



ALEXANDER BELENKY / SPT

Ice Empire

Visitors to the annual ice sculpture festival at the Peter and Paul Fortress admire giant figures of the Nutcracker and Mouse King carved from ice, with the Winter Palace, Admiralty and St. Isaac's Cathedral visible across the River Neva. The sculptures are lit up after dark. The annual festival runs through the end of February, and this year is themed around Empress Anna Ivanovna's infamous Wedding at the Ice Palace.



NATIONAL NEWS

Nation Mourns Victims Of Bomb Attack

Airport security measures are under scrutiny in the wake of the terrorist attack on Domodedovo Airport, which left 35 people dead. **Pages 2 and 4**

ARTS & CULTURE

Architectural Wonders of The Soviet Union

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ADVERTISING



FIFA President Sepp Blatter visited the city to attend the official declaration of Russia as hosts of the 2018 World Cup.

Blatter Attends Cup Ceremony

By Irina Titova
THE ST. PETERSBURG TIMES

FIFA President Sepp Blatter said he was certain the 2018 World Cup was in good hands and joined Russian officials in signing a formal declaration Sunday in St. Petersburg that awards the soccer tournament to Russia.

"Congratulations to Russia, its government and its nation on having the privilege of organizing the World Cup," Blatter said at a ceremony in which Russia was conferred the official status of the cup's host country.

Blatter was less focused on the organizational challenges than on his greater vision of bringing soccer to largely uncharted territory such as Russia and Qatar, which was awarded the 2022 World Cup.

"Football is more than just kicking the ball," he said at a news conference after the signing ceremony. "It is also important to connect different nations, and our philosophy this time was to

give the World Cup to territories that had never hosted it."

Sports Minister Vitaly Mutko picked up on the theme in thanking FIFA for choosing Russia over countries that already have much of the necessary infrastructure in place.

"FIFA is not just a football organization," he said. "It develops the world and it goes to new countries."

Mutko said St. Petersburg would play "one of the most serious roles" in Russia's World Cup.

The preliminary draw for the matches will take place in the Mariinsky Theater. The city will also host a number of the cup's matches, while some teams will base themselves in the area, Mutko said.

St. Petersburg Governor Valentina Matviyenko said FIFA's decision plays an important role for the country and the city.

"The World Cup will favor not only the development of soccer but also the

development of children's sports and sport infrastructure," Matviyenko said on City Hall's web site.

"We have started building a new modern stadium that meets all the FIFA and UEFA standards right in time," the governor said.

Matviyenko said the city's victory in the Russian Soccer Championship last year confirmed the city's title of the country's soccer capital.

Blatter met Saturday with Prime Minister Vladimir Putin, who has promised that Russia will follow through on its commitments to spend tens of billions of dollars on new stadiums and infrastructure.

Russia has never organized a World Cup and has an enormous amount of work to do to get ready. Besides building stadiums and hotels, Russia will need to upgrade airports and roads to transport 32 soccer teams and millions of visitors to 13 cities spread across much of its vast territory.

Pulkovo Feels Shock of Moscow Suicide Bomb

By Galina Stolyarova
THE ST. PETERSBURG TIMES

St. Petersburg's Pulkovo Airport has adopted heightened security measures in the wake of the suicide bombing that killed 35 or more at Domodedovo Airport in Moscow on Monday (see full report on page 4), while local and national officials hurried to express their outrage and announce measures aimed at preventing similar tragedies in the future.

"All passengers are asked to arrive at the airport three hours prior to departure as safety precautions have been increased," said Olga Antipova, a spokeswoman for Pulkovo Airport. All departing passengers and anyone accompanying them will now have to walk through metal detectors installed right at the entrance to the terminal building. Detectors were originally placed at the entrance to the airport in 2004 following an earlier devastating attack when two female suicide bombers carried out terrorist attacks on two planes — one en route from Moscow to Sochi, the other going from Moscow to Volgograd — but were removed recently, reportedly in an effort to cut costs.

Tightened security measures have led to enormous queues at departures. However, there have so far been no reports of flight delays or passengers missing their planes due to the additional checks. Vadim Kashirin, head of the Transport Office of the Interior Ministry for northwest Russia, said additional staff from his forces had been sent to the airport to enhance security. "We have sent 260 transport police officers to Pulkovo; we have also brought in dog handlers to monitor

the premises of the airport," Kashirin said.

"We are aware of the long lines and we are sending all available people to the airport to resolve the situation. However, passengers themselves must be patient and make sure they arrive in advance," Kashirin said.

At least one St. Petersburg resident was among the more than 150 people injured at Domodedovo, 43 of them seriously, when a bomb went off at around 4.25 p.m. in the international arrivals terminal of Domodedovo Airport.

St. Petersburg resident Denis Zhulyov, 39, sustained minor injuries and is undergoing treatment in Moscow's State Clinical Hospital No. 71.

City Hall has announced that it is ready to cover the cost of travel for the victim's relatives to and from Moscow and give him other financial assistance if necessary.

City Governor Valentina Matviyenko expressed her condolences to the families of those who had perished in the explosion. "Those behind this dreadful attack are monsters, they do not deserve to be called human beings," Matviyenko said. "Attacking innocent, peaceful people is a most despicable act."

The governor also said that security precautions had been strengthened at all local metro stations and on other public transport.

Igor Levitin, Russia's Transport Minister, announced that a government commission is being formed with a brief to travel around Russia inspecting the country's regional airports. Pulkovo Airport will be the subject of one such inspection in the very near future.

THE WEEK IN REVIEW

Finger-Pointing: Soccer Fans Insist They Were Innocent Victims

By Philip Parker
THE ST. PETERSBURG TIMES

The number of St. Petersburg residents among the victims of the bomb attack at Moscow's Domodedovo Airport on Monday is not yet known, nor had anyone claimed responsibility for the atrocity by Tuesday evening. It is unlikely that the latter will provoke much surprise, but in a relatively slow week in St. Petersburg, blame for the few newsworthy incidents has been ascribed in some intriguing and educational ways.

The first tragedy of the week came last Wednesday evening, when the recently launched Allegro high-speed rail link between St. Petersburg and Helsinki claimed "its first victims," as Fontanka.ru reported, killing two young men between Shuvalovo and Udelnaya stations. Later reports clarified that the train was not actually itself to blame for the accident — the victims were crossing the tracks at an unsanctioned place, ignored warning signals from the train, and were apparently intoxicated.

Weather conditions were said to be the cause of a helicopter crash in the Leningrad Oblast on Thursday afternoon that left one dead and three seriously injured. The AS-355M helicopter, owned by a local club, was flying from the island of Valaam to Rzhhevka Airport, northeast of St. Petersburg, when



A memorial for Domodedovo victims was set up in St. Petersburg's Moscow Train Station on Tuesday.

it crashed into the ice on Sukhodolsky Lake in the Priozersk district. Unusually, there has been no attempt to contest the official reports.

The biggest blame game this week, however, has been that surrounding the brawl in the southern district of Kupchino on Sunday evening, which saw 20 people arrested and two hospitalized. The fight was between fans of Zenit FC and a group of Azerbaijani origin gathered around a café at the corner of Budapeshtskaya Ulitsa and

Ulitsa Yaroslava Gasheka. No official report has yet been released describing the catalyst for the fight, but the blogosphere was dominated by outraged nationalist sympathizers claiming that the aggression was all on the part of the Azeris, and that the Zenit fans were merely protecting their fellow Russian citizens. They continue to propagate the dangerous and frankly laughable notion that Caucasians enjoy special protection from the police, and tenuous parallels were drawn with

the killing in Moscow of soccer fan Yegor Sidorov.

As in that case, there were attempts to organize a mass protest, with a group on social networking site V Kontakte.ru calling for 100 to 150 people to gather on Tuesday evening at Kupchino metro station to deliver money and supplies to their hospitalized comrades and ensure "public monitoring of the treatment of the injuries and their safety, and of the process of the legal case against the criminals," as reported by Rosbalt. The unsanctioned event resulted in some kettling and ten further arrests.

According to Fontanka.ru, however, sources in local law enforcement claim that the fight began when young soccer fans started kicking a car with Azeri nationals inside, shortly after Azeri football team Inter Baku won the 2011 CIS Champions' Cup, having beaten a Zenit youth team in the semifinals on Friday. This is the latest in a series of fights between soccer fans and people of Caucasian origin in the city, and the former are becoming increasingly adept at spinning their warped version of events online.

A more light-hearted vein of racism was mined in response to the announcement last week that the city's Culture Committee was publishing an "Alphabet for St. Petersburg Beginners," designed to introduce guests — including

migrant workers — to the culture and customs of the city. Judging by extracts published online, the "Alphabet for Beginners" is a fairly mundane and inoffensive document, partly a sightseeing guide and partly a primer in the lexical quirks of St. Petersburg Russian (prompting a depressingly large number of bloggers to question how many "guests" could actually read, let alone understand the subtle linguistic differences between words for "staircase" or "pavement"). This was in contrast to the controversial Muscovite's Codex, announced in the capital last June and purported to contain sanctions on wearing national dress and slaughtering livestock in city courtyards.

Never mind national costumes, one disturbed St. Petersburg resident appears to be waging a single-handed terror campaign to rid the city of miniskirts, if online rumor is to be believed. Among several unsubstantiated reports of young women being poked on the metro by a man with a sharp object, possibly a bradawl, police confirmed one incident in which a 31-year-old woman was poked in the buttock with a sharp object at Gorkovskaya metro station Jan. 12, according to Fontanka.ru. This incident was linked to a series of similar attacks in various regions of northern St. Petersburg over the last 18 months, all against young women in miniskirts. You have been warned.

Animal Lovers Protest Dog Culling in LenOblast

By Sergey Chernov
STAFF WRITER

Hundreds came Sunday to protest the killing of cats and dogs ordered by City Governor Valentina Matviyenko as part of measures to fight the outbreak of African swine fever (ASF) in Volodarsky, a village to the southwest of St. Petersburg.

The disease is often fatal to pigs and wild boars, but does not pose a threat to humans or domestic animals, although it can be carried by some species of tic. Concerned citizens have petitioned the Russian authorities and the Prosecutor General, as well as international animal welfare organizations, against what they call the illegal and unreasonably cruel actions of City Hall.

The authorities claim that only stray animals are being culled, but alarmed residents allege that those responsible for exterminating the animals don't distinguish between stray animals and pets, while domestic cats and dogs are frequently let out on their own, especially in villages such as Volodarsky.

Officially, 27 dogs were killed in Volodarsky. "We decided not to shoot the animals, and chose a more human method — specialists put 27 dogs to sleep," said Svetlana Valeyeva, chair of the Veterinary Service Assistance Association.

Svetlana Los, a chair of the Right to Life animal rights organization and co-organizer of Sunday's rally, said the real number was much higher.

"All this is lies, in reality a lot more dogs were killed," she said.

"I was present at the extermination of dogs, and I had to pull a dog away from one of the exterminators and save its life. It had been shot with a syringe from a pneumatic gun, with a triple dose of sedative for a small dog. If I had not managed to take it from it, it would



A stray dog shelters from the rain under a phone booth in central St. Petersburg.

have died." She added that the dog had been sterilized and chipped in 2008.

According to Los, she went to Volodarsky along with other people Saturday to interview and videotape witnesses of the culling.

"The exterminators were culling animals near the church in broad daylight — it was noon, when children were coming home from school, the extermination was happening right before the eyes of the children."

Los said that one large dog that had been shot with a syringe managed to run home. "Then the catcher came and demanded money from the owner, so she had to pay him 1,000 rubles (\$34) to save her dog's life," she said.

"Then she had to call a vet to come and treat the dog, because it had been poisoned and was vomiting."

Although City Hall reported that the outbreak of ASF was under control

by Jan. 14, Los said that the extermination of animals continues and has expanded beyond the limits of Volodarsky.

"This morning I received a call about three dogs being killed in Martyshkino, and there were reports about dog killings in Otradnoye," she said Wednesday.

There have been no reports of cats being killed.

According to Los, the culling is being carried out by Spetstrans, an organization that deals with the transport of trash.

"This brings shame on our city," Los said.

"They are permanently drunk, anti-social looking dog-catchers and torturers who kill dogs." An Animals Rights

Concerned residents complain that pets have also been targeted.

Alliance activist, Dmitry, who asked that his last name be withheld, said the figure of 27 culled dogs was understated.

"For certain, it's more than the officials are saying to calm down the public, but it's not hundreds like the emotional dog defenders are saying; as always, the truth is somewhere in between," Dmitry said.



The dogs were culled to stop the spread of African swine fever among pigs.

Waste-Processing Facility Contract Assigned to Firm

By Irina Titova
THE ST. PETERSBURG TIMES

Last week City Hall announced that the Greek consortium of Helector, Aktor Concessions and Aktor had won the contract to construct a waste-processing plant in the village of Yanino outside St. Petersburg, a project which, according to St. Petersburg Governor Valentina Matviyenko, will help to improve the ecological situation in the city and surrounding area. Local ecologists, however, voiced concerns that some technologies used at the plant could still pose threats to the environment.

According to Rosbalt, Matviyenko said that waste processing presented a major problem for the city, which can currently only process around 25 percent of the two million tons of solid residential waste it produces annually. "We have no right to postpone this issue; the city can't exist without a modern waste-processing plant anymore," she added.

Work on construction of the plant is to begin at the end of 2011. The consortium plans to complete the plant by 2015. The plant will have the capacity to process 350,000 tons a year, which can possibly be increased to 460,000 tons in the future. Investment in the project will amount to 300 million euros.

Kostas Triantafylu, head of the project at Helector, said the consortium had already built a similar plant on Cyprus, and that the waste-processing technology used would decrease the emission of harmful substances to a minimum. ABN reported that 30 percent of waste delivered to the plant would be used to produce fuel for industry.

However, the St. Petersburg branch

of Greenpeace said it intended to oppose construction of the plant, claiming that the methods used amounted to harmful incineration of waste, according to a press release from the NGO.

"Although the city authorities call the plant a waste-processing facility, part of the waste at the plant will be processed into fuel and then burnt. Just because the mixed waste is called fuel, it won't be any safer for people," Greenpeace said.

The use of incineration was the result of conditions in the tender stipulating that waste mass be decreased by not less than 70 percent. There are only two ways to achieve this result: Through the organization of sorted waste collection for further processing at the plant, or through incineration of mixed waste that is not suitable for sorting, it said.

According to a letter received by Greenpeace from the consortium, the systems to be employed at the plant will involve the sorting of the waste at the plant, followed by mechanical and biological processing, which would produce a dry fuel that can be burned in cement stoves.

However, Greenpeace insists that it will be impossible to completely remove the dangerous substances collected in St. Petersburg in conjunction with domestic waste. Therefore, they claim, the emissions from burning such "fuel" will not be significantly different from the emissions of a regular waste incineration plant, negating the supposed environmental advantages of the system.

Residents of Yanino village have also regularly spoken out against the construction of the plant in their area, ABN news agency said.

Metro Boss Calls for Investment Boost

By Irina Titova
THE ST. PETERSBURG TIMES

Vadim Alexandrov, general director of Metrostroi, the main constructor of metro lines in St. Petersburg, used a press conference last Friday marking the company's 70th anniversary to highlight the need for greater investment and a massive increase in metro building in the city.

Alexandrov estimates that St. Petersburg will require 30 to 40 new metro stations to make underground rail travel convenient for all city residents, but suggested that such an expansion was essential to ease the city's increasingly acute traffic problems.

"Local subway construction lags at least 20 years behind the city's needs," said Alexandrov in his speech. "For metro travel to be convenient and accessible to everyone, there should be a metro station within at most 700 meters of any city resident. Besides, there is no other city in Russia where transport problems can only be solved with the help of the metro."

Alexandrov said the main reasons for the recent slow development of the city metro were a lack of financing and unnecessarily long tenders. The former factor prompted Alexandrov to criticize the decision to stop federal funding of metro construction, leaving investment entirely dependent on local budgets. The city has allocated nine billion rubles (\$302 million) for metro construction in 2011 which, in Alexandrov's opinion, is two billion rubles less than the proper level of investment.

"In many other countries federal budgets cover from 30 to 100 percent of expenses on metro construction, because it is in the interest of all the state's citizens. We should not forget that St. Petersburg and Moscow are the two capitals of our country," Alexandrov said.

Harking back to the Soviet glory days of the company, Alexandrov said that when Metrostroi began its activities in St. Petersburg (which was then known as Leningrad), the speed of construction of the new metro was considerably faster than today.

The order to begin construction of the metro in Leningrad was signed on Jan. 21, 1941. The initial plans were astonishingly ambitious, assigning two years for the construction of all 19 kilometers of the first line.

"It was definitely an absurdly short time period but, had it not been for the war that began in June of 1941, it could have been completed by the deadline," Alexandrov added.

Admiralteiskaya station is finally due to open at the end of this year or the beginning of 2012.

To build the metro, the city hired 25,000 workers. When hostilities began, however, they were obliged to flood the tunnels they had already dug to protect them from bombardment. It was not until 1955 that the first line was opened, linking eight stations between Avtovo and Ploshchad Vosstaniya.

Since then, a further 56 stations have been opened on five lines with a total length of 112.5 kilometers. The heyday of metro construction ran from the 1960s to the early 1980s, but was downscaled considerably during Perestroika and after the collapse of the Soviet Union. In the next two years, Metrostroi is planning to open only three new metro stations in the city.

All three new stations will be on the Fifth Line, or purple line, which was officially opened in December 2008, although it features in plans dating back to the early 1980s. Two of the stations, Mezhdunarodnaya and Bukharestskaya, will extend the line further into the Frunzenskaya district, a residential area in the south of the city. More interesting, however, is the long-awaited opening of Admiralteiskaya, which has been a "ghost station" on the stretch between Sadovaya and Sportivnaya stations (formerly part of the orange line) for more than a decade. The station could not be opened due to its sensitive location under Ploshchad Truda, close to many of St. Petersburg's most cherished monuments — including the Winter Palace — which has made it difficult to find a suitable site aboveground for the station vestibule, and entailed particular care in construction work.

"We are doing everything possible, using completely new technologies, to ensure the safety of the historic buildings. I have no desire to put pressure on my staff to complete the station any faster. It is our desire above all to make sure that the surrounding buildings do not suffer any deformation or subsidence," Alexandrov said.

A further two-month delay has been caused because area residents have complained about noise levels at night, meaning that Metrostroi's employees can only work on the site during the day, even though an inflatable marquee has been erected over the site to reduce noise pollution.

Alexandrov said that, provided there were no further delays, Admiralteiskaya would finally be opened at the end of this year or the beginning of 2012.



Medvedev Blames Airport for Suicide Blast

By Nabi Abdullaev and Alexandra Odyanova
THE ST. PETERSBURG TIMES

MOSCOW — President Dmitry Medvedev on Tuesday described security at Domodedovo Airport as “simply a state of anarchy” and promised to hold airport management responsible for a suicide bombing that killed at least 35 people, including four foreigners.

Airport officials denied the accusation, saying the transportation police was in charge of screening people entering the public area of the international arrivals hall.

A suicide bomber detonated explosives the equivalent of at least 7 kilograms of TNT in the public area of the arrivals hall at 4:32 p.m. Monday, officials said Tuesday. The Investigative Committee initially said the attack had occurred in the hall’s baggage claim area.

Among those killed in the attack at Moscow’s busiest airport were two Britons, a German and a Bulgarian, the Emergency Situations Ministry said. Another 110 people, including nine foreigners, were hospitalized, it said.

While Medvedev placed blame on the airport, he also said the Interior Ministry and the Federal Security Service were at fault and demanded sanctions against responsible officers.

“I instruct the interior minister to suggest which ministry officials responsible for transport security could be dismissed or face other sanctions,” Medvedev said.

He said FSB officers should face similar punishment.

The president also said a system needed to be set up that would offer the “total examination” of passengers and baggage at airports and train stations.

“This will make it longer for passengers, but it’s the only way,” he said.

The Kremlin said Medvedev still planned to attend the World Economic Forum in Davos but his itinerary has not been finalized. Medvedev was supposed to arrive Tuesday evening and speak at a plenary session Wednesday.

No one has claimed responsibility for the blast.

State television showed footage of passengers busily moving inside the airport without any sign of panic in the hours after the attack. Several passengers confirmed that they saw no panic,



A man walks past the site of the blast at Domodedovo Airport on Tuesday as others wait for a security check to enter.

even though broken glass littered the floor and injured passengers were being rushed to ambulances.

“It’s very bad. It’s 100 percent terrorism,” Ariel, who flew in from Israel, said in an interview after arriving on an airport express train at Paveletsky Station about two hours after the blast. “I think I’m going back to Israel right now.”

A YouTube video shot on a cell phone camera in the smoke-filled arrivals hall showed bodies lying on the floor. Several people in regular clothes, apparently passengers, walked around unrestrained, together with rescue workers and businesslike security officials. A man in a black suit stood with a baggage cart in the hall.

Airport personnel broke down a brick wall to help passengers quickly exit the baggage claim area, RIA-Novosti reported.

Planes continued to take off and land after the explosion. Sibir and

Transaero, the biggest Russian airlines based at Domodedovo, said Monday evening that no flights had been affected.

The last deadly blasts in Moscow occurred March 29 when two female suicide bombers originating from the North Caucasus blew themselves up in the Moscow metro, killing 40 people and wounding 160 others. North Caucasus insurgents later claimed responsibility for the attacks.

The insurgents have targeted Moscow in several high-profile terrorist attacks since fall 1999.

But the Domodedovo blast was not necessarily perpetrated by North Caucasus insurgents, said Maxim Agarkov, a retired Interior Ministry officer who has worked in airport security.

“The attackers might have targeted a plane heading to Domodedovo, but the bomb went off too late,” he said by telephone.

According to the airport’s web site, passengers from flights from Cairo, Ashgabat, Tokyo and Dusseldorf were collecting their baggage at the moment of the blast.

Still, an unidentified law enforcement official told Interfax that three North Caucasus natives — suspected rebels living near Moscow — had been put on a national wanted list after Monday’s explosion.

The official said investigators had linked the men to two suspected female suicide bombers, one of whom died in a largely unnoticed blast in a Moscow sports club on Dec. 31. No one but the woman died in the explosion. The second woman, a 24-year-old native of Chechnya, was arrested earlier this month in Volgograd on suspicion of illegally transporting explosives.

“It is possible that one of these three men blew himself up at Domodedovo,” the official told Interfax.

At Paveletsky Station, some passengers were convinced that the bombing was linked to the restive North Caucasus, where federal forces have fought two wars since 1994.

“I am not surprised,” said Andrei, who spent an hour at the gate waiting to deplane after arriving on a flight from Germany.

“What else do you expect after 15 years of civil war?” he said, referring to the military conflict in the North Caucasus.

After the attack, the Aeroexpress train offered free rides between the train station and Domodedovo Airport, while sympathetic Twitter users offered free rides to the airport and back. Interfax reported that taxi drivers at the airport had hiked prices to as much as 20,000 rubles (\$670) for the 42-kilometer ride into the city. The trip usually costs about 2,500 rubles to the city center.

A Domodedovo employee spoke of the confusion and shock that settled over the airport in the moments after the explosion.

“At the very beginning we didn’t understand what was happening. When we did, it was already late,” said the employee, who spoke on condition of anonymity because she was not authorized to speak to the media.

Details about those killed and injured slowly trickled out Tuesday.

The Emergency Situations Ministry said on its web site that four foreigners had been identified among the injured: Diana Shtotts, 36, of Germany; Suzanna Fialova, 36, of Slovakia; and two Tajik citizens, Saidbek Iskadarov, 42, and Bakhtiyor Gafforiv, 29.

Also injured were Romano Rosario of Italy and Frederic Ortis of France, Interfax said, citing the Health and Social Development Ministry.

Shortly after the explosion, state television reported that dozens of ambulances were headed to the airport from Moscow and hospitals in the nearby town of Domodedovo.

Mayor Sergei Sobyanyin and Moscow region Governor Boris Gromov also rushed to the airport, together with investigators from the Federal Security Service, the Interior Ministry and the Investigative Committee.

Security was beefed up at Sheremetyevo and Vnukovo airports. No flights were canceled, but all passengers and luggage were thoroughly searched, passengers said in televised remarks.

Passengers are advised to arrive at Moscow airports extra early for their flights in the upcoming days. Airport checks will be stepped up, and police will expand their checks to include the people seeing off passengers and their bags as well, the Federal Air Transport Agency said.

U.S. President Barack Obama and European leaders offered their sympathy and support over the bombing.

Slain Briton Was Due To Marry

By Roland Oliphant
THE ST. PETERSBURG TIMES

MOSCOW — A Briton killed in the bombing at Domodedovo Airport was a regular visitor to Russia who was looking forward to getting married in the spring and raising his infant daughter, his brother said Tuesday.

Gordon Cousland, 39, was a property consultant with CACI, a British marketing and IT consultancy, and one of 35 people killed when a suicide bomber blew himself up in the airport’s international arrivals hall Monday.

It was the first time that Western expatriates have been killed in a terrorist attack in Moscow since the Dubrovka theater siege in 2002.

Cousland is survived by a 6-month-old daughter and was due to marry in April, his older brother Robin said by telephone from the family farm in Lincolnshire, east England.

Robin Cousland described his growing fears when he heard about the suicide bombing, but received no reassuring phone call from his brother.

“We knew he was flying in to Moscow yesterday, and we heard there had been an explosion. Normally he would phone home, or at least my father, when he got somewhere, and we never heard anything,” he said.

“As time went on we got more and more worried, and we contacted his work. They had tried to contact him as well. They couldn’t get hold of him; he was supposed to meet somebody there who he didn’t meet.”

The bad news arrived hours later from a diplomat at Britain’s Foreign Office.

“As time went on we eventually heard from the U.K. Foreign Office that he’d been confirmed dead late last night,” Robin said.

Cousland was the only British citizen killed in Monday’s attack, the British Embassy said. Another victim earlier identified as British, Kirill Budashev, turned out not to be a British national, the embassy said.

The youngest of five children, Gordon was thought of as “always the baby of the family,” his brother said.

“He was about seven years adrift of everyone else, and we all tried to look after him a bit, I think. This has come as a terrible shock to us,” Robin said.

Brought up on the family farm in Lincolnshire, Cousland made himself a career in London as a property consultant. “He went away to university to study agriculture and economics, and he went down the kind of economics side of agriculture rather than the working side,” said Robin, who still runs the family farm.

His business training eventually led him to CACI, where he worked as a property consultant specializing in Eastern Europe.

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Norway Expels Celebrity Immigrant Back to Russia

By Alexandra Odynova

THE ST. PETERSBURG TIMES

MOSCOW — She managed to get a university degree, land a job and become citizen of the year in Norway. But this did not save 25-year-old Maria Amelie — born as Madina Salamova — from being expelled to Russia as an illegal immigrant.

Salamova flew into Moscow on Monday, arriving in Russia for the first time in 11 years. Her plane was bound for Sheremetyevo Airport, not Domodedovo, which saw a bomb attack the same day.

Salamova's plight sparked a heated debate in Norway, with local authorities claiming they upheld the law and critics saying her human rights were violated. Diplomats said only her celebrity status differentiates her from hundreds of illegals quietly deported from Norway every year.

Salamova's family moved from North Ossetia to Finland in 2000. Her parents, Khetag Salamov and Yelena Gutyeva, remain in hiding in Norway.

Norwegian media reported that Salamov was a businessman who had to flee debtors, Komsomolskaya Pravda said. North Ossetian blogger Madina Sageyeva speculated that his debts may reach millions of dollars.

Finnish authorities rejected an asylum claim from the family, prompting them to illegally move to Norway in 2002, Radio Liberty reported.

Despite not having a legal status in the country, Salamova mastered the Norwegian language, graduated from a local university and even published an autobiography called "Illegal Norwegian."

The book, out in September under the pen name Maria Amelie, prompted the local weekly news magazine Ny Tid to proclaim her 2010 Citizen of the

Year — and the authorities to initiate her deportation.

Salamova unsuccessfully campaigned against deportation in court, and rights groups, politicians and celebrities in Norway joined a campaign in her support.

Some 1,000 supporters rallied for her release in Oslo this week, and more than 91,000 people have joined her support group on Facebook. A group favoring her deportation numbered less than 6,000 people.

Sagalova spent some time at a detention center for illegal immigrants, and though she was eventually released, police detained her again on Monday and shipped her off to the Oslo airport. Her Norwegian boyfriend, Eivin Traedal — who could not marry her because she has no documents, according to Komsomolskaya Pravda — followed her to Moscow.

Salamova said she felt no attachment to Russia and considered herself a Norwegian citizen. "I live in constant fear" of deportation, she told the Norwegian Broadcasting Corporation soon after her release from custody last week, Radio Liberty reported.

"My friends and the whole country supported me in this fight," she said. "Where am I supposed to go now? My home is here, in Norway."

Norwegian authorities said she was welcome to return with a work permit, which she is entitled to because of a job offer from the local Teknisk Ukeblad newspaper, Norwegian tabloid Verdens Gang reported Monday. But it remains unclear how long the procedure might take.

Russian authorities said after her arrival at Sheremetyevo that Salamova would be provided with accommodation and "would not have to sleep in the streets," Norwegian daily Dagbladet reported, without elaborating.

Cold Baths, Tabasco Sauce Spark U.S. Adoption Dispute

By Natalya Krainova

THE ST. PETERSBURG TIMES

MOSCOW — Russian authorities are considering canceling the adoption of a 7-year-old boy from Magadan whose U.S. parents said they punished him by dousing him with cold water and forcing him to drink spicy Tabasco sauce.

Moreover, U.S. authorities have opened a child abuse case against Jessica Bigley of Anchorage, Alaska, for her treatment of Daniil Bukharov, adopted in 2008 along with his twin brother, Oleg. If convicted in the U.S. case, Bigley faces up to a year in prison.

A video of the boy being punished by an exasperated and sometimes screaming Jessica Bigley was aired on the television talk show "Dr. Phil" in November. The video, available on YouTube, shows Bigley calling the boy "the biggest stress of my life."

Bigley is an elementary school teacher and her husband, Harry, works as a police officer specializing in child abuse investigations.

Children ombudsman Pavel Astakhov said he would seek criminal charges against the adoptive parents, whom he called "monsters," and that the boys might be removed from the family for the duration of the investigation.

"This is not strictness but real torture, the abuse of a child," Astakhov said, Interfax reported.

He said a moratorium should be imposed on U.S. adoptions until a bilateral agreement is signed. Astakhov and the Foreign Ministry called for a mora-

torium last year after a U.S. mother sent her adopted son back to Russia unaccompanied on a plane.

Natalya Zelenskaya, head of the department in the Magadan Mayor's Office that handles adoptions, said Daniil Bukharov's case was under review and his adoption might be annulled, Interfax reported.

A representative of the U.S. agency that helped the Bigleys adopt the twins said the Russian consul would visit the boys this week together with representatives from the adoption agency. The representative, Zoya Krainova, also suggested that the video showing the boy being forced to drink what appears to be Tabasco sauce and to take a cold shower was staged at the request of the show's producers.

The Bigleys adopted Daniil and Oleg from a Magadan orphanage in 2008, Interfax reported.

At the time, Jessica told a local television station that she loved the twins even before she saw them in person, and her husband said he and his wife wanted to "share what we have" with the "deprived" boys.

The Bigleys have four biological children in addition to the twins.

Bukharov's case could be considered relatively mild compared with several other instances in which U.S. parents severely beat or even tortured their adopted children to death. Fifteen Russian children died in adoptive families in the United States between 1996 and 2008. In all but one case, the parents faced criminal charges.

Know-Who Beats Know-How

By Howard Amos

THE ST. PETERSBURG TIMES

MOSCOW — The plea was clear and out of the ordinary.

"I'd like to initiate dialogue with the mayor of Moscow as he's connected at the top," Canadian businessman John Walmsley wrote in a recent e-mail to The Moscow Times.

Walmsley, of Winnipeg-based Biovaiddiagnostics, a medical diagnostic research and development, settled on Mayor Sergei Sobyenin as a target because he is a former associate of Prime Minister Vladimir Putin. He calculated that such an approach "could be more fruitful than random shots at low-end functionaries."

He said in a subsequent e-mail exchange that he wrote to The Moscow Times because he didn't know where else to turn.

"Phones are not much help. As you can imagine, once connected, costs can get a little ridiculous with no results," he said. "My experience has been dismal."

Walmsley's appeal to a local newspaper illustrates the frustrations faced by businesspeople looking to establish contacts in Russia without representatives on the ground.

"You can't run Russia by remote control, you have to be here," said Chris Gilbert, the Russian director of the Russo-British Chamber of Commerce, or RBCC, which has been promoting business ties between Russia and Britain since 1915.

A physical presence is necessary because much business is still conducted face-to-face. "A Russian company will work with a Western company for reasons other than price; there will also be a human factor involved," Gilbert said.

A multitude of private organizations, of which the RBCC is just one, help member companies, for a fee, make these sorts of personal contacts. For U.S. businesses there is the American Chamber of Commerce, the U.S.-Russia Business Council and the Mid-Atlantic Council, among others. For European companies there is the Association of European Businesses in Russia, or AEB.

Canadians like Walmsley struggling to enter the Russian market could turn to the Canada Eurasia Russia Business Association.

These organizations have not been seriously affected by the crisis, said Gilbert, adding that the RBCC, which has about 600 corporate members, saw an increase in requests for assistance in both 2009 and 2010. Companies that previously would have "gone it alone," he said, were now more cautious and sought help, making up for any fall in demand precipitated by the crisis.

The governments of many countries, including Canada, also use their political clout to help businesses find the right partner.

The British company Tensar, based in Blackburn, develops and produces ground stabilization solutions called geogrids that create a stable, weight-bearing layer in the soil.

With the help of U.K. Trade and Investment, or UKTI, a government-run body that assists British businesses in international markets, and the networking events of the RBCC, the company has had a flourishing local presence for 14 years.

"As a medium-sized British manufacturing business," said David Cashman, the company's Russia and Central Asia business manager, "trying to make contact at a very high level in Russia is almost impossible."

The company was, however, greatly assisted by the British Embassy, said Cashman, who gave the example of Tensar's involvement in construction projects linked with the building program for the 2014 Sochi Winter Olympics.

As a part of a trade mission organized by UKTI, Tensar was introduced to Deputy Prime Minister Dmitry Kozak and given an opportunity to discuss

SELECTED BUSINESS ASSOCIATIONS

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Australia	Austrade	www.austrade.gov.au
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	Mid-Atlantic Russia Business Council	www.ma-rbc.org
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	Russian-American Chamber of Commerce	www.russianamericanchamber.org
	U.S. Commercial Service	www.buyusa.gov/russia/en
Canada	The Canada Eurasia Russia Business Association	www.cerbanet.org
Europe	The Association of European Business in the Russian Federation	www.aebus.ru

— SPT

the specifics of one aspect of the company's work.

"We got answers right from the top level," Cashman said. "I can't fault it really." Tensar has been working in Sochi since 2008.

The company has even managed to break into Russia's natural resources industry — a notoriously difficult part of the country's economy for foreigners to work in.

"You do need the two P's — patience and persistence" — to crack the tricky energy sector, Cashman said, but Tensar is now supplying a Gazprom-funded railway project on the mineral-rich Yamal Peninsula in the north, and they were recently approached by a major oil company.

Though strong state support and clever use of available commercial organizations can assist companies, there remain problematic areas for those seeking to make contacts and exploit potential markets.

Making contacts in Moscow or St. Petersburg is one thing, said Val Kogan, president of the Mid-Atlantic - Russia Business Council, which has more than 500 high-tech U.S. companies as members, but it is more complicated in the regions.

"If you take a regional chamber of commerce," he said, "in some cases it will be a very real and helpful organization, in some cases just a paper cut-out."

The process of establishing a presence is simpler for larger companies that have more resources to spend on consultants and public relations. Accessing some industries can be "particularly difficult for small and medium-

sized companies," Kogan said.

John McCaslin, the senior commercial officer with the U.S. Commercial Service, based in the embassy in Moscow, highlighted several other areas where Russian business puts obstacles in the way of those seeking an entry.

He said one issue is a lack of readily available, quality information about opportunities, while another is making sure investors know who is the ultimate beneficial owner of a company, as "there are all sorts of ways to make that information very convoluted."

To this end the U.S. Commercial Service — in a similar fashion to the branches of other foreign governments — employs six full-time staff members to research industries and write reports in English that are freely available online.

They also lobby with the Russian government on the behalf of businesses, when appropriate. Deputy Prime Minister Igor Shuvalov is the "key guy," McCaslin said.

"We pretty much act like an international business consulting firm whose clients are U.S. companies," he added.

McCaslin was upbeat about future developments and said opportunities — and openness among officials — had surged in parallel with President Dmitry Medvedev's rhetoric about creating high-tech industries and the promotion of the Skolkovo innovation center.

Russia's scheduled accession to the World Trade Organization will also have a positive impact "that will really help things in a very broad way, making it easier over the next few years to do business" he said.

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Rage Over Kremlin Envoy's Car Crash

By Alexander Bratersky
THE ST. PETERSBURG TIMES

MOSCOW — Blue Buckets, a bellicose public group campaigning against abuse of road privileges by officials, confirmed on Sunday that it would stage a rally this week in support of a driver hospitalized after her car collided with that of a Kremlin official.

But the group's head, Alexei Dozorov, conceded in a phone interview that if the fault lies with the official and his driver, it will be hard to prove even if a host of witnesses come forward.

Alyona Yarosh, a 23-year-old architecture student, was hospitalized late last Wednesday after her Opel Astra collided with the BMW sedan of Garry Minkh, presidential envoy to the State Duma, on Rublyovskoye Shosse outside Moscow, home to many of the city's elite.

Yarosh sustained numerous broken bones and a head injury. The BMW driver Vladimir Shugayev, 53, died on the spot, while Minkh escaped with minor bruises.

Police were reluctant to give any versions of the accident. Moscow region traffic police spokesman Yevgeny Gildeyev said Friday that an investigation was opened and that investigators were examining video from a nearby surveillance camera.

Interior Minister Rashid Nurgaliyev has refused to comment, citing the ongoing investigation. "I like to have facts first to make an assumption," he told Interfax.

Yarosh's father, Alexander, who arrived at the scene after the crash, said a traffic police report that he signed specified that the BMW had veered into the oncoming lane, Slon.ru reported. He added that Yarosh had more than four years driving experience.

Witnesses told several media outlets that they saw the BMW — equipped with flashing blue lights that give officials' cars priority on the road — driving in the wrong lane.

"The presidential envoy was driving in the oncoming lane with the flashing light turned on. Everyone barely managed to swerve from him. We saw it, and we're ready to confirm it," one unidentified witness told Gazeta.ru.

Kommersant also cited people who implicated Minkh's car in the crash, and a law enforcement source told Interfax that the video from a nearby surveillance camera confirmed this version.

But some Kremlin officials have al-

ready disagreed. A spokesman for the Office for Presidential Affairs, Viktor Khrekov, said it was Yarosh who drove in the wrong lane, Gazeta.ru reported Thursday. He cited unspecified "preliminary data" and said the investigation would settle matters. Asked about the accident in an interview with Ekho Moskvy radio on Friday, Khrekov refused to blame either driver.

No witnesses had been identified as of Sunday, but Alyona Yarosh's brother, Anton, said many have left contact information with the traffic police, Interfax reported.

Cars with flashing blue lights are allowed to drive in the oncoming lane but have to stay within the speed limit and take other measures to avoid accidents. The flashing lights are also supposed to be used for official, not personal, trips.

Dozorov, of Blue Buckets, expressed worries that the authorities might try to cover up the accident by shifting blame on Yarosh.

"Taking into an account what Khrekov said after the accident, this is a first step toward Leninsky Prospect," he said, referring to another high-profile accident that took place in Moscow last February. Two women died there after their car collided with the sedan of LUKoil vice president Anatoly Barkov. Police immediately blamed the women and only opened an investigation under public pressure. The inquiry cleared Barkov's driver last fall.

Dozorov speculated that the BMW driver had gone over the speed limit. Also, bloggers said videos posted earlier by user Vladimir Shugayev on MySpace showed the BMW violating traffic rules on Rublyovskoye Shosse.

The videos were removed from MySpace, but purported copies remained on YouTube on Sunday. The videos might imply that Minkh's driver — who the Kremlin's Khrekov said had 30 years of driving experience — had a habit of violating traffic rules.

Khrekov said Friday that he did not trust the videos, which he said were posted two to three weeks earlier by unspecified ill-meaning "forces." He did not elaborate.

Minkh, 51, has not commented on the incident but said Friday that he has not seen any videos by Shugayev, RIA-Novosti reported. He also said he only used the Kremlin-owned BMW for work purposes.



President Alexander Lukashenko attends his inauguration ceremony in Minsk, the capital of Belarus, on Friday.

Lukashenko Growls at Inauguration

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MINSK — Belarussian President Alexander Lukashenko warned Friday that no dissent will be tolerated as he took the oath of office for a fourth time in a ceremony that was boycotted by European Union ambassadors.

Lukashenko was re-elected last month in a vote widely seen as fraudulent and has since cracked down on the opposition, including jailing hundreds of opposition protesters and also seven candidates who ran against him in the Dec. 19 poll. Lukashenko also closed the office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe after its election observers called the vote flawed.

"The people have spoken, confirming once again that Belarus is a free and democratic state, and the choice made by the people is sacred and indisputable," Lukashenko said from the podium.

The 56-year-old president has accused Poland and Germany of plotting to overthrow him, claims both countries have rejected. The resulting tensions between the EU and Belarus are pushing the country back into Russia's orbit.

This was on display during the swearing-in ceremony Friday, which was attended by Russia's ambassador but boycotted by envoys of EU na-

tions, who visited a university for students exiled from Belarus in neighboring Lithuania.

Lukashenko defended the legitimacy of his re-election and vowed that Belarus would stamp out any signs of the kind of peaceful revolutions that overthrew regimes in Ukraine in 2005 — known as the Orange Revolution — and Georgia in 2003, in what came to be known as the Rose Revolution.

One of the detained demonstrators called Lukashenko 'a dictator who stole power.'

"The virus of color revolutions defeats only weak nations," Lukashenko said, adding that Belarus has "exhausted the limits of revolutions and upheavals" and his government would "safeguard security and stability against plots from within and outside the country."

Those words were upheld outside the building on a central square later Friday, when up to 10 people who

had arrived to peacefully protest the inauguration were hustled aboard a police bus.

One of the detained demonstrators, Maxim Vinyarsky, called Lukashenko "a dictator who stole power and takes political prisoners."

The EU has threatened to reimpose travel restrictions on Lukashenko and other top officials over the flawed elections and subsequent crackdown if 30 opposition activists, including four presidential candidates, are not released. Lukashenko, who appeared to rule that out on Thursday, ordered his government to prepare harsh retaliatory measures if the sanctions are applied.

The travel ban on Lukashenko and others had been lifted in 2008 as the country, once described by the United States as Europe's last dictatorship, made modest progress on rights issues.

Several EU member states and EU's Foreign Affairs chief Catherine Ashton also have said they may reinstate the ban when EU foreign ministers meet in Brussels on Jan. 31.

Lukashenko's security forces have conducted an uncompromising crackdown on anyone thought to have played a role in the protests, making more arrests, collecting fingerprints and confiscating journalists' files and hard drives.

'Mafia Boss,' 7 Others Butchered in Stavropol

By Alexey Eremenko
THE ST. PETERSBURG TIMES

MOSCOW — A second mass slaughter in less than three months in southern Russia left eight people in the household of a reputed mafia don dead, although the killers missed an 8-year-old boy and a newborn, news reports said.

Vladimir Slizayev, 60, nicknamed "Khan," was killed in his house in the city of Stavropol on Friday along with a daughter, three other relatives, a driver, a babysitter and a dog breeder, Interfax reported, citing the police. Gun-shot and stab wounds were found on the bodies of the victims, whom other than Slizayev were not identified.

Two of Slizayev's grandchildren, the boy and the newborn, survived the slaughter, an Investigative Committee spokesman said, without elaborating or providing their names, RIA-Novosti reported.

Several news reports said the attackers missed the children because they were on the second floor of the

house, while the other victims were on the first floor. But Lifenev.ru said the older child escaped and hid in the bushes in the yard, while the infant was to be killed by a blast that the killers hoped to carry out by leaving the gas vents in the house open.

A funeral has been scheduled for Monday, Interfax said, citing an unidentified family friend.

Jewelry and antiques were stolen from the house, and the attackers tried to open a safe but failed, Gazeta.ru said.

The Investigative Committee, which has opened a criminal case into the killings, said Slizayev was suspected of trafficking illegal drugs and had served prison time.

"Slizayev was a so-called 'criminal authority' involved in drug trafficking, according to police data. He had numerous criminal convictions," the committee said in a statement on its web site Saturday.

Police believe the attack was prompted by a conflict between crimi-

nal gangs but have not ruled out the possibility that it might be simple robbery, a law enforcement source told RIA-Novosti.

Another source said composite pictures of suspects have been provided to local police, Interfax reported Saturday. He did not elaborate.

Slizayev survived an attempt on his life in 2003 that killed his wife. The attack was blamed on a rival gang, and most of its members were imprisoned last year, news reports said.

Twelve people were killed in the neighboring Krasnodar regional village of Kushchyovskaya in an attack on a local farmer's family in November that shook the country. Eleven people have been detained, all of them suspected members of a criminal gang that has terrorized the village for years.

A Stavropol government official denied any link between the mass murder in Kushchyovskaya and Friday's killings, saying these are "fundamentally different events," RIA-Novosti reported.

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▲ Champion boxer Nikolai Valuyev gestures to his painting, 'Raccoon,' during a charity art auction on Saturday, Jan. 22. See story, page 8.



ALEXANDER BELENKY / SPT

➤ Visitors admire exhibits at the 'Ice Empire' ice sculpture festival at the Peter and Paul fortress. The festival runs through the end of February.



ALEXANDER BELENKY / SPT

▲ Actors from Yuri Kara's screen adaptation of 'Master and Margarita' pose at the press screening of the film, which was completed in 1994 but will only hit cinemas this March after encountering 16 years' worth of obstacles.



ALEXANDER BELENKY / SPT

◀ A man exits freezing water after leaping into an ice hole in Dymovskoye Lake in the Leningrad Oblast on Jan. 19 as part of Orthodox celebrations of Epiphany.



ALEXANDER BELENKY / SPT

➤ A lengthy sign surrounding the site of the planned Okhta Center skyscraper advertises the sale of the plot. Plans for the building, due to house Gazprom Neft's headquarters, were scrapped at the end of last year.



High Bidders Absent at Celebrity Auction

By Alla Tokareva
VEDOMOSTI

If the results of a celebrity auction at the weekend are any indication, charity is not what is used to be.

After raising 81.5 million rubles (\$2.7 million) for children's charity last year, a sixth auction of dignitaries' artwork on Saturday brought in a scant 31.2 million rubles (\$1 million), with the biggest bid going for a painting by St. Petersburg Governor Valentina Matviyenko — who skipped the event.

Some businessmen who attended the event at the Grand Hotel Europe blamed Matviyenko's absence for the lackluster bidding.

But Matviyenko's deputy, Mikhail Oseyevsky, who paid 1.35 million rubles (\$45,000) for two works, told guests at the end of the auction that the governor did not attend because she was participating in talks with Prime Minister Vladimir Putin and visiting FIFA president Sepp Blatter (see story, page 2).

Another explanation for the lack of high bidders may be that the auction lacked the big-name contributors from previous years, including Putin and President Dmitry Medvedev.

In addition, the starting price of each lot was 50,000 rubles (\$1,680) this year, whereas at previous auctions it was 20,000 rubles (\$670).

The auction, titled "Children's Alphabet," featured 29 pieces of art — one for each letter of the Cyrillic alphabet — painted at the outdoor Christmas market that operated on Ploshchad Ostrovskogo during the buildup to the festive season. The works were submitted by representatives of the government, the arts, show business and sport, and



A painting by Governor Valentina Matviyenko brought the highest price at this year's auction of celebrity art for charity.

then touched up by professional artists for sale at the auction.

Saturday's biggest bids were both placed by Vladimir Podvalny, co-owner of the Velikoluksky meat factory and the Divo Island amusement park on Krestovskiy Island, who walked away with Matviyenko's "New Year's Eve" for 6 million rubles (\$201,350) and Pskov Governor Andrei Turchak's "Blini" for 3 million rubles (\$100,675).

The artwork sold quickly, with other closing bids ranging from 400,000 to 800,000 rubles (\$13,400 to \$27,000). Buyers included two high-ranking city officials. Yevgeny Yelin, chairman of the Commission for Economic Development, Industrial Policy and Trade, paid 450,000 rubles for businessman Igor Bukato's "Firebird," while Deputy Governor Oseyevsky paid 800,000 rubles for boxer Nikolai

Valuyev's "Raccoon" and 350,000 rubles for actress Tatyana Kalganova's "Skirt."

At the last auction, the most intense bidding was for a photograph by Medvedev, "Tobolsk Kremlin," which ended up selling for a record 51 million rubles (\$1.7 million). In 2009, the focus was on a painting by Putin, "Pattern on a Frosted Window," which went for 37 million rubles (\$1.2 million).

Changes To Rules For City Properties

By Nadezhda Zaitseva
VEDOMOSTI

The St. Petersburg administration passed a resolution Dec. 30 on new regulations concerning decisions to assign city-owned properties to developers.

The document appeared on City Hall's web site Monday, and will be published officially in the next few days, according to a representative of the Construction Committee's press service.

The new regulations will abolish the requirement for investors to undertake surveying works including site development plans. The Legal Code for Urban Planning stipulates that development plans should be drawn up by the authorities, and it was the infringement of this clause that prompted the change in regulations, according to Nikolay Krutov, deputy chair of the Construction Committee.

Development plans will now be the responsibility of the Committee for Urban Planning and Architecture. Despite the extra work, however, the budget for development planning has not been raised for 2011.

Developers will now have to lodge an application for the property that interests them with the Construction Committee, which will poll the views of specialist committees and district administrations before deciding whether to approve the investment project, according to Krutov. If approval is granted, the Committee will announce the application on its web site, giving other potential investors 30 days to declare their interest in the property.

If there is more than one application, the property will be opened for bidding. Otherwise, the government will pass a resolution to redesignate the property via a construction decree.

Krutov is confident that the new regulations will simplify business for investors, and significantly decrease the period required to obtain approval of projects. They will also benefit the city's coffers, as properties will immediately be rented out for construction purposes at market prices, which are much higher than those for rental for surveying purposes.

The new system follows standard European practice, but there is a danger that the Committee for Urban Planning does not have sufficient resources to draw up so many development plans, warns Konstantin Kovalev, project director of the Nevskaya Ratusha development.

According to Alexander Pushkarsky, general director of Senator, a leading management company, 30 days is enough for a company to decide if a land plot interests them. Provided, he adds that the information on the Construction Committee's web site is suitably comprehensive.

РЕКЛАМА

The St. Petersburg Times

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ОСНОВЫ УПРАВЛЕНИЯ ФИНАНСАМИ КОМПАНИИ

3 февраля 2011 года

Гостиница Holiday Inn, зал «Дейнека». Московский проспект 97а
Регистрация: 9.30 – 10.00. Время работы: 10.00 – 18.00

ЦЕЛЬ СЕМИНАРА: С использованием примеров и упражнений дать комплексное представление о понятийном аппарате финансового и управленческого учета, содержании и взаимосвязи бухгалтерских отчетов, бюджетировании, а также о планировании денежного потока компании.

АУДИТОРИЯ: Семинар адресован руководителям и менеджерам предприятий, которые хотят понимать язык бухгалтерского учета, который называют «языком бизнеса».

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- Основные режимы налогообложения и их влияние на величину прибыли организации.
- Расходы и затраты, их различия; классификации затрат.
- Составление финансовых планов (бюджетов) организации.
- Расчет точки безубыточности.
- Планирование денежного потока.

ВЕДУЩАЯ СЕМИНАРА:

Наталья Ткачук – к.э.н., опытный бухгалтер-практик, автор более 50 научных и учебно-методических работ, разработчик авторского курса «Бухгалтерский учет и налогообложение за 15 занятий», соучредитель учебного центра «Метод», специализирующегося на программах по бухгалтерскому учету и налогообложению.

Стоимость участия: 10000 руб. (без НДС), предусмотрены скидки за групповое посещение.

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I N B R I E F

Mortgage Growth

■ ST. PETERSBURG (SPT) — In 2010, St. Petersburg banks issued 7,804 mortgage loans at a total value of 14.6 billion rubles (\$490 million), according to the St. Petersburg Mortgage Agency — an increase on 2009, but still a long way from the 2008 pre-crisis high of 43.1 billion rubles.

The increase complimented a growth in the primary market for apartments of 30 percent, with sales predicted to return to 2008 levels by the summer, says local construction company Setl City.

Broadband Acquisition

■ ST. PETERSBURG (SPT) — Mobile communications giant VimpelCom completed a deal late last week to acquire 100 percent of Eltel, a St. Petersburg broadband provider with 32,000 private and 2,000 corporate clients, according to sources at Eltel.

The deal was approved by the Federal Antimonopoly Service at the end of 2010. It is VimpelCom's first major acquisition in St. Petersburg, according to Denis Kuskov, general director of TelecomDaily.

Supermarket Fines

■ ST. PETERSBURG (SPT) — The St. Petersburg Office of the Federal Antimonopoly Service (FAS) has fined supermarket chains Lenta and Norma for raising prices on flour and buckwheat last year. They were among eight retailers found guilty in December.

Lenta, which faces a total fine of 4.5 million rubles for price hikes on both products, blamed high procurement prices after a poor harvest last year. Norma was fined 126,000 rubles (\$4,233) for raising flour prices.



Capital Thresholds Increasing for Banks

By Anatoly Medetsky
THE ST. PETERSBURG TIMES

MOSCOW — The government wants the country's smallest banks to raise their capital to at least 300 million rubles, or \$10 million, by 2015 and is looking to increase competition among lenders, Finance Minister Alexei Kudrin said Monday.

The minister was speaking at a government meeting that mapped out a development strategy for the banking sector over the next five years.

Kudrin said he was sure that the 372 banks currently below the 2015 threshold would take the new target in their stride.

"We are confident that we will clear that bar as well," he said at the meeting attended by Prime Minister Vladimir Putin, Central Bank Chairman Sergei Ignatyev and other government officials, which continued uninterrupted, despite the deadly bomb attack at Domodedovo Airport.

Since January last year, banks have had to maintain a minimum of 90 million rubles in capital — a requirement that has strained the more than 100 smaller banks.

As an intermediary goal in meeting the requirement, all banks are required to ensure that their capital exceeds 180 million rubles by next year.

Kudrin mentioned that the strategy's other goals would include increasing competition on the market and promotion of high technology, but he didn't elaborate, according to a transcript of the meeting posted on the Cabinet's web site.

The minister noted that banking services were less profitable than steel making or energy generation. Banks posted a combined profit of 161 billion rubles in the first nine months of last year, while steel makers showed a total net income of 360 billion rubles and energy companies 250 billion over the same timespan, he said.

Putin was upbeat in summarizing the banking sector's performance

last year. Bank deposits grew 30 percent to 9.8 trillion rubles in 2010, he said.

"This tells of the trust that people have in banks," he said.

Loan portfolios grew 12 percent to 18 trillion rubles, Putin said. Of that amount, 4 trillion rubles was given to individual borrowers, he said.

Mortgage loans grew 150 percent last year compared with the previous year, while the average ruble rate dropped to 12.8 percent by the end of last year from 14.2 percent from past January.

In other changes, Putin said the number of bank cards increased to 140 million last year.

The Cabinet said in a statement Tuesday that 955 banks and 57 other lenders currently operate in the country. Their assets grew 13.7 percent to 33.5 trillion rubles as of the start of this year, it said. The sector employs 800,000 people, the statement said.

Central Bank Chairman Sergei Ignatyev predicted that assets, capital and loans would grow at a rate of 17 percent to 20 percent over the next five years.

Putin noted that the Central Bank revoked licenses from 27 banks last year, down from 44 in 2009.

Kudrin said banks' assets amount to 75 percent of the country's gross domestic product. Capital was 12 percent of GDP, while outstanding loans were 41 percent of GDP.

Bad debts owed by individuals stand at 7.3 percent of total loans, while bad corporate debts are 5.6 percent, Kudrin said.

Before the meeting, Putin visited the Central Bank's main vault in Moscow to take a look at 6,100 boxes containing 766.5 metric tons of gold bullion stored there, including the 136.6 tons the bank bought last year.

About two-thirds of the country's gold and currency reserves are stored in the vault.



President Dmitry Medvedev visits a ski resort in January. The resort, close to Sochi, is being developed for the Olympics.

President to Tout Resorts in Davos

THE ST. PETERSBURG TIMES

MOSCOW — President Dmitry Medvedev will be looking to drum up international financial support for a \$15 billion plan to construct a chain of ski resorts in the North Caucasus when he travels to the World Economic Forum later this week.

The proposed ski resorts are designed to rival the best that Alpine ski-

ing has to offer and will be completed by 2020.

Medvedev will formally unveil the scheme at the Davos forum, which will be attended by thousands of business leaders and politicians from around the world, Britain's Daily Telegraph newspaper reported Monday.

The ski complexes will be located at Matlas, Dagestan; Mamison, North Os-

setia; Arkhyz, Karachayevo-Cherkessia; Lago-Naki, Adygeya; and on Mount Elbrus in Kabardino-Balkaria.

The project, which has been named Peak 5642 after the height of Europe's tallest peak, Mount Elbrus, is run by the state-owned company North Caucasus Resorts. Sberbank and VEB both are minority shareholders in the enterprise, which is 98 percent state controlled.

РЕКЛАМА

Mazda Plans Automobile Assembly in the Far East

By Alexei Nepomnyashchy, Yelena Vinogradova and Maxim Tovkailo
VEDOMOSTI

MOSCOW — Mazda plans to begin assembly of its cars in Primorye, the region's government announced, making it the first foreign car manufacturer to start a production facility after the crisis.

The deal was discussed at a meeting of Primorye Governor Sergei Darkin and a delegation from the Japanese company. Mazda will either build a new plant in the region or use existing production facilities and infrastructure, with primary capacity possibly reaching 30,000 automobiles, according to the announcement Friday.

A Mazda spokesman confirmed that talks with the governor had taken place, but declined further comment. In December 2010, Mazda president Takashi Yamanouchi said his company plans to examine the possibility of building new factories in developing countries, including Russia.

Mazda has not officially informed its dealers about local manufacturing, said Sergei Shcherbinin, executive director of retail at Rolf Group. But employees of two dealerships confirmed that they have heard about such plans.

The Far East is a logical choice because the lion's share of components will be supplied from nearby Japan.

For the project to be economically feasible, it must be done using an industrial assembly regime that enables the import of components at minimal rates, said Ivan Bonchev, head of Ernst & Young's automobile practice.

An Economic Development Ministry spokesman said Mazda has not asked to conclude an industrial assembly agreement. A separate agreement will not be required because Mazda can do assembly with Sollers, a government official said.

Sollers already has an industrial assembly agreement but has not negotiated with Mazda yet, an Economic Development official said. A Sollers spokesman said the company is not in discussions with Mazda.

Sollers opened a factory with an annual capacity of 25,000 automobiles in Vladivostok in late 2009. The plant assembles crossovers for the Korean firm SsangYong. This year it will operate at maximum capacity, but in 2013 capacity will go up to 40,000 vehicles per year, a Sollers spokesman said.

Last year, although the Russian market grew 30 percent, Mazda's sales in the country dropped 19 percent to 24,926 vehicles — in part due to the unfavorable yen-to-ruble exchange rate that made Mazda a very expensive brand, Shcherbinin said.

ПЕРВАЯ В САНКТ-ПЕТЕРБУРГЕ КОНФЕРЕНЦИЯ
о мобильных приложениях для современного бизнеса

MOBILITY

Организатор:
The St Petersburg Times

КАК СДЕЛАТЬ ВАШ БИЗНЕС МОБИЛЬНЫМ

28 февраля 2011 г.

Санкт-Петербург
Гостиница Holiday Inn, Московский пр. 97а
Время работы: 9.30 – 18.00

Генеральный Интернет-партнер:

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Газета The St. Petersburg Times совместно с компанией e-Legion рады пригласить Вас принять участие в конференции, объединяющей интересы бизнеса и разработчиков в сфере мобильных приложений под iPhone, iPad, Android, Windows Mobile.

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At Davos, Kremlin Will Test Investor Interest

By Anatoly Medetsky

THE ST. PETERSBURG TIMES

MOSCOW — President Dmitry Medvedev will gauge foreign interest in the companies that are slated for privatization during his two-day trip to the World Economic Forum in Switzerland this week, his economic aide Arkady Dvorkovich said.

Medvedev will join executives from companies such as Deutsche Bank, Novartis, Siemens, PepsiCo and Boeing for a panel session, a closed-door meeting and a private reception at the ski resort of Davos on Wednesday and Thursday.

“It’s important for us to understand which [Russian] companies [slated for privatization] enjoy greater interest, and which less,” Dvorkovich said Friday. “This will affect how we will draw up the schedule for the privatizations.”

The government selected a group of domestic and international banks to advise on selling stock in several major state-controlled corporations over the next five years. The companies include oil producer Rosneft, bank VTB, electricity generator RusHydro and shipping operator Sovkomflot.

Medvedev will kick off his visit by sitting down with 100 captains of the global economy for a closed-door session of the International Business Council, Dvorkovich said.

“I think the main signal that Medvedev will give to the partners will be the one that Russia is open for investment ... and for doing business together,” he said.

Later Wednesday, Medvedev will deliver a 20-minute keynote speech on the global economy at a plenary session before — for the first time in the forum’s history — taking a few top-voted questions that are being posted on the forum’s YouTube page.

Seven days after the launch of the service, the most popular of the 20 questions asked as of Friday afternoon, with 11 supporting votes, has prompted Medvedev to speak about how he would ensure the central role of youth in any decision on climate change. The author of the next best question wondered whether the World Economic Forum’s budget would be better used if it were donated to charitable organizations.

A reception at the end of the day Wednesday will provide a chance for forum participants to exchange “informal and candid” opinions with the president and hold short pre-arranged one-on-one conversations with him in a special area for five to seven minutes each, Dvorkovich said. Former U.S. President Bill Clinton will attend the reception.

“I think they will talk and the conversation will be interesting,” Dvorkovich said.

On Thursday morning, Medvedev will host a session dedicated to economic modernization in Russia, such as the plan to build a Silicon Valley-like high-tech hub in Skolkovo, outside Moscow, and ambitions to turn the capital into one of the top-10 global financial centers.

Dvorkovich said he expected foreign companies at the forum to sign several deals to invest in Russia. He declined to elaborate.

The Russian delegation will include First Deputy Prime Minister Igor Shuvalov, Economic Development Minister Elvira Nabiullina, Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov, Moscow Mayor Sergei Sobyanin, several regional governors and business leaders.

RUSSIAN MARKETS

MICEX INDEX (COMPOSITE OF TOP 30 STOCKS)

Source: MICEX

RTS INDEX (COMPOSITE OF TOP 50 STOCKS)

Source: RTS

MICEX SECTOR INDEXES

	CLOSE	CHANGE, %	52-WK HI	52-WK LO
MICEX Index	1,720.70	-1.53	1,788.74	1,194.92
MICEX 10 Index	4,045.55	-1.68	4,229.92	2,841.82
MICEX Oil & Gas	3,089.99	-1.80	3,198.58	2,198.01
MICEX Power	3,381.54	-1.39	3,519.47	2,429.44
MICEX Telecommunication	2,504.23	-0.80	2,567.62	1,784.52
MICEX Metals & Mining	5,872.83	-1.33	6,178.50	3,766.22
MICEX Manufacturing	2,962.71	-2.05	3,054.11	1,604.12
MICEX Large Cap	2,778.76	-1.46	2,880.73	1,932.63
MICEX Mid Cap	3,232.30	-0.80	3,337.25	2,168.68

Source: MICEX

RTS SECTOR INDEXES

	CLOSE	CHANGE, %	52-WK HI	52-WK LO
RTS Index	1,861.66	-1.23	1,902.75	1,226.57
RTS2 Index	2,311.61	-0.58	2,340.78	1,490.07
RTS Oil & Gas Index	210.31	-1.59	215.44	146.90
RTS Consumer & Retail Index	446.47	-0.36	451.78	245.28
RTS Metals & Mining Index	374.57	-0.15	378.44	226.54
RTS Industrial Index	233.03	-1.18	235.81	134.24
RTS Electric Utilities Index	282.15	-0.02	299.05	204.99
RTS Telecom Index	274.84	-2.04	280.57	183.24
RTS Finances Index	485.97	-1.26	493.20	298.51

Source: RTS

MICEX INDEX WINNERS & LOSERS

Source: MICEX

RTS INDEX WINNERS & LOSERS

Source: RTS

Troika Dialog

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MICEX

TOP 30 (BY MARKET CAPITALIZATION)					
	CLOSE, RUB	CHANGE, %	VOLUME, MLN RUB	52-WK HI	52-WK LO
AFK Sistema	29.2920	-0.63	69.71	35.8600	24.2500
Baltika	1,425.0100	-0.49	2.38	1,791.9900	775.0000
Bank Moskovy	1,258.0000	20.03	144.57	1,398.9900	822.0000
FSK EES	0.4100	2.24	1,400.02	0.4170	0.2820
Gazprom	189.0500	-1.90	16,267.99	202.8500	142.0900
Gazprom neft	132.4300	-2.14	135.82	170.9500	101.0000
Holding MRSK	5.1800	-3.18	159.43	5.7910	2.8330
LUKOIL	1,884.0000	-2.43	4,250.57	1,947.0000	1,400.0100
Magnit	4,079.9300	-1.66	53.22	4,495.9900	1,900.0000
Mechel	913.9900	-1.38	77.97	989.9500	553.3000
MMK	35.5500	-1.22	57.14	38.0000	20.8050
MTS	257.0000	-0.96	327.80	276.9800	217.0000
NLMK	136.2500	-3.37	176.67	151.2000	79.5000
NorNickel GMK	7,540.0000	0.53	3,694.19	7,576.0000	4,323.1000
NOVATEK	317.5000	-2.30	168.99	344.7900	163.0200
OGK-4	2.9800	-1.00	29.59	3.3500	1.6750
Polus Zoloto	1,745.0000	0.00	371.58	1,997.0000	1,222.6800
Polymetal	520.0000	-2.26	101.09	749.9500	265.1100
Raspadskaya	223.7000	-2.07	376.70	238.8000	114.5100
Rosneft	242.8600	-1.62	3,983.38	258.2300	177.3500
RusGidro	1.5460	-3.38	2,085.59	1.8570	1.1710
Sberbank	104.0500	-1.48	15,730.47	110.9500	63.8100
Severstal	559.8800	-1.43	1,473.63	598.5800	294.3600
Silvinit	28,649.9300	-1.88	44.90	31,700.0000	14,724.7800
Surgut	33.7510	-2.05	769.80	36.1750	23.3990
Tatneft-3	165.1000	-0.36	192.72	166.9700	119.6200
TNK-BP Holding	87.0000	-3.23	47.22	N/A	N/A
Uralkali	230.5000	-2.43	629.47	239.8100	93.3000
VTB	0.1092	-1.62	3,266.65	0.1114	0.0657
WBDF	3,728.9000	0.05	3.88	3,998.9400	1,225.0000

RTS (CONTINUED)

	CLOSE, \$	CHANGE, %	VOLUME, \$ MLN	52-WK HI	52-WK LO
LUKOil	64.50000	0.00	0.000	64.50000	45.10000
MMK	1.10500	0.00	0.000	1.10500	0.72600
MTS	8.63000	-0.17	0.587	9.35000	7.35000
Magnit	135.50000	-2.02	0.420	145.72344	65.20000
Mechel	30.60000	0.00	0.000	30.60000	19.25000
Norilsk Nickel	248.00000	0.00	0.000	250.00000	141.00000
Novatek	10.90000	0.00	0.000	10.97000	5.46000
Novolipetsk Steel	4.53000	0.00	0.000	4.53000	2.60000
OGK-4	0.98770	0.00	0.000	1.01110	0.05750
TNK-BP Holding	2.92000	-2.67	0.063	3.20000	2.70000
Polymetal	18.10000	0.00	0.000	18.45000	9.25000
Polyus Gold	61.08934	0.00	0.000	61.75000	40.50000
Rosneft	8.20000	1.23	0.082	8.75000	6.00000
RusHydro	0.05180	-2.63	0.052	0.06210	0.03910
Sberbank	3.46600	-1.25	0.454	3.70000	2.04000
Sberbank, RDR	15.60000	0.65	0.078	16.05000	14.45000
Severstal	19.06106	0.00	0.000	19.63010	9.65000
Silvinit	959.25593	0.00	0.000	959.25593	498.00000
Sistema	0.98000	0.00	0.000	1.06000	0.81000
Surgutneftegaz	1.17000	0.00	0.000	1.17000	0.80000
Tatneft	5.53000	0.00	0.000	5.53000	4.06000
Uralkali	7.70000	-1.91	0.077	7.85000	3.12000
VTB	0.00361	0.00	0.000	0.00370	0.00230

RTS STANDARD MOST-TRADED STOCKS

	CLOSE, \$	CHANGE, %	VOLUME, \$ MLN	52-WK HI	52-WK LO
Acron	46.50000	3.33	0.047	46.50000	24.35000
Aeroflot	2.57000	-5.51	0.077	2.72000	1.70000
Bashneft (pref)	35.60000	-1.11	0.572	37.00000	14.35000
GAZ	47.00000	-6.00	0.054	50.00000	20.80000
LSR Group	36.50000	-3.31	0.120	43.00000	21.10000
MDM Bank (pref)	0.58500	0.86	0.119	0.77500	0.40000
Nizhnekamskshina	0.85000	25.00	0.009	1.10000	0.68000
OGK-2	0.05780	0.00	0.029	0.06500	0.03060
PIK Group	4.25000	-1.16	0.005	5.90000	3.25800
Pharmstandard	102.00000	1.49	0.057	103.00000	57.00000
Raspadskaya	7.45000	-2.61	0.227	7.77000	3.86000
Tatneft (pref)	3.05000	0.49	0.205	3.11000	2.19560
Tomsk Energy Retail (pref)	0.01330	10.83	0.067	0.01330	0.00970

Source: Troika Dialog

CENTRAL BANK CURRENCY RATES

	UNITS	RUBLES	U.S. \$		UNITS	RUBLES	U.S. \$
Australian dollar	1	29.54	0.99	Kazakh tenge	100	20.33	0.68
Brazilian real	1	17.81	0.60	New Turkish Lira	1	18.96	0.64
Canadian dollar	1	29.99	1.00	Norwegian krone	10	51.21	1.72
Chinese yuan	10	45.36	1.52	Swedish krona	10	45.15	1.51
Danish krone	10	54.35	1.82	Swiss franc	1	31.02	1.04
Euro	1	40.56	1.36	U.K. pound	1	47.62	1.60
Indian rupee	100	65.41	2.19	U.S. dollar	1	29.85	1.00
Japanese yen	100	36.01	1.21	Ukrainian hryvna	10	37.56	1.26

Source: Troika Dialog

ADRS, GDRS AND FOREIGN-TRADED STOCK

	SHARES PER ADR	CLOSE, \$	CHANGE, %	VOLUME, \$	52-WK HI	52-WK LO
Comstar-UTS	1	6.65	0.0	144.216	7.19	5.45
Evrax Group	0.33	40.00	0.5	1,787.546	43.15	21.59
Gazprom	4	25.37	-1.5	17,896.543	27.05	18.06
Gazprom Neft	10	22.11	-3.0	137.925	29.49	16.50
KazMunaiGas EP	0.16667	21.67	-2.2	146.826	26.50	17.00
LUKOil	4	63.10	-1.9	6,436.162	65.90	44.50
Mechel	3	31.14	1.5	367.904	34.74	17.17
MTS	20	19.60	-1.9	1,390.360	23.59	17.20
Norilsk Nickel	1	25.35	0.7	6,085.973	25.36	13.88
Novatek	1	115.60	-2.9	436.447	124.20	61.00
Rosneft	1	8.15	-1.3	19,490.185	8.91	5.89
Rostelecom	6	33.34	-0.6	1,038	36.19	18.20
Sistema	0.02	24.75	-4.7	941.826	31.48	20.52
Surgutneftegaz	10	11.39	-1.6	1,997.379	12.09	7.76
Tatneft	20	38.30	-1.4	260.650	38.84	22.53
VimpelCom	0.8	13.88	0.9	1,231.791	20.00	12.32
Wimm-Bill-Dann	1	33.03	0.1	113.886	35.10	17.11
X5 Retail Group	4	45.81	0.4	572.956	48.00	29.15

* Estimated reported volumes
** N.Y. price at 7 p.m. Moscow time
Source: Troika Dialog

INTERNATIONAL MARKETS

MARKET	NOON	NOON	NOON	NOON	NOON	NOON	NOON
DOW	80.41	21.89	70.59	47.60	23,801.78	5.35	15.76
NASDAQ	11,952.25	2,711.43	10,345.11	5,943.85	75.08	7,067.77	4,033.21
NIKKEI							
FTSE							
HANG SENG							
FRANKFURT							
CAC-40							
S&P 500							1,289.25



ASIAN

Gloss Cafe Restaurant

GLOSS
Кафе

17 Nevsky Prospekt.
Tel.: 315-23-15.

Gloss cafe is the perfect place for those who appreciate fine food, a cozy atmosphere and good music. At Gloss Cafe's open kitchen, chefs work their magic to create Asian cuisine: sushi, rolls, temaki and phyto salads, while hot dishes are prepared in sizzling woks. Continental dishes include our excellent leg of lamb with rosemary, dorado fillet with herbs, or risotto with asparagus and parmesan. Guests can also choose from our extensive tea menu and wide range of wines and cocktails at democratic prices. Our culinary delights are complemented by free Wi-Fi, sets by top DJs and fantastic parties on Fridays and Saturdays. On weekdays, a sushi buffet is available, priced at just 200 rubles.

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EUROPEAN

J. Walker Restaurant space



36 Nab. Kanal Griboyedova,
St. Petersburg
Tel.: 310 0009

A new, multi-level restaurant complex in the center of St. Petersburg opened its doors to guests in the first days of winter. On the ground floor there's a café, where you can drink a cup of hot tea or mulled wine on a frosty day. On the first floor there's a restaurant space with daily musical programs and live music. The dishes feature European cuisine, a large selection of wines, cocktails and faultless service. On Fridays and Saturdays, the first floor operates as a night club from 11 p.m. until morning.

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INDIAN

Tandoor



2 Voznesensky Pr., near St. Isaac's Cathedral, opposite the Admiralty.
Tel.: 312-38-86, 312-53-10.

Popular city restaurant. Experience the tantalizing flavor of Indian cuisine. From kebabs to curries, with a wide range of vegetarian selections at reasonable prices. Business lunch 450 rubles. Choice of soup. Choice of curry: chicken, lamb, fish, lentil or vegetable with rice, salad and bread, plus mineral water. Restaurant provides small to medium-sized outdoor catering services for parties and banquet functions. Open daily from noon to 11 p.m.

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ITALIAN

Restaurant Da Albertone



23 Millionnaya Ul.
(100 m. from the Hermitage).
Open daily from 11 a.m. till 2 a.m.
To reserve a table call 315-86-73.

Chef Luca Pellino prepares exquisite authentic Italian dishes in this restaurant located next to the Hermitage. The menu here is like no other, featuring a wide variety of fish and seafood dishes, pasta and charcoal grilled steaks and homemade desserts. Pizzas here are cooked using patented Italian technology. The chef also offers weekly specials using the best seasonal products available. There is also an open kitchen and a spacious kids' room.

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Gusto



142 Nevsky Prospekt
+ 20 meters along Ul. Degtyarnaya.
Tel: +7 (812)941 1744, www.probka.org

Gusto is an Italian restaurant whose Italian chef, Fabricio Fatucci, last year had the honor of cooking for the Russian President, for which he received warm words of gratitude. The restaurant's wine card complements the menu harmoniously, and for every dish, the perfect accompanying wine is available. Gusto has the largest Enomatic wine storage system in St. Petersburg, allowing 48 wines to be served by the glass. We invite you to come and sample our chef's special menu. Menu highlights include: foie gras crème-brulee and Angus beef Carpaccio. Fresh seafood every weekend. The group Frukti will perform on Friday, Jan. 28 at 8 p.m.

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Portobello



12 Zagorodny Prospekt.
Vladimirskaaya or Dostoyevskaaya metro.
Tel: 915 5501.

Brand new Italian restaurant, bar and grill from chef Luca Pellino. Enjoy classic Italian dishes served in innovative ways or try nuovo Italiano cuisine prepared in our chef's inimitable style amid elegant Tuscan-style decor. Suitable for any occasion — lunch, drinks, dinner and romance. The menu features homemade pasta, abundant fresh seafood dishes, high grade marble steaks and homemade ice cream and desserts. The wine menu boasts top wines from all over Italy and France to complement the dishes perfectly. Open 11 a.m. until the last customer leaves.

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MEDITERRANEAN

Côté Jardin



Hotel "Novotel St. Petersburg Centre"
3a Ulitsa Mayakovskogo
Tel : 335 1188, fax: 335 1180
www.novotel.spb.ru

Novotel invites you to taste grilled Japanese Wagyu meat and grilled American rib-eye steak at its restaurant Côté Jardin from Jan. 11 until the end of February. Our steaks are served with sautéed potato grenailles and French mustard. Enjoy delicious hot cocktails, traditional St. Petersburg hot chocolate and our homemade mulled wine in the lobby bar. These specialties are available until March 31.

At the lounge bar Intermezzo, guests will find an extensive vodka menu, along with beers, wines, cocktails and other beverages from around the world. Mouthwatering homemade cakes are served from La Brioche Deli-Counter. Take away service is available. Open daily 6:30 a.m. to 11 p.m., breakfast 6:30 to 10:30 a.m., business lunch noon to 4 p.m.

Try our business lunch on weekdays at Novotel. The daily changing buffet features freshly baked homemade breads, cakes and Russian delicacies, as well as Mediterranean dishes with the emphasis on regional cuisine. Full buffet for only 750 rubles. One of the special



features of Côté Jardin is its own pastry section, our La Brioche Deli-Counter, where you should not miss the opportunity to try our mouthwatering daily homemade cakes and pastries. Take away service is also available. Monday to Friday, noon to 4 p.m.

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MEXICAN

Tequila-Boom



57/127 Voznesensky Prospekt;
Tel.: 310-15-34 or 050

We invite you to visit TEQUILA-BOOM restaurant — the finest Mexican restaurant in Russia! Our head chef will prepare a delectable array of Mexican cuisine for you: Fajitas Mixto, Burrito, Gringa, flat cakes and steaks, while our barman will mix cocktails, such as Strawberry Margarita, Mexican flag, Mojito and Caipriina. From noon to 4 p.m. Monday to Friday a business lunch (250 rubles) is available at the restaurant. Every evening we have live music, and on Fridays and Saturdays there is a show program featuring the city's best musicians and Latin American dancers. All major credit cards are accepted. We will be pleased to see you!

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RUSSIAN

PALKIN restaurant



47 Nevsky Pr.
Tel: (812) 703-53-71
www.palkin.ru

PALKIN restaurant is located in the very heart of St. Petersburg. Our constant search for new flavors, painstaking work with old cookery books, and strict standards regarding the use of ingredients make Palkin one of the few places in the world where diners can enjoy the finest dishes of aristocratic Russian cuisine in the elegant atmosphere of an upscale establishment. Open: noon to 11.30 p.m.

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Russian Kitsch Restaurant



25 Universitetskaya nab.
Tel.: 325-11-22.

Russian Kitsch is a restaurant and party house. You can celebrate any event here 365 days a year! Every day is a celebration here, with parties dedicated to the most outrageous, madcap and frivolous excuses: Complex-Free Day, Geisha Day, Ukraine Armed Forces Day etc. And all this in unforgettable interiors: Soviet politics-themed Baroque-style paintings, leopard print chairs, ostrich feathers, Pioneer bugles and oriental sofas with embroidered cushions that would delight an Arab sheik. As in any decent Russian restaurant, the menu includes Italian, French and Japanese dishes, as well of course as Russian classics like "herring in a fur coat," Olivier salad, pelmeni, pickles, pies, pancakes and homemade moonshine.

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STEAK HOUSE

Stroganoff



4 Konnogvardeisky blvd. near St. Isaac's Cathedral, tel.: 314-55-14

Stroganoff steak house is the only steakhouse in Russia that invests in dry aging and hand butchering of our best imported cuts from Australia, New Zealand and Argentina. We welcome business diners and tourists. All our steaks are grilled to perfection on real charcoal. Large steaks and chops as well as the best Beef Stroganoff in Russia. Your comfort food away from home. There are two banquet halls for from 10 to 200 people. Business lunches from 12:00 till 16:00 for 300 rubles. Children's room. Babysitter available on weekends. Open daily from 12 to 24.

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Bigger Bureaucracy Can Be Better

By John Earle and Scott Gehlbach

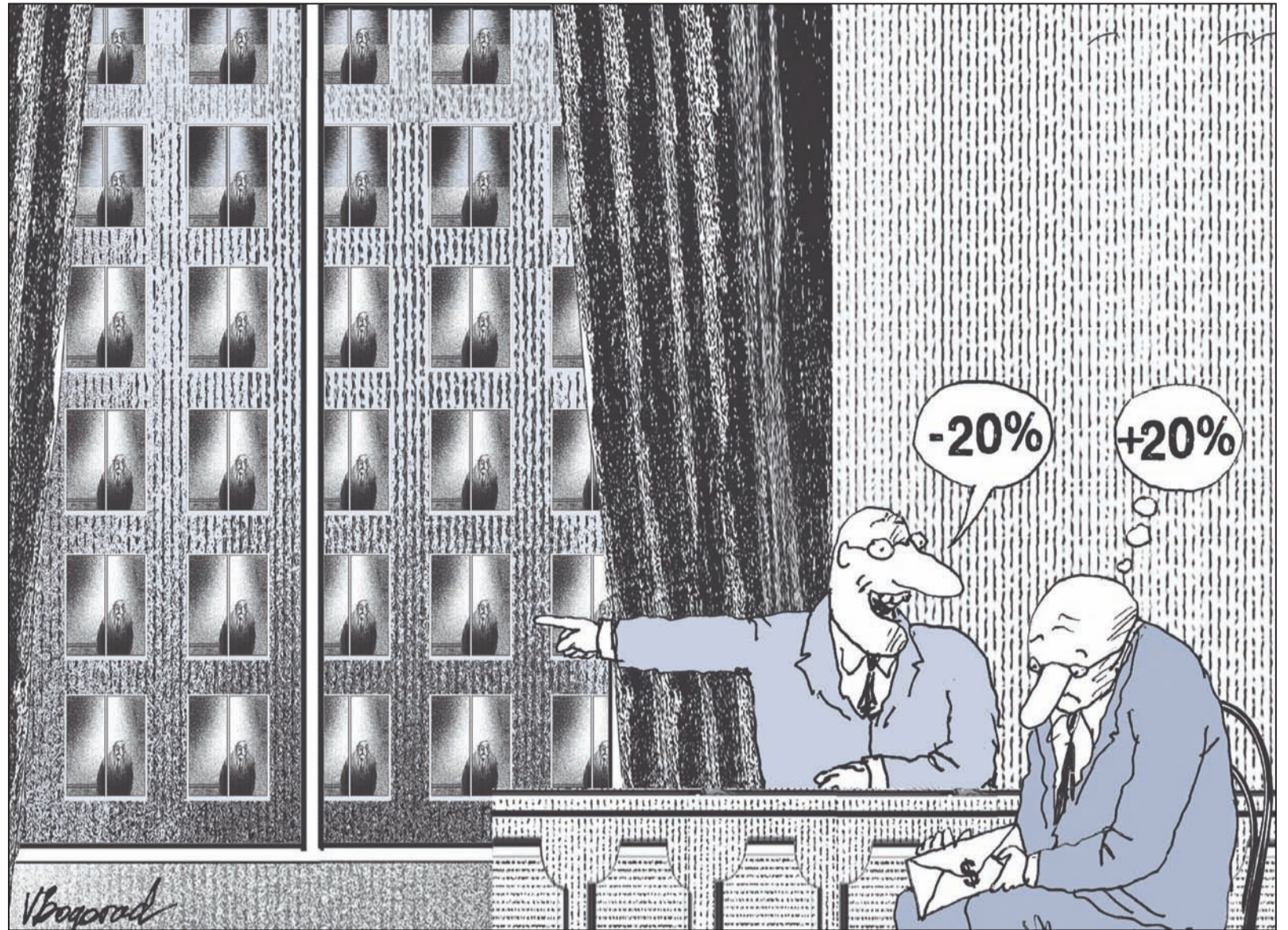
With great fanfare, President Dmitry Medvedev has announced his intention to slash bureaucracy by 20 percent. It is a bold attempt to deal with an unmanageable government apparatus, perhaps the chief cause of the country's persistent economic problems. It is also profoundly mistaken.

The push to shrink the Russian bureaucracy is founded on two myths. The first myth is that the bureaucracy is unusually large. The second is that larger bureaucracies necessarily impede private economic activity. There is no empirical support for either proposition.

The myth of the mammoth Russian bureaucracy has its roots in an undisputed fact: The government is largely corrupt and inefficient. It does not immediately follow, however, that the bureaucracy is corrupt and inefficient because it is too big. Indeed, the Russian bureaucracy is quite small by world standards, even after substantial growth in recent years. Consider these numbers: In 2009, public administration employment at all levels of the Russian government accounted for 2.5 percent of the employed labor force. By comparison, public administration in members of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, or OECD, constituted on average 9 percent of the labor force in the early 1990s, according to the single available cross-national study of government employment. Indeed, there was not a single OECD country with a smaller bureaucracy in the early 1990s than Russia has today.

Of course, the more appropriate comparison may be with Russia's peers among developing and transition countries. Yet even by this standard, Russia's bureaucracy appears small. In the early 1990s, the typical post-Communist bureaucracy accounted for more than 4 percent of total employment — far smaller than in the wealthy states of the OECD, but larger than Russia's today. As to the high-performing developing economies that are Russia's foremost competitors for international capital, the bureaucracy in China was close to 3 percent of total employment in the early 1990s, and in Turkey close to 4 percent. However one slices the data, Russia's bureaucracy does not look large.

Surely, the argument goes, any bureaucracy can be cut to the benefit of



private economic activity. This is the second myth behind the Kremlin's ill-considered drive. Without a concomitant push to cut red tape, shrinking government employment may leave entrepreneurs even more at the mercy of venal public servants. If it's hard for a private firm to get a license or permit today, imagine what it will be like when the line backs up because of staff cuts. Desperate to get to the front of the line, owners and managers will be even more tempted to grease the wheels by providing side payments to those with the authority to make or break their businesses. Alone behind the counter, Russian bureaucrats will be like store clerks in a Soviet establishment: all power and no responsibility.

This is no mere theoretical possibility. Our research with David Brown of Heriot-Watt University, based on the statistical analysis of data from numerous Russian firms, suggests that precisely this dynamic was at work during the first decade and a half of the post-Communist economic transition. Our analysis takes advantage of large variation across regions in the size of the Russian bureaucracy. After stripping away the effects of other factors — population, urbanization and the like — what is left is regional patterns of public employment that appear to be rooted in Soviet-era development priorities.

Therefore, Russia offers a sort of experiment by which the effects of bureaucracy on private economic activity

can be estimated. First, public servants actually appear to work more responsibly and honestly in regions where bureaucracies are relatively large. Firms in those regions report spending less time and money acquiring licenses from the state, and they pay smaller kickbacks for government contracts. Second, private firms are more productive (relative to state enterprises in similar industries) in regions with relatively large bureaucracies. With a less-hostile state apparatus, private-enterprise owners and managers face fewer constraints when taking actions that raise their productivity — for example, seeking out new markets, laying off redundant employees, starting new product lines and so forth.

The proposal to cut Russia's bureaucracy is a misguided solution to the wrong problem. The country's problem is not that its bureaucracy is too large. It's that the bureaucrats it does have aren't responsive to the people they serve. There are no easy solutions to that problem, but concentrating power in the hands of a few state officials runs the risk of making the situation worse, not better.

John Earle is professor of public policy and economics at George Mason University and professor of economics at the Central European University. Scott Gehlbach is associate professor of political science at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

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Санкт-Петербург Таймс

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INSIDE RUSSIA

Raising Patriots Rather Than Physicists

By Yulia Latynina

United Russia is apparently planning to solve the problem of Russia's "brain drain" once and for all. Thanks to its proposed school reforms, there may very well be no more brains to drain from Russia.

The reforms presented to the Education and Science Ministry could be implemented as early as this year and propose that, beginning in the ninth grade, the school day will be divided in two parts.

During the first part, students will attend class as usual, but in the second, they will take part in "patriotic education." This will include an old Soviet tradition of sending schoolchildren to old prominent World War II battlesites to dig for heroic artifacts and other activities aimed at increasing the level of student patriotism through the prism of Prime Minister Vladimir Putin's autocratic power vertical.

Meanwhile, the number of academic subjects will be lowered to ten, of which only three will be obligatory: physical

education, general safety and Russia in the World. The remaining seven will be optional. In other words, learning to love Putin will be obligatory, while math and English will be optional.

These reforms would mean that the ruling regime has not only destroyed modern Russia but now wants to destroy Russia's future as well.

A state's future success can be measured by how much it invests in education. Look at China, for example. The cumulative value of scholarships awarded to university students in China increased more than tenfold from \$240 million in 2006 to \$2.7 billion in 2008.

Russian schoolteachers earn an average of just 13,500 rubles (\$450) per month, and high school graduates cannot get into universities without paying bribes. Take a look at what Russia's privileged are learning at the so-called foreign campus of Moscow State University's law school in Geneva. Their

knowledge of international law leaves a lot to be desired, but they are very well versed in "extracurricular activities," such as holding drag races in the Lamborghinis and Maseratis that their daddies gave them as high school graduation presents.

Even with its obsession with Communist ideology, the Soviet Union was nonetheless successful at turning out world-class scientists and technicians. The fact that the Patriotic Education class is replacing algebra and Love for Putin is replacing physics are clear signs of a dying society that has no more need for the exact sciences. I wonder where the top graduates of Love for Putin courses will find jobs. Surely not in Rusnano.

United Russia claims that the Education and Science Ministry's reforms are needed to combat fascism. But education, of course, is both a country's best weapon for modernization and its best defense against extremism. Who, after all, is the most likely to organize pogroms against minorities from the

North Caucasus and Central Asia — university graduates with degrees in physics and mathematics, or Pyotr Pupkin who only has a high school degree whose favorite subject was the Love for the Motherland class in which he learned how the Jews crucified Christ?

The only difference between the Kremlin's so-called youth policy and fascism is its ostensibly unofficial character. Yes, Russians did burn books in public squares, but that was organized by the Youth for Russia, and not by the Kremlin.

Recall how the pro-Kremlin youth group Stal translated the "Ten Commandments of National Socialism" written by Nazi propaganda minister Joseph Goebbels, replacing "Germany" with "Russia." But that was a private matter.

If Lake Seliger becomes a place of formal instruction, if Goebbels' slogans are studied in schools and if books are burned in Love for the Motherland classes, how will that differ from fascism?

Yulia Latynina hosts a radio talk show on Ekho Moskvyy radio.



Yulia Latynina

WEDNESDAY, **JANUARY 26, 2011**

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Exhibitions



'The Seagull' is reinterpreted in a new production at the Baltiisky Dom theater. See p.14.

Chekhov gets the Lithuanian treatment

A new production of "The Seagull" at the Baltiisky Dom theater injects elements of the grotesque into the play.

By Galina Stolyarova
THE ST. PETERSBURG TIMES

Lithuanian director Ionas Vaitkus opted for grotesque theatricality over realism in his new rendition of Anton Chekhov's drama "The Seagull" that saw its premiere at the Baltiisky Dom theater festival on Friday, Jan. 21.

The first performance began with the disappointing announcement that the eminent Lithuanian actor Yuozas Budraitis, who was due to play Pyotr Sorin, had been admitted to hospital with a heart condition. The last-minute replacement, Anatoly Dubanov, was however an excellent choice, showing a touching old man, fragile and sentimental.

Natalya Indeikina projects the image of a minx bordering on a courtesan in her provocative portrayal of Irina Arkadina, Sorin's sister. The character, an aging actress, sports a glitzy over-exposed outfit that includes a shiny red top and shamelessly short lacy skirt, and coquettishly flexes her muscles and pampers herself in an enormous bathtub.

This interpretation reaches its climax in a domination sex scene, with the diva passionately pulling at the hair of the utterly bewildered belletrist Boris Trigorin (Leonid Alimov).

In comparison with Chekhov's delicate prose, the production offers a heavy dose of physicality that quickly becomes rather hard to bear. The image of the unfortunate seagull shot by the hunter appears in the form of a seductive-looking woman dressed in a furry red garment that is more reminiscent of the delights of a striptease club than of a wounded bird.

Set designer Ionas Archikauskas made a winning decision in creating a small performance space that revolves around itself in the center of the main stage — a virtual venue for the "shows within the show" staged by Arkadina's son, Konstantin Treplev (Anton Bagrov). As some of the characters blur the boundaries between acting on stage and playing roles in real life, the smaller stage serves as a smart reminder of Arkadina's hypocrisy and Trigorin's shallowness.

The production's weakest point, however, was Daria Mikhailova as the aspiring young actress Nina Zarechnaya.

Those who have seen a dozen or more renditions of "The Seagull" may discern two bizarre tendencies. The first is that it is typically the portrayal of the helpless Zarechnaya that ruins the show, and the second is that all bad Zarechnayas bear a clone-like resemblance to



Irina Arkadina (pictured above, with Treplev) is portrayed as a racy minx by Natalya Indeikina.

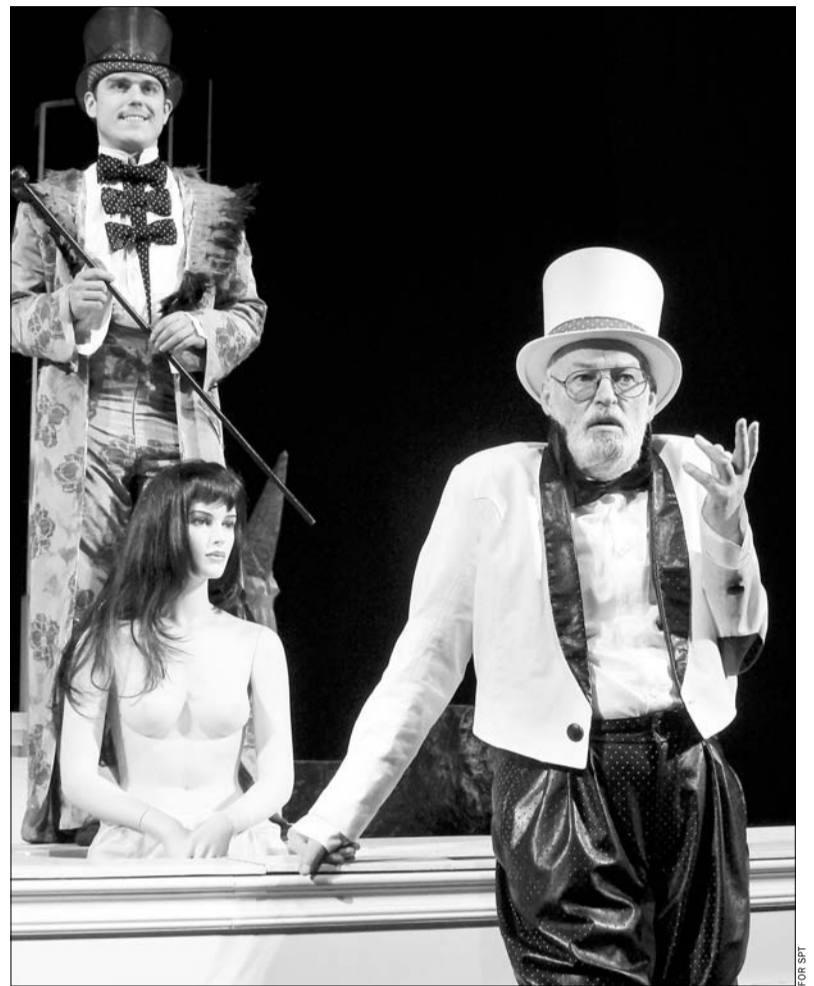
one another. Mikhailova, who is still a student of the St. Petersburg Academy of Theater Art, was a classic example of such a depiction, bursting with exultation while desperately lacking depth. The only thought prompted by watching Nina's ecstatic behavior is to give the excitable young lady some valerian drops — the medicine we hear another of the play's characters, doctor Yevgeny Dorn, routinely suggesting to his patients as a cure for their many ailments.

Nina Zarechnaya is undoubtedly a tough character to perform. The actress has to captivate the audience with her vitality and youthful energy, while showing why the character of the young woman craves the stage and ex-

posing the talent that she has — and while the vitality is often overdone, the heroine's soul and talent are rarely revealed and remain only on paper.

The farcical element is apparently the director's response to Chekhov calling "The Seagull" a comedy. Yet the effort lacks consistency.

The drama that "The Seagull" is supposed to transmit is the story of how the talentless Arkadina and Trigorin flourish and prosper, while the gifted Treplev dies and Nina loses everything, including even her joie de vivre that originally drew people to her. Instead, the Baltiisky Dom's production is a farcical take on the emotionally dead characters, and an eth-



Regimantas Adomaitis (above) is unfailingly elegant in the role of Doctor Yevgeny Dorn.



Feathers and lace feature heavily in the play.

real Nina. The director creates no conflict or tension between the antagonistic characters, while "The Seagull" is first and foremost a story of frustration and dissatisfaction: Treplev's unfulfilled aspirations, Maria's unreturned feelings for Treplev, Nina's lofty ambitions, Trigorin's eternal fatigue...

This show is worth seeing, however, for the brilliant work of the unfailingly elegant Regimantas Adomaitis as Yevgeny Dorn, for Anatoly Dubanov's warm and heartfelt Sorin — or for what Yuozas Budraitis is going to show in the role when he recovers — and out of curiosity about an attempt to inject some farce and grotesque elements into what is traditionally regarded as the sacred and well-protected territory of nostalgic drama and dry humor. This production is above all an experiment, which means there is room for growth.

"The Seagull" will next be performed on Feb. 2, 3, 17 and 18 at the Baltiisky Dom theater, 4 Alexandrovsky Park, tel: 232 3539. M: Gorkovskaya. www.baltichouse.ru

the word's worth

Putting All Your Eggs In One Basket

By Michele A. Berdy

Не стоит выеденного яйца: It's not worth a plugged nickel

Яйцо (egg) is a thing of beauty and the food of the gods. OK, I made up the bit about the gods. But down here on Earth, people like eggs, and I think it's fair to say that Russian people especially like eggs. This used to be very clear back in the days before suburban supermarkets, when at the dacha you fed the family only on what you hauled out from the city. And so on Friday afternoons, every second car leaving the city had a big box of eggs balanced on the back window ledge, safe from rowdy dogs and antsy children.

For the record, the egg consists of a *скорлупа* (shell), *желток* (yolk or "yellow part") and *белок* (white). At breakfast, your Russian hosts might ask you how you want your eggs and offer you some poetic possibilities: *вмятку* (soft-boiled, from the now archaic word *мясти*, to mix up — presumably what you can do to a mushy egg); *в мешочек* (a medium-boiled egg, when the soft yolk is in a "pouch" — *мешочек* — of firm white); *вкрутую* (hard-boiled); *яичница-глазунья* (fried eggs, from the image of an eye — *глаз*); or *яичница-болтунья* (scrambled eggs, from the verb *болтать* — to mix or beat something). The humble hard-boiled egg can also be called *крутое яйцо* and is a standard staple at picnics. Some day some-

one will explain why a boiled egg sprinkled with salt, so disdained in the kitchen, is transformed into the most delicious food on a river bank.

You should know that in most cases with eggs you use the verb pair *есть/съесть* (to eat), although you can also say *выпить* (to drink), which is what you do with a raw egg. Well, not you — but some people who are very hungry or very hungover.

Eating eggs has given us an expression that I found puzzling at first: *не стоит выеденного яйца* (literally, "it's not worth an eaten egg"). The phrase *выеденное яйцо* (literally, "eaten egg") means something worthless, trifling, or of no concern. Now why would a nourishing, consumed egg be worthless? It turns out that the

выеденное яйцо refers to what is left over after you eat an egg — the cracked and useless shell. In American English the equivalent in worthlessness is a plugged nickel — that is, a nickel with a plug in the center (after the valuable metal had been removed). *Все эти секреты яйца выеденного не стоят* (All those secrets aren't worth a plugged nickel).

Russians raise their children with a little parable about eggs and hens. When a young'un gets too big for his britches and starts lecturing his elders, the elders say: *Яйца курицу не учат!* (literally, "eggs don't teach a chicken"). In English, this is often expressed by the odd phrase: Don't teach your grandmother to suck eggs, which brings us back to drinking your breakfast egg raw.

And then there's a peeled egg — *облупленное яйцо* or *яичко*. This is a nice metaphor for something clearly known (the bare egg) or ready to go (just pop it in your mouth). Some etymologists believe it's the source of the phrase *знать, как облупленного* (to know someone inside out), another phrase uttered by elders to upstart kids: *И тебя, и Андриюшку знаю как облупленных, кого вы хотите обмануть?* (I can see right through you and Andryushka — who do you think you're fooling?)

After all, we're no spring chickens!

Michele A. Berdy is a Moscow-based translator and interpreter, whose collection of columns, "The Russian Word's Worth," has been published by Glas.

Honest rock and roller

Ex-DDT rocker Vadim Kurylyov talks about his dream of an independent republic in northwest Russia.

By Sergey Chernov
STAFF WRITER

Rock and roll is still a form of rebellion for Vadim Kurylyov, the 46-year-old local musician who became famous for his work with Russia's leading rock band DDT and now leads his own angry, guitar-driven punk band Electric Guerrillas.

"They say artists are not obliged to provide answers; artists should pose questions, but I thought, 'Why can't an artist sometimes give an answer as well?'" he says.

Kurylyov, who describes Electric Guerrillas' most recent album as "firmly socially-oriented" and the band's "most radical so far," believes it will attract young supporters to his struggle against the Kremlin, and for his drastic dream of the creation of an independent republic of Ingria, the historical territory covering St. Petersburg and the Leningrad Oblast.

"Ingria, as the closest region to Europe, should be the first to take the role of the destroyer of the empire from the northwest and escape from the authority of the Kremlin's leadership," Kurylyov wrote in the notes to the album, which is titled "A Century Under the Unquiet Sun" and features songs with titles such as "Protest and Fight" and "Revolution Is Within Us."

Kurylyov performed with DDT, the mainstream rock band led by Yury Shevchuk, for 16 years, from its semi-obscure underground days to its national fame, first as bass player then as guitarist. He had been writing his own songs before he joined the band in 1986 and continued his career, both solo and with Electric Guerrillas, after he quit DDT in 2002.

"When I quit DDT, I stopped being a mainstream musician and became an underground, independent musician immediately," Kurylyov said, speaking to The St. Petersburg Times at a local cafe late last week.

"I saw it all from the outside; it was like a revolution of consciousness. When I exited the door of DDT's studio I found myself in another, open world... It's like Buddha, who sat in a castle for 30 years and didn't even know that people die.

"It was concealed from him that death existed so as not to damage his psyche, and he found out about it when he was 30, and it had a far greater impact on him than if he had learned about it as a child. That's why he embarked on his complex journey that resulted in him becoming Buddha as we know him."

Despite its success and income, DDT was an "anti-bourgeois" band, as Kurylyov puts it, performing half of its concerts for free for various causes and charities.

"Living in DDT's world, I felt protected, even psychologically protected from many things, and stopped being protected when I went outside," he said.

"I realized that there were only a few bands like DDT or Alisa, while all the rest are pure showbiz; everybody was busy making money. Even a lot of musicians who called themselves rock musicians haven't done anything except make money for a long time. They have had nothing to do with rock culture."

Kurylyov came up with the name "Electric Guerrillas" (Elektricheskiye Partizany) to distance himself from commercially-minded acts.

"I have positioned myself as a representative of the culture driven into the underground by the capitalist system of values — the one we're fighting against," he said.



Electric Guerrillas, fronted by Vadim Kurylyov (c), will play songs from their new album, 'A Century Under the Unquiet Sun' at Orlandina on Sunday.

"We can't act directly; we are not allowed on television, or radio or anywhere. So what should we do? We're waging our struggle by guerilla methods. We're operating in territory occupied by showbiz."

Originally, Electric Guerrillas performed what Kurylyov describes as "lyrical rock and blues psychedelia," though not without a touch of punk. He says he became more and more radical as a result of the current political regime.

"It gets worse and worse in this country, and perhaps that pushes me to some sentiments of protest that punk music fits best," Kurylyov said.

"I got tired of writing blurry, semi-surrealistic lyrics and wanted to call a spade a spade, wanted to poke fun at somebody, for instance the President. If I feel that that capitalist has a negative image, that he is a creep and a piece of shit, I want to sing exactly that. That's why this album is so direct and open; it contains the spirit of protest."

The history of rock music for Kurylyov, who sees himself as an anarchist, is a continuous struggle between the spirit of protest and corporations that try to stifle it.

"At some point, I realized that I couldn't stand outside of the social processes," he said.

"As an honest rock and roller, I think that the root of rock music is rebellion. Rock music was born as rebellion and has always produced protest explosions — primarily from young people who were not happy about the world they lived in. Rock music calls for changing the world for the better, that's the essence of its rebellion, in the first place."

Having started as "cultural guerrillas," in Kurylyov's words, the band eventually arrived at social punk rock.

"First we opposed commercial music, then I started to look further, to get to the root of it, and understood that commercial music or showbiz were not the main reason for our culture's troubles. Commercial music and showbiz are consequences of the capitalist system, this type of social structure."

"That's when I realized that we were not simply against showbiz, but we were against this whole system — not only culture, but its construction, industry, legal system, whatever. We're against this system."

Kurylyov says he was a revolutionary socialist before he arrived at his

current anarchist views and started to reject the state.

"To put it simply, the state is a huge, mega racketeer, that's how I see the state itself," he said.

"It says to its population; 'Look, I protect you, and you pay us and obey us,' just as a racketeer does. The state always needs an enemy, even if there isn't one, external or internal. 'See how our glorious police fight criminals,' even if everybody knows that the 'glorious police' are the main gangsters. We are ruled by a certain criminal body, the so-called 'system.'"

Even more direct is Underground Front, Kurylyov's other project created to protest against specific actions by the authorities, and featuring musicians such as Televizor's Mikhail Borzykin and Razniye Lyudi's Alexander Chernetsky.

In October 2009, Underground Front wrote the song "City, Wake Up" — a protest against Okhta Center, Gazprom's planned 400-meter skyscraper that opponents said would destroy St. Petersburg's historic views — where Kurylyov sang with several singers of local rock groups, urging residents to oppose the construction, which was finally canceled late last year.

July 2010 saw the creation of "Song 31" supporting national protests in defense of the right of assembly, guaranteed by the constitution but routinely violated by the authorities. Both are featured on "A Century Under the Unquiet Sun."

Kurylyov, whose grandmother worked in a firefighting crew extinguishing firebombs on the roofs during the Siege of Leningrad by putting them in baskets of water, said he could not tolerate the continuing destruction of historic St. Petersburg under the current city governor Valentina Matviyenko. He said the destruction was symbolized by the planned Okhta Center skyscraper, which he described as the "material embodiment of Putin's power vertical."

Underground Front and Electric Guerrillas uploaded the song onto YouTube, submitted it to be played at a rally and performed a club gig against Okhta Center, but Kurylyov is critical of more popular musicians, like Shevchuk or Akvarium's Boris Grebenshchikov, whom he claims could have done more to protest the skyscraper.

"Neither Grebenshchikov nor Shevchuk, who had great opportuni-

ties, held any concert or event to protest it," he said.

"They could have organized a rock festival, 'Rock Against the Tower,' with the opportunities they had. They could have drawn lots of people. But they didn't do it."

Although some opponents of the Okhta Center are celebrating victory, Kurylyov mentioned the Literary House, a historic building on Nevsky Prospekt that is currently being demolished.

Kurylyov sees himself as a patriot of St. Petersburg, rather than a patriot of Russia.

"I see what's happening here; the city is perishing and it's first and foremost Moscow and the authorities in the Kremlin that are killing it," he said.

"We are not allowed to elect the governor anymore, and we all know what this governor is doing here. They have destroyed more than the Nazis did during the war."

The answer to the Kremlin's oppression, in Kurylyov's opinion, could be the Republic of Free Ingria — Kurylyov's dream country where, according to the sleeve notes to "A Century Under the Unquiet Sun," the album was recorded. Ingria, or Ingermanland, is a historical region in the eastern Baltic stretching from Finland to Estonia that existed centuries before Peter the Great founded St. Petersburg in the area.

Although the movement for an independent Ingria is practically non-existent, the idea is not perhaps as insane as it may at first sound. The Republic of North Ingria did once exist, from January 1919 to December 1920, enthusiastically producing its own postage stamps until the Bolsheviks put a stop to its ambitions.

"I am for Ingria separating itself from the empire, I'm anti-imperialist," says Kurylyov, who uses the Ingermanland flag — which is yellow with a blue Scandinavian cross with red fimbriae — in Electric Guerrillas concerts and album designs.

"An anarchist can't stand for an empire, while an anarchist society cannot be established on such a vast territory as the Russian Empire. It can be established regionally. Everything is being divided into regions in Russia now, and that's why there is nothing impossible or unfounded about Ingria seceding."

Electric Guerrillas will play on Sunday, Jan. 30 at 7 p.m. at Orlandina, 3 Instrumentalnaya Ulitsa. Metro: Petrogradskaya. Tel. +7 921 961 1911.

chernov's choice

With the arrival of the New Year, the city's club map is looking pretty different, for better or worse. There have been some sad losses, but there are also some interesting additions.

Gone is Tantsy, a great place in the center where some memorable concerts took place in the past couple of years.

Translated as "dance party," it closed in November for a number of reasons, primarily financial, according to director Denis Rubin. Its all-night dance parties did not attract large crowds, while live concerts alone did not bring sufficient income, which all sounds fairly typical.

Meanwhile, Rubin said he was promoting live concerts at Erarta, Russia's largest private museum of contemporary art, which was launched last year.

Occupying a five-story building on Vasilyevsky Island, Erarta houses several rooms where concerts can be held, from chamber experimental jazz to larger rock shows. The museum's music program will be printed in the Gigs section of this newspaper.

Although Rubin mentioned this week that there is still some chance that Tantsy might reopen in some form or other, it will not be clear for several weeks.

Mod, a music club oriented at younger audiences that closed a year ago alongside other clubs and bars occupying the large building on Konyushennaya Ploshchad when the owner came up with other ideas for the building's use, is back.

It found a new location close to its former one, and although it functioned partly as a terrace bar in summer while the concert room downstairs was still being renovated, it is now fully open, with almost daily concerts. It is still, however, a far cry from its heyday when the place frequently hosted three gigs a night.

Achtung Baby, another Konyushennaya Ploshchad venue, has been reincarnated as Radio Baby on Kazanskaya Ulitsa.

Due to the tiny size of the stage, there is no regular live program, but there are occasional "friendly" performances or showcases. The place's specialty is internet radio broadcasting, with a couple of original programs and DJ sets transmitted live from the club at nights. One of the programs is compiled by DJ Messer, otherwise known as Denis Kuptsov of Spitfire and Leningrad fame. The broadcasts are available from Radio Baby's web site at www.radiobaby.com.

Unpredictably, Arctica, a venue mostly known for its metal and folk-rock shows, has started to demonstrate some imagination. And So I Watch You From Afar, an intriguing four-piece instrumental post-rock band from Belfast, Northern Ireland, will perform there on Wednesday, Jan. 26, while Friday will see a gig by -OZ-, a visual kei, alternative metal band from Tokyo.

Wikipedia teaches us that "visual kei" is a "movement among Japanese musicians that is characterized by the use of make-up, elaborate hair styles and flamboyant costumes, often, but not always, coupled with androgynous aesthetics." Hajimemashite!

— By Sergey Chernov

Space age modern: Architecture around the U.S.S.R.

A new book examines 90 weird and wonderful buildings dominating the urban landscape of 14 former Soviet republics.

By Chris Gordon
THE ST. PETERSBURG TIMES

Mention the words “Soviet architecture” and the cavalcade of buildings that immediately springs to mind is that of hulking brutalism, Stalinist neo-classical kitsch or, the scourge of inner cities everywhere, the pre-cast paneled apartment block. A new book and exhibition project looks set to change all that, however, bringing an overdue appreciation for what can only be called Space Age Modern.

The project is the brainchild of Frederic Chaubin, chief editor of the French fashion and lifestyle magazine, *Citizen K*. Too clever by half, it is titled “Cosmic Communist Constructions Photographed” in a convoluted bid to render the Russian abbreviation for the U.S.S.R. in English.

Divided into five sections — Entertainment and Culture, Science and Technology, Sports and Youth, Rites and Symbols, Health and Resorts — the book presents 90 buildings from fourteen former Soviet republics that express what the author considers to be the fourth age of Soviet architecture. “An unexpected rebirth of imagination, an unknown burgeoning that took place from 1970 until 1990.”

Rather than let the images exist as what they are — admirably composed pictures of some striking and surprisingly handsome buildings — the author embarks on an elaborate bout of mythologizing that is often as chauvinistic as it is naive. These buildings are “unexpected” and “unknown” only in so far as they have so far gone unrecognized by Western Europe’s fashion pack.

In the search for a conceptual framework with which to support his understandable but rather obvious interest in these buildings, the author invokes the exotic with an emphasis on inaccessibility and otherness. Preferring hollow cliché and circular logic, Chaubin minimizes the fact that these buildings have been part of the landscape for quite a long time. Rem Koolhaas, Jean Nouvel



The Palace of Ceremonies in the Georgian capital of Tbilisi was built in 1985.



The Druzhba sanatorium was built in Yalta, Ukraine, in the same year.



A science and research institute that was built in Kiev in 1979.



The Georgian Ministry of Highways in Tbilisi, built in 1974.

and Daniel Libeskind have all drawn on the legacy of Soviet architecture. And one need only ask local residents for whom these buildings are part of their daily lives to know that the structures, while certainly marginalized, are far from unfamiliar. Who in their right mind could fail to notice a flying saucer parked on their doorstep?

When asked if there was any message behind the photographs in a 2006 interview on the occasion of an exhibition at British fashion designer Paul Smith’s gallery in Japan, Chaubin’s rather feeble response was: “Some kind of emotion... could be nostalgia.” Which is exactly right and places the project in a context that makes sense:

As part of a larger trend that some have dubbed “ostalgie” — a portmanteau of the German words for east and nostalgia.

Flash forward four years and the marketing machine has started piling on the conceptual baggage with the result that these buildings, in the words of the press release for the book, “outline the geography of the U.S.S.R., showing how local influences made their exotic twists before the country was brought to its end.”

One of the few moments of clarity and honesty comes mid-way through the introduction when the author says, “The key to Soviet architecture is above all political. The causes of its evolution are to be sought not in architectural theory but, more prosaically, in the regime and its evolution. Nowhere else and nowhere over such a long period of time has the urban landscape been so directly shaped

by power.” Which is about all that needs to be said. But such brevity doesn’t necessarily fulfill the needs of publishers.

It can only be hoped that the project will go some way toward bringing about a change in attitude towards these often-maligned buildings here in Russia and the CIS. It might just help postpone their destruction in a climate where even well loved buildings are routinely demolished to make way for tasteless new apartment blocks, malls and luxury hotels. For this reason alone, the book is to be celebrated even if it does make for a rather exasperating read.

“*Cosmic Communist Constructions Photographed*” by Frederic Chaubin is published by Taschen Books and released to coincide with an exhibition of photographs at the ZKM Museum of Contemporary Art, Karlsruhe, Germany that runs from Jan. 29 through March 27.

In the Spotlight

In the Spotlight: Orthodox Dress Codes

By Anna Malpas

Last week, Vsevolod Chaplin, a top Orthodox Church spokesman, had a go at Russian women for “mistaking the street for a striptease,” saying that women who wore too few clothes and too much makeup would never find Mr. Right.

Chaplin, who unfortunately is far more talkative than his famous namesake, has already given his august opinion that women who wear miniskirts and get drunk are to blame if they get raped.

His latest statement got a bit of sneaking sympathy from artsy blogger types who would not be seen dead in leopard print, while rights activists such as Lyudmila Alexeyeva became unlikely defenders of lipstick.

Chaplin was backed by Muslim clergy, including Mukhammedgali Khuzin of Perm, who told Interfax, “It’s very difficult for me to imagine Mrs. Alexeyeva wearing a miniskirt.”

Without getting into a theological debate, I couldn’t help noticing that he made the comments on the same day as the Russian Orthodox Church actively encouraged people to strip down to bikinis and jump into holes in the ice in front of priests.



Tabloid photographers at least tend to have unholy thoughts about this and concentrate on the younger, more nubile contingent.

As for the church’s views on women’s clothing, it’s fair to say that I would

have gone into a lot more beautiful churches if I hadn’t feared an elderly woman shouting at me for wearing trousers as if it were still the 1950s.

Chaplin’s wisecracks were also badly timed, since it’s hard to imagine anything

less like a stripper than the bundles of fur coats, jumpers, thermals and woolly tights walking down the streets at the moment — unless he was referring to the hasty removal of such layers when entering another superheated office.

Personally, I admire Russian women for trying to dress sexily in difficult circumstances.

Chaplin should appreciate what an art it is to dress nicely when you can’t wear white or anything that trails in slush, mud and dust, and your footwear needs to be able to maneuver on polished ice and wade through giant puddles.

And surely most men agree.

One expat journalist told me recently that “Russian women wear tight jeans and high heels, and British women wear baggy jeans and trainers. I know which is sexier,” as I guiltily hid my baggy jeans and clumpy boots under the table.

I’d say Chaplin was years out of date, anyway.

It may have been a fashion free-for-all in the 1990s when people did not have *Elle* or *Afisha* magazines to rap them on the knuckles. But now people with the money not to shop at markets for their clothes are just as scared of fashion faux pas as anyone else.

Wear tight, revealing clothing and lashings of lipliner, and you might as well shout “up from the provinces” or “nouveau riche and hasn’t gotten around to hiring a stylist.”

It is the exceptions that prove the rule, and this month ballerina Anastasia Volochkova decided that it would be a good idea to publish photographs on her blog of herself lying on a beach completely nude.

Recently upbraided by it-girl Ksenia Sobchak for her taste in acrylic nails and permanent makeup, Volochkova doesn’t have much sense and was seemingly unaware that she might be causing offence, since she was in the Maldives, a Muslim country.

She explained her decision to publish the snaps to the *Moskovsky Komsomolets* tabloid, saying that she’d been stalked by a photographer and decided to get some properly posed shots, as well as quash rumors that she had breast implants.

But she seemed outraged by the attention she caused.

“When I published photos from my concert, saying how great it was, no one raised an eyebrow,” she complained.

“But as soon as I showed my body, they turned on me. People in our country have completely degraded!”



-OZ-, an alternative metal band from Tokyo, Japan — now on their first European tour — will perform at Arctica at 7 p.m. on Friday.

Nikolai Rubanov, Andrei Popovsky, Anton Kolosov and Andrei Bobrovsky Improvised, experimental. *GEZ-21 (Gallery of Experimental Sound)*, 53 Ligovsky Prospekt. Tel. +7 812 764 52 58. 8 p.m.
Mikhail Kostyushkin and Maria Art Quintet Hard bop. *JFC Jazz Club*, 33 Shpalernaya Ulitsa. Tel. +7 812 272 9850. 8 p.m.

thursday, february 1

rock, etc.

Rubi Rock *Jagĝer*, 2 Ploshchad Konstitutsii. Tel. +7 812 923 1292. 8:30 p.m.
Dyshite.ru/Clubbin Muslims Acoustic, alternative, indie. *Zoccolo*, 2/3 3-ya Sovetskaya Ulitsa. Tel. +7 812 274 9467. 8 p.m.

jazz & blues

Kvadrat Jazz Club: Jam Session Mainstream. *Jazz Philharmonic Hall (Ellington Hall)*, 27 Zagorodny Prospekt. Tel. +7 812 764 85 65, +7 812 764 9843. 8 p.m.
Franz Bdoyan Jazz, progressive, folk. *JFC Jazz Club*, 33 Shpalernaya Ulitsa. Tel. +7 812 272 9850. 8 p.m.

wednesday, february 2

rock, etc.

Krasno Sointse/Drevo Roda Folk. *Cheshire Cat*, 9 Ulitsa Lva Tolstogo. Tel. +7 905 251 6774. 8 p.m.
Rubi Rock *Jagĝer*, 2 Ploshchad Konstitutsii. Tel. +7 812 923 1292. 8:30 p.m.
Chufella Marzufella Garage rock. *Zoccolo*, 2/3 3-ya Sovetskaya Ulitsa. Tel. +7 812 274 9467. 8 p.m.

jazz & blues

Valley of the Blessed Gennady Golshtein, David Goloshchyokin, Vladimir Lytkin, Stanislav Streltsov, Airin Bushe and St. Petersburg's Saxophones. *Jazz Philharmonic Hall*, 27 Zagorodny Prospekt. Tel. +7 812 764 85 65, +7 812 764 9843. 7 p.m.
Andrei Kondakov Band Original compositions. *JFC Jazz Club*, 33 Shpalernaya Ulitsa. Tel. +7 812 272 9850. 8 p.m.

sunday, january 30

SCREENS

Afterwards (2009, Germany-France-Canada) Gilles Bourdos' thriller starring Romain Duris, John Malkovich and Evangeline Lilly. *Crystal Palace, Khudozhestvenny, Pik*.

Boogie Woogie (2009, U.K.) Duncan Ward's comedy starring Gillian Anderson, Alan Cumming and Heather Graham. *Dom Kino*.

Burlesque (2010, U.S.) Steve Antin's musical starring Cher and Christina Aguilera. *Avrora, Crystal Palace, Jam Hall, Kolizei, Mirage Cinema, Pik*.

Exam (2009, U.K.) Stuart Hazeldine's thriller starring Adar Beck, Gemma Chan and Nathalie Cox. *Dom Kino*.

Fat People (Gordos) (2009, Spain) Daniel Sanchez Arevalo's comedy starring Antonio de la Torre, Roberto Enriquez and Veronica Sanchez. *Dom Kino*.

Gigola (2010, France) Laure Charpentier's film starring Lou Doillon, Marie Kremer and Thierry Lhermitte. *Dom Kino*.

Gulliver's Travels (2010, U.S.) Rob Letterman's adventure comedy film starring Jack Black, Jason Segel and Emily Blunt. *Crystal Palace, Jam Hall, Khudozhestvenny, Kolizei, Neva, Pik*.

Happy End (Les derniers jours du monde) (2009, France-Spain-Taiwan) Arnaud Larrieu and Jean-Marie Larrieu's sci-fi drama starring Mathieu Amalric, Karin Viard and Catherine Frot. *Dom Kino*.

Hereafter (2010, U.S.) Clint Eastwood's drama starring Cecile De France, Thierry Neuvic and Jessica Griffiths. *Mirage Cinema*.

Hideaway (Le refuge) (2009, France) Francois Ozon's drama starring Isabelle Carre, Melvil Poupaud and Isabelle Carre. *Dom Kino*.

I Spit on Your Grave: Unrated (2010, U.S.) Steven R. Monroe's thriller starring Daniel Franzese, Sarah Butler and Chad Lindberg. *Crystal Palace*.

Inadequate People (Nedekvatniye Lyudi) (2011, Russia) Roman Karimov's comedy starring Ilya Lyubimov, Ingrid

GIGS

wednesday, january 26

rock, etc.

And So I Watch You From Afar Post-rock, math rock. *Arctica*, 38 Ulitsa Beringa. Tel. +7 812 952 4696. 7 p.m.

Kim Jaejoong Birthday Party *Cheshire Cat*, 9 Ulitsa Lva Tolstogo. Tel. +7 905 251 6774. 7 p.m.

Mikhail Chernov Birthday Concert Jazz, blues, rock. *Jagĝer*, 2 Ploshchad Konstitutsii. Tel. +7 812 923 1292. 8:30 p.m.

Prodam Bentley/The Gagarin Rock. *Manhattan*, 90 Naberezhnaya Reki Fontanki. Tel. +7 (812) 713 1945. 8 p.m.

Revanche/Mannequin Republic Indie rock. *Mod*, 7 Naberezhnaya Kanala Griboyedova. Tel. +7 812 712 0734. 9 p.m.

Bomba-Piter Presents Acts t.b.c. *Money Honey*, 28 Sadovaya Ulitsa. Tel. +7 812 310 0549. 8 p.m.

Aprel/Manifest/Double Art Grunge, alternative. *Zoccolo*, 2/3 3-ya Sovetskaya Ulitsa. Tel. +7 812 274 9467. 8 p.m.

jazz & blues

Calypso Blues Band "Jazz dancing." *Jazz Philharmonic Hall*, 27 Zagorodny Prospekt. Tel. +7 812 764 85 65, +7 812 764 9843. 7 p.m.

Dina Sineglazova Band/Svetlana Mariinchenko Project Mainstream. *JFC Jazz Club*, 33 Shpalernaya Ulitsa. Tel. +7 812 272 9850. 8 p.m.

thursday, january 27

rock, etc.

Rock Holiday Festival Mad Diamonds, Adrec, The Show, Sluts in Bloodz. Rock, glam rock. *Cheshire Cat*, 9 Ulitsa Lva Tolstogo. Tel. +7 905 251 6774. 7 p.m.

911 Band/Yevgeny Lamba Trio Blues rock. *Jagĝer*, 2 Ploshchad Konstitutsii. Tel. +7 812 923 1292. 8:30 p.m.

Cover Party The Dudes, Magic Bus, Yana Chudit, Marj Kula, Oumlaut, My Private Hospital, Vasya V., Icy You. Rock, pop. *Kosmonavt*, 24 Bronnitskaya Ulitsa. Tel. +7 812 922 1300. 7 p.m.

Rubakha Nessa/Hleba? Rock. *Manhattan*, 90 Naberezhnaya Reki Fontanki. Tel. +7 (812) 713 1945. 8 p.m.

Ostrolist Folk rock. *Orlandina*, 3 Instrumentalnaya Ulitsa. Tel. +7 921 961 1911. 8 p.m.

Emergenza Festival Alhimia, Ad Notam, Joe Tribbiani, Yamaisky i Ostrovityane, Chuzhaya Territoriya. Rock, alternative. *Shum*, 45 5-ya Sovetskaya Ulitsa. Tel. 946 8969. 7 p.m.

Mister Groza/Q-Real *Stirka*, 26 Kazanskaya Ulitsa. Tel. +7 812 314 5371. 8 p.m.

Detali/Vremya ot Kazhdogo/KopenGaGen/Dver v Leto Rock. *Zal Ozhidaniya*, 118 Naberezhnaya Obvodnogo Kanala. Tel. +7 812 333 1069. 6 p.m.

ShamRai Rock. *Zoccolo*, 2/3 3-ya Sovetskaya Ulitsa. Tel. +7 812 274 9467. 8 p.m.

jazz & blues

1900 Arseny Ivankovich, David Goloshchyokin and His Band. Jazz musical. *Jazz Philharmonic Hall*, 27 Zagorodny Prospekt. Tel. +7 812 764 85 65, +7 812 764 9843. 7 p.m.

Swing Couture Gypsy jazz. *JFC Jazz Club*, 33 Shpalernaya Ulitsa. Tel. +7 812 272 9850. 8 p.m.

friday, january 28

rock, etc.

-Oz- Alternative metal. *Arctica*, 38 Ulitsa Beringa. Tel. +7 812 952 4696. 7 p.m.

Polyusa Pop rock. *Fish Fabrique (Nouvelle)*, 53 Ligovsky Prospekt. Tel. +7 (812) 764 4857. 10 p.m.

Tail *GEZ-21 (Gallery of Experimental Sound)*, 53 Ligovsky Prospekt. Tel. +7 812 764 52 58. 8 p.m.

Skafandr Dub metal. *Griboyedov*, 2A Voronezhskaya Ulitsa. Tel. +7 812 764 4355, +7 812 973 7273. 9 p.m.

Jagger Rock Cabaret Covers. *Jagĝer*, 2 Ploshchad Konstitutsii. Tel. +7 812 923 1292. 8:30 p.m.



Italian electro-punk DJs Cyberpunks will bring their Fuck The System World Tour to St. Petersburg this week. They'll perform at Kosmonavt on Friday, Jan. 28 at midnight.

Bad Balance Hip-hop. *Kosmonavt*, 24 Bronnitskaya Ulitsa. Tel. +7 812 922 1300. 8 p.m.

Cyberpunks Electro punk. *Kosmonavt*, 24 Bronnitskaya Ulitsa. Tel. +7 812 922 1300. Midnight.

Zakhar Mai Rock. *Manhattan*, 90 Naberezhnaya Reki Fontanki. Tel. +7 (812) 713 1945. 8 p.m.

Porno Alternative. *Money Honey*, 28 Sadovaya Ulitsa. Tel. +7 812 310 0549. 8 p.m.

Sergei Kalugin Acoustic. *Orlandina*, 3 Instrumentalnaya Ulitsa. Tel. +7 921 961 1911. 8 p.m.

Fruktovy Kefir Indie rock. *Zal Ozhidaniya*, 118 Naberezhnaya Obvodnogo Kanala. Tel. +7 812 333 1069. 8 p.m.

Iva Nova Folk punk. *Zoccolo*, 2/3 3-ya Sovetskaya Ulitsa. Tel. +7 812 274 9467. 8 p.m.

jazz & blues

Pyotr Kornev Band and Elvira Trafova Music by Cole Porter, George Gershwin and Jerome Kern. *Jazz Philharmonic Hall*, 27 Zagorodny Prospekt. Tel. +7 812 764 85 65, +7 812 764 9843. 7 p.m.

Straight Ahead Mainstream. *JFC Jazz Club*, 33 Shpalernaya Ulitsa. Tel. +7 812 272 9850. 8 p.m.

Viktoria Urusova Jazz songs. *Street Life*, 6 2-ya Krasnoarmeyskaya Ulitsa. Tel. +7 812 575 0545. 9 p.m.

saturday, january 29

rock, etc.

Rock Holiday Festival Asthenic, Orkestr Kosmicheskogo Optimizma, Tove Jansson, The Show. Rock. *Cheshire Cat*, 9 Ulitsa Lva Tolstogo. Tel. +7 905 251 6774. 8:30 p.m.

Segodnyanochy Pop rock. *Fish Fabrique (Nouvelle)*, 53 Ligovsky Prospekt. Tel. +7 (812) 764 4857. 10 p.m.

Amy Pieterse Jazz, neo soul, hip-hop. *Flat*, 28 Sadovaya Ulitsa. Tel. +7 812 310 0098, +7 812 955 7409. 7 p.m.

Prepinaki Pop. *Griboyedov*, 2A Voronezhskaya Ulitsa. Tel. +7 812 764 4355, +7 812 973 7273. 9 p.m.

Jungle Jam Cover band. *Jagĝer*, 2 Ploshchad Konstitutsii. Tel. +7 812 923 1292. 8:30 p.m.

Globus Rock. *Manhattan*, 90 Fontanka Nab. Tel. +7 (812) 713 1945. 8 p.m.

Rasco and DJ Wich Hip-hop. *Zal Ozhidaniya*, 118 Naberezhnaya Obvodnogo Kanala. Tel. +7 812 333 1069. 8 p.m.

Bro Sound Reggae, ska, hip-hop. *Zoccolo*, 2/3 3-ya Sovetskaya Ulitsa. Tel. +7 812 274 9467. 8 p.m.

jazz & blues

Leningrad Dixieland Band "Jazz dancing." *Jazz Philharmonic Hall*, 27 Zagorodny Prospekt. Tel. +7 812 764 85 65, +7 812 764 9843. 7 p.m.

Bart Quartet Modern jazz. *Jazz Philharmonic Hall (Ellington Hall)*, 27 Zagorodny Prospekt. Tel. +7 812 764 85 65, +7 812 764 9843. 8 p.m.

Vilena Pikkarainen and Nikolai Popravko Band Jazz songs. *JFC Jazz Club*, 33 Shpalernaya Ulitsa. Tel. +7 812 272 9850. 8 p.m.

sunday, january 30

rock, etc.

Fatality Fest Aborted Fetus, 7 H. Target, Dormant Carnivore, Ezophagothomia, Impending Atonement, Ruptured in Purulence, Lack of Truth, Dichotomy Exception. Death metal. *Arctica*, 38 Ulitsa Beringa. Tel. +7 812 952 4696. 5 p.m.

Bubentsy Folk. *Cheshire Cat*, 9 Ulitsa Lva Tolstogo. Tel. +7 905 251 6774. 8:30 p.m.

Diagens/Britva/Antipublic/Komatoz/Caries Punk, street punk, metal punk. *Flat*, 28 Sadovaya Ulitsa. Tel. +7 812 923 1292. 8:30 p.m.

Nomera Rock. *Manhattan*, 90 Naberezhnaya Reki Fontanki. Tel. +7 (812) 713 1945. 8 p.m.

Den Nezavisimosti Rock. *Money Honey*, 28 Sadovaya Ulitsa. Tel. +7 812 310 0549. 8 p.m.

Electric Guerrillas/Soyuz Punk, rock, alternative. *Orlandina*, 3 Instrumentalnaya Ulitsa. Tel. +7 921 961 1911. 7 p.m.

45 Km Rock. *Orlandina (Maly Zal)*, 3 Instrumentalnaya Ulitsa. Tel. +7 921 961 1911. 8 p.m.

The Last Entreatie Gothic, metal, symphonic rock. *Stirka*, 26 Kazanskaya Ulitsa. Tel. +7 812 314 5371. 8 p.m.

Ivanyanych Indie rock. *Stirka*, 26 Kazanskaya Ulitsa. Tel. +7 812 314 5371. 10 p.m.

Angel neBes Art rock. *Zal Ozhidaniya*, 118 Naberezhnaya Obvodnogo Kanala. Tel. +7 812 333 1069. 8 p.m.

Jack the Flipper/Challenger/Helia Punk, metal, alternative. *Zoccolo*, 2/3 3-ya Sovetskaya Ulitsa. Tel. +7 812 274 9467. 8 p.m.

jazz & blues

Ars Nova Tribute to Horace Silver. *Jazz Philharmonic Hall*, 27 Zagorodny Prospekt. Tel. +7 812 764 85 65, +7 812 764 9843. 7 p.m.

Filipp Meshcheryakov, Nikolai Sizov and Gary Bagdasaryan Band Mainstream. *JFC Jazz Club*, 33 Shpalernaya Ulitsa. Tel. +7 812 272 9850. 8 p.m.

monday, january 31

rock, etc.

CHK Fest Acts t.b.c. *Cheshire Cat*, 9 Ulitsa Lva Tolstogo. Tel. +7 905 251 6774. 8 p.m.

Olerinskaya and Yevgeny Tsyanov. *Avrora, Crystal Palace, Khudozhestvenny, Pik.*

Kiss Through the Wall (Potselui cherez stenu) (2011, Russia) Vartan Akopyan's romantic comedy starring Anton Shagin, Karina Andolenko and Pavel Volya. *Crystal Palace, Pik.*

Last Night (2010, U.S.-France) Massy Tadjedin's love drama starring Keira Knightley, Sam Worthington and Eva Mendes. *Avrora, Crystal Palace, Khudozhestvenny, Kolizei, Pik.*

Love and Other Drugs (2010, U.S.) Edward Zwick's romantic comedy starring Jake Gyllenhaal, Anne Hathaway and Oliver Platt. *Avrora, Crystal Palace, Kolizei, Mirage Cinema, Pik.*

Mr. Nobody (2009, Canada-Belgium-France-Germany) Jaco Van Dormael's fantasy film starring Jared Leto, Diane Kruger and Sarah Polley. *Dom Kino.*

Norwegian Wood (Noruwei no mori) (2010, Japan) Anh Hung Tran's love drama starring Rinko Kikuchi, Ken'ichi Matsuyama and Kiko Mizuhara. *Avrora, Dom Kino.*

The Nutcracker in 3D (Shchelkunchik i Krysiny Korol) (2010, U.K.-Hungary) Andrei Konchalovsky fantasy film starring Elle Fanning, Nathan Lane and John Turturro. *Crystal Palace, Khudozhestvenny, Mirage Cinema, Neva, Pik.*

The Master and Margarita (2010, Russia) Yury Kara's screen adaptation of Mikhail Bulgakov's novel. Anastasia Vertinskaya, Viktor Rakov and Mikhail Ulyanov star. *Avrora.*

The Mechanic (2011, U.S.) Simon West's thriller starring Jason Statham, Ben Foster and Tony Goldwyn. *Crystal Palace, Jam Hall, Kolizei, Mirage Cinema, Pik.*

The Misfortunates (De helaasheid der dingen) (2009, Belgium-Netherlands) Felix Van Groeningen's drama starring Pauline Grossen, Kenneth Vanbaeden and Valentijn Dhaenens. *Dom Kino.*

Morning Glory (2010, U.S.) Roger Michell's comedy/drama starring Rachel McAdams, Noah Bean and Harrison Ford. *Avrora, Crystal Palace, Khudozhestvenny, Kolizei, Neva, Pik.*

Potiche (2010, France) Francois Ozon's comedy starring Catherine Deneuve, Gerard Depardieu and Fabrice Luchini. *Avrora, Dom Kino.*

R.T.T. (2009, France) Frederic Berthe's romantic comedy starring Kad Merad, Melanie Doutey and Manu Payet. *Dom Kino. Starts Jan. 20.*

Rabbit Hole (2010, U.S.) John Cameron Mitchell's drama starring Nicole Kidman, Aaron Eckhart and Dianne Wiest. Based on a play by David Lindsay-Abaire. *Avrora, Crystal Palace, Jam Hall, Mirage Cinema, Rodina, Pik. Starts Jan. 20.*

Satisfaction (Satisfaktsiya) (2010, Russia) Anna Matison's love drama starring Denis Burgazliyev and Yevgeny Grishkovets. *Avrora, Mirage Cinema, Pik.*

Season of the Witch (2011, U.S.) Dominic Sena's adventure drama film starring Nicolas Cage, Ron Perlman and Stephen Campbell Moore. *Crystal Palace, Khudozhestvenny, Kolizei, Mirage Cinema, Neva, Pik.*

Tangled (2010, U.S.) A Walt Disney animated musical film. *Pik.*

The Tree of Life (2011, U.S.) Terrence Malick's drama starring Brad Pitt, Sean Penn and Jessica Chastain. *Mirage Cinema.*

Three Warriors and the Shamakhan Tzaritsa (Tri Bogatryra i Shamakhanskaya Tzaritsa) (2011, Russia) Sergei Glezin's animated fantasy film. *Crystal Palace, Khudozhestvenny, Mirage Cinema, Pik, Rodina.*

TIMER (2009, U.S.) Jac Schaeffer's comedy/drama starring Emma Caulfield, Michelle Borth and John Patrick Amedori. *Dom Kino.*

The Tourist (2010, U.S.-France) Florian Henckel von Donnersmarck starring Johnny Depp, Angelina Jolie and Paul Bettany. *Avrora, Crystal Palace, Jam Hall, Khudozhestvenny, Kolizei, Neva, Pik.*

TRON: Legacy (2010, U.S.) Joseph Kosinski's sci-fi thriller starring Jeff Bridges, Garrett Hedlund and Olivia Wilde. *Crystal Palace, Khudozhestvenny, Kolizei, Mirage Cinema, Pik.*

The Very Best Movie 3D (Samy Luchshy Film 3DE) (2010, Russia) Kirill Kuzin's comedy starring Garik Kharlamov, Yekaterina Kuznetsova and Alexander Baluyev. *Jam Hall, Kolizei, Mirage Cinema, Pik. Starts Jan. 20.*

Yogi Bear (2010, U.S.) Eric Brevig's live-action/CG animated adventure starring Dan Aykroyd, Justin Timberlake and Anna Faris. *Crystal Palace, Khudozhestvenny, Pik.*

MUSEUMS

ACADEMY OF ARTS MUSEUM

(The Scientific-Research Museum of the Academy of Arts) 17 Universitetskaya Nab. Tel. 323-6496, 323-3578 M. Vasileostrovskaya. Wednesday through Sunday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

NEW! Ilya Bogdesko. Engravings to illustrate Cervantes' novel "The Ingenious Hidalgo Don Quixote of La Mancha." *January 29 through February 3*

ANNA AKHMATOVA MUSEUM AT THE FOUNTAIN HOUSE

34 Fontanka River, entrance from 53 Liteiny Pr. M. Gostiny Dvor, Mayakovskaya. Tel. 272-2211. Daily, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Closed Monday and the last Wednesday of every month. www.akhmatova.spb.ru

NEW! Eighteen Views of St. Petersburg: Stanislav Basarab. Graphics. *January 19 through February 6*

Planet Earth, or Only Children Know What They Want. Dedicated to 100 years of Antoine de Saint-Exupéry. Installation. *December 22 through January 30*

ARTILLERY MUSEUM

(Military Historical Museum of Artillery and Engineers) 7 Alexandrovsky Park, M. Gorkovskaya, tel. 232-0296, 238-0704, Wednesday through Sunday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Closed last Thursday of each Month **Artillery – Not Only the Roar of the Gun, but Science Too.** Rare manuscripts from the 16th to first half of the 19th century. *November 19 – closing date to be confirmed.*

NEW! Fortresses of northwest Russia.

Graphics. *January 21 through April 15*
NEW! Her Majesty's Sappers. Painting, drawing and lithography dedicated to the feats of military engineers from the 18th – early 20th centuries. Exhibits include sculptures, rare objects, manuscripts and documents. *January 21 through April 15*

ALEXANDER BLOK APARTMENT MUSEUM

57 Ul. Dekabristov Ul., M. Sadovaya, Sennaya. Tel. 713-8631. Daily 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesday 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Closed Tuesday.

ISAAK BRODSKY APARTMENT MUSEUM

3 Pl. Iskusstv. M. Nevsky Prospekt. Tel. 314-3658. Daily 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Closed Monday, Tuesday

CITY SCULPTURE MUSEUM

Exhibition Hall 179/2a Nevsky Prospekt. Entrance through Chernoretskogo Pereulok. Tel. 274-2635, 274-2579, 274-3860. Daily, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Closed Thursday, Friday. **New Year Strides around Europe.** Anatoly Zaslavsky, Aron Zinshtein, Olga Tobreluts, Andrei Kurmoyartsev, Zhenya Goland, Ludmila Belova and others. Painting. *December 23 through February 18*

DERZHAVIN MUSEUM 118 Nab. Reki Fontanki. M. Technologicheskyy Institut, Sennaya, Sadovaya. Tel. 713-0717, 570-6511

NEW! Relics of Twenty Centuries. The History of One Family. Objects from Vadim



'Kaznacheiskaya Ulitsa' by Vladimir Kolbasov is one of the artist's depictions of historic districts of St. Petersburg now on display at the Artists' Union of Russia Exhibition Center.



'Palm Sunday,' one of the enamels from Tatyana Kiselyova's exhibition 'Sacred People' that opens at the Sheremetyev Palace on Thursday, Jan. 27.

Rykhlyakov's collection. *January 26 through February 10*

NEW! Despise the Anger of the Frost and Futile Threat: Yevgeny Vladimirov. Painting. *January 26 through February 10*

DOLL MUSEUM

8 Kamskaya Ulitsa, M. Vasileostrovskaya. Tel. 327-7224, 321-7869. Tuesday through Sunday, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. Saturday 10.00 – master-class in making dolls. **NEW! Covered With Beads.** Fashion models of Barbie dolls: Galina Simonova. *January 17 through March 13*

DOSTOEVSKY APARTMENT MUSEUM

5/2 Kuznechny Pereulok, M. Vladimirskaaya. Tel. 571-4031. Daily, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Closed Monday and last Wednesday of each month.

KIROV APARTMENT MUSEUM

26/28 Kamennostrovsky Prospekt. M. Gorkovskaya, Petrogradskaya. Tel. 346-0217. Daily 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Closed Wednesday

KUNSTKAMERA

3 Universitetskaya Nab. Tel. 328-1412. Daily, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Closed Monday and the last Thursday of each month. www.kunstkamera.ru

HEROIC DEFENDERS OF LENINGRAD MUSEUM MONUMENT PLOSHCHAD POBEDI.

M. Moskovskaya. Tel. 371-2951, 373-6563. Daily 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday, Friday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Closed last Tuesday of each month.

HISTORY OF PHOTOGRAPHY MUSEUM

23 Professora Popova Ul. Tel. 346-1950. Daily 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Closed Sunday, Monday. **NEW! Workdays: Vita Buyvid.** Photo. *January 28 through March 1*

HISTORY OF THE POLITICAL POLICE MUSEUM.

6 Admiralteyskiy Prospekt. M. Gostiny Dvor, Nevsky Prospekt. Tel. 312 2742. Daily 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Closed Saturday, Sunday.

HISTORY OF RELIGION MUSEUM

14/5 Pochtamtanskaya. M. Nevsky Prospekt, Sennaya, Sadovaya. Tel. 571-0495, 314-5838. Daily 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Closed Wednesday. **The Storm of the Sky.** Kukryniksy art group, Viktor Deni, Dmitry Moor and others. Soviet anticlerical graphics from 1910-1970s. *November 3 through February 27*

HISTORY OF ST. PETERSBURG MUSEUM PETER & PAUL FORTRESS.

M. Gorkovskaya. Tel. 230 0329. Daily, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Closed Wednesday. www.spbkrepot.ru **Permanent Collection** The St. Peter and Paul Cathedral, housing the graves of most of the Romanov dynasty; History of the Mint; Museum of Old Petersburg; and more. Exhibits are housed in various locations in the Peter and Paul Fortress.

The History of the Trubetsky Bastion Prison 1872-1921

The Peter and Paul Fortress was Imperial St. Petersburg's main jail and this exhibition tells the story of the famous revolutionaries and opponents of the Tsar who were imprisoned there.

The Peter and Paul Cathedral and the Great Princely Necropolis of the House of Romanov The story of the last resting place of the Romanov Dynasty from Peter the Great to Nicholas II, who was finally reinterred here in 1998.

Petersburg through the Eyes of Englishmen.

John Atkinson, Matthew Dubourg, John Clark, Josef Hirn and others. Engraved views of St. Petersburg in the 18th-19th centuries. *December 10 through February 27*

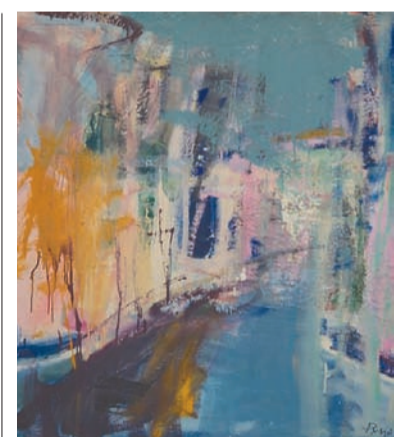
Representing Time: Three Centuries of the Russian Calendar. Editions from the 18th-21st centuries. *December 17 through March 1*

HISTORY OF ST. PETERSBURG MUSEUM

7/9 Universitetskaya Naberezhnaya. Entrance from Mendeleyevskaya Liniya. Tel. 328-9683 **Tatyana Glebova.** Painting, graphics. *October 8 through January 30*

HISTORY OF ST. PETERSBURG MUSEUM:

Rumyantsev Mansion 44 Angliiskaya



'Venice' is one of the paintings by Alexander Rumyanstev on display from Friday, Jan. 28 at the Didi Art Gallery.

Naberezhnaya. M. Vasileostrovskaya, Nevsky Prospekt. Tel. 571-7544. Daily, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Closed Wednesday and the last Tuesday of each month.

Old Petersburg. Capital and Surroundings. Fyodor Alexeyev, Ivan Aivazovsky, Maxim Vorobyev, Benjamin Peterson (Sweden-Russia), Luigi Premazzi (Italy-Russia), Vasily Sadovnikov. Painting, graphics. *October 21 through February 27*

MILITARY MEDICINE MUSEUM

2 Lazaretny Pereulok. M. Pushkinskaya. Tel. 315-5358, 315-7287. Daily 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Friday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Closed at weekends

MUSIC MUSEUM

in the Sheremetyev Palace 34 Nab. Reki Fontanki. Tel. 272-4441. Wednesday through Sunday 12 a.m. to 5 p.m. Closed last Wednesday of each month. By prior appointment only.

NEW! Sacred People. Enamels by Tatyana Kiselyova. *January 27 through February 27.*

VLADIMIR NABOKOV APARTMENT MUSEUM

47 Bolshaya Morskaya. Tel. 315-4713, 717-4502. Daily 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Weekend 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. Closed Monday. www.nabokovmuseum.org

NIKOLAI NEKRASOV APARTMENT MUSEUM

36 Liteiny Prospekt. M. Chernyshevskaya. Tel. 272-0165. Daily, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Closed Tuesday and the last Friday of each month.

A Window on St. Petersburg:

Maria Pavlova. Painting. *December 10 through February 11*

POLITICAL HISTORY OF RUSSIA MUSEUM

2/4 Ul. Kuibysheva, M. Gorkovskaya. Tel. 233-7052. Daily, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Closed Thursday.

POPOV CENTRAL MUSEUM OF COMMUNICATIONS

3 Pochtamsky Pereulok. Tel. 323-9718. Daily 10.30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Closed Sunday, Monday and the last Thursday of each month. www.rustelecom-museum.ru

The History of the Postal Service in Russia. Permanent exposition.**PUSHKIN APARTMENT MUSEUM**

12 Nab. Reki Moika. Tel: 571 3801. Daily 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Closed Tuesday. www.peterlink.ru/spb/pushkin/
I Rush to the Future. Gabdulla Tuqay's memorial items, photos and documents. *December 12 through February 19*

NIKOLAI ROERICH APARTMENT MUSEUM

1 Line 18, V.O. Daily 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Closed Monday, Tuesday. Tel. 325-4413. www.roerich.spb.ru
NEW! If Not For the War... Painting, installation. *January 27 through March 6*

RUSSIAN ETHNOGRAPHIC MUSEUM

4/1 Inzhenernaya Ul. M. Nevsky Prospekt. Tel. 313-4421. Daily, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Closed Monday and the last Friday of each month.

SIGMUND FREUD MUSEUM OF DREAMS

18a Bolshoi Prospekt of Petrogradskaya Side. M. Sportivnaya. Tel. 235-2929. Tuesday and Sunday 12 a.m. to 5 p.m.

SMOLNY HISTORICAL MEMORIAL MUSEUM

3 Ploshchad Rastrelli. Tel: 314-2168. Monday through Friday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. by appointment, groups only. Friday, 3 p.m. open to individual visitors.
Dmitry Kustanovich. Painting. *December 19 through February 15*

ST. PETERSBURG AVANT-GARDE MUSEUM

(Mikhail Matyushin Apartment) 10 Professora Popova Ul. M. Petrogradskaya. Daily 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Tuesday 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Closed Wednesday
Group CoRN. 1930. Mikhail Matyushin and Pupils. Installation, objects. *November 12 through March 30*

STATE HERMITAGE MUSEUM

34 Dvortsovaya Naberezhnaya. M. Nevsky Prospekt. Tel. 571-3420, 571-3465. Daily, 10.30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday, 10.30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Closed Monday.

www.heritagemuseum.org/html/En/index.html
Permanent Collection Three million items in six buildings along the Neva and around Palace Square. Unless otherwise stated, temporary exhibitions are displayed in the Winter Palace, the museum's main building.

We Draw at the Hermitage. Children's painting, graphics. *December 25 through January 30. Hermitage Theater*

The Glass Beaded Salon. Presentation of panels from the Chinese Palace in Oranienbaum, restored at the Hermitage Museum. Halls 169-173 of the Winter Palace. *December 8 through March 20*

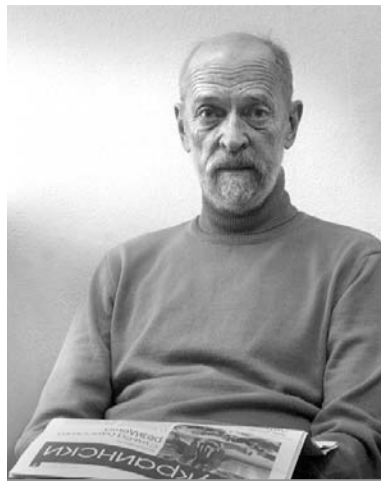
The Collection of the Manufacturer Likhachyova. Work of silver craftsmen from the late 19th – early 20th century. Hall 152 of the Winter Palace. *December 8 through February 13*

Presentation of a bronze arm with a Roman two-headed eagle (1st century A.D.) from the Archaeological Museum in Alicante (Spain). Part of the "Masterpieces of the world's museums at the Hermitage" cycle. St. George's Hall. *December 9 through March 9*

Through the Romantiscist's Eyes. Nineteenth-century Dutch and Belgian paintings from Rademakers's collection. *October 29 through February 6*

STATE HERMITAGE MUSEUM:**MENSHIKOV PALACE**

15 Universitetskaya Nab. M. Vasileostrovskaya. Tel. 323-1112. Daily, 10.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. A branch of the State Hermitage Museum.



Director Mikhail Orlovsky's documentary film "More Than Simply Crossing a Field" will be shown at the Dostoevsky Museum at 4 p.m. on Jan. 27 to commemorate the anniversary of the breaking of the Siege of Leningrad. Attendance is free, and those wishing to attend should register in advance by calling +7 921 977 4300.

STATE HERMITAGE MUSEUM: GENERAL STAFF BUILDING

Daily, 10:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday, 10:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. Closed Monday.
Museum of The Guards. A permanent addition to the Hermitage in the General Staff Building.

STATE RUSSIAN MUSEUM

2 Inzhenernaya Ul. M. Nevsky Prospekt. Tel. 314-3448, 595-4248. Monday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Wednesday through Sunday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Closed Tuesday. www.rusmuseum.ru/eng

Permanent Collection The world's finest and most extensive collection of works by Russian artists, from 12th-century icons to some of the latest movements in contemporary art exhibited in the Mikhailovsky Palace and in associated buildings listed below.

Chosen by Klio. Heroes and Scoundrels of Russian History. Repin, Surikov, Nesterov, Serov, Makovsky, Vasnetsov. Painting, graphics, sculpture. *December 8 through April 17*

Saints of the Russian Land. Icon painting, decorative art, objects. *December 8 through April 30*

STATE RUSSIAN MUSEUM: MARBLE PALACE

5/1 Millionnaya Ul. M. Nevsky Prospekt. Tel. 312-9196. Daily, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Closed Tuesday. A branch of the State Russian Museum.

STATE RUSSIAN MUSEUM: MIKHAILOVSKY (ENGINEERS') CASTLE

2 Sadovaya Ulitsa. M. Nevsky Prospekt. Tel. 313-4112. Daily, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Closed Tuesday. A branch of the State Russian Museum.
Grigory Gagarin. Dedicated to the 200th anniversary of the artist's birth. Painting, graphics. *December 23 through March 27*

STATE RUSSIAN MUSEUM: STROGANOV PALACE

17 Nevsky Prospekt. Tel. 571-2360. Daily, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Closed Tuesday. A branch of the State Russian Museum.
Prince Nikolai Yusupov Factory Porcelain. Tea services and crockery painted under the supervision of the French masters. *November 11 through January 30*

THEATRICAL AND MUSICAL ART MUSEUM

6 Ostrovskogo Pl. Tel. 315-5243. Daily 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesday 1 p.m. to 7 p.m. Closed Tuesday.

TOY MUSEUM

32 Nab. Reki Karpovki. Entrance from Vsevolod Vishnevsky Ul. M. Petrogradskaya,



A collection of photographs entitled "Pure Thursday" by Yelena Agafonova can be seen at the Mayakovsky Library through Feb. 10.

Chkalovskaya. Tel. 234-4312. Daily, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Closed Monday and last Tuesday of the month.

GALLERIES

AL GALLERY

76 Nab. Reki Fontanki. Tel. 713-35-34 info@album-gallery.org; www.album-gallery.ru

ANNA NOVA

28 Zhukovskogo Ul., tel. 275-9762. Tuesday – Saturday 12 a.m. to 7 p.m.
NEW! Folding Screens: Yury Alexandrov. *Opening January 21. Closing date to be confirmed.*

ARKA

6 Bolshaya Morskaya, M. Nevsky Prospekt. Tel. 312-4012. Daily 12 p.m. to 9 p.m.
NEW! Muza Oleneva-Degtyareva. Painting, graphics. *January 26 through February 16*

ART CENTER PUSHKINSKAYA 10

Galleries open from 3 p.m. through 7 p.m. Closed Mondays and Tuesdays. Entrance at 53 Ligovsky Prospekt. <http://en.p-10.ru/>
Art-Bureau Gallery Open Saturday 3 p.m. to 7 p.m.
NEW! Reminiscence of the Summer. Photo. *January 15 through January 29*
Navicula Artis gallery Tel. 764-5371, 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.
NEW! Kroonstad's Album: Ira Vasilyeva & Ivan Sotnikov. Graphics. *January 15 through January 30*

New Academy of Fine Arts Museum

Room 405. Tel. 272-8222. Saturday 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.
NEW! Timur Novikov. Installation. *January 15 through March 13*

Nonconformist Art Museum

Floor 4. Tel. 764-5371. Wednesday through Sunday 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. www.nonmuseum.ru/
NEW! Antropophobia: Ivan Bez. Graphics. *January 15 through February 6*
NEW! Ghosts: Yevgenia Fedina-Penkrat. Graphics. *January 15 through February 6*

St. Petersburg Archive and Library of Independent Art

Tel. 272-8222. Monday and Saturday 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

FOTOImage Office 1. Tel. 764-5371. Saturday 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.**NEW! Museum of the Drawing-Pin.**

Part 4: Andrei Chezhin. Photo, painting, graphics, objects. *January 15 through February 6*

GEZ-21 Outbuilding B, 3 Floor.

Tel. 764-5258, Daily 3 p.m. to midnight.
Kino-FOT-703 Office 703. Tel. 764-5353.
Art-Project "Parnik" Open Wednesday-Sunday 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.
NEW! The Burlesque Stage. Oleg Chernov. Painting, installation. *January 15 through February 15*

The Door Floor 3. Wednesday through

Sunday 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.
NEW! 2011 Year Calendar: Alexander Rets. Objects. *January 15 through February 6*

ART. OBJECT

13 Oranienbaumskaya Ulitsa. Tel. 498-0625. Daily 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.

ART RE.FLEX

5 Bakunina Ul. Tel. 332-3343. Daily 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. www.artreflex.ru

ARTISTS UNION OF RUSSIA EXHIBITION CENTER

38 Bolshaya Morskaya Ul. Tel. 314-3060. Daily, 1 p.m. to 7 p.m.
NEW! Andrei Belyaev. Painting. *January 27 through February 6*
NEW! Vladimir Kolbasov. Graphics. *January 26 through February 6*

BLUE ROOM

38 Bolshaya Morskaya. Daily 12 a.m. to 7 p.m. Tel. 553-5009

BOOK AND GRAPHICS CENTER

55 Liteiny Prospekt. M. Mayakovskaya. Tel. 272-9535. Daily 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.
NEW! Art-School-13. Graphics. *January 26 through February 7*

BOREY

58 Liteiny Prospekt. M. Vladimirskaaya, Mayakovskaya. Tel. 273-3693. Tuesday – Saturday 12 p.m. to 8 p.m.
NEW! Nikolai Kopeikin. Painting. *January 25 through February 5*
NEW! Hermetic Cabinet: Sofia Azarkhi. Objects. *January 18 through January 29*

BULTHAUP. GALLERY OF DESIGN

2 Bolshaya Konyushennaya, Monday-Friday 11 a.m.- 8 p.m., Saturday – Sunday 11 a.m. – 7 p.m.

DIDI ART GALLERY

62 Bolshoi Prospekt of V.O., M. Vasileostrovskaya. Tel. 320-7357. Daily 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Closed Sunday.
NEW! Alexander Rumyantsev. Painting. *January 28 through February 24*

DK GAZA CONCERT HALL

72 Prospekt Stachek. M. Kirovsky Zavod. Tel. 783-3278

DMITRY SEMENOV GALLERY

63/19 Ligovsky Prospekt. Tuesday, Friday and Saturday 12 a.m. to 8 p.m., or by appointment; call 164 5323.
NEW! Corporate Dream: Vita Buivid. Photo. *January 23 through February 28*

DOM KINO

12 Karavannaya Ul. Tel. 314-0638. Daily 12 a.m. to 6 p.m. www.domkino.spb.ru

ERARTA MUSEUM

2, 29th Line of Vasilyevsky Island, lit. A. M. Vasileostrovskaya. Tel. 324-0809. Daily 12 a.m. to 8 p.m. Closed Wednesday. www.erarta.com
NEW! Happy Postcard From the Heart to the Heart. Painting, graphics, photo, installation. *January 15 through February 13*
Depot of the Genius Mistakes: AHE Theater. Installation. *December 17 through February 27*
Hay Cage. Painting, sculpture. *December 17 through January 30*

FINNISH INSTITUTE IN ST. PETERSBURG

64 Ligovsky Prospekt, 4 Floor, tel. 325-3205, Daily 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. www.instfin.sp.ru

GLASS GALLERY

1/28 Lomonosova Ul. M. Sadovaya, Gostiny Dvor. Tel. 312-2214. Daily 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.

GUILD OF MASTERS

82 Nevsky Prospekt. M. Gostiny Dvor. Tel. 279-0979. Daily 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.

IFA EXHIBITION HALL

60 Nevsky Prospekt, tel. 717-0315. Daily 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. Closed Sunday, Monday
NEW! The Intonation: Leonid Simonovsky. Graphics. *January 29 through February 11*

KARL BULLA PHOTOSALON

54 Nevsky Prospekt, 3 floor, tel. 312-2080

KGALLERY

Nab. Reki Fontanki 24, M. Nevsky Prospekt. Tel. 273 0056.

KREMLIN GALLERY

3 Telezny boulevard. M. Ploshchad Vosstaniya, Ploshchad Alexandra Nevskogo. Tel. 640-2401, 640-6829. www.kremlingallery.ru

KVADRAT

28 Kuibysheva Ulitsa, M. Gorkovskaya. Tel. 232-1238. Wednesday through Saturday 2 p.m. to 7 p.m.

SERGEI KURYOKHIN CONTEMPORARY ART CENTER

93 Sredny Prospekt, V.O. Tel. 322-4223. Daily 12 a.m. to 12 p.m. www.kuryokhin.ru

LAZAREV GALLERY

6 Line of Vasilyevskaya Island, 5/5. Tel. +7 921 945 6810. M. Vasileostrovskaya. www.ivan-slavinsky.com
Heroines: Gunter Sax (Germany). Photo. *November 26 through January 26*

LOFT-PROJECT ETAZHI

74 Ligovsky Prospekt. Tel. 339-9836. Daily 12 a.m. to 10 p.m.
Grade Mark. Achievements of Soviet design. Installation. *December 25 through January 29*
Zazerkalye. Installation. Optics and physics rules for children. *December 17 through January 30*
NEW! Phenomenon of the Russian Design. Objects. *December 24 through February 3*
Under the Bridge: Alexander Solo. Photo. *November 27 through January 13*
Backstage 3rd Floor. Tel. +7 911-2368160. Daily 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Closed Sunday, Monday.

FOTOWALL

Mythotvorchestvo Medouz: Anna Shishkina. Photo. *November 20 through January 20*

FORMULA GALLERY

Globus 4th floor.

MANEZH CENTRAL EXHIBITION HALL,

Small Hall 103 Nab. Canala Griboyedova. Tel. 312-2243

MANEZH CENTRAL EXHIBITION HALL

1 Isaakiyevskaya Pl. M. Nevsky Prospekt. Tel. 314-8859. Daily, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Closed Thursday

MANSARD OF ARTISTS

7 Pushkarskaya Ul. Tel. 230-9150. Daily 12 a.m. to 8 p.m. www.sneg.su
NEW! China Village: Sergei Seregin. Painting. *January 15 through February 14*

MART GALLERY

35 Ul. Marata. Tel. 710-8835, 315-2768. M. Vladimirskaaya, Dostoyevskaya. Daily 12 a.m. to 7 p.m. Closed Sunday, Monday
NEW! Coastal Objects: Oleg Oskolkov. Graphics. *January 25 through February 15*

MARINA GISICH GALLERY

121 Nab. Reki Fontanki, tel. 314-4380. Daily, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., Saturday 12 p.m. to 6 p.m. Closed Sunday. Open by prior appointment.

MAYAKOVSKY LIBRARY

46 Nab. Reki Fontanki. Entrance through the courtyard.
NEW! Pure Thursday: Yelena Agafonova. Photo. *January 21 through February 10*

THE MIKHAIL SHEMYAKIN FUND

11 Sadovaya Ul. M. Gostiny Dvor. Tel. 310-2514. Tuesday – Thursday 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

MITKI. MUSEUM OF THE ART UNION.

36/38 Marata Ul., apartment 120. Saturday 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.

MOKHOVAYA 18 GALLERY

M. Chernyshevskaya. Daily 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Closed Sunday, Monday. Tel. 275-3383. www.gm18.ru
NEW! The Insurrection of Symbols: Andrei Romasyukov. Painting. *January 20 through February 5*

MONTMARTRE ART GALLERY

33 Nab. Kanala Griboedova. Daily 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., Saturday 12 a.m. to 6 p.m. Closed Sunday. Tel. 571-5517. monmartr-2007@mail.ru

NEW MUSEUM GALLERY

29 6th Line of Vasilyevsky Island. Tel. 323-5090. M. Vasileostrovskaya. www.novymuseum.ru
The Feast of Trimalkhion: Art group "AEC+F". Videoart, digital pictures. *December 11 through January 28*

PETERSBURG ARTISTS' MUSEUM-EXHIBITION CENTER

1 Glinki Ulitsa. Tel. 314-0609. Daily 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Closed Monday, Tuesday, www.piter-art.com

PHOTODEPARTMENT GALLERY

32 Nevsky Prospekt. Tel. 314-5925, +7 901 301 7994. M. Gostiny Dvor. www.fotodepartment.ru
NEW! One For All: Savva Bogatyrev. Photo. *January 16 through February 18*

PRO ARTE PETER & PAUL FORTRESS

Nevskaya Kurtina, left side. Tel. 233-0553, 233-0040 www.proarte.ru

RAKHMANINOV ART WAY

5 Kazanskaya Ulitsa, Second Courtyard, tel. 312-9558. Daily 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

ROSPHOTO STATE CENTER OF PHOTOGRAPHY

60 Nevsky Prospekt. M. Gostiny Dvor. Tel. 318-4737, 318-6133; 314-1214 (branch at 35 Bolshaya Morskaya). Daily, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Closed at weekends. www.ncprf.org
William Carrick. Pictures of Russian Life. Photos from 1850-1870. Photos from the Russian National Library, State Hermitage, Anthropology museum, State Theater Library, Scientist Russian Academy Library, Central Navy Museum, Russian Ethnography museum. *December 21 through January 31*
NEW! Contemporary St. Petersburg Pictorialism. Photo. *February 2 through April 3*

TRETYAKOV GALLERY

2 Pionerskaya Ul., M. Pionerskaya, Sportivnaya. Tel. 233-1007. Tuesday through Friday 12 a.m. to 7.30 p.m., Saturday 1 p.m. to 6 p.m.

ZOOM CAFÉ-CLUB

22 Gorokhovaya Ul., tel. 972-1805. Daily, 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.

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CLUBS AND VENUES

ROCK, ETC.

Arctica
A rock venue mostly featuring heavy metal concerts.
38 Ulitsa Beringa. Metro Primorskaya
+7 (812) 952 4696
www.arctica-club.spb.ru

Avrora
A new concert venue located at the St. Petersburg hotel.
5/2 Pirogovskaya Naberezhnaya.
Metro Ploshchad Lenina
+7 (812) 907 1917
www.avrora-zal.ru

Cheshire Cat
A new, third location for the underground club. Singers/songwriters and lesser known rock bands.
32 Zagorodny Prospekt
Metro Vladimirskaya/Dostoyevskaya
+7 (812) 575 6151
www.catartclub.ru

Chinese Pilot Jao Da
A local branch of the notorious Moscow underground rock club, which also has a branch in Montenegro. Seva Gakkel of Akvarium rock band and TaMtAm club fame is the venue's art director. Live rock, jazz and electronic music.
7 Ulitsa Pestelya
Metro Gostiny Dvor/Chernyshevskaya
+7 (812) 273 7487; +7 (911) 751 8339
www.spb.jao-da.com

Fish Fabrique
One of the oldest surviving local music clubs has expanded and now also has a larger room called Fabrique Nouvelle which hosts concerts and film screenings.
53 Ligovsky Prospekt
Metro Ploshchad Vosstaniya
+7 (812) 764-4857
www.fishfabrique.spb.ru

Flat
A small underground rock club.
28 Sadovaya Ulitsa
Metro Sennaya Ploshchad
+7 (812) 310 0098, +7 (812) 955 7409
www.flat-club.ru

GEZ-21
Part of Pushkinskaya 10 alternative art center. Mostly experimental and improvised music, some rock and electronic acts. A very limited selection at the bar.
53 Ligovsky Prospekt
Metro Ploshchad Vosstaniya
+7 (812) 764-5258,
+7 (812) 764-5263
www.tac.spb.ru

Glavclub
A larger venue for big Russian and international rock and hip-hop bands.
2 Kremenchugskaya Ulitsa
Metro Ploshchad Vosstaniya
+7 (812) 905 7555
www.glavclub.com

Griboyedov
Located in a former bomb shelter, Griboyedov is one of the oldest and most respected local clubs, with live concerts in the evenings and DJ sets at nights. Griboyedov Hill is a more recently opened restaurant on top of the bunker, where concerts are also held.
2A Voronezhskaya Ulitsa
Metro Ligovsky Prospekt
+7 (812) 764 4355, +7 (812) 973 7273
www.griboedovclub.ru

Jagger
A rock music club and a brewery. Mostly cover bands.
2 Ploshchad Konstitutsii
Metro Moskovskaya
Tel. +7 (812) 923 1292
www.jaggerclub.ru

Kosmonavt
A larger concert venue launched by the team behind the now-defunct A2. Pete Doherty played here.
24 Bronnitskaya Ulitsa
+7 (812) 922 1300
www.kosmonavt.su

Manhattan
A rock club with a restaurant and billiards.
90 Naberezhnaya Reki Fontanki
Metro Pushkinskaya/Zvenigorodskaya
+7 (812) 713 1945
www.manhattanclub.ru



And So I Watch You From Afar, an instrumental four-piece post-rock band from Belfast, Northern Ireland will perform at Arctica on Wednesday. The guitar-driven band, whose music has been described as 'momentous, murderous, tumultuous,' is currently on tour in Russia and Ukraine.

Mod
A new location for the popular youth-oriented bar. Live concerts and DJ sets. Enter through the courtyard.
7 Naberezhnaya Kanala Griboyedova
Metro Nevsky Prospekt
+7 812 712 0734
www.modclub.info

Money Honey
A rockabilly club with a fixed schedule of cover bands. More diverse bands perform upstairs.
28 Sadovaya Ulitsa
Metro Gostiny Dvor
+7 (812) 310 0549
www.money-honey.ru

Orlandina
Yet another new location for the rock club, five minutes from the old one. Metal, rock, alternative.
3 Instrumentalnaya Ulitsa
Metro Petrogradskaya
+7 (812) 958 3888
www.orlandina.ru

PiR.O.G.I. on Fontanka
A branch of the hip Moscow network of restaurants with live concerts and art events launched last summer. A dining room and a bar with performances by bands and DJs.
40 Naberezhnaya Reki Fontanki
+7 (812) 275 3558
www.piterogi.ru

Shum
A new addition to the club scene, perfect for live rock concerts.
45 5-ya Sovetskaya Ulitsa
Metro Ploshchad Vosstaniya
+7 (219) 46 8969
http://shumclub.ru

Zal Ozhidaniya
A rock and pop concert venue. Part of Varshavsky Express retail and entertainment complex located in the former railroad station building.
118 Naberezhnaya Obvodnogo Kanala
Metro Baltiiskaya
+7 (812) 333 1069
www.clubzal.com

Zoccolo
An underground rock club managed by the people from the now-closed Moloko club. Punk, indie, alternative and some experimental electronica.

2/3 3-ya Sovetskaya Ulitsa
Metro Ploshchad Vosstaniya
+7 (812) 274 9467
www.zoccolo.ru

JAZZ

Jazz Philharmonic Hall
The oldest local jazz venue directed by local jazz patriarch David Goloshchyokin. Ellington Hall is a bar located in the upstairs area with a stage used for smaller concerts.
Mainstream, Latin jazz, blues.
27 Zagorodny Prospekt
Metro Vladimirskaya/Dostoyevskaya
+7 (812) 764 8565
www.jazz-hall.spb.ru

JFC Jazz Club
A smaller jazz club that operates daily.
33 Shpalernaya Ulitsa
Metro Chernyshevskaya
+7 (812) 272 9850
www.jfc.sp.ru

The Other Side
A bar and restaurant with jazz and blues concerts at weekends. A popular expat hangout.
1 Bolshaya Konyushennaya Ulitsa
Metro Nevsky Prospekt
+7 (812) 312 9554

Street Life
A pop-jazz club and restaurant.
6 2-ya Krasnoarmeiskaya Ulitsa
Metro Tekhnologicheskoy Institut
+7 (812) 575 0545
www.street-life.spb.ru

DJ BARS

Datscha
A notorious DJ bar, popular with students and expats.
Metro Nevsky Prospekt
9 Dumsкая Ulitsa

Dusche
An art bar launched by several members of rock band Leningrad. DJs, fashion shows, occasional concerts.
Metro Ligovsky Prospekt
50 Ligovsky Prospekt (Korpus 6)
+7 (812) 610 1990

Fidel
A DJ bar next to Datscha.
Metro Nevsky Prospekt
9 Dumsкая Ulitsa

HelsinkiBar
A new art bar celebrates St. Petersburg's northern neighbor. DJs, poetry readings.
31 Kadetskaya Liniya
Metro Vasileostrovskaya
+7 (812) 995-1-995
www.helsinkiBar.ru

Radiobaby
A DJ bar launched by the Achtung Baby team.
Metro Nevsky Prospekt
7 Kazanskaya Ulitsa, in the courtyard
www.radiobaby.com

Siny Pushkin
An art bar conceived by Sergei Shnurov and Ivan Ushkov. DJs, occasional concerts.
43/12 Khersonskaya Ulitsa
Metro Ploshchad Aleksandra Nevskogo
+7 (953) 347 6676
www.spushkin.ru

Stirka
A laundrette bar. DJs, small live concerts.
26 Kazanskaya Ulitsa
Metro Nevsky Prospekt
+7 (812) 314 5371
http://40gradusov.ru

GAY

Central Station
The city's premier gay club.
1/28 Ulitsa Lomonosova
Metro Nevsky Prospekt
+7 (812) 312 36 00
www.centralstation.ru

The Club
A recently opened gay club.
17 Shcherbakov Pereulok
Metro Vladimirskaya
+7 (812) 912 11 69
www.the-club.fm

Cabaret
The city's oldest gay bar, much loved for its shows.
181 Naberezhnaya Obvodnogo Kanala
Metro Baltiiskaya
+7 (812) 575 4512
www.cabarespb.ru

Golubaya Ustritsa
A self-described "trash" gay club, close to Central Station.
1 Lomonosova Ulitsa
No phone.
www.boyster.ru

CONCERT HALLS & SPORT ARENAS

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Metro Prospekt Bolshevikov
+7 (812) 718 6620
www.newarena.spb.ru

Lensoviet Palace of Culture
42 Kamennostrovsky Prospekt
Metro Petrogradskaya
+7 (812) 346 04 38
www.lensoveta.ru/

Music Hall
4 Alexandrovsky Sad
Metro Chernyshevskaya
+7 (812) 232 9201
www.musicHall.spb.ru

Oktyabrsky Concert Hall
6 Ligovsky Prospekt
Metro Ploshchad Vosstaniya
+7 (812) 275 1300
www.bkz.sp.ru

Peterburgsky Sports and Concert Complex
8 Prospekt Yuriya Gagarina
Metro Park Pobedy
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+7 (812) 378 1710
www.spbckk.ru

Yubileiny Sports Complex
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1-ROOM APARTMENT

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2-ROOM APARTMENT

Italianskaya Ul. Two bedroom apartment in a prestigious building with concierge. Total area: 100 sq.m., fully

fitted, furnished. For details contact **Olga**, tel.: +7-921-963-74-54; e-mail: olestate@gmail.com, olga@ctinvestments.ru

Bolshaya Konushennaya Ul. Cozy apartment decorated in the Western style, two bedrooms, two bathrooms, kitchen combined with lounge, fitted, furnished. For details contact **Olga**, tel.: +7-921-963-74-54; e-mail: olestate@gmail.com, olga@ctinvestments.ru

Bolshaya Morskaya Ul. 2-bedroom apartment, modern renovation, 100 sq.m., kitchen combined with lounge, street entrance with intercom system. 55,000 rub/month. For details contact **Olga**, tel.: +7-921-963-74-54; e-mail: olestate@gmail.com, olga@ctinvestments.ru

Nakhimova Ul. 1-bedroom apartment on Vasilevsky Island. Beautifully designed home benefiting from modern and stylish fixtures and fittings. 53 sq.m. 45,000 rub/month. Tel.: +7-911-732-28-82, Ekaterina / Penny Lane Realty, e-mail: ekaterina@realtor.ru, photos at www.realtor.ru/z1853

Fontanka River. Comfortable 1-bedroom apartment with a view of Fontanka and Neva. Natural furnishing, convenient lay-out, secured building. 80 sq.m. 60,000 rub/month. Tel.: +7-911-732-28-82, Ekaterina / Penny Lane Realty, e-mail: ekaterina@realtor.ru, photos at www.realtor.ru/z1259

92 Moika Emb. Modern 1-bedroom apartment with a view of Moika River. Fully furnished and equipped with all necessary household appliances. Modern design, parking. Total area: 45 sq.m. 50,000 rub/month. Tel. +7-911-732-28-82, Ekaterina / Penny Lane Realty. E-mail: ekaterina@realtor.ru, photos at www.realtor.ru/z1484

Morskaya Nab. Comfortable 2-bedroom apartment in Vasilevskiy island, 10 min drive to the city center. Brand new secured building, guarded parking. Never lived-in condition. Total area: 110 sq.m. 90,000 rub/month. Tel. +7-911-732-28-82, Ekaterina / Penny Lane Realty. E-mail: ekaterina@realtor.ru, photos at www.realtor.ru/z2061

Voznesensky Pr. Comfortable 2-level apartment with two bedrooms, in the city center in a brand-new building. Guarded area, underground parking, all necessary appliances. Total area: 110 sq.m. 110,000 rub/month. Tel.: +7-911-732-28-82, Ekaterina / Penny Lane Realty. E-mail: ekaterina@realtor.ru, photos at www.realtor.ru/z1920

28 Griboedova Emb. One-bedroom apartment, just after renovation, modern and comfortable. Living room with a fireplace, windows overlook the Mikhailovsky Gardens. Parking in the closed courtyard. Very central, convenient and safe location, 5 minutes to Nevsky Pr. Tel. +7-921-967-22-83, email: k-keskus@mail.ru Konstantin / "K-KESKUS".

3-ROOM APARTMENT

23 Griboedova Emb. 3-minute walk to Nevsky Pr. and metro, 2 bedrooms, living room, kitchen, 2 bathrooms, windows overlook the canal and Kazan Cathedral. Fully furnished and equipped. Tel.: +7-921-967-22-83, email: k-keskus@mail.ru Konstantin / "K-KESKUS".

Robespiera Emb. Newly renovated apartment, total area: 140 sq.m., three bedrooms, two bathrooms,

fully fitted kitchen, quiet, secure entrance. For details contact **Olga**, tel.: +7-921-963-74-54; e-mail: olestate@gmail.com, olga@ctinvestments.ru

Millionnaya Ul. close to field of Mars. Total area: 160 sq.m. Newly renovated to the Western standard, two bathrooms, two bedrooms, has a secure entrance from the courtyard with concierge and parking. 150,000 rub/month. For details contact **Olga**, tel.: +7-921-963-74-54; e-mail: olestate@gmail.com, olga@ctinvestments.ru

97 Moskovsky Pr. Total area: 67 sq.m. 2-bedroom apartment. Top-grade light apartment with a fabulous view of the city. This beautifully interior-designed home benefits from modern and stylish fixtures and fittings. All necessary household equipment, convenient layout, guarded area. 55,000 rub/month. Penny Lane Realty, Tel.: +7 (812) 326-26-26, +7 (911) 732-28-82. E-mail: ekaterina@realtor.ru, photos at www.realtor.ru/z1994

4-ROOM APARTMENT

Moika River. Close to Nevsky Pr. Total area: 170 sq.m. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, spacious living room with

open fireplace, modern-style, very light. Great view of water. Renovated entrance, parking in the closed courtyard. Photos available. Tel. +7-921-967-22-83 Konstantin / "K-KESKUS".

5-ROOM APARTMENT

Rubinshteina Ul. 5-room apartment with secure entrance. Total area: 250 sq.m. Newly renovated, unfurnished, fully fitted kitchen, four bathrooms, concierge. Contact tel.: +7-921-963-74-54; e-mail: olestate@gmail.com, olga@ctinvestments.ru

64 Moika River Newly renovated, spacious, modern 4-bedroom apartment of 230 sq.m., European standard, two bathrooms, fully fitted kitchen, parking, concierge. For details contact **Olga**, tel.: +7-921-963-74-54; e-mail: olestate@gmail.com, olga@ctinvestments.ru

6-ROOM APARTMENT

54 Fontanka River. Total area: 270 sq.m. 3 bedrooms, study, spacious living room, 2 bathrooms. Stylish and

elegant, furnished, equipped, fireplace, renovated clean guarded stairway, parking in the courtyard. Photos available. Tel. +7-921-967-22-83, email: k-keskus@mail.ru Konstantin / "K-KESKUS".

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Abbas Defiant Over Al-Jazeera Leaks Scandal

By Karin Laub
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

RAMALLAH, West Bank — The Palestinians now have their own version of a WikiLeaks scandal.

President Mahmoud Abbas and his aides went on the attack Monday, accusing Al-Jazeera television of lies and distortions in publishing the so-called "Palestine Papers," which claim that Palestinian negotiators were ready to make significant concessions for a peace deal with Israel.

Despite the angry denials, the hunt was on for the leaker.

The new documents indicate 2008 talks made progress on dividing Jerusalem — and the resulting backlash suggests the Palestinian public has not been prepared by their leaders for the far-reaching concessions deemed necessary for a peace agreement.

The Arab satellite station said it obtained hundreds of transcripts and notes from a decade of Israeli-Palestinian negotiations. It began releasing them in a Sunday broadcast, the first of four prime-time shows on the documents this week.

On Monday, an angry crowd of about 250 Palestinians gathered outside the West Bank's main Al-Jazeera office, with some smashing the station's logo and glass panels in the front door.

In the search for the leak, suspicion fell on low-level employees from a support office for Palestinian negotiators. Palestinian intelligence searched computer files in the office Monday, but it was not clear if any arrests were made.

Abbas dismissed the broadcasts as "shameful." Members of his inner circle accused Al-Jazeera of distorting reality, and said the station and its sponsors in the Qatari government were trying to discredit the Western-backed Palestinian leadership. They suggested the station was promoting the agenda of Abbas' rival, the Islamic militant Hamas, which opposes negotiations with Israel.

The Palestinian leader's detractors say Abbas has been misleading the Palestinian public about the extent of the concessions he is willing to make in exchange for an elusive deal with Israel.

The uproar could further weaken Abbas and boost Hamas, with some



Palestinians toss back a tear gas canister during clashes with Israeli troops in the West Bank on Tuesday.

analysts predicting the nightly revelations may cause serious damage to Abbas' standing.

Al-Jazeera, citing the transcripts, said Palestinian leaders agreed to an Israeli annexation of large areas of war-torn east Jerusalem, the Palestinians' would-be capital, and that they were willing to consider a resettlement of only a nominal number of refugees.

The report is bound to inflame Palestinian public opinion, said Hanan Ashrawi, a senior member of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

"Palestinian opinion is still quite adamant about Palestinian rights," she said. Palestinians "are not willing to entertain, if this is true, any of the compromises that were revealed in the documents."

Negotiations between Abbas and Israeli leader Benjamin Netanyahu are deadlocked, and Netanyahu had no comment on Monday.

The Al-Jazeera documents focused on talks with Netanyahu's more pragmatic predecessor, Ehud Olmert, and

indicate the outlines of a possible deal were discussed — confirming previous, less detailed accounts provided by Olmert and Abbas.

In such a deal, a Palestinian state would be established in the West Bank, Gaza and east Jerusalem, the territories Israel occupied in the 1967 Mideast War. Borders would be adjusted to enable Israel to keep some of the largest of the dozens of settlements it built there.

In negotiations in 2008, Abbas and Olmert had made enough progress to haggle over the size of a land swap. The Palestinians offered 1.9 percent of the West Bank in exchange for an equal amount of Israeli territory. Olmert asked for 6.5 percent. Those talks ended abruptly in December 2008, when Israel launched its three-week war on Hamas-ruled Gaza, to halt rocket fire from there.

Al-Jazeera says Palestinian negotiators agreed that as part of a land swap, Israel could annex all but one of the Jewish enclaves it has built in east Jeru-

salem, home to some 200,000 Israelis.

Former Israeli Foreign Minister Shlomo Ben-Ami said there was "nothing new" in the documents because any partition is likely to be based on parameters set a decade earlier by former President Bill Clinton — which provided that areas settled by Jews in east Jerusalem remain Israeli and Arab neighborhoods go to Palestine.

Transcripts of two rounds of negotiations in May and June of 2008 were striking in the way they ostensibly showed Palestinian leaders making that concession.

Officials close to the talks confirmed Monday that a land swap map presented by the Palestinians at the May 4, 2008 meeting had Israel annexing all but one of its east Jerusalem enclaves. As part of that proposal, the Palestinians said they refused to let Israel keep several major settlements, including Maaleh Adumim near Jerusalem and Ariel deep inside the West Bank.

Accused In Giffords Shooting Enters Plea

By Jacques Billeaud
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PHOENIX — The 22-year-old man accused in a deadly Arizona rampage that critically wounded Rep. Gabrielle Giffords has made his first public statement regarding his role in the shooting: He's not guilty.

Jared Loughner entered the plea Monday to federal charges of trying to assassinate Giffords and kill two of her aides. He also faces murder charges in the deaths of a federal judge and another Giffords aide killed in the Tucson shootings, and more charges were expected.

The Tucson man had his wrists cuffed to a chain around his waist; eight U.S. marshals kept watch in the packed Phoenix courtroom and gallery above. Investigators have said Loughner was mentally disturbed and acting increasingly erratic in the weeks leading up to the attack on Jan. 8 that killed six and wounded 13.

Giffords, a three-term Democratic congresswoman, was shot in the forehead and spent two weeks in a Tucson hospital before she was flown to Houston to begin her rehabilitation. Among the six who died in the attack at a constituent event was a 9-year-old girl who was interested in politics and was taken there by a neighbor to meet Giffords.

Christina Taylor Green's family, as well as a Giffords intern who cared for the congresswoman after she was shot, are expected to attend President Barack Obama's State of the Union address Tuesday night. Daniel Hernandez was hailed as a hero for rushing to Giffords' side and applying pressure to her wounds before paramedics arrived.

Also expected to attend the address is the four-member Arizona medical team that treated Giffords, her office said Monday. Her new medical team in Houston said the next update on her condition would come when they are ready to move Giffords to the rehab hospital.

Loughner's hearing Monday did not offer any indication of a defense strategy. His attorney, Judy Clarke, said she wasn't raising issues of competency "at this time" after the judge asked whether there was any question about her client's ability to understand the case against him.

If Clarke uses mental competency questions as a defense and is successful, Loughner could be sent to a mental health facility instead of being sentenced to prison or death.

The federal murder charges Loughner faces carry a potential death penalty, which require a painstaking process under Justice Department rules.

Prosecutors said they would know within the next 30 days whether additional federal charges would be filed against Loughner.

More Australians Flee as Floods Move Across SE

By Rohan Sullivan
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MELBOURNE, Australia — An inland sea of muddy floodwaters swamping southeastern Australia pushed its way toward rural communities Tuesday, threatening homes and businesses as the death toll from the disaster climbed.

Emergency services were focusing their efforts on Swan Hill, a town 340 kilometers northwest of the Victorian state capital of Melbourne, where the Loddon and Murray rivers meet. Floodwaters are expected to peak there next week when the sea arrives, the State Emergency Service said.

Australia's flood crisis began with record rains in November that left huge parts of the northeast state of Queensland under water. On Monday, Queensland police said they had found the remains of two more flood victims west of the state capital, Brisbane. Since November, the floodwaters in Queensland have killed 35 people, police said.

The Queensland floods damaged or destroyed 30,000 homes and businesses and caused at least \$3

billion in damage to crops and lost coal exports. Brisbane, the country's third-largest city, was swamped for days.

The flood disaster is now moving across southeast Victoria, where driving rains have forced swollen rivers over their banks. The State Emergency Service said 76 towns in Victoria have been affected by flooding, with 1,770 properties suffering some water damage.

Volunteers have spent the past week piling tens of thousands of sandbags around Swan Hill, a town of 10,000 people that lies in the water's path.

But on Tuesday, State Emergency Service operations director Tim Wiebusch said smaller communities surrounding the town were the areas of most concern, with 250 properties at risk of inundation.

"We are expecting at this time the main levee around Swan Hill will hold, protecting the main township," Wiebusch told Australia's Nine Network. "It's really those communities and houses on the outside of the main township's levee that we have concerns for at this time."

Hundreds of residents from those towns have been evacuated since Sunday. At 90 kilometers long and 40 kilometers wide, the inland sea is 900 square kilometers larger than the area Paris covers.

Prime Minister Julia Gillard has appointed a task force of some of Australia's wealthiest corporate leaders to help formulate plans to deal with the crisis, which the government says will be one of the costliest in the country's history.

Gillard met with the task force in the stricken city of Brisbane on Monday and said afterward she wanted its members to keep pushing for business donations to help recovery efforts.

Some economists have warned the floods could shave almost 1 percent from Australia's economic growth this year, which is variously forecast at between 3 percent and a little less than 4 percent.

The government has not yet given its estimates of the cost of the disaster, but Treasurer Wayne Swan said this week the impact will be felt for years. The government will announce its first cost estimates on Friday.

Japanese Monkey Captured After Daring Cage Break

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TOKYO — A marauding monkey confined to a zoo after it bit 120 people during a two-month rampage in resort towns of central Japan briefly escaped captivity Tuesday before it was captured again.

The macaque named Lucky slipped out of a government-run nature park Monday while a keeper was cleaning her cage. Officials raised the alert across the scenic town of Mishima, where she had attacked residents last year. Park and city officials found Lucky at a public park a day later.

"Her capture was easy. We called her name repeatedly, and she came to us," city official Hidetsugu Uchida said. "She has been used to being called by her name."

Lucky will be sent back to Mishima's Rakujuen zoo where she has become one of the most famous residents since her previous capture in October.

Macaques are one of the most common wild mammals in Japan, and are considered a nuisance in rural areas.