** caused a sensation at its original premiere in St. Petersburg in 1875. Though less shocking now, the opera explores themes of personal regret and deviation that still ring true today. Wolf Gorreliek directs and conducts. *Stanislavsky and Nemirovich-Danchenko Musical Theater, Nov. 12, 7 p.m.*

## classical music and jazz

• This week renowned French conductor Michel Plisson, of the Orchestre et Choeurs du Capitole de Toulouse is fronting an evening at the Moscow Conservatory entitled **"Music for Everyone."** Plisson will be conducting the Great Tchaikovsky Symphony Orchestra in works of Mussorgsky, Ravel and Gounod. *Moscow Conservatory, Nov. 11, 7 p.m.*

• The **Cossacks of Russia** dance ensemble is in town this week for a major performance at the Tchaikovsky Concert Hall. Backed by traditional Cossack music, the ensemble's dances display all the sides of Russian Cossack life, presenting an encyclopedic history of all the Cossack regions. *Tchaikovsky Concert Hall, Nov. 8, 7 p.m.*

• Americans **Spyro Gyra** descend on the capital this week for an evening of jazz fusion. During their 40 years in the business the band have sold over 10 million records and have been funking up cities across the globe. Their Moscow set will include songs from their latest release "The Night Before Christmas." *International House of Music, Nov. 12, 7 p.m.*

• This week the International House of Music is going back to basics by hosting an evening entitled **"An Evening of Traditional Blues."** Among the headline acts is Chris Whitley, a Canadian multi-instrumentalist who has worked with the likes of John Hammond and Blind John Davis. *International House of Music, Nov. 7, 7 p.m.*

## exhibitions

• Hungarian photographer Martin Munkacsy took picture portraits of Hitler's inner circle before escaping to New York to work for Harper's Bazaar, for whom he took pictures of such superstars as Fred Astaire, Louis Armstrong and Katherine Hepburn. See his life's work at an exhibition entitled **"Think Before You Shoot"** (pictured). *Manezh, to Nov. 23.*

• An exhibition of photos of Grace Kelly entitled **"The Grace Kelly Years: Princess of Monaco"** is currently running at the Yekaterina Cultural Foundation. The items, which also include jewelry worn by the actress, are on loan from Monaco's Grimaldi Forum until Dec. 5. *Yekaterina Cultural Foundation, to Dec. 5.*

• The Moscow Museum of Oriental Art is currently hosting an exhibition of samurai weaponry entitled **"The Art of War. Arms and Armor."** The exhibition is part of the ongoing Japanese Autumn Festival and aims to display art, arms and armor from the deadly Muro-mati and Edo samurai clans. *Museum of Oriental Art, to Jan. 14.*

• For the first time in history an exhibition of jewelry designed by the Italian Buccellati family will be on display in Russia. The exhibition, entitled **"Buccellati. Art Outside Time,"** features many different shiny items from the House of Buccellati's glittering 150-year history. *Kremlin Museum, to Jan. 10.*

• The Kremlin Museum is hosting an exhibition of British fashion from the 18th and 19th centuries entitled **"Two Centuries of British Fashion."** The collection, which is on loan from the Victoria and Albert Museum in London, features men's and women's clothing from the opulent early days of the British Empire to the more severe, puritanical Victorian age. *Kremlin Museum, to Nov. 16.*

## ADDRESSES

**Sovremennik Theater**, 19a Chistoprudny Bul., Metro: Chistiye Prudy, Tel. 621-6473; **Moscow Theater of Young Spectators (MTYuZ)**, 10 Mamonovskiy Per., Metro: Pushkinskaya, Tel. 699-5360; **Moscow International House of Music**, 52 Kosmodamianskaya Nab., Bldg. 8, Metro: Paveletskaya, Tel. 730-1011; **Maly Theater**, 1/6 Teatralnaya Pl., Metro: Teatralnaya, Tel. 623-2621; **Bolshoi Theater**, 1 Teatralnaya Pl., Metro: Teatralnaya, Tel. 250-7317; **Helikon Opera on Arbat**, 11 Novy Arbat Ul., Metro: Arbat-skaya, Tel. 290-0971; **Stanislavsky and Nemirovich-Danchenko Musical Theater**, 17 Bol. Dmitrovka Ul., Metro: Teatralnaya, Tel. 629-2835; **Moscow Conservatory**, 13 Bol. Nikitskaya Ul., Metro: Biblioteka imeni Lenina, Arbatskaya, Tel. 629-7412; **Tchaikovsky Concert Hall**, 4/31 Triumfalnaya Pl., Metro: Mayakovskaya, Tel. 699-3681; **Manezh**, 1 Manezhnaya Pl., Metro: Alexandrovsky Sad, Tel. 298-1660; **Yekaterina Cultural Foundation**, 21/5 Kuznetsky Most Ul., Metro: Kuznetsky Most, Tel. 621-5522; **Museum of Oriental Art**, 12a Nikitsky Bul., Metro: Arbatskaya, Tel. 291-9614; **Kremlin Museum**, 1 Krasnaya Pl., Metro: Aleksandrovsky Sad, Tel. 203-0349







# sex and violence

Better late than never. Just as even America has begun to grow tired of the R 'n' B revolution, Moscow hosts its first ever R 'n' B Festival at Olimpiyskiy on Nov. 10.

TEXT **ANDY POTTS**



So, almost half a century on, the return of black-dominated R 'n' B could only be a cause of celebration for the liberal intelligentsia. Well, not quite. While nobody is likely to protest that Russia's plucky self-crowned queen of folk R 'n' B, the photogenic yet talentless Byanka, is being oppressed by the Afro-American brotherhood, there hasn't been a huge rush to acclaim the likes of Timbaland and Destiny's Child as modern-day Martin Luther Kings tearing down the barriers of cultural segregation. After all, too many of the songs are about sex, violence, violent sex and sexy violence. Videos are flashy and blingy. Girls are scantily clad, which apparently

## There hasn't been a huge rush to acclaim Timbaland as a modern-day Martin Luther King.

empowers Madonna but degrades Beyonce. These guys would never even get close to the White House.

Belatedly joining a craze which stepped back from the cutting edge years back, Moscow is hosting its first international R 'n' B fest. In the finest traditions of baseball's World Series, international simply means American. Timbaland headlines, the one from Destiny's Child who wasn't Beyonce puts in an appearance, Busta Rhymes adds to the silly name count, while from little Acon mighty raps grow. Keri Hilson keeps up the babe quota and One Republic seek to unite the people. Proper R 'n' B stars, the likes of Missy Elliot or Alicia Keyes, are staying at home. The last big things bling up Olimpiyskiy on Nov. 10 at 7 p.m. Ticket start at 1,100 rubles on parter.ru.

### ADDRESSES

**Olimpiyskiy Stadium**, 16 Olimpiyskiy Pr., Metro: Prospekt Mira, Tel. 288-2918; **B1Maximum**, 11 Ordzhonikidze Ul., Metro: Leninsky Prospekt, Tel. 648-6777

Once upon a time, when TV was in black and white and music came on big flat round things called records, R 'n' B meant something rather different. Usually it meant some white kids bumming about in London had stumbled upon a recording of a depression-era delta bluesman and reinvented the sound in a way which wouldn't frighten the locals too much. Cue much hand-wringing among the liberal intelligentsia about how the likes of the Stones had "stolen" black music. In extremis this "rhythm and blues" culture was condemned as a modern-day slave trade.

## concerts this week

### thursday, nov. 6

Pop rockers Piknik munch SDK MAI at 8 p.m.  
Canadians Protest the Hero rock Tochka at 8 p.m.  
Punk TV and friends hit 16 Tons at 9 p.m.

### friday, nov. 7

Nike Borzov causes controversy at FM Club at 9 p.m.  
Metallers Taking Your Last Chance frighten X.O. at 4 p.m.  
Germans Fools Garden fill B1Maximum at 9 p.m.  
Crazy Rhythm jazz up B2 at 9 p.m.  
Vocalist Chris Whitely gets the blues at the International House of Music at 7 p.m.  
Rockers Nogu Svelo wince at 16 Tons at 9 p.m.

### saturday, nov. 8

Veterans Auktsyon rock SDK MAI at 8 p.m.  
Americans Tribal Tech jazz up Forte at 9 p.m.  
Agata Kristi rock out B1Maximum at 8:30 p.m.  
Swedes Draconian tyrannize Tochka at 7 p.m.  
Brits These New Puritans electrify 16 Tons at 10 p.m.

### sunday, nov. 9

French rocker Melchior Liboa hits FM CLUB at 8 p.m.  
German electro poppers Expretus eat Ikra at 8 p.m.  
Brits hip-hoppers Stereo MCs play B1Maximum at 9 p.m.  
Turkish pop queen Sertab Erener sings at the House of Music at 8 p.m.

Germans U.D.O. hate Tochka at 9 p.m.

### monday, nov. 10

Brits Kittie use Plan B at 8 p.m.

### tuesday, nov. 11

Dutchmen No Turning Back smoke Tabula Rasa at 7 p.m.  
Cuban collective Haleo jazz up B2 at 9 p.m.  
Michael Bolton plays the Kremlin Palace at 7 p.m.

### wednesday, nov. 12

Veterans Bravo rock the Kremlin Palace at 7 p.m.  
Pianist Pierre-Laurent Aimard charms the Moscow Conservatory at 7 p.m.

### ADDRESSES

**SDK MAI**, 8 Dubosekovskaya Ul., Metro: Sokol, Tel. 158-4470; **Tochka**, 6 Leninsky Pr., Metro: Oktyabrskaya, Tel. 737-7666; **16 Tons**, 6 Presnensky Val Ul., Bldg. 1, Metro: Ulitsa 1905 Goda, Tel. 253-5300; **FM Club**, 60/28 Zemlyanoi Val Ul., Metro: Taganskaya, Tel. 502-9921; **X.O.**, 65 Vavilova Ul., Metro: Profsoyuznaya, Tel. 125-5349; **B1Maximum**, 11 Ordzhonikidze Ul., Metro: Leninsky Prospekt, Tel. 648-6777; **B2**, 8 Bol. Sadovaya Ul., Metro: Mayakovskaya, Tel. 650-9904; **Moscow International House of Music**, 52 Kosmodamianskaya Nab., Bldg. 8, Metro: Paveletskaya, Tel. 730-1011; **Forte**, 18 Bol. Bronnaya Ul., Metro: Pushkinskaya, Tel. 202-8833; **Ikra**, 8 Kazakova Ul., Metro: Kurskaya, Tel. 505-5351, 262-4482; **Plan B**, 7 Sovetskoi Armii Ul., Metro: Novoslobodskaya, Prospekt Mira, Tel. (926) 220-4560; **Tabula Rasa**, 28 Komsomolsky Pr., Metro: Frunzenskaya, Tel. 248-6688; **Kremlin Palace**, 1 Krasnaya Pl., Metro: Alexandrovsky Sad, Tel. 917-2336; **Moscow Conservatory**, 13 Bol. Nikitskaya Ul., Metro: Arbatskaya, Tel. 629-7412



## winter woes

Tarja Turunen gets hard at B1Maximum.

TEXT **ANDY POTTS**

Russia and Finland haven't always enjoyed the happiest of relationships — except where music is concerned. Maybe it's to do with that shared Karelian heritage, maybe it's just a thirst for vodka without Scandinavian taxes, but Finnish acts flock to Moscow in huge numbers and infinite variety. So the cancellation of Nightwish's gig last month was a disappointment. Like Helsinki trams, Finnish rock gigs are regular, reliable and efficient. And in the case of top babe and former Nightwish singer Tarja Turunen, the leather-clad pin-up who put the "photo" into "Finnish," it's timely compensation for the recent sicknote.

After leaving Nightwish, Tarja's career took a brief, unexpected detour into easy listening — a hastily-released single of light classical songs had uncomfortable shades of Italian cheesemeisters Rondo Veneziano and led to fears that the rocking days were finished. A 2006 Christmas gig in Moscow didn't really calm that worry. Happily, she soon learned the error of synth-strings and returned to hard 'n' heavy action with "My Winter Storm," a companion piece to the symphonic, cinematic metal of Nightwish. Tarja proves there's life after the night at B1Maximum on Nov 6. at 8:30 p.m. Cover starts at 1,800 rubles.

## new cd



### Katy Perry 'One of the Boys'

On a first listen it would be easy to dismiss Katy Perry's debut effort as generic manufactured record label tripe. Unfortunately this also rings true for the second, third and fourth listen. Admittedly, I don't think I fulfil the niche that her producers are targeting; however, if I had an awkward prepubescent step-sister, she'd definitely be finding this record in her stocking this Christmas. Riding off the drowning crest of the Girl Power movement and following in the wake of "market-leaders" Avril Lavigne and Hilary Duff, the album opens with title track "One of the Boys." It's a song you'll think you've heard a million times before and with a hint of unintended irony because one of Perry's few strengths is her undeniable (and no less manufactured) sex appeal. This is followed by first single "Ur so Gay," a song panned for its homophobic connotations in the United States of Sensitivity, and the man-slating "Mannequin." It is worthy to note that Perry in fact wrote all of the material herself, apart from the only track that has and is likely to gain any modicum of success: "I Kissed a Girl." I am afraid to conclude that we'll all be singing along to this ditty-classic in Krizis soon. If you like music, stay clear. If you like empowered females with guitars, look her up on Google images. • *EB*

# blackberry hill

Despite being named after a machine that ties people to their work desk 24 hours a day, BlackBerry Cafe on Akademika Sakharova Pr. is all about serving up a good time. Prices are low and the quality is high; all you need to do is find it.

PHOTO **GEORGY NIKANOROV** / TEXT **ED BENTLEY**



**B**lackBerry Cafe, the latest venue in the ever-expanding Ginzza empire, which also owns Prado Cafe, offers an eclectic mix of different cuisines and stimulating atmosphere. Only two minutes walk from Chistiye Prudy, you could easily be forgiven for missing it. Attached to the side

of a modern glass business center on Akademika Sakharova Pr., the only hint of its existence is a small sign on the door. Despite the low profile, once inside it turns out to be a fun-filled place that's about more than just food.

The cafe was designed by Vera Tatariniva and was her first major project. The comfy sofas

and armchairs give it a relaxed feel, while the various levels and niches can give customers privacy and intimacy. Upstairs has bigger tables for groups as well as a VIP area that can be rented out for private parties. During the day there is an open kitchen upstairs where customers can watch the chefs cooking and take anything they fancy, being charged per plate.

In the evening the lights are lowered and a live DJ gives the place a more vibrant ambiance. On the night we went, upstairs a stage played host to a special scary show prepared for Halloween. The staff also wore gruesome face paint and a make-up artist was on hand to help customers look sufficiently fearsome.

The meal got off to a good start with two original and tasty salads. The Thai beef salad (450 rubles) was lightly spiced and full of tender meat, while the recommended blackberry salad (380

rubles) offered fresh fruit and flavorful cheese. The resident wine expert chose Pinot Grigio Carnevale di Venezia (390 rubles per glass) and Condesa de Leganza Tinto Crianza (320 rubles per glass) as a superb accompaniment to our starters.

Unfortunately, a perpetual problem in Russian restaurants is service and despite fully attentive and pleasant staff one minor problem cropped up. I was brought my tom yam soup (320 rubles) at the same time as my companion was served her main dish, leaving my partner

mixed with aromatic fruit rounded off the meal perfectly.

By the time we finished our meal the restaurant was filling up and people were getting into a party mood. We stayed around to sample the atmosphere and selection of foreign beer. It was mostly German and the Lundbier (290 rubles) is one of the best of a quality, if slightly limited, selection.

Although the number of available beers may be select, the variety of dishes on the menu was enormous, spanning at least three different types of cuisine. Our meal had a mostly Asian flavor,

**By the time we finished our meal the restaurant was filling up and people were getting into a party mood.**

the choice of either waiting while her food went cold or later having to watch me eat my main course alone. However, the dedication of the staff was clear and this problem should be easily solved, bearing in mind the restaurant has only been open for a month.

Luckily the quality of my tom yam soup made amends for this lack of forethought in the service. The healthy portion was full of fresh seafood and refreshingly spicy. It is not for the fainthearted though, as I repeatedly had to pause to gulp down water and wine to quell the fire in my mouth.

I will cover the main courses together, even though they did not arrive at the same time. The duck (680 rubles) was excellent, served with rice pancakes and hoisin sauce. I experimented with papardelli al pesto with pheasant (480 rubles). The pesto sauce was thick, pungent and tasty over the fresh pasta, while the pheasant, which I had never tasted before, was simply delicious. However, to drag out an old cliché, it did taste remarkably similar to chicken.

Dessert is always the highlight of any meal and BlackBerry Cafe was no exception to this rule. The creamy smetannik (280 rubles) came with fresh strawberries in the base, while the vanilla cheesecake (290 rubles) had a tangy jam to accompany it. The sweet taste

though the pasta main course highlights the diversity BlackBerry Cafe offers. They also offer domestic cuisine, such as shashlyk and stroganoff, as well as sushi.

Currently the restaurant stays open until the last customer leaves, though there are plans to become 24 hours. By the time we left close to midnight the show hadn't even started and everyone was chatting animatedly. The exciting atmosphere, great food and reasonable prices combine to make BlackBerry Cafe a great location to start a night out.

## ADDRESSES

**BlackBerry Cafe**, 10 Akademika Sakharova Pr., Metro: Chistiye Prudy, Tel. 926-1640

**\$ price**

**BlackBerry Cafe**

- Mozzarella Tempura, 380 rubles.
- Mushroom Soup, 290 rubles.
- Shrimp Cutlets, 460 rubles.
- Caesar Salad, 370 rubles.
- Tiramisu, 240 rubles.
- Cappuccino, 160 rubles.

 **one year later**



**Peppino**

The only thing missing at Italian restaurant Peppino when we revisited it in November last year was enough customers to fill it. Prices have remained relatively stable, with their excellent tuna steak and tiramisu only rising from 950 to 1,100 and 350 to 550 rubles respectively, while their house special spaghetti Bottarga has even remained at 650 rubles. And as for the number of customers, the management now advise booking in advance to be sure of getting a table.



## recipe

This delicious dish is balanced enough to satisfy health fanatics and meat eaters alike. The guilt at eating the red meat of the lamb is compensated for by the vitamin-filled lentil cutlets.

### Lamb Chops with Lentil Cutlets (serves one)

Lamb chops	2
Olive oil	1 tablespoon
Garlic cloves	2
Salt and pepper	to taste
Rosemary	to taste
Lentils	200 g
Wheat	50 g

Onions	30 g
Carrot	30 g

1. Fry lamb chops in olive oil. Add rosemary, garlic, salt and pepper. Fry on a medium heat for five minutes. Place in an oven for 7-10 minutes.
2. Fry lentils, wheat, onions, carrots and then mix and bind together the result to make cutlets. Cover in bread crumbs and fry in olive oil.
3. Decorate with pickled vegetables, salted cucumbers and creamy mushroom sauce.

# taste test

Dmitry Yermeyev is the head chef at multi-million dollar restaurant Turandot. He revealed his weirdest dishes and funniest kitchen mishaps.

PHOTO COURTESY OF TURANDOT / TEXT WILL BERRY

**W**hich ingredients do you always like to have in your kitchen?

Any chef will tell you that it doesn't matter what ingredients you have as long as they are all fresh. However, the ones I can never do without are garlic, rosemary and olive oil.

**What is the most unusual dish you have ever made?**

The most unusual dish I have ever made was called "Calves' Tails." I think a dish with a name like that speaks for itself, so I'll let you work out what the ingredients were.

**Why do Russians like Asian cuisine so much?**

Asian cuisine has a long and distinguished history, especially its dishes involving rice and various types of fish. I think that makes it interesting in the first place. On the practical side, the use of lots of different and unusual types of spices, as well as the great care taken in preparation also make it popular. I also think that people are also more interested in eating healthily now, and the prevalence of healthy fish and seafood make Asian food all the more popular.

**Of which dish that you have made are you most proud?**

I have prepared dishes for



heads of state and lots of powerful people but I have to say that I take the same pride in the meals I cook for them as I would for any guest.

**How do you make the food as impressive as the decor at Turandot?**

We take incredible care with each dish to make sure that each one is perfectly prepared. Just as if you came to Turandot 100 times each time you would notice something new and interesting about the decor, you will notice some new and unique

detail in the dishes no matter how many times you eat here.

**What is the funniest thing that has ever happened in your kitchen?**

I once mistook kvas for mushroom broth because they looked really similar at the time. I ended up inventing a completely new sauce ...

**Are you serving any new dishes at Turandot this fall?**

There are loads: borsch with veal, lamb soup, veal salad, a filling meat salad for men, seafood salad with lamb pelmeni.

## dining details

• Head Confectioner Roman Novakovsky at **GQ Bar** has given the dessert menu a general overhaul. New on the menu is passion fruit creme brulee with red currant (550 rubles), plum pie with vanilla ice cream (500 rubles) and profiteroles with scalded cream (500 rubles).

• **Porto Chervo's** Yuliya Tarasova is hosting a festival of regional dishes entitled "Il Piatto Nero" ("The Black Plate"). Over the course of November enjoy the flavors of the islands around Italy with tuna and dill with fried potatoes (420 rubles), grilled cod fillet with vegetables (260 rubles) and steamed pikeperch and vegetables (260 rubles).

• **Malenkaya Yaponiya** has added some hot new dishes to help stave off the fall chill. Don't miss Japanese delights such as fried mussels, calamari and shrimp with sweet peppers (380 rubles), shitake mushrooms with fried potato slices (270 rubles), grilled chicken wings and fried onions in a spicy sauce (210 rubles).



• Until the end of December **Riviere** is hosting a festival of Mediterranean cuisine. The festival includes dishes from Europe, Israel, Egypt, Morocco and Turkey. Look out for Spanish calamari stuffed with seafood and spicy tomato (510 rubles), Algerian Royal couscous (690 rubles) and Lebanese chicken and couscous with sauteed eggplant (580 rubles).

• Festival season continues at **Muscat** (pictured) where they are currently running a festival of Chinese cuisine. New is wonton soup with tiger shrimp (640 rubles), chicken pies with a black bean sauce (340 rubles) and seafood served in the head chef's "secret" sauce (870 rubles).

• **The Most** also has some new dishes. Don't miss chestnut cream soup with scallops and truffle oil (650 rubles), artichoke soup with grilled foie gras (730 rubles) and sauteed foie gras with raspberry in a pistachio cream sauce (840 rubles).

## in/out

• Music venue and artspace Vinzavod just added another string to its bow. New **W Bar** is setting itself up to become the meeting ground for the capital's gallery owners, artists and designers. If the regular live music and DJ sets don't set the pulses of Moscow's art lovers racing, the scandalously cheap cocktails will.

• On Nov. 7 Marina Odzho, the women behind hugely successful R 'n' B nights as Garazh and Sorry, Babushka, opens up new **Escobar**. This new club on Krymsky Val Ul. promises a huge selection of cheap cocktails, regular house and R 'n' B parties and glamorous avant-garde decor.



# james bourne

TEXT DUNCAN WAY

One of the Bond films' many trademarks is their opening scene, usually presenting 007 in a curiously compromising position — preferably being chased by some cheesed-off band of moustachioed baddies — which he proceeds to negotiate with consummate smarm before his chiselled silhouette dissolves into a fluid montage of wavy bullets and naked women. “Quantum of Solace” (hopefully you’re over it by now) differs from the formula in only one respect, that being that we know exactly what Bond’s up to, because this film picks up exactly where its brilliant predecessor left off. In case you’re one of the few who haven’t seen Daniel Craig’s first outing, make bloody sure you do. You see, the theme here is revenge. The modern Bond may look good in Speedos, but he’s also the sentimental type, albeit a violent one. Vesper’s demise at the end of “Casino Royale” has hit James hard and now the

hunt for retribution has brought a sinister organization called Quantum to his attention. Dominic Greene (Mathieu Almaric) uses his public image as an environmentalist to conceal his identity as a political terrorist and a principal member of Quantum. Bond meets a Bolivian agent called Camille (Olga Kurylenko) who has her own personal vendetta against Greene, and together they take steps to unravel his evil empire. Craig is a brute as ever. He looks like he could kill Roger Moore’s Bond with a pair of nail clippers, and although I hate to say it, there’s more than a hint of Bourne about him. Monosyllabic and mercilessly efficient is fine, but you do start to crave the odd quip, one solitary innuendo. This, however, is a grieving Bond, and there’s no time for pleasantries — even M says a naughty word. Don’t be fooled by the title, there’s not a smidgen of solace here, let alone a quantum. “Quantum of Solace” hits cinemas on Nov. 6.



## city of ember

Lina Mayfleet (Saoirse Ronan) and Doon Harrow (Harry Treadaway) live in a subterranean city built to house humanity for 200 years as a haven from an unexplained disaster. The 200-year mark has been and gone however and food supplies are running perilously low. Crooked Mayor Cole (Bill Murray) does what he can to reassure the people but Lina and Doon know that supplies are running out. The young pair must venture into the Unknown Regions to find the instructions they need to save humanity.



## and when did you last see your father?

As his father (Jim Broadbent) lays dying, in a series of flashbacks poet Blake Morrison (played by Colin Firth) remembers periods from his life with his father, including learning to drive and playing golf. Although most of the memories are happy ones, Blake is never able to escape the hurt caused by his father’s philandering with women other than his mother when he was growing up.



## redbelt

David Mamet, the man who brought us “Glengarry Glen Ross” and “Wag the Dog,” unleashes all that pent up anger with this martial arts thriller. Mike Terry (Chiwitel Ejifor) is a jiu-jitsu expert and self-defense teacher who teaches kids how to use their skills to survive on the streets. After meeting a Hollywood superstar (Tim Allen), Terry becomes the victim of a con and loses his money. His only option is to enter martial arts competitions to regain the money and respect he has lost.

<p><b>35mm</b> (Films screening in original language with Russian subtitles)</p> <p><b>2 Days in Paris</b> Nov. 6, 8, 10, 12 — 11 a.m., 5 p.m., 9:10 p.m. Nov. 7, 9 — 1 p.m., 7 p.m., 9 p.m. Nov. 11 — 2 p.m., 8 p.m., 10 p.m.</p> <p><b>Far North</b> Nov. 6, 8, 10, 12 — 1 p.m. Nov. 7, 9, 11 — 3 p.m.</p> <p><b>And When Did You Last See Your Father?</b> Nov. 6, 8, 10, 12 — 3 p.m., 11 p.m. Nov. 7, 9 — 11 a.m., 5 p.m. Nov. 11 — 11 a.m., 6 p.m.</p> <p><b>Crows Zero</b> Nov. 6, 8, 10, 12 — 7 p.m. Nov. 7, 9 — 11 p.m.</p>	<p>Nov. 11 — 5 p.m.</p> <p><b>Dome Cinema</b> (Films screening in English)</p> <p><b>Quantum of Solace</b> Nov. 6 — 7:30 p.m.</p> <p><b>Righteous Kill</b> Nov. 6 — 9 p.m.</p> <p><i>(Contact cinema for times Nov. 7-12)</i></p> <p><b>Pyat Zvyozd</b> (Films screening in Russian)</p> <p><b>Quantum of Solace</b> Nov. 6-12 — 9:40 a.m., 11:55 a.m., 2 p.m., 3:05 p.m., 4:15 p.m., 5:20 p.m., 6:35 p.m., 7:40 p.m., 8:55 p.m., 10 p.m., 11:10 p.m., 12:20 a.m., 1:25 a.m.</p>	<p><b>City of Ember</b> Nov. 6-12 — 5:45 p.m., 9:45 p.m.</p> <p><b>Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa</b> Nov. 6-12 — 10 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 11 a.m., 12 p.m., 12:30 p.m., 1 p.m., 2:30 p.m., 3:30 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 5:30 p.m., 6:30 p.m., 7:30 p.m., 8:30 p.m., 9:30 p.m., 10:30 p.m., 11:30 p.m., 12:30 a.m.</p> <p><b>Max Payne</b> Nov. 6-12 — 11:45 p.m.</p> <p><b>Nepobedimy</b> (Invincible) Nov. 6-12 — 7:45 p.m.</p> <p><b>Priklyucheniya Alyonushki i Yeryomy</b> (The Adventures of Alyonushka and Yeryoma) Nov. 6-12 — 10:15 a.m.,</p>	<p>12:05 p.m., 1:55 p.m., 3:45 p.m.</p> <p><b>Die Drei Rauber</b> (The Three Robbers) Nov. 6-12 — 2:10 p.m.</p> <p><b>Rolan</b> (Films screening in Russian)</p> <p><b>Quantum of Solace</b> Nov. 6-12 — 2:40 p.m., 4:55 p.m., 7:10 p.m., 9:25 p.m., 11:40 p.m.</p> <p><b>Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa</b> Nov. 6-12 — 11 a.m., 12:50 p.m., 2:50 p.m., 4:40 p.m., 6:30 p.m., 8:20 p.m.</p> <p><b>Vse Umrut, a Ya Ostanus</b> (Everyone is Dead but I’m Alive) Nov. 6-12 — 10:10 p.m., 12 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Priklyucheniya Alyonushki i Yeryomy</b> (The Adventures of Alyonushka and Yeryoma) Nov. 6-12 — 11:15 a.m., 1:05 p.m.</p> <p><b>Central House of Writers</b> (Films screening in Russian)</p> <p><b>Admiral</b> Nov. 6-8, 10-12 — 5 p.m., 7:30 p.m.</p>
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**ADDRESSES**

**35mm**, 47/24 Pokrovka Ul., Metro: Krasniye Vorota, Tel. 917-5492; **Dome Cinema**, 18/1 Olimpiyskiy Pr., Metro: Prospekt Mira, Tel. 931-9873; **Pyat Zvyozd**, 25 Bakhrushina Ul., Metro: Paveletskaya, Tel. 916-9169; **Rolan**, 12a Chistoprudny Bul., Metro: Chistiye Prudy, Tel. 916-9412; **Central House of Writers**, 53 Bol. Nikitskaya Ul., Metro: Krasnopresnenskaya, Tel. 291-6316



# there will be booze

Breaking things down, Russian culture is built on two liquid foundations: oil and alcohol. New club Neft on Oruzheiny Per. combines the two to deliriously debauched effect. Team element recounts what it can remember of their raucous opening night.

PHOTO **GEORGY NIKANOROV** / TEXT **WILL BERRY**

**SCENE:** Dripping wet from head to toe, with a feline grace the girl climbed out of the swimming pool, slicked back her hair, sat down on the sofa and offered me another shot of vodka. Not only was she the editor of *Sex and the City* magazine, but also was she drunk and having a very good time, much like all the people around her. This is my last abiding memory before a warm, drunken fog descended over my night at Neft, a new club on the former sight of Versus which proudly rejects all elitny pretensions and focuses on providing something truly radical: a place where anyone can go to have — wait for it — fun. Not just ordinary fun, but a special brand of fun that involves cheap drinks, swimming pools, see-through floors and, of course, beautiful women. This mission statement is rung out loud and clear by the PR team, and, if their raucous opening party on Oct. 25 is anything to go by, people will be behaving very badly at Neft for years to come.



**LAYOUT:** A red carpet leads you down into the sprawling underground complex. According to the PR team, the name Neft was only chosen because it apparently “represents Russia” so don’t expect to be partying

on a replica of a Arctic oil rig — no oil rig I’ve ever heard of houses bikini-clad girls dancing in cages suspended from the ceiling and synchronized swimmers in an enormous swimming pool fed with water by giant

black stone dogs. The only real nod to the blood that runs through Russia’s veins are TV screens dotted around the walls showing what looked like adverts for American oil companies. That said, the industrial

interior and twisting metallic stairs up to the second floor wouldn’t look out of place on an oil rig, even if the see-through

drinkable glass of Sauvignon Blanc for 200 rubles. Not that you actually need to pay with real money — when there was no

## Drunken toilet sex was obviously taken into consideration when deciding on cubicle size.

floor from the lower to upper level (wear your cleanest undies, ladies) definitely would.

cash behind the bar our 800 rubles change was returned in the form of a Post-It note. Classy.

**GROOVE:** Despite promises to bring in international DJs in the New Year, for the moment local DJs will be providing an industry-standard house soundtrack. By the end of the evening everyone was on the dance floor, although this was perhaps because they were all absolutely smashed rather than because the music was any good.

**BATHROOMS:** Unisex, spacious and with the same metallic, industrial feel of the rest of the club. Drunken toilet sex was obviously taken into consideration when deciding on cubicle size. And so it should have been.

**HOURS:** Last man standing on weekends from 11 p.m.

### ADDRESSES

**PRICES:** Either Neft has decided to link the price of drinks directly to the current price of oil, or prices are just always this low. A shot of vodka is 150 rubles, beer is 170 a bottle and you can even get a perfectly

**Neft**, 15a Oruzheiny Per., Metro: Mayakovskaya, Tel. 644-7737; **Solyanka**, 11 Solyanka Ul., Metro: Kitai-Gorod, 221-7957; **Gaudi Arena**, 1 Skladochnaya Ul., Bldg. 19, Metro: Savolovskaya, Tel. 508-8060; **16 Tons**, 6 Presnensky Val Ul., Bldg. 1, Metro: Ulitsa 1905 Goda, Tel. 253-5300



## best parties

### thursday, nov. 6

The best turntable event of the fall since the DMC World DJ in September. This fifth anniversary party for Flammable Beats, a Moscow-based DJ crew, mixes it up with DJ A-Trak from Montreal. At 15 A-Trak was the youngest person ever to win a DMC championship, and his credentials only got better from there. Now Kanye West’s tour DJ, he also runs two record labels and is part of The Allies crew. Entry is 500 rubles from 11 p.m. at Solyanka pending feis kontrol.

### friday, nov. 7

There’s nothing worse than when a superstar DJ turns up at your party uninvited. Tonight Gaudi Arena host Dutch techno titan Ferry Corsten for Gatecrasher’s November party. Currently ranked sixth in the world on theDJlist.com, Corsten promises both to bring tracks from his latest album “Twice in a Blue Moon” and not to steal any of the host’s CDs. Entry is 1,500 rubles from 11 p.m. pending feis kontrol.

### saturday, nov. 8

Inspired by both Wu-Tang Clan and Franz Kafka, British electro-pop band These New Puritans’ live shows often begin with them transforming themselves into giant insects before rapping about how much they love their mommas. Not really, but their electronic beat-infused brand of pop does hit the dance floors of Moscow tonight for the first time tonight at 16 Tons. Entry is 1,000 rubles for a 10 p.m. start.

## recent reviews



### nightlife

#### • Chapurin Bar

18 months after Denis Simachyov sucker punched Stoleshnikov with his deliriously debauched bar-boutique, fellow designer Igor Chapurin has opened his own greeting spot for Moscow's glitterati on Kuznetsky Most. But where you have toilet seats, silver Kalashnikovs and anime porn at Simachyov, here you have armchairs and tables designed with Chapurin's characteristic simplicity. It's a Milanese fashion cafe, not the playpen of a deranged millionaire. You come here for a civilized drink before you take your table at The Most two doors down, not to Hoover coke off a designer toilet seat behind a velvet curtain.

**price:** \$\$\$\$

#### • Zatura Bar

Elegant without being stuffy, Zatura Bar combines a gorgeous 19th-century aesthetic with sleek, modern ambience. Huge chandeliers hang over the bar, ornate wood paneling hugs the walls and the mirrors in the pristinely clean bathrooms are imported from France. The main room fits about 100 people lounging and smoking hookah while the DJ sifts through chilled-out house music. There's no dress code; it's the expensive drink prices that keep the riff-raff out.

**price:** \$\$\$\$

#### • Ice Bar

Vodka is a drink best served cold so Kauffman built an entire bar out of ice blocks and somehow snuck it into the basement of TsUM. Don

your spacesuit (to protect against frostbite) and find a place at the ice bar where you can enjoy Kauffman vodka and various zakuski. A popular post-banya spot, their menu ranges from single shots starting at 80 rubles to a plate of oladi and caviar that costs more than Antarctica.

**price:** \$\$\$

#### • Black Star

Timati tries his hand at club ownership and realizes it's easier to rap about partying than to actually throw one. There's something ridiculous and tacky about perching a club atop a shopping mall and the view from the elevator is by far the most exciting thing Black Star has to offer. Once past the fascist feis-kontrollers you can expect a sickening monochrome interior, a few resident DJ's with meaningless monikers spinning generic hip-hop and r'n'b and (if you are really unfortunate) a performance by Timati himself.

**price:** \$\$\$\$

### deep dish

#### • La Stazione [1]

La Stazione, part of the Renaissance Moscow Hotel's transportation-themed dining area, effortlessly combines a consistent concept, swift service, delicious food and a relaxed atmosphere. So easily in fact that that it provokes the question: "Why isn't it always this easy?" Airy, open and with an elegant monochromatic color scheme, the decor replicates an early 20th century train station, while the menu features a manage-

able selection of both traditional and inventive Italian dishes. Prices are high, but then so is the quality. **cuisine:** italian **price:** \$\$\$\$

#### • Tibet Himalaya

Opening a restaurant is hard enough, but when your key ingredient is yak, setting up a Tibetan restaurant in Moscow seems especially challenging. Tibet Himalaya hedges its bets a little, offering 40 percent Tibetan dishes "because Russians wouldn't like 100 percent." The decor, however, is entirely authentic, adorned with an abundance of Tibetan prayer flags, Buddhas and photos of the Dalai Lama. The Chinese and Indian selections on the menu are a little hit-and-miss, but if you stick to the authentic Tibetan dishes you could get a unique and amazing meal for less than 1,000 rubles.

**cuisine:** tibetan, asian **price:** \$\$

#### • Bulvar 10/7

Pan-European cuisine minus oligarch prices, Bulvar 10/7 is another example of Moscow's recent embrace of affordable dining. Candlelight and exposed brick are part of an impressive decor that belies the restaurant's low prices. The menu is full of reliable classics: Caesar salad, solyanka soup, bliny, oysters, etc. The duck salad offsets slightly-earth meat with sweet fruit, their mahi-mahi slips right off the bone and the filet mignon is cooked to pink perfection.

**cuisine:** european, russian **price:** \$\$

#### • Mili

Moscow's newest restaurateur Pavel Chmelyov throws his hat into the ring by bringing the novel concept of "food without frills" to the world's most expensive city. Mili doesn't have a sleek aesthetic or lavish ambience but they do offer hearty dishes at meager prices. Their oven-baked sea bass and seafood fettuccine offer flavor comparable to a much more expensive restaurant and their tiramisu could feed an entire family; a perfect choice for those who want gourmet food without a gourmet bill.

**cuisine:** italian **price:** \$\$

US\$ per person  
\$ = up to \$25 (up to 650 rubles); \$\$ = \$25-\$50 (650-1,300 rubles); \$\$\$ = \$50-\$75 (1,300-1,950 rubles); \$\$\$\$ = \$75-\$100 (1,950-2,600 rubles); \$\$\$\$\$ = over \$100 (2,600 rubles and up)

## advertisements

### MILI

At Mili generous portions of Italian dishes come at wallet-friendly prices with prompt service. Wooden furniture, fireplace and photos on the walls set relaxed Mediterranean mood. Three wood ovens in which you can watch Mili's chef prepare pizzas, fish and meats add to the atmosphere. Make sure you try the delicious desserts from our in-house bakery. Spacious modernly-equipped banqueting hall is at your service.



15 Lubyansky Proyezd  
Metro: Kitai-Gorod  
Tel. 625-1020, 621-3552

### GORKI

Mediterranean and Russian cuisine. New dishes from the chef — flame-grilled fish and meat. New sushi menu. Open from noon until the last guest.

3 1-ya Tverskaya-Yamskaya Ul.,  
Metro: Mayakovskaya,  
Tel. 775-2456  
www.gorki.ru



### SIRENA

The most famous fish and seafood restaurant in town is always happy to introduce you and your guests to its magical sea atmosphere. A journey in an old-style ship and an amazing evening, dining with fish (live and roasted), international and Russian dishes, excellent wine list and live piano.

15 Bol. Spasskaya Ul.  
Metro: Sukharevskaya  
Tel. 608-1412,  
608-0200  
www.novikovgroup.ru



### KARMA BAR

One of the most popular nightclubs in town, especially among English-speaking expats. Eastern-inspired interior, hookahs, and Pan-Asian cuisine for dancers with an appetite.

3 Pushechnaya Ul.  
Metro: Kuznetsky  
Most  
Tel. 624-5633,  
789-6901  
www.karma-bar.ru



### BULVAR 10/7

Lovingly-made pan-European and Russian cuisine that will delight your tastebuds without being a burden on your wallet. Tasteful, cozy surroundings that are ideal for a date, with an excellent wine list to suit your meal, all coming at wallet-friendly prices.

10 Rozhdestvensky Bul., Metro:  
Trubnaya,  
Tel. 951-4244



### UZBEKISTAN

Come see our "Lamb on a Spit" culinary show! A young black lamb is marinated to an ancient Uzbek recipe in wine or cognac and prepared on a spit in a special way to keep it juicy. Our chef slowly turns the spit that holds the lamb, and drops of juice fall right on the coals, producing an amazing scent that will give even the pickiest eaters an appetite.

29 Neglinnaya Ul.  
Tel. (495) 625-3284,  
623-0585  
www.uzbek-rest.ru



### ADDRESSES

**Tibet Himalaya**, Sheremyetevsky mall, 10/2 Nikolskaya Ul., Metro: Lubyanka, Tel. 287-2021; **Chapurin Bar**, 6/3 Kuznetsky Most Ul., Bldg. 3, Metro: Kuznetsky Most, Tel. 660-5075; **Zatura Bar**, 1 Pokrovka Ul., Metro: Kitai-Gorod, Tel. 621-3595; **Bulvar 10/7**, 10/7 Rozhdestvensky Bul., Metro: Trubnaya, Tel. 621-0013; **Ice Bar**, TsUM mall, 2 Petrovka Ul., Metro: Teatralnaya, Tel. 933-7300; **Mili**, 15 Lubyansky Proyezd, Metro: Kitai-Gorod, Tel. 625-1020, 621-3552; **La Stazione**, Renaissance Moscow Hotel, 18/1 Olimpiyskiy Pr., Metro: Prospekt Mira, Tel. 931-9000; **Black Star**, 7th floor of Yevropeyskiy mall, 2 Kievskogo Vokzala Pl., Metro: Kievskaya, Tel. 220-5510

### FROM PAGE 3

**16 Tons**, 6 Presnensky Val Ul., Bldg. 1, Metro: Ulitsa 1905 Goda, Tel. 253-5300; **Justo Banya Dush**, 3 Teatralny Per., Metro: Lubyanka, Tel. 625-6836; **35mm**, 47/24 Pokrovka Ul., Metro: Krasniye Vorota, Tel. 917-5492; **B1Maximum**, 11 Ordzhonikidze Ul., Metro: Shabolovskaya, Leninsky Prospekt, Tel. 648-6777; **Vinzavod**, 1 4-y Syromyatnicheskiy Per., Bldg. 6, Metro: Kurskaya, Tel. 917-4646; **Moscow House of Photography**, 1 Manezhnaya Pl., Manezh, Metro: Alexandrovsky Sad, Tel. 231-3325; **Miele Gallery**, Mercedes-Benz Center, 39a Leninsky Pr., Metro: Aeroport, Tel. 745-8993





## lunch around town

### CHAIHONA-1

Home-style Uzbek cuisine, chillout, hookah.

Open from noon till midnight, [www.chaihona.com](http://www.chaihona.com). Business lunch from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m., special offer 30 percent discount off the menu.

Pushkinskaya Nab. in Gorky Park, Metro: Oktyabrskaya, Tel. 778-1756;  
4/6 Bol. Gruzinskaya Ul., Metro: Krasnopresnenskaya, Tel. 254-0292

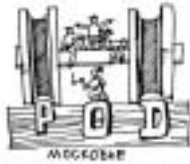


### PODMOSKOVYE

Located in the heart of Moscow, Podmoskovye is a cozy cafe-club.

Enjoy our delicious European menu, as well as a traditional Russian lunch and drinks, and also take part in special exclusive contests. It's delicious food for a small amount of money! New Eastern-inspired menu: lagman, manty, plov with lamb.

6 Mal. Kislovsky Per., Metro: Arbatskaya, Tel. 691-9132, [www.podclub.ru](http://www.podclub.ru)



### TSVETENIYE SAKURY

Tsveteniye Sakury is a Japanese eatery on Ulitsa Krasina near Mayakovskaya metro station. The restaurant offers a completely new restaurant concept for Moscow — the combination of traditional and contemporary Japanese cuisine. Business lunch is available from Monday to Friday from 12 to 4 p.m. Three menus are available from 300 rubles. 7 Krasina Ul., Bldg. 1, Metro: Mayakovskaya; Tel. 254-7908



### Old Havana

Hot Brazilian show Tuesday to Saturday at 9 p.m.

Cuban and European cuisine, hand-made cigars.

Banquets for up to 200 guests.

Every Wednesday bar hosts Sol do Brasil parties with free Latin dancing classes and capoeira performance. Free entrance.

Every Thursday Fiesta Latina party at the bar. Free entrance. Every Friday and Saturday disco party.

Every Sunday at 9 p.m. retro party.

Free entrance. 20% discount on cigars and at the bar.

#### Happy hours

5 to 7 p.m. Cuban cocktails and beer on tap: 2 for 1

#### Open

Restaurant: Tue.-Sat. from 7 p.m.

Bar: Tue.-Sat 24 hours; Sun., Mon. 7 p.m. to 6 a.m.

Address: 28 Talalikhina Ul.  
Metro: Volgogradsky Prospekt  
Tel. 723-1656, 676-1044  
[www.old-havana.ru](http://www.old-havana.ru)



### Help

At Help bar we exchange money for a good mood at very attractive prices! Over 170 drinks for just 150 rubles. New fall menu.

#### Exotic cocktails.

Alcohol-gastronomic roulette — come over to win free breakfast, lunch or a cocktail.

Address: 27 1st Tverskaya-Yamskaya Ul., Bldg. 1, Metro: Belorusskaya  
Tel. 995-5395  
[www.helpbar.ru](http://www.helpbar.ru)



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## scorpio (oct. 24-nov. 22)

A Japanese man set fire to the hotel where he was due to get married rather than go through with the ceremony later the same day, newspaper reports said on Monday. Tatsuhiro Kawata, 39, had gone along with wedding plans but told police, "I thought if I set a fire I wouldn't have to go through with the wedding." Guests at the hotel were evacuated and no one was injured at the resort hotel where he and his fiancée had been set to get married before 80 guests. He was arrested after suddenly cancelling the event and behaving suspiciously. Scorpios, if you don't like something, just make a clean breast of it. Don't go around setting fires, or crashing your car, or pretending to have an acute attack of indigestion. You're not obliged to go through with anything. If you change your mind, that's that. Just admit it.

**LEO DICAPRIO, NOV. 11 (1974)**

**ELEMENT STAR GAZER AYANO HODOUCHI**

## sagittarius (nov. 23-dec. 21)

Said Lord Chesterfield: "Whoever is in a hurry shows that the thing he is about is too big for him." Are you in a hurry these days, Sags? Why? Are you afraid that you might not be able to accomplish what you set about to do? Taking a break and looking back on why you are in such a hurry might reveal many things about yourself and what you are working on. I don't mean to be discouraging, but there's a Turkish proverb which says that the devils takes a hand in what is done in haste. Anyway, it would behoove you to contemplate your projects more carefully. Is there a need to hurry? Does haste improve the performance? You might be surprised by negativity of some of the answers you find.

## capricorn (dec. 22-jan. 20)

Police in Taiwan served a lonely man cake and sang happy birthday after arresting him for stealing a goose to celebrate on his own, an officer in charge said. Police in the southern township of Neipu surprised the 49-year-old suspect by celebrating his birthday after they caught him making off with the bird from a betel nut plantation, said Hsiao Chi-liang, second in command at the local police station. "It was his birthday and he stole it to celebrate, so we bought him a cake," Hsiao said. "He was very surprised." Officers took pity on Lee because he was poor, single and living in a shabby home, Hsiao said. Capris, you've been feeling mighty lonely these days, but the world is actually a much more compassionate place than you think it is. You don't need to steal a goose for your own birthday, if you reach out and let others know you need company, many would be glad to stay with you. This week, I advise you to reach out to your friends. You'd be surprised at how happy they would be to see you.

## aquarius (jan. 21-feb. 18)

If there is one person in the world I agree with, it's Rabindranath Tagore, who said; "I have become my own version of an optimist. If I can't make it through one door, I'll go through another door — or I'll make a door. Something terrific will come no matter how dark the present." I still think that is the only way to get on in the world — do what you can, and that often means making your own solutions. While it may often be difficult to find a way out in the well trodden path, if you beat your own path, it will at least be tailored to your own needs and capabilities, even if you do not know where it will lead. Independent Aquarius is never satisfied with following others anyway. Don't burden yourself with what others want from you, just do what you want!

## pisces (feb. 19-march. 20)

A man may have won points with his girlfriend by offering to help renovate her home. Police weren't impressed, however. Authorities say the man stole some of the things he was using in the renovation, including \$10,000 worth of cabinets. The 29-year-old man was booked with possession of stolen property. The St. Bernard Parish Sheriff's Office said he was helping renovate his girlfriend's home with items that had been reported stolen in at least three burglaries. The items included the cabinets removed from the walls of a home in Violet and carpet cut from the floors. Pisces, you may think the new love interest in your life is Mr or Miss Right — but it would be good to be more cautious. I'm not suggesting your new boyfriend or girlfriend could be over-

stepping the boundaries of the law, but they may not be completely honest about themselves. Before getting too involved, take a more detached stance and observe if this person is really what you want them to be.

## aries (march 21-april 20)

Said Lord Byron, "Always laugh when you can. It is cheap medicine." Pulling a long face lately, Aries? Why? The financial news at the moment may not be for laughter, but you can still find something to laugh about — even if you have to make your own jokes. Laughter makes the world bearable, Aries. It greases the wheels of everyday existence and makes the world go around. This week, try to laugh. Really try to laugh. In a few days, it will seem less unnatural, and you will be rewarded by the world appearing to you in much brighter colors. I'm not pulling your leg. Just try it.

## taurus (april 21-may 20)

A soup kitchen exclusively for dogs has opened its doors in Berlin providing pets of the homeless and unemployed with a free meal, the director of the establishment said. Despite the looming financial crisis, director Claudia Holm dismissed criticism that it may be more sensible to collect money for humans than for dogs. "Nowadays people underestimate dogs. They are incredibly important for those who lack social contact with other humans," Holm told reporters. "Making sure dogs don't go hungry is just as important as making sure that people don't starve," she added. Taurus, what you may be looking for is the comfort of a pet, not a human being. I'm a pet owner myself and I think I'd rather eat much less myself than let my dog starve. A pet can be a strong support, and perhaps having one might alleviate some of the frustration and stress and loneliness you are feeling right now. If you decide to adopt an animal, I hope you will adopt a homeless one, or one whose owner cannot keep it. Gratitude helps, they say. My own pure bred Maltese thinks I should be grateful to her for being my pet.

## gemini (may 21-june 21)

An embarrassing error occurred in Swansea, Wales, when a road sign in English warned drivers that the route ahead is not suitable for heavy trucks, but in Welsh read: "I am not in the office at the moment. Please send any work to be translated." Swansea Council says the embarrassing error occurred when officials didn't realize an e-mailed reply from a translator was a warning that he wasn't available, not the wording to be used on the sign. You too, Gemini, might be lost in translation this week. Do not take anything for granted, and double check, even if you are pretty sure you are not mistaken. The results may be pretty embarrassing, so the little extra time and bother is something worth going through.

## cancer (june 22-july 22)

An 81-year-old Chinese man has proved age need not be a barrier to Internet love, marrying a 58-year-old bride he met online. Wu Jieqin, a retired Beijing art professor who has spent time in an aged-care home, married Jiang Xiaohui, 23 years younger, in a ceremony on the weekend, saying, "The Internet doesn't belong to the young alone. There are no rules against old people seeking love online." Feeling lonely lately,

Cancers? Not meeting anyone interesting? It may be time to go online. I know of several people myself who found great matches online, but not necessarily through dating sites. Any social networking site could be a potential meeting ground. Don't be so dismissive. It could be the answer to your prayers. You won't know until you try it!

## leo (july 22-aug. 22)

Being a cheapskate could get you in trouble with the law. Fulton County authorities arrested 40-year-old Dan Linscomb of Texas City, Texas, last week for refusing to pay his tab at the all-you-can-eat Iron Skillet buffet in northwest Atlanta. Officials say Linscomb ate at the buffet and let his girlfriend eat from his plate. The restaurant charged him for two \$7 meals, which he refused to pay. Linscomb was taken to the Fulton County Jail on a charge of theft of service. Fulton County Sheriff's Sgt. Nikita Hightower said Linscomb was released two days later after pleading guilty to a lesser charge of disorderly conduct. Linscomb could not be reached for comment. Restaurant officials refused to comment. Leos, it's not a big deal. While times may be difficult and it is a good idea to economize, don't make a song and dance out of it. You'll feel much better paying a bit more than a bit less. In the long run, I dare say it will save you much more money.

## virgo (aug. 23-sept. 22)

"Absence diminishes small loves and increases great ones, as the wind blows out the candle and fans the bonfire," said French aristocrat and writer FranHois Duc de La Rochefoucauld. Concerned about the absence of your loved one recently? It may sound a bit fatalistic to say so, but this may be the test of time and distance — if your love can weather these obstacles, it's real, if it can't, it wasn't real in the first place. Do not be afraid of trials and problems. They may be an excellent opportunity to test if this is right for you. Just know what you want, and the result, whatever it may be, will be right for you.

## libra (sept. 23-oct. 23)

A Maltese dog named Max is headed home to Florida after he was spotted in Chicago — 1,000 miles from where he originally vanished. Richard Gonzalez had reported a pet theft after Max disappeared several months ago from his daughter's yard in Brandon, Florida. Gonzalez says he thought that Max would never get far but the pooch was identified in Chicago by an implanted microchip. Gonzalez contacted the North Central Maltese Rescue to retrieve Max. Rescue director Mary Palmer had the dog taken to Racine, Wisconsin and he will be flown to Florida on Saturday. Gonzalez says he has no idea how his dog got so far away. He says he was so thrilled about the find that he almost asked Palmer to put Max on the phone. It may not be a dog or a pet, but you too may find a long lost item of emotional value this week. If you are looking for something, do not restrict your search by thinking, "I've already checked there," or "it can't be there." Keep an open mind, and what you are looking for will likely surface soon.

## coming next issue

- The Pushkin Museum hosts an exhibition of works by J. M. W. Turner.
- French composer Jean-Michel Jarre charms the Kremlin Palace.
- Yury Grymov's film "Chuzhiye" ("Aliens") bashes America.

LOOK FOR IT NOV. 13.

## your space

- Qualified pilates foundation teacher is now offering private pilates classes. Please contact Eva at ekac79@yahoo.co.uk.
- Psychoanalytic therapy for children and adults. Psychological consulting. Disorder is a state of mind. Recognize limitations hindering you from reaching your full potential, eliminate energy blockages to discover your inner voice. Contact Yelena on 8 (926) 521-3624 or email at elenaurb@rambler.ru.
- A drinking club with a running problem meets up every Sunday at 1 p.m. in winter (already started) and 3 p.m. in summer at metro Mayakovskaya, near the columns of the Tchaikovsky Concert Hall to run (moderate pace) for an hour in local parks and enjoy beers after. Anyone with a good sense of humor is welcome.

Membership fee: 150 rubles. On-on! moscowharriers.itgo.com.

- Native English speaker willing to help anybody looking to practice english in exchange for helping my Russian. Centrally placed on the Garden Ring. If interested, contact Amit by phone 998-2934 or email at ashuklamit@gmail.com.
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to provide you with Russian to English and English to Russian translations (for Russian to English translations this includes editing by a native English speaker). If you are interested please contact Michael on 8 (963) 631-0552 or by email at: moscowtranslations@hotmail.com.

- Expats who are leaving Moscow are invited to donate their unwanted clothes and shoes to the homeless by leaving them at a drop-off point at 4a Nizhny Susalny Per. Alternatively, contact sheltermoscow@gmail.com, sheltermoscow.googlepages.com or call 8 (926) 696-5636 to arrange for your clothes to be picked up.
- Looking for Football Enthusiasts! We play a weekly pick-up game every Thursday at a stadium in the center of Moscow. We invite anyone to drop by for a good work out and to meet new

people. Contact David Nitzsche-Bell: moscow.pickup.football@gmail.com.

- American who can actually speak proper English offers conversation practice. I also have English-language books and DVDs. Contact Neil on 8 (926) 784-8633.
- I am looking for people who are interested in teaching me English. It would be great if you are native speaker. Please contact Marina: 8 (916) 177-3724 or 13mt@rambler.ru.
- Experienced Russian teacher gives lessons for French, English and Spanish speakers. If you are interested please contact Galina on 8 (905) 510-3161 or at glsh0204@gmail.com.
- I'm learning English (upper-intermediate) and would be happy to practice it with native speaker in exchange for

discussions in Russian. If you are interested please contact Ulyana on 8 (919) 960-1406 or by email at yliana\_msu@mail.ru.

- Non-smoking, British male, 28, IT professional, intermediate Russian, seeks room to rent for 12 months in Rechnoi Volkzal, Vodnoi Stadion or Voikovskaya area. Budget 12,000 to 16,500 rubles (\$500-\$700). Contact: mark.foote@mail.ru.
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