

# The Moscow Times

SINCE 1992

NO. 5808

JUNE

15–21 2017

WWW.THEMOSCOWTIMES.COM



LOOKING BACK

## Arrested Development

Opposition leader Navalny and hundreds others detained as authorities clamp down on Russia Day rally → [Page 3](#)

# Playing Super Heroes

Russia's e-athletes bid to move into the sporting mainstream

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18+







*“Mr. Stone gives Putin a platform for flattering versions of his aggression in Ukraine; and treatment of opposition parties”*  
**James Poniewozik**, *The New York Times*

30

hours of interview footage  
recorded over two years.

March 18, 2018

the date of Russia's  
next presidential  
elections.



Oliver Stone directed films  
commemorating Hugo Chavez, Fidel  
Castro and other socialist leaders that  
challenge American ‘imperialism’.

# The Putin Monologues

By **Alexey Kovalev** a.kovalev@imedia.ru

## Oliver Stone launches president's re-election campaign

In a preview of Oliver Stone's documentary “The Putin Interviews,” Russian President Vladimir Putin drops a bombshell. Asked by Stone if he has grandchildren, Putin smiles and answers “yes.”

Questions about Putin's personal affairs are Russian media's most explicit no-go area. The makeup of the country's first family remains a mystery. State media are under strict instructions to never mention Putin's daughters or ex-wife, unless commanded to do so. News outlets that find the courage to investigate, for example, Putin's daughter or her miraculously wealthy husband, paint a target on their own backs.

Barred from asking the question themselves, Russian journalists were obliged to wait until Putin opened up to a complete stranger — a foreigner — to report that he was a happy and loving grandfather.

In the same interview, Putin tells Stone the Kremlin does not control Russia's media.

The irony will be lost on few Russians. After all, it is the same Vladimir Putin who, in late 2013, signed an executive order to gut the country's leading news agency and appoint a hyper-loyalist TV host as its director. It is the same Vladimir Putin whose aides publicly say journalists working for state-owned outlets are expected to toe the government line.

Stone never challenges Putin on the obvious implausibility of his claim.



Oliver Stone, a 3-time Academy Award winner has a reputation for controversy.

Stone has admitted that in the course of his 8-hour-long interview Stone he rarely — if ever — challenged Putin. This revelation has prompted Russian commentators to ask: if you are interviewing someone, you are supposed to ask tough questions.

“You Mr. Stone are in fact a royal biographer, not an interviewer,” Dmitry Kolezev, a reporter for the independent news website Znak said in a review of the interview.

Stone's refusal to challenge Putin places the director in the company of other B-list Western celebrities who have tied their sails to the Kremlin mast. Stone has joined their chorus by defending Putin as someone “insulted” and “abused,” by Western media.

But Stone is arguably Putin's biggest catch: a Western celebrity blinded by Putin's charisma and his own anti-Western contrarianism. The footage that has been released so far shows him repeating many of Putin's talking points, even though they are already powered by the president's \$2bn a year propaganda machine.

“The Putin Interviews” release coincides with Putin's annual live “phone-in,” a marathon question and answer session broadcast live on television. Like Stone's interviews, it is carefully choreographed for Putin to shine as an all-knowing, caring leader. It also coincides with the anticipated launch of Putin's 2018 presidential campaign, which may come during the phone-in.

Vasily Gatov, a media analyst and a visiting fellow at USC Annenberg Center for Communication Leadership, likens “The Putin Interviews” to “The Small Land” propaganda memoir, ghostwritten for Leonid Brezhnev to sanctify the Soviet leader.

Stone's film is being presented in the Russian media as a film for “ordinary Americans” so they finally recognize Putin's superiority over other world leaders says Gatov.

But Putin can't keep a straight face as he's telling Stone that Russia doesn't interfere in other countries' domestic affairs.

In truth, it don't even have to. Putin, after all, has his own Western disciples like Oliver Stone to in his quest to elect himself as Russia's president. **TMT**



## The Moscow Times

No. 5808 (72) June 15 – 21, 2017

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 Media Law Compliance and Cultural  
 Heritage, ПИ No. ФС77-62664

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**Editorial** +7 (495) 234 3223  
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**Subscription** +7 (495) 232 9293

**Distribution** +7 (495) 232 9295

**Internet** www.themoscowtimes.com

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 разрешения редакции.

Время подписания в печать  
 по графику 19:00, фактическое 18:30.  
 Заказ № 171240.

Отпечатано в ООО «Первый  
 полиграфический комбинат», 143405,  
 Московская область, Красногорский  
 район, п/о «Красногорск-5»,  
 Ильинское шоссе, 4 км

Тираж 55 000 Цена свободная

Cover by Galina Gubchenko

## LETTER FROM AMERICA

# The Russians Are Coming: How NYC came to obsess over Moscow

By **Anna Nemtsova**  
 Moscow-based reporter for The Daily  
 Beast and Newsweek



A few weeks ago, I made a long-awaited trip to New York. It was the first after Donald Trump moved into the White House, and roughly a decade after I left the city to return to my native Russia.

When I was living in the United States in the mid-2000s, Russia wasn't on the radar. I did not see any negative attitude towards my homeland, because there wasn't even an attitude. Most people couldn't care. Some were curious, but the curiosity was limited to culture or Putin's bare chest, borsch or matters of history.

Today, things have changed. The words “Russia,” “Kremlin” and “Putin” are heard everywhere — from random people and on TV; from editors and readers, from friends and family. Every street corner is buzzing with discussions of Putin and Trump, of Trump and the Russian threat. In just a few days visiting, I heard more about Russia than I heard in a year living there.

My first day began with a familiar walk around Manhattan — past the Rockefeller Center, towards Central Park in bloom. It was a sunny Sunday afternoon. Strollers strolled, runners ran, diners dined on restaurant verandas, and street musicians played to their audience. Everybody seemed to be having a good time. Until, that is, you reached Trump Tower.

Metal crowd-control fences and police protected the tower — something we have come to know well in Russia, of course. A group of protesters was camped out opposite the tower. A tall man with a goatee and glasses was in among them, selling satirical pins and buttons depicting Trump in a French

kissy embrace of Putin. The words under the picture said: “Make fascism great again.”

An old man tried to convince the pin seller that the symbols and slogans were too negative. But the seller replied firmly: “Putin is an evil, he and Trump are both fascists.”

That same week, former CIA director, John Brennan was testifying before the House Intelligence Committee. The subject of the hearing was whether Russia might have recruited some of Trump's aides.

To many in New York, the idea made total sense: It wasn't us, the citizens of the United States, who elected this guy, but Russia's FSB-KGB finally getting round to enacting a long-planned strategy.

Just like back in Moscow, New York's Russians are split on the matter of Trump. Some say they are uncomfortable with a president who seeks closer ties with the Kremlin.

Adel Dressner, a first generation American, told me the Russian government was “no friend” of the US: “Russia and the United States have always been arch rivals for power and we are just now becoming more aware of how deep this goes.”

In Brooklyn, the historical home of the diaspora, many people of Russian descent voted for Trump. Even some Soviet dissidents voiced support for the man who seemed to have strong ties with the former Russian security chief. For them, supporting Putin and Trump was all about enhancing feelings of Russian pride. Such attitudes enrage liberal New Yorkers like my friend and Russia culture expert. Beth Morrow.

“Hypocritical is the way I'd phrase it,” Morrow tells me. “Support for Trump means support for the anti-immigrant position, and yet they are immigrants and, what's more, immigrants who are holding onto their heritage”

My friend said she found it hard to process the current feelings she had: “I want to blame Putin and Trump for today's outrageous drama. But the in the United States we have democracy and we must blame our own voters for a tragic result like Trump. I'm betrayed by my own people”

There can be no doubt that the election of Trump has returned Cold War complexes and divisions to New York. The city is now looking east in a way that it hasn't for a very long time. A recent Reuters poll suggested that up to 82 percent of the U.S. adults now see Russia as a threat.

But as I was walking around the city I couldn't help but notice another thing: the new, overwhelming levels of wealth. On every corner of Manhattan island, I could see crowds of beautiful healthy-looking people in glitzy new restaurants, enjoying some of the finest meals that the earth has to offer.

I wondered to myself whether the increased obsession with my native lands might eventually swing back into a better understanding of Russia. Whether would Americans figure out who it was that they were so scared of. Whether they they come to know the country I know?

That Russia might be an omnipresent military super-power, yes. But it is also a country where every day millions struggle to pay for basic medicine and even food. **TMT**





*"Not only have they robbed the whole country, but I'll also miss a Depeche Mode concert," — Alexei Navalny after being sentenced to 30 days of administrative arrest.*

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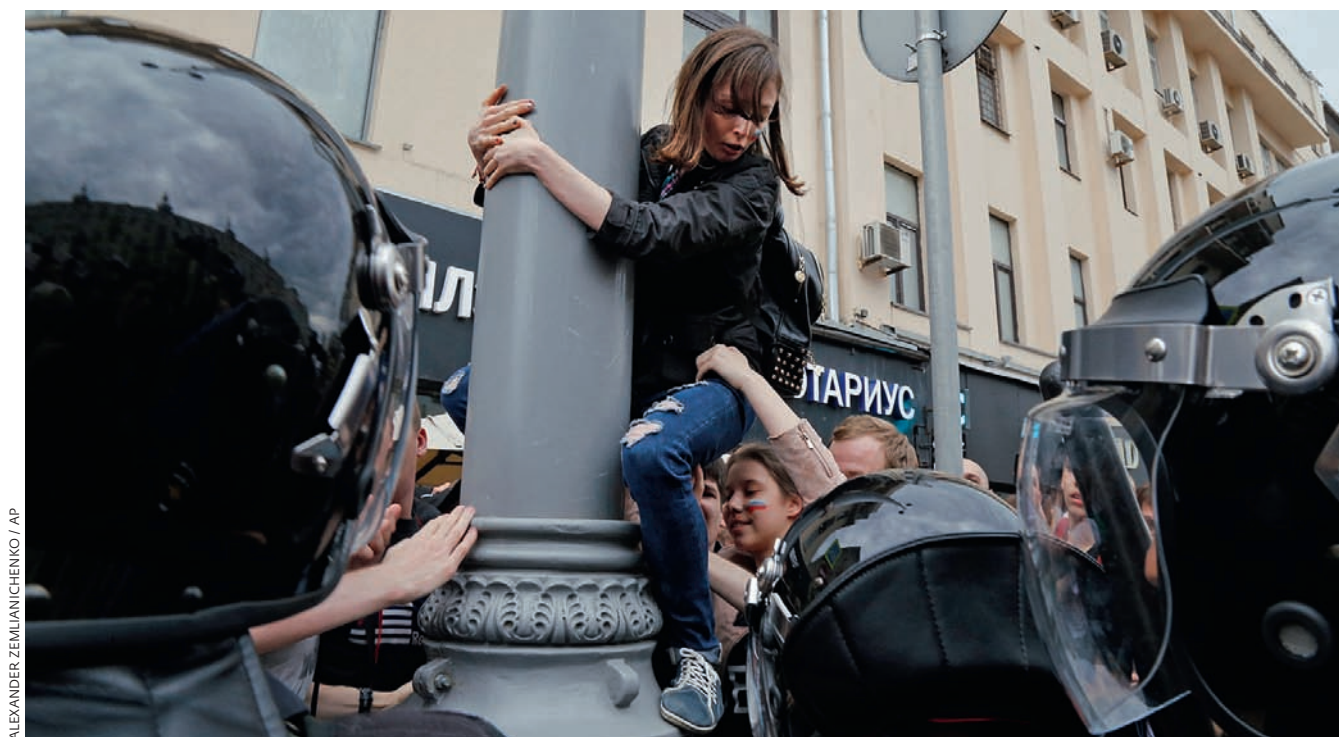
protesters detained  
in Moscow.



Only 3% of Russians know what Russia Day refers to, according to Levada pollster.

December, 2000

Russia's national anthem was changed to an updated version of the Soviet one.



ALEXANDER ZEMLIANICHENKO / AP

Hundreds were arrested in the Russia Day rallies. It was the second time that mass protests surged across Russia this year.

# Chanting for the Future

By Mikhail Fishman [m.fishman@imedia.ru](mailto:m.fishman@imedia.ru)

## Mass protests are becoming Russia's political reality again

As protesters gathered in Moscow on June 12, one thing was clear: This was not a repeat of the 2011-2012 anti-government protests on Bolotnaya Square. You could hear it in the demonstrators' voices.

Young protesters — few older than their early twenties — were singing the national anthem on Pushkinskaya Ploshchad in the very center of Moscow. With the Russian tricolor painted on their cheeks, they continued singing as riot police dragged protesters off to waiting police vans, one-by-one.

In 2000, soon after taking office, Russian President Vladimir Putin introduced the current anthem. In doing so, he replaced composer Mikhail Glinka's "Patriotic Song" with an updated version of the Stalin-era Soviet anthem. For many Russians who remember the presidency of Boris Yeltsin, this controversial new anthem symbolizes Putin's rejection of the 1990s groundswell of Russian democracy.

But for the youth of Russia, it's just the national anthem — a patriotic tune you're supposed to sing while protesting against the government. That shift in attitudes may signal a sea change in Russia's opposition movement.

This new wave of anti-corruption demonstrations erupted three months ago at the behest of opposition leader Alexei Navalny. Unexpected, large numbers of young people turned out to demonstrate in cities across Russia. The face of political protest is now that of a university student or even a high school senior. And the most iconic slogan of the burgeoning movement is "Corruption is stealing our future."

Over 1700 protesters were detained during rallies, with the overwhelming majority of arrests taking place in Moscow and St. Petersburg. Some of these people have received from five to 15 days of administrative arrest. Navalny was sentenced to 30 days of detention. According to OVD-Info, an independent police watchdog, there were many minors among the detained.

In Moscow, the confrontation between protesters and police occurred after Navalny moved the rally to an unauthorized location in the city center: Tverskaya Street, where official celebrations of the patriotic Russia Day holiday were scheduled to take place.

Heavily armed riot police showed little hesitation to use their truncheons as they rounded up young protestors. The protests were "vile and dangerous provocation," according to Moscow Mayor Sergei Sobyanin. "We were lucky no blood was spilt," he later commented.

He wasn't the only one to consider the rallies provocative.

Navalny says he decided to move the protest from its authorized location after the authorities refused to allow him to use necessary sound equipment there.

But his decision to hold the rally on Tverskaya, where the authorities were marking Russia Day, essentially guaranteed a confrontation with police and violent detentions.

Some commentator called the move a deliberately risky mistake. Mikhail Khodorkovsky, a former oil tycoon and now exiled political activist, suggested that provoking the authorities was Navalny's intention.

"Provocation is a normal political action," he told Ekho Moskvy radio. "But this time, in my opinion, it was a bit harsh."

But others suggested that moving the rally to Tverskaya was the only way to make it into a real political demonstration. "By allotting the protesters a specially designated place, the authorities aim to separate the protest from the rest of society and marginalize the participants," says Kirill Rogov, a political analyst. "Navalny wanted to be in the center of the crowd, so he had to break the rules."

In the last few months, Navalny has taken a quantum leap, establishing himself as the only true and energetic opponent of Putin in Russian politics. Treated as an outcast by the establishment and totally banned from Russian national television, Navalny has nonetheless achieved nationwide recognizability.

The latest poll by the independent Levada Center showed that 15 percent of Russians were aware of the anti-corruption rallies Navalny was planning for June 12. What's more, Navalny's daily Q&A's on his Youtube channel — held at 20:18 p.m., a reference to his campaign in the upcoming 2018 presidential election — now get hundreds of thousands of hits every day.

Navalny's platform, often described as populist, is centered on fighting corruption and anti-elite sentiment. His recent political rise began with a YouTube investigation of mansions and yachts allegedly funneled to Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev as bribes. The video has been viewed millions of times.

In Russia, many blame the elite for the country's problems instead of Putin. The maxim "Good tsar, bad boyars" has a long history in the country. Some liberal commentators have even accused Navalny of deliberately handling going easy on Russia's president to avoid antagonizing his base.

But that was hardly the case on June, 12. On Tverskaya, youthful protesters chanted "Putin is a thief!" and "Putin, out!" two key slogans of the 2011-2012 protests.

However, this new protest wave is far from a victory, warns

analyst Rogov, because it is not growing in numbers. The first rallies' unexpected eruption took the Kremlin by surprise at the end of March, but recent developments are hardly shaking the system, a source close to the Kremlin told to The Moscow Times. Putin has unofficially begun his electoral campaign and is preparing for an easy victory.

But with mass protests becoming Russia's political reality again, the president cannot feel completely secure. These rallies — and their spread across the country — show that, for millions of young Russians, there is something wrong with the political system. As the election approaches, the protests will most likely radicalize in the fall, predicts political analyst Valery Solovoi.

But the protests will encounter pushback. The June 12 rally interrupted a historical reenactment performance marking Russia Day. As anti-corruption protesters filled Tverskaya, the pushback was both grotesque and highly symbolic.

Reenactment performers dressed as officers of the NKVD — the predecessor to the KGB — continued to play their role: They grabbed protesters and delivered them to the police. **TMT**

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"We are putting all our efforts into making the games to go smoothly and safely," **Alexei Lavrishev**, head World Cup security unit

**3.3Mln**  
people attended the last World Cup.

**81,000**  
people will fit into Moscow's Luzhniki stadium after renovations are completed



The Confederations Cup is traditionally held in the country that will hold the FIFA World Cup next.

# Sweaters for Goalpoasts

## Is Russia Ready for FIFA?

By **Ola Cichowlas** o.cichowlas@imedia.ru

The Confederations Cup, which opens in St Petersburg on June 17, offers the first real test on readiness ahead of next year's World Cup

In a friendly fixture a week before the official start of the Confederations Cup, Russia drew with Chile in a lackluster match. The match was played out in an almost empty CSKA Arena stadium.

Russia's hosting of the eight-nation World Cup rehearsal this summer has failed to galvanize football fans' excitement — at home in Russia, or abroad.

FIFA has struggled hard to sell tickets to Germany's fans this year, let alone to Chile's. Fans apparently care so little about the tournament that FIFA President Gianni Infantino recently announced the Confederations Cup may be on its way out as part of a leadership review.

But this year's games are on, and for Russia, it's an important rehearsal. Next year's World Cup will bring 32 teams and millions of fans to the country. They will be hosted in 11 far-flung cities. Russia knows it is being assessed for its ability to host safe and modern games. At a time of international isolation, Russian officials want it — and the Confederations Cup this summer — to go smoothly.

Russia will present four of its 12 World Cup venues during the Confederations Cup between June 17 and July 2. They include St. Petersburg's scandal-ridden, \$600 million Zenit Arena. The venue has been tainted by government-linked corruption scandals and, more recently, revelations of North Korean slave labor.

Preparing the stadium for the Confederations Cup's opening match between Russia and New Zealand was also problematic: A new pitch had to be laid when footballers complained of uneven grass during a trial game.

The tournament will also test Russia's security services, who will be tasked with policing the largest international sporting event in the country's history.

Russia's Federal Security Service (FSB) say they have addressed security concerns in the wake of April's metro attack in St. Petersburg, which left 16 dead. "We are putting all our efforts into making the games to go smoothly and safely," Alexei Lavrishev, the head of the FSB's World Cup security unit, told reporters June 6.

Security services are also preparing to tame the country's notorious hooligan networks. During last year's European Championship, Russian fans were involved in violent clashes with England fans — a scene that shook the football world.

Russia has since cracked down on hooligan ring leaders and the far-right groups linked to them. Authorities have thrown many behind bars and are banning others from matches. As part of the crackdown, President Putin approved a bill for stricter punishment for violence during matches.

Authorities have taken additional measures to keep violent fans away with a specialized ticketing system that requires ticket holders to apply for a personalized fan ID. The head of the Interior Ministry's department in charge of sporting events said that violent fans are "under our unblinking, constant stare."

But Pavel Klymenko, Eastern Europe development officer for the UEFA-backed Football Against Racism in Europe (FARE), says this system will primarily work for a minority of well-known hooligans. "We haven't seen any records pub-

lished by the authorities estimating how many people were denied fan IDs and for what reasons," he says.

Foreign football hooligans, Lavrishev added, are just as unwelcome. Authorities have already blacklisted 191 overseas fans. For the duration of the games, Russia has changed visa rules, requiring all foreigners to register with authorities within one day of their arrival in the country.

Russian authorities are also cracking down on another group they consider threatening: protesters.

Human rights organizations have criticized a new bill imposing stricter restrictions on the right to protest over the duration of the Confederations Cup. The temporary law, which will also apply during next year's World Cup, requires protesters to ask for special permission to hold a rally.

Russian opposition figures and activists have decried the measure, saying it comes at a time of a revived anti-Kremlin protest movement. On June 12, opposition leader Alexei Navalny drew thousands to Moscow's streets for the second time this year.

Both nationwide protests ended in hundreds of arrests across the country. Authorities maintain they plan to do the same to any protesters during the this month's Confederation Cup and next year's World Cup.

Standing outside Moscow's Luzhniki stadium June 1 this year, a lonely young protester tested the measure. In a one-man protest, he held a sign that read "I don't care about football, I picket where I want."

He was detained within less than an hour. **TMT**

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*"For happiness, a person needs to know himself" - Dudarev*

## 2014

Dudarev opened a museum to poet Mayakovsky.

## 50Mln rubles

how much Dudarev has collected from his friends to fund his public works.



Mayakovsky's dacha burnt to the ground in 1993 on the day before the 100th anniversary of the poet's birth.



HOWARD AMOS

# Unorthodox Priest

By **Howard Amos** [newsreporter@imedia.ru](mailto:newsreporter@imedia.ru)

## Andrei Dudarev's interest in dissident poetry and WWII-era hardware has ruffled feathers in the clerical elite

At first glance, Andrei Dudarev is an ordinary Orthodox priest working at an ordinary church in an ordinary commuter town outside Moscow.

But the 42-year old cleric has unusual and, for the Church, controversial passions in the literary field. He suspects his activities to promote his favourite writers have ultimately earned him dismissal from his parish priest post.

Above all, Dudarev is a fan of the fiercely revolutionary Mayakovsky, who penned anti-religious poems and committed suicide in 1930.

He has not only arranged for a bust of Mayakovsky to be put up in Pushkino, the town where he grew up and now works, but has opened a museum to the controversial poet who he maintains actually died in a bizarre accident.

Dudarev sees no contradiction between his position as a priest and his love for Mayakovsky.

On many points, there is even "absolute harmony between Christianity, the Gospels, the New Testament and the work of Mayakovsky," he says. "Mayakovsky's work and Mayakovsky's personality have a lot of potential to help the people around me develop. That's why I do it."

### A new museum

Dudarev's flagship project is a museum on the site of the country house that Mayakovsky frequented in the 1920s.

The original building became a trash dump when it burnt to the ground on the 100th anniversary of the poet's birth in 1993 — in a fire Dudarev says was arson. The new wooden building, which is a copy of its predecessor, was opened in 2014. It sits amid birch trees and a garden that features larger-than-life busts of Mayakovsky and Vladimir Lenin.

Inside, the museum is whitewashed and there are no written displays. One of the walls is covered with copies of early Soviet propaganda posters.

The museum was not designed to give visitors a series of facts about Mayakovsky, but to help them examine their own lives, according to Dudarev.

"For happiness, a person needs to know himself," he told The Moscow Times. "Get to know yourself. Who are you? In one place, we are one person. At home, we're another person. In another place, we are a third type of person. Where is the real you? Who's the real you?"

### Persona non-grata

But Mayakovsky is not Dudarev's only literary interest. He has also designed a statue, now standing in the town, of author Leo Tolstoy, who was highly critical of the Orthodox Church and excommunicated nine years before his death.

His other public works include arranging for a World War II tank to be installed in a newly landscaped site in the center of Pushkino to "help people understand the facts" of the conflict. He is hoping to add a fighter plane later this year.

Dudarev says his projects are embarrassing for the cash-strapped local government and the Orthodox Church. "When people see activity in their backyard they are, of course, unhappy because this activity makes their passivity look bad."

In October, he was dismissed as the head of Pushkino parish after 18 years for allowing church buildings to be constructed too close to nearby gas pipelines. "That was the formal reason," he says. "But I fear that there was an informal reason: I am a difficult person to have around."

In 2012, Dudarev was filmed angrily responding to activists in Moscow who glued a large sticker to the windscreen of a Mercedes he had parked illegally. He says the Mercedes was hired and the footage of the incident was misleadingly edited.

On Dudarev's request, the Mayakovsky museum and the monuments he installed in Pushkino were transferred to state ownership. But he says officials remain "wary" of him and his friends who donated around 50 million rubles (\$877,000) to fund the projects.

While he says he has no interest in replacing those in positions of religious or secular power, Dudarev is unafraid to criticize the Orthodox Church, which has seen a resurgence of its power and influence under President Vladimir Putin.

"In general people are frightened," he says. "Mainstream Orthodoxy is encapsulated by [the saying]: 'the more you sleep the less you sin.'"

Like many religious dissidents, Dudarev urges believers to go back and read original texts.

"You can say a lot about [poet Sergei] Yesenin or Mayakovsky but the truth only begins when you start to read their poetry," he says. "It's the same with Christianity. Let's read the sources."

He can recite the poems of his favourite authors for hours and he has written two books about Yesenin, a prominent lyrical poet who killed himself in 1925.

What's more, he says standard Russian translations of the Gospels are unsatisfactory.

"It's not a coincidence that there is a book at the center of the temple. A book is not something that you should kiss, but something to be opened and read," he says. "And that means you have to think." **TMT**



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## EAEU unified medicine and medical device market and parallel imports

**GOLTSBLAT BLP**

The Russian practice of Berwin Leighton Paisner (BLP)



**Vladislav Vdovin,**

Head of Group, Commercial | Healthcare & Pharmaceuticals, Goltsblat BLP



**Galina Avdeeva,**

Associate, Commercial | Healthcare & Pharmaceuticals, Goltsblat BLP

On 26 April 2017, once the Kyrgyz Republic notified the Eurasian Economic Commission (EEC) that it had completed its domestic procedures, the unified EAEU medicine and medical device market came into operation. All medicines and medical devices are now to be registered under unified EAEU rules, followed by their simple, fast track registration in the member states.

The original launch date for the unified market was 2016, as the Agreements on common principles and requirements for circulation of medicines and medical devices within the EAEU were signed back in 2014. Even so, the process was put on the backburner until Armenia and Kyrgyzstan completed the formalities for acceding to the EAEU.

Under these agreements, unified EAEU registers will be launched of medicines and medical devices, the member states' official pharmacopeias will be harmonised (the WHO has agreed to recognise the EAEU pharmacopeia as a regional standard of quality), uniform rules for pre-clinical and clinical trials and medicine registration will be established, as well as requirements on labelling, GMP (good manufacturing practice) and GDP (good distributional practice) rules and proper pharmacovigilance practices. The EAEU has also adopted basic criteria for classing medicines as prescription-only and controlled. Medical devices are now covered by uniform requirements on safety and effectiveness, special labelling and operating instructions, and other regulations, most having come into effect on 6 May 2017.

Under the EAEU rules for medicine registration, the formalities, including

expert examination of medicines, must be completed within 210 calendar days of the application being filed (the period in Russia is a bit longer: 160 working days). Subsequent registration of a medicine in a member state will take up to 90 calendar days, providing there is no disagreement between the various registration authorities. Documents may

***The anticipated benefits of lower medicine prices due to fiercer price competition should be carefully weighed against the risks of substandard medications reaching the market and lack of adequate control mechanisms***

also be submitted for parallel registration in the member state where the principal registration formalities are fulfilled and another member state within 210 calendar days.

Pre-clinical and clinical trial permits, pricing of medicines and medical devices, retail sale, regulation of medical advertising, public procurement of medicines and other procedures relating to reimbursement of medicine costs still come under the national regulations.

### Transition

Transition periods allow national mechanisms and pharmaceutical market players time to adapt to the new EAEU environment.

Registration dossiers of medicines registered in Russia before the Agreement on the unified principles came into effect must be aligned with the EAEU rules and requirements by 31 December 2025. Medicine registration certificates issued under the Russian legislation are valid until they expire, provided this is not beyond 31 December 2025. Medications registered in Russia and not aligned with the EAEU requirements may be sold on the Russian market after 31 December 2025 until their use-by date.

Registration of medicines under the EAEU rules is not yet compulsory. Until 31 December 2020, medications may be registered under Russia's national rules and the registration dossiers may then be aligned with the EAEU requirements by 31 December 2025. If medication dossiers are submitted for registration before 31 December 2018, the manufacturer is also entitled to provide national documents issued in EAEU member states, instead

of an EAEU GMP certificate, to confirm compliance with the national GMP requirements.

National registration certificates for medical devices will be valid in the relevant member states until they expire, but not beyond 31 December 2021. When registering a medical device before 31 December 2021, manufacturers may opt for either the EAEU or national rules.

### Parallel imports

Despite the criticism of parallel imports, during its meeting on 26 April 2017, the EEC Board approved a draft Protocol Amending the EAEU Treaty and authorising the Eurasian Intergovernmental Council to apply the

principle of international exhaustion of exclusive trade mark rights to certain types of goods, at the discretion of a member state. The document does not list products that are subject to this principle. The draft Protocol will be forwarded to member states for national approval by 1 July 2017.

Introduction of parallel imports has been under discussion in Russia for several years. Medical devices, medicines and car parts have been suggested as possible pilot groups of goods. The EAEU currently applies regional exhaustion of IP rights, so products may only be imported into the EAEU by holders of rights to the trade mark placed on the product or those authorised to do so by the right holder. If the EAEU starts applying international exhaustion, the IP rights will be exhausted allowing products to be imported into the EAEU once they have been sold by the IP owner (or with their consent) in any part of the world. This means that anyone can freely import such products, not just official distributors.

Let us note that opening the gates to parallel imports of medications and medical devices gives rise to a slew of practical concerns, in particular, about observance of the requirements on labelling, re-packaging (localisation) of medications, quality assurance, introduction of post-sale monitoring of quality and adverse reactions (pharmacovigilance), etc. Parallel imports are allowed in some mature economies but are often accompanied by additional statutory formalities that actually restrict uncontrolled importation of medications.

Extreme care should be taken if parallel imports are introduced for a category of goods that is socially significant and has direct impact on public health. The anticipated benefits of lower medicine prices due to fiercer price competition should be carefully weighed against the risks of substandard medications reaching the market and lack of adequate control mechanisms. One possible control method could be unique labelling of medications so that the entire manufacturer to consumer supply chain may be traced. This method is currently in use in the EU countries and is being tested in Russia.

**GOLTSBLAT BLP**

The Russian practice of Berwin Leighton Paisner (BLP)

\* **Goltsblat BLP** is the Russian practice of **Berwin Leighton Paisner (BLP)**, an award-winning international law firm headquartered in London and with offices operating in major commercial and financial centres throughout the world — Moscow, Abu Dhabi, Beijing, Berlin, Brussels, Dubai, Frankfurt, Hong Kong, Paris and Singapore, Tel Aviv and Yango.

The firm has a team of 100 Russian, English and US law qualified lawyers based in Moscow and over 800 lawyers in the other international offices.

**Goltsblat BLP** currently has over 1700 clients among the major international investors operating in Russia, including 37 Fortune 500 companies.





*"If playing chess is considered a sport, then why not cybersport?"*

**Nikita Konovalov**, Champion Russian Swimmer and Gamer

**100Mln**

number of people playing DOTA 2 every month.

**2000**

year Russian Computer Gaming Federation is founded.



eSports focus around multiplayer shooter and strategy games.

# Game Online!

By **Katie Davies** and **Matthew Bodner** [newsreporter@imedia.ru](mailto:newsreporter@imedia.ru)

With bootcamps and ballooning sponsorship, Russian cybersport is in the ascendancy. But will national videogame "athletes" ever be able to catch up with their far-east rivals?

The setting of Dmitry Sukhanov's pre-season bootcamp is distinctly medieval. The corporate retreat outside Moscow is designed to look like a Germanic castle. But beyond the hotel's walls, a very modern scene is playing out.

In a dimly lit hotel room, a pack of 20-year-olds in sweat-suits stare into computer screens lining the wall. Their fingers click hundreds of times per minute. Between scattered furniture and rows of empty water bottles and soda is a whiteboard covered with a crude map, arrows and motivational buzzwords you might find in a football locker room.

But this isn't a football training camp. The team, known as Virtus Pro, is one of Russia's premier professional video game teams. They are in the middle of a grueling training week in preparation for the country's most prestigious video game tournaments. The prize: a 2-million-ruble-payout and a shot at a world championship.

The rise to the top of Russian gaming began last summer for Sukhanov's team. During the annual regional League of Legends championship, Virtus Pro inched ahead of the previously dominant M-19, and claimed the championship's 1.5 million ruble prize (\$26,300). "M-19 was the best team until last year, when we beat them. Now I think we are one of the top teams."

The stakes are higher this year, Sukhanov says. "The League of Legends Championship is a bit like a football tournament. Starting June 24, we will play three games a week for five weeks," the coach says. "The winner of this tournament will go on to an international playoff, and the winner of that playoff will have a shot at a world championship."

## Pro-Gaming at a Glance

Once a niche market for hardcore fans, eSports has hit the global mainstream. The sport sees teams from across the globe take part by playing competitive matches of popular online games in high-stakes tournaments. Some, such as League of Legends and Defence of the Ancients 2 (DOTA 2), rely heavily on tactics and strategy. Others, such as Counter-strike and Starcraft, hinge on lightning reflexes.

With more people than ever before gaming in their spare time, the global eSports market is expected to pull in \$1.1 billion by the end of this year. Traditional sports franchises are taking notice.

In 2016, NBA franchise the Philadelphia 76ers purchased two eSports teams: Team Dignitas and Team Apex. Axiomatic, which owns teams like the L.A. Dodgers baseball team and the Washington Wizards basketball team purchased a major-

ity share in Team Liquid, a global eSports brand based in the Netherlands. Soccer teams Paris Saint-Germain, Manchester City, Ajax, and Schalke FC have all announced that they're set to create their own eSports division.

Global eSports audiences are growing too. Upwards of 385 million viewers are expected to tune in on cable or online to watch cyber-sport tournaments in 2017. The most popular games usually give fans a third-person or birdseye view of the action.

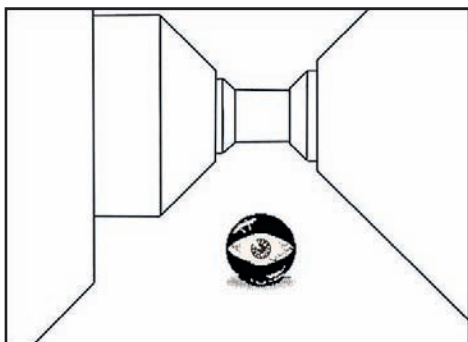
"Competitive cybersport has this great potential to draw in a diverse audiences due to its dynamism," Dmitry Smit, the president of the Russian eSports Federation (RESF), told The Moscow Times. "National computer sport federations, the cybersport industry, and the media are all working on new formats which will bring e-sport to a mass audience."

## Russia's Gaming Landscape

Russia has proven to be one of Europe's most fertile cyber-sport markets, topped only by Sweden. The Russian Ministry of Sport officially recognized gaming as a sport in 2016, making top cyber-athletes eligible for state sporting awards.

Tournaments are already filling Moscow's largest stadiums, with fans paying out as much as 9,900 rubles (\$175) for

1974



Before internet gaming, the market was dominated by first-person-shooters (FPS) which relied on a simplistic point and shoot format with characters roaming around maps searching for opponents. The first-of-its-kind came about in 1974 in the form of Atari's Maze War.

1991



In 1991 Hovertank took the FPS concept and improved the graphics and introduced full-color gameplay.

1991's other classic Catacombs 3D added a single-player quest mode having the player advance through various levels.

1992/93



The first truly modern FPS appeared in 1992 in the form of Castle Wolfenstein - a game inviting players to explore a 3D maze with advanced graphics.



Doom arrived in 1993 and became an instant genre classic. The game's engine was revolutionary, introducing strategic elements such as body armor.





*"We play together, but we also watch replays of individual matches and analyse them," Virtus Pro head coach **Dmitry Sukhanov***

12

regional zones make up Russia's Cybersports League.



eSports teams often hire therapists to help their players deal with high levels of stress.

June 24

Russian Computer Gaming Federation is holding a tournament in Moscow.

three-day passes. These events draw Russia's professional teams, each backed by major Russian sponsors.

Dmitry Belyaev, a 27-year-old corporate lawyer, jumped in on the action in 2007 when he founded Elements Pro Gaming — today a mainstay of the Russian professional gaming scene.

Belyaev says that Russia's love of pro-gaming is akin to the nation's love of chess. "Chess is very similar to eSport disciplines such as DOTA 2 and League of Legends," he says. "Players have to build their teams by combining different video game characters with different strengths and weaknesses."

Just like chess grandmasters, Belyaev expects his cyber athletes to show real dedication to their craft. "In any sport, if you want to achieve high results, then you need to train forward and compete in professional tournaments," he says.

To help foster high performance from their cyber athletes, teams try to provide all the trappings of a professional sports team. Instead of football stadiums, teams like Elements Pro and Virtus.Pro use bootcamps and "game-houses," where their team comes together to practice and play.

Sukhanov, head coach for the Virtus.Pro League of Legends team, keeps his players on a tight training schedule. Lunch is served at 2 p.m., followed by a light warm-up. Training begins two hours later and can last until 2 a.m.

Sukhanov, who previously worked as a chemist, says that an analytical mindset helps him coach the very best from his players. "We play together, but we also watch replays of individual matches and analyze them," he says. "We make sure that every team member understands our tactics."

As well as high-end equipment and individual coaching sessions, teams often work with therapists in a bid to help their players reach their peak.

The psychologists are there to help cyber athletes cope with stress, Belyaev says, which can be intense. "Cybersport is always changing." Sometimes, you will prepare intensely for

a tournament, and the game's developers will release an update in the middle of a competition that changes the way the game is played. "Teams will have to change their tactics overnight."

If cyber sports teams take their games as seriously as classic athletes, so do their fans. One of the biggest markets surrounding cybersports is betting. In 2016, revenue from e-sports wagers hit \$60 million, and those playing the books will sometimes try to tip things in their favor.

While training for a recent competition, one Virtus Pro's team was hit by hackers, robbing players of valuable training time. At this in Moscow bootcamp, Virtus Pro are only using secure connections and avoiding vulnerable programs like Skype.

According to Element Pro's Belyaev, hacking efforts are common before competition. "That's why we are building good security into our network at our new game house," Belyaev says.

## Russia vs The World

Yet although Russians have a reputation for being hardcore gamers, they have yet to carve out a spot for themselves alongside cybersport powerhouses such as China and South Korea.

Belyaev says that Russia's young cyber athletes lack a clear career template. "Talented players are left to their own devices, training without any kind of system in place," he says. "They are either forced to seek out a team on their own, or doomed to play with less talented friends."

Parents and teachers also try to stop talented children from playing "harmful" computer games, or judge cyber sport as a "useless occupation," says Belyaev.

Dmitry Smit from RCSF agrees these attitudes hurts e-sport's development. "Attitudes change when cyber-athletes start to earn money," he says. "The most common question that cyber athletes are asked is, 'what do your parents think of what you do?'"

The answer is usually somewhere along the lines of: "At first they didn't understand, but when I began to earn money, they started to support me." The support of friends and relatives comes first, and then, very gradually, support across society starts to form."

Teams also face more practical problems. While some rookie players are scouted at regional tournaments or online, teams such as Virtus.Pro often bring in players from abroad to bolster their ranks.

But some Russian teams say that they are struggling to properly recruit foreign talent because they lack any legal mechanisms to bring them here to play full time.

Russian players traveling abroad can also face difficulties. "Those who play regularly at tournaments often lose great chances to perform due to visa problems," Belyaev says.

## A Russian Tiger

At bootcamp outside Moscow however, Virtus.Pro's League of Legends stars are confident in the future of Russian cybersport. Twenty-one-year-old Ivan Tipuhov captains the team. He's sure that given more time, Russia is more than capable of rivaling South-East Asia's eSport prowess.

"Cybersport is already bigger than sports like hockey," he says. "In five years, eSport could be bigger than basketball. Ten years and it could be bigger than football."

To hone their skills, Ivan and his teammates often scrimmage on European servers — rather than Russian ones — where the standard of competition is higher. Through this type of informal international competition, Sukhanov is certain that Russian cyber sport athletes will soon reach the very top of their craft.

"We need to see players improve their individual skills [in order to compete]," he says. Chinese and South Korean players have these skills because they are incredibly dedicated to eSport — they practice and attend bootcamps all year, even during the offseason. "But Russian players also have this drive," Sukhanov says, "they can compete on this level." **TMT**

1994/96

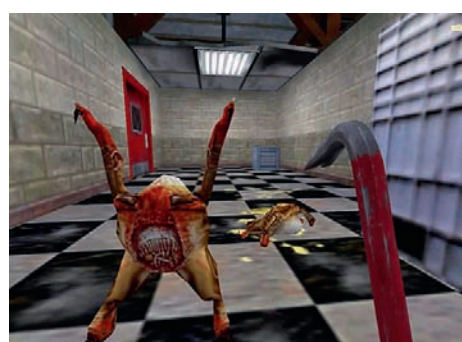
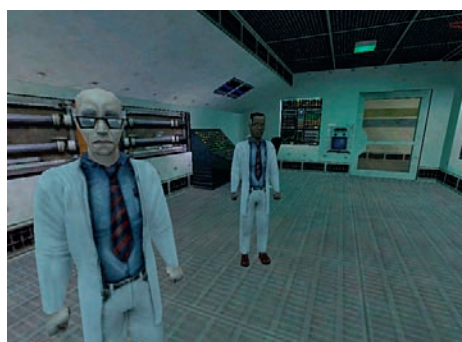
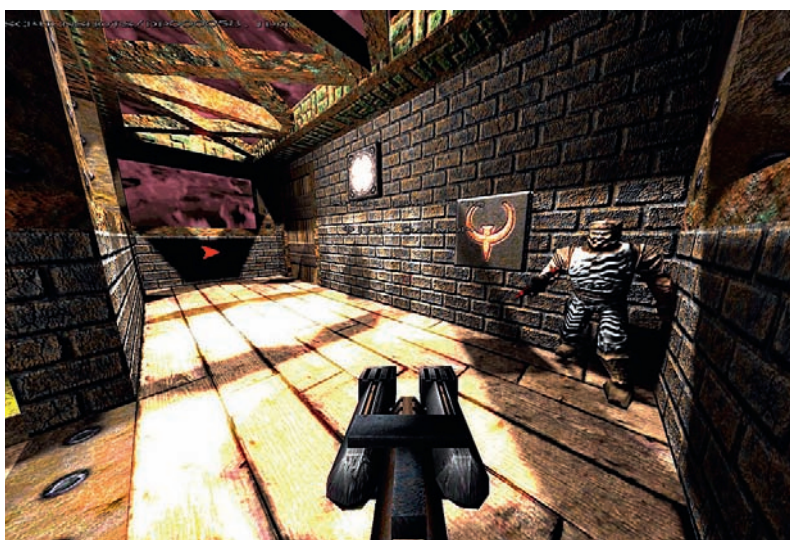
1998

1999

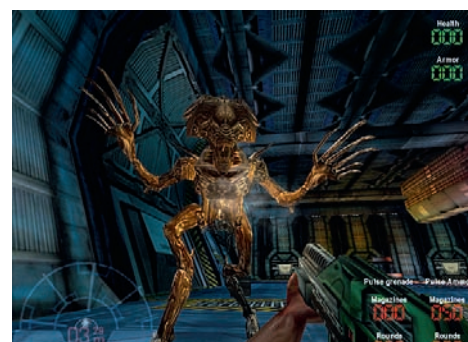
1994's Heretic also revolutionised FPS engine's by introducing aiming to the gameplay, allowing players to shoot specific targets like arms and legs.



FPS games were fully modernised in 1996 with the arrival of Quake. The game's 1997 Red Annihilation Tournament is regarded as the first eSport event and gained 2,000 spectators.



Half-Life continued the trend set by Quake and became the foundation of the gameplay engine for «Counterstrike,» one of the most popular online shooters to this day.



1999's Alien Versus Predator (AVP), derived from the classic Hollywood Alien and Predator franchises, introduced sound as a strategic part of the gameplay. For the first time players could track the motion of opponents relying on sound alone.

1999's other classic Red Faction was the first to introduce interactive maps, with players able to blow up their surroundings and hide.





*“The internet came into existence as the CIA’s special project”*  
– **Vladimir Putin**

**6.3M**

websites currently blocked in Russia.

**Oct. 7, 2017**

Russian President Vladimir Putin turns 65.



**Bill 195446-7** - proposes to ban TOR, anonymizers and VPNs that disguise the user’s IP location.

## UNFAIR OBSERVER

# When Pensioners Learn the Internet



Unfair Observer is a secret Russian journalist offering a satirical take on the worst and most absurd developments happening in Russia.

Another week, another opposition tussle in Moscow. This time, riot police detained around a thousand anti-corruption protesters and beat up many more with truncheons — right after President Vladimir Putin told NBC that Russian police don’t beat people with truncheons.

But don’t be too hard on the poor guys (I mean the police.) They were probably just traumatized by their previous fiasco. I’m referring, of course, to the June 11 shootout in a Moscow region village, where a killer of four reportedly armed with WWII-era guns fought off the cops for hours and then escaped. That must have hurt their ego.

At least protesters — many of them teenagers — don’t put up so much resistance.

But let’s talk about the internet. I mean bill 195446-7, of course. The one proposing to finally bring the Russian internet up to the lofty standards of the Ministry of Public Security of China (公安部) — i.e. to ban TOR, Virtual Private Networks and other tools for circumventing online censorship.

Russia currently blocks 6.3 million websites, according to internet freedom watchdog Rublacklist.net. But besides a handful of porn sites, the torrent tracker Rutracker.org and that terrible menace to Russian law and order, LinkedIn, no one really knows most of these obscure sites.

Meanwhile, the websites, blogs and YouTube channels of protest leader Alexei Navalny are still going strong. So are a gazillion other sites that say not-so-nice things about the government. As the Chinese Ministry of Public Security demonstrates, it is entirely possible to block them all. So far, the Kremlin doesn’t appear to have the guts to do that. But who knows what the future holds?

The reason is simple: technophobic “sexagenarians.” Or, more precisely, the over-sixty folks who run this lovely little country from the active retirement home we call the Kremlin. Mr. Putin turns 65 on October 7 (don’t forget to send a birthday card). His Politburo is roughly of the same age, and so are most policy makers who matter. The few spring chickens in their midst — ahem, Dmitry “I was President” Medvedev, aged 51 — meekly conform.

In other words, Russia is being run by the last Soviet generation. The collapse of the USSR brought them many new, confusing things: the internet, grassroots activism, civic society and the novel idea that an economy should be about more than tanks and missiles. Even “he who shall not be named by Putin” — opposition leader N\*\*\*\*y — is 41.

But the Russian leaders still live in 1978. To them, cybernetics is a capitalist fake science, the internet remains a CIA ploy and any grassroots activism is no less than enemy instigation. So the leaders do the only sensible thing (to them): They fight to bring 1978 back again.

If that means banning the internet or beating up women and teens with truncheons (oh, to beat up the internet!), the worse for the internet, women and teens.

Still, there is some reason for optimism: The next generation, whatever its flaws, is much more comfortable with the 21st century. Even Medvedev has a beloved iPad. But the \$64,000 question remains: How much will the legacy of the Soviet pensioners shape Russia before the new generation comes to power? Will a fear of modernity be enshrined as tradition?

One day in the not-so-distant future, when we all upload our minds to the Global Internet, Russia may still be barred from LinkedIn. **TMT**

## MY MOSCOW

# Come Together

By **Alastair Gill** a.gill@imedia.ru

For Rabbi Klein, Moscow is about building community



YAAKOV KLEIN / PERSONAL COLLECTION

Yaakov Klein is a member of the Chabad movement, the world’s largest Orthodox Hasidic group.

Originally from Brooklyn, New York, Rabbi Yaakov Klein moved to Moscow 10 years ago. He heads the International Jewish Community of Moscow. He and his wife Rivka run a community center and synagogue on Kaloshin Pereulok, near Arbat.

**The specific community that we serve is the English speakers:** expats, tourists, foreigners. The people that come to the center are not necessarily Orthodox: We believe that labels are for shirts, not people. We all serve the same God, Judaism is Judaism, it’s not necessarily your affiliation or your familiarity with the religion — we’re here to teach. We give them a place to have services, community events and different programs: a home away from home.

**There are over 3,000 centers around the world, so growing up as a child I knew that I was going to end up moving out somewhere.** I’m the youngest of 10, and my siblings live all over the world, so growing up I knew this was something that was sort of in our system: That we’re going to move somewhere, to give back the service, so you’re prepared for it.

**I actually went to Milan to meet my wife.** Our parents were classmates, and [my wife] Rifki’s mom moved to Italy about 50 years ago. In our community it works more that we’re set up together, but the decision is on us.

**My mom was born in Moscow, and then when she was three years old, during the war, they left through France and they came to the United States.** When we sort of decided to move to Moscow, we called my parents over for dinner at our apartment in New York. My dad was very excited — he has this love for the Jewish community in Russia. My mom listened, [but] only a few years later, after she’d come to visit quite a few times, she told me that she really wasn’t excited [for us]. This was a place that she left, it was a tough time for the Jewish people, but when she came back and saw how the Jewish community is today, she was ok with it.

**Having five kids born here makes Moscow feel like home.** This is their life, they don’t know of anything else. There’s two parts to it. There’s a spiritual part, a sense of responsibility and mission — not really missionary, but a sense of purpose. Chabad philosophy says that every human being is unique: there are no two alike. And God doesn’t make junk. If you’re here then there’s something important for you to do.

**There are a few kosher restaurants that we go to.** There’s another synagogue on Bolshaya Bronnaya which has a beautiful terrace on the fourth or fifth floor where you can go outside. It has great food and great company. You would think that because it’s in a synagogue it would only limit itself to Jewish people or religious people, but it’s a full house and a real diverse crowd. Then there’s one right behind the McDonald’s on Pushkin Square, called Mestechko, and it’s also great food. Jerusalem, 6 Bolshaya Bronnaya, Metro Pushkinskaya Mestechko, 27 Bolshaya Bronnaya, Bldg. 4, Metro Pushkinskaya, Tverskaya

**It’s a little bit difficult to get all the foods that we need.** We actually still bring in some food from the United States and other places, but that’s changed and it has really seen the community grow together with the city as the Jewish community in general has been growing in the last couple of years. There are three different kosher supermarkets, one of them is sort of a basement of Globus Gourmet called Kosher Gourmet. Kosher Gourmet, 15 Ulitsa Novosushchiovskaya, Metro Maryina Roshcha

**Right now it’s probably the best time for the Jewish community than it ever was in the history of Moscow.** There was a time when the Jews weren’t allowed to live in Moscow, and at the moment the current government really supports the Jewish community. We recognize that we’re here as guests, this is not our country. We recognize that this is not our homeland, and therefore take that approach of first of all appreciating what we have. **TMT**



# Out & About



Weekly round-up of all that's new, delicious and fun in Moscow.



In the Coronation Scene, actress Inna Churikova appears in full regal dress.

SERGEI PETROV / THEATER OF NATIONS

## 'The Audience': Translating Elizabeth II Into Russian

By Alastair Gill and Andrei Muchnik [artsreporter@imedia.ru](mailto:artsreporter@imedia.ru)

The Theater of Nations brings Buckingham Palace to the heart of Moscow

As prime minister of the United Kingdom, David Cameron traveled to Buckingham Palace every Tuesday for a private audience with the Queen. A long-standing tradition in the country, these meetings are an opportunity for monarch and prime minister to discuss important matters of state.

What actually went on behind the gilded doors is a matter of speculation. But it's not hard to imagine an interaction: Cameron, all puppy-dog enthusiasm, fidgeting on the edge of his silk-upholstered chair while the Queen coolly chides the boyish prime minister.

Now picture this encounter taking place onstage in a Moscow theater, and that the two are being played by Russian actors. It might seem far-fetched, but this is the reality of "The Audience," an adaptation of British playwright Peter Morgan's play of the same name, which returns to Moscow's Theater of Nations this week after premiering in May.

Diplomatic relations between Russia and the UK remain strained. But the Russian public's longstanding affection for the British monarchy is undimmed, and the popularity of the play is testament to this.

Originally staged in London's West End in 2013, with Helen Mirren in the lead role, "The Audience" is based on the weekly encounters between Queen Elizabeth II and "her prime ministers," going all the way back to Winston Churchill and the early 1950s.

Morgan took an active role in casting Inna Churikova, one of the most revered artists of her generation, as Elizabeth II. Already in her 70s, Churikova is known for roles in movies as diverse as the Soviet children's hit "Morozko" and the perestroika cult film "Courier."

She brings a suitably witty archness to Elizabeth II, playing the role with poise and grace.

Gleb Panfilov, director of the Russian version of "The Audience," is perhaps best known for his work as a film director during Soviet times (he later switched to theater). Panfilov was faced with an obvious dilemma when approaching the play. Would local audiences really find discussion of the minutiae of UK politics sufficiently curious to engage their interest over two hours?

This is where he made a canny move. Realizing that he needed to make his version more accessible to local audiences, he asked Morgan to rewrite sections of the script and focus on the UK's relations with the USSR and Russia. Morgan worked with Panfilov to pinpoint the exact moments when Elizabeth II could actually talk to some of her prime ministers about Russia.

In the original version, there was only a single mention of Russia. This is when Elizabeth II tells Harold Wilson that when the Russian tsar visited the royal Balmoral Castle retreat, he is reported to have said it was "colder than Siberia."

In the Russian version of "The Audience," however, we get Margaret Thatcher sparring with the Queen over whether Gorbachev might be manipulated in the UK's interests. Later, Cameron opens his audience with an enthusiastic report on Russia's interference in Ukraine: "We know exactly how many Russian troops there are in eastern Ukraine, and where they are... Well, Putin says there aren't any, but we know there are!"

The Queen's musings on Russia-related matters generally have a sensible detachment, but they ring a false note at times. For example, she responds to Cameron's Crimea

claim by questioning his confidence in the information. This is a position that appears more in tune with the Kremlin rather than Buckingham Palace.

Oleg Maslennikov-Voitov's David Cameron is strikingly well-observed — an excitable, gung-ho figure who strides onstage with arms swinging. Here he comes across as a man utterly lacking in gravitas, brutally exposed by the Queen's cool rationality.

Sergei Piotrovsky, meanwhile, brings a surprising realism to John Major, the prime minister of the UK in the early 1990s. Piotrovsky succeeds where his British counterpart Paul Ritter partially failed in his portrayal of Major, bringing a subtlety to the "grey man" that is lacking in the British version.

And then there is the ingenious set. Its opulent palace interior and lighting beautifully recreates the golden rays of late afternoon sun slanting through the halls.

Those who approach "The Audience" with unrealistic expectations might be disappointed: The subject matter may be British, but many of the wry, culturally-specific jokes don't really work in Russian, while others fall on deaf ears.

Yet once you overcome the initial strangeness of seeing such particularly British scenes being played out in Russian, it is easy to enjoy the action. All that's required is a suspension of disbelief. **TMT**

Catch "The Audience" at the Theater of Nations on June 15, 16 and 17.

**+7 (495) 629 3739**  
[theatreofnations.ru](http://theatreofnations.ru)  
3 Petrovsky Pereulok  
Metro Chekhovskaya



SERGEI PETROV / THEATER OF NATIONS

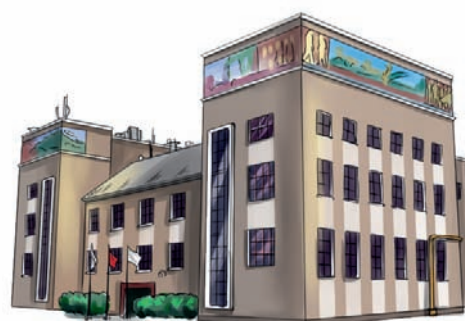
Panfilov and Morgan added a scene with former Prime Minister Harold McMillan in order to include more Russia-related content.



# Paveletskaya Ploshchad: From Ancient Tanneries to a Busy Transport Hub

By [Daria Demidova](#) artsreporter@imedia.ru | Illustration by [Lida Iva](#)

Trace the history of medieval industry and shipping in this ancient commercial corridor



## 1) Paveletskaya Railway Station

Trains from all across the southern regions of Russia have been arriving at this terminal since 1900. When the time for renovation came in the 1980s, a team of designers was tasked with expanding the capacity of the station without changing the historic architecture. The solution was high-rise windows, making the three floors hidden behind the façade look like a single one. The expansion quadrupled the station's capacity, allowing it to handle up to 10,000 passengers an hour.

The 150-meter passage connecting Line 2 and the Circle Line at Paveletskaya station is the longest in the Moscow metro.

## 2) Bathhouse in Kozhevnik

15 Kozhevnikovskaya Ulitsa, Bldg. 1

Constructivists resented ornamentation – making the vivid band of mosaics on the pediment of this former bathhouse all the more bizarre. Designed by five different artists using five different techniques, the panels capture merry scenes from the lives of the Soviet people as they work or relax. Today, you can still look after your health here but in a different way: The bathhouse has been transformed into a gym.

## 3) Medieval Chambers in Kozhevnik

19 Kozhevnikovskaya Ulitsa, Bldg. 6

The only thing that can be said for sure about these forlorn medieval chambers is that they are the only surviving structure of a medieval settlement of tanners which existed here as early as the 16th century. The earliest record for the building itself, however, dates back to the 18th century: According to the archives, it was a customs house tasked with checking, taxing, and clearing ships as they passed along the Moskva river.



## 4) Russian Railway Museum

2 Kozhevnikovskaya Ulitsa

This museum is a must-see for tech geeks. Drawings, uniforms and working instruments tell the story of railway transportation in Russia. The exhibition's centerpiece, however, is the funeral train which carried the body of Soviet revolutionary Vladimir Lenin from his country house to Moscow. In 1937, the vehicle was turned into a museum with its own hall for ceremonies, where young pioneers took their vows in the Soviet era.

## 5) Paveletskaya metro station

The steel intended to be used for this station's pillars was lost when Ukraine was overrun by the Nazis during WWII. As a result, Moscow could only afford a simpler version of Paveletskaya, which opened in 1943. After the end of the war, the station was closed and rebuilt to the original design, with a high-ceilinged hall and two rows of marble pillars separating it from the platforms. Bronze military emblems on the walls remind passengers of the hard-fought victory.

The platforms at Paveletskaya are not long enough for 8-car trains, so passengers in the rear exit onto the narrow end of the platform.

## 6) Manor House of the Bakhrushin Family

8/4 Kozhevnikovskaya Ulitsa, Bldg. 1

This street was the center of Moscow's leather industry with 19 tanneries located here. This mint-colored manor house was the property of the Bakhrushin family, local leather kingpins. Aside from their business achievements, the dynasty is remembered for its philanthropy and patronage of the arts, notably for the theatrical museum established by Alexei Bakhrushin, located across Paveletskaya Ploshchad.





Chef Denis Malansky offers an "authorial" take on French cuisine, including a Ratatouille Quiche.

# Petit Cafe: Moscow's Melting Pot

By **Emily Erken** [artsreporter@imedia.ru](mailto:artsreporter@imedia.ru)

*Risk-taking marinades and eclectic ingredients eclipse the French classics*

Three crystal chandeliers hang from a cement ceiling. Faded mirrors ringed in gold line the brick walls, while perfectly Parisian cafe tables sit on a floor tiled in an oriental mosaic pattern.

A mural on the wall by the halogen-lit bar depicts a jungle scene. Perched next to mysterious naked beauties, the mural's panthers smile like house cats as they gaze across the room. But the tropical ferns on the windowsill of Petit Cafe neither block out the din of the cars driving on Prechistenskaya Naberezhnaya, nor calm the busyness of the interior design.

In Moscow, each new eatery or watering hole seems to strive for a decor unlike any other. For Petit Cafe, the Brothers Nemtsev Workshops (Masterskiye Brat'yev Nemtsev) have created a loft-style interior, which attempts the "authentic" feel of an artist's studio in a repurposed warehouse. The result is

an everything-in-a-pot approach; each space should have as many surfaces, shapes, and lamps as possible brought together for the sake of individuality. This appears in architecture, interior design, and especially in Moscow's trendy kitchens.

Petit Cafe's website advertises the "hits of French gastronomy," but chef Denis Malansky's menu incorporates international ingredients into his "French" cuisine as freely as an oil painter mixes colors on his palette. The results are often underwhelming, but occasionally remarkable.

For example, Petit Cafe advertizes a "quiche ratatouille" (290 rubles/\$5), but presents the sweet vegetable stew inside a tartlet. This, however, wasn't the biggest problem: The quiche lacked its fundamental ingredient—egg.

Petit Cafe's Nicoise salad (750 rubles), typically served in France as a loose arrangement of tuna, boiled eggs and vegetables, appeared

instead as a tossed salad with wilting mixed greens and flavorless tomatoes. But the chef did sear the tuna steak in a sesame seed crust, redeeming the dish somewhat.

The most unusual main was duck breast with berries and "perlottto," the pearl barley-risotto trending in Moscow cafes at the moment. Steeped in a tomato-cream sauce, the dish (850 rubles) tipped its cap to southeastern France's hearty cuisine. Dollops of raspberry puree combined with the perlottto's tomato-cream sauce to produce a trio of acidic citrus, cream, and sweet fruitiness—a culinary analog to Petit Cafe's busy interiors.

The grilled pineapple (300 rubles) appeared for dessert topped with a scoop of the Soviet era's favorite Plombir ice cream. A delightful but unknown flavor permeated the warm flesh of the pineapple, but what was it? It turned out it had been steeped in Malibu rum, a mystery ing-

redient which catalyzed an unforgettable explosion of taste and texture.

On a quiet weekday afternoon, only a limited number of hipsters and "ladies who lunch" strolled past Petit Cafe. The restaurant is surrounded by new luxury condominiums in an exclusive neighborhood for Moscow's ultra-rich. But on the day that I visited, pilgrims in headscarves flocking towards Church of Christ the Savior mingled with the district's well-heeled inhabitants.

Like Petit Cafe, Moscow is a study in contrasts, and each entrepreneur, chef, and designer must establish themselves with even more originality. Little wonder such an eclectic aesthetic reigns in the capital's trendy restaurants. **TMT**

**+7 495 744-62-19**  
[petitcafe.ru](http://petitcafe.ru)  
15/2 Prechistenskaya Naberezhnaya  
Metro Park Kultury, Koropotkinskaya

## NEWS & OPENINGS



### Bao + Les

#### Coffee and Asian street food

Bao + Bar is now part of the Pokrovka branch of the Les coffee shop which now serves a strange combination of ramen noodles, beer, coffee and pastries. Bao + Bar's specializes in steamed Chinese buns stuffed with pork belly to duck and crab (from 160 rubles/\$2.80). There's also noodle soups, including ramen (420 rubles) Vietnamese pho bo (460 rubles), and coffee brewed by aeropress or the hario method (200 rubles).

**+7 (499) 347 3001**

9 Ulitsa Pokrovka  
Metro Kitai-Gorod



### Akt

#### Dancing at a brewery

This weekend, a new club, Akt ("Act") will open at the venue formerly occupied by the techno club Konstruktor. Located on the territory of the Badayevsky beer factory near Hotel Ukraina, Akt will supposedly have an ambience akin to the notorious club Soho Rooms, which closed last spring. Little is known about Akt except that the new club will be run by the team responsible for the nearby Mix Afterparty venue.

**+7 499) 499 4985**

[facebook.com/aktmoscow](https://facebook.com/aktmoscow)  
12 Kutuzovskiy Prospekt, Bldg. 1  
Metro Kievskaya



### Lepim i Varim

#### Dumplings in the garden

Lepim i Varim ("We Shape and Boil") has opened a second branch at Aptekarsky Ogorod, the oldest botanical garden in Russia. Like the original cafe in Stoleshnikov Pereulok, the main attraction is 21 varieties of Russian dumplings, including fried dumplings, sweet vareniki, and the cheekily named "Fish of My Dreams" with salmon and cod (350 rubles/\$6) and "Gentle Barbarian" with cottage cheese (200 rubles).

**+7 (495) 740 9664**

[lepimivarim.ru](http://lepimivarim.ru)  
26 Prospekt Mira, Bldg. 1  
Metro Prospekt Mira



### Golodny-Zloi

#### For big appetites

Golodny-Zloi (Hungry-Angry) is the newest addition to the vast restaurant empire of Vladimir Perelman: (I Like Bar, I Like Grill, I Like Wine, etc). The appetizer sections of the menu titled "Starving" and "Hungry" promise that dishes will arrive five minutes after the order. Chicken with mashed potatoes and pickled carrots costs 800 rubles (\$14) and sea bass with tomatoes and honey sauce goes for 650 rubles.

**+7 (495) 792 7105**

[facebook.com/golodnyzloi](https://facebook.com/golodnyzloi)  
2 Tsvetnoi Bulvar  
Metro Trubnaya, Tsvetnoi Bulvar



# Creatures Great and Small: 7 Places For City Kids to Meet Animals

## Cat Cafe 'Kotiki i Lyudi'

### Pet therapy

Since their start in Japan in the late 1990s, cat cafes have become a worldwide phenomenon. Kotiki i Lyudi, which has two Moscow locations, adopts homeless cats with particularly docile temperaments and charges 400-500 rubles (\$7-8.50) for visitors to hang out with them. The felines can depart to a quieter back room at any point.

+7 495 681 1212

<http://koticafe.ru>

17 Ulitsa Giliarovskago

Metro Sukharevskaya/Prospekt Mira

## Moscow Zoo ↓

### A traditional zoo in the city center

The Moscow Zoo opened in 1864, and since then it has offered Muscovites a chance to see the world's wild animals with their own eyes: giraffes, elephants, polar bears, a reptile house and wildebeest from the savannah. It also offers birthday parties, guided tours, and an interactive lecture on Thursdays at 1 p.m.

+7 (499) 252 35 80

[moscowzoo.ru](http://moscowzoo.ru)

1 Ul. Bolshaya Gruzinskaya

Metro Barrikadnaya



MOSCOW ZOO



PIXABAY

*For many children, even ordinary domestic pets are magical creatures. Here are our top places for kids to interact with animals in safe, sanitary, and humane settings.*

## The Children's Park of Wonders

### Kids to the petting zoo, parents to the mall

There are petting zoos tucked into many city parks. But the Retail Park shopping complex on Varshavskoye Shosse offers an enormous wooden playground and "mini-zoo" resembling a Russian folk village. Kids can feed goats, pigs, lambs, poultry and white rabbits that would have populated the courtyards (and dinner tables) of villages long ago.

+7 (495) 980-25-25

[retail-park.ru](http://retail-park.ru)

97 Varshavskoye Shosse

Metro Varshavskaya

## Voroby Bird Park

### Camp out at the zoo

If you're up for a daytrip to the Kaluga region, the Voroby Bird Park combines a stay in a national park with a zoo. Only in its second year of operation, it has 484 species of birds, fish, reptiles. Guests can stay in the park hotel, rent riverside cottages and even fish in a small pond. Guests can hang out for a weekend, or at least long enough to visit the "night pavilion" full of nocturnal birds and rodents one might otherwise never see.

8 (484) 399 34 26

[birdspark.ru](http://birdspark.ru)

3/1 Ulitsa Park Ptits

Akatovo, Kaluga region

## Moskvarium ↓

### An ocean in the capital city

At Moscow's "Sea World," visitors can see more than 8,000 animals and fish from small coral inhabitants to three-meter-long sharks. There is a show with dolphins, seals and an orca, and also a touch-pool zone, where kids can feel starfish and other sea life.

+7 (499) 677 7777

[moskvarium.ru](http://moskvarium.ru)

119/23 Prospekt Mira

Metro VDNKh



MOSKVARIUM

## Horse Rides in Izmailovsky Park

### Stables in a city park

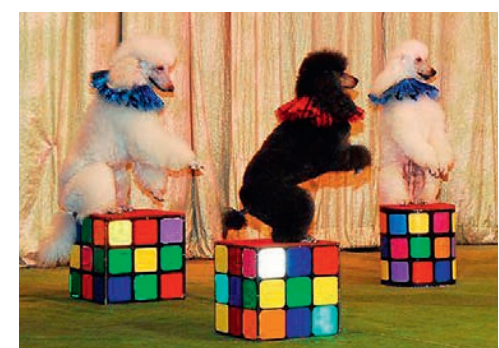
A small recreational stable in Izmailovsky Park offers horse and pony rides for families. You can even take a donkey or camel for a spin if you call ahead. A one-hour ride on a horse costs 1,500 rubles (\$26) on weekdays, and 2,000 rubles on weekends. The Izmailovsky stable also offers lesson packages (4,800-8,400 rubles). Those nervous about saddling-up can glide around the park in a carriage or a sleigh during winter. The youngest children can take a tour around the stable and interact with horses without riding them.

+7 916 926 3119

[izmailovsky-park.ru](http://izmailovsky-park.ru)

4 Main Alley, Izmailovsky Park

Metro Sokolinaya Gora, Izmailovskaya



UGOLOKUROVA.RU

## Grandpa Durov's Circus Theater →

### You can train a cat to dance?

This theater was founded in 1912 by Vladimir Durov, a circus performer and trainer who developed his own zoo-psychological techniques. At "Grandpa Durov's Corner," actors sing, dance, and clown around the stage. Each delightful play features trained animals: exotic elephants and seals, domestic cats and poodles, even lemurs, raccoons and donkeys.

+7 (495) 631 3047

[ugolokurova.ru](http://ugolokurova.ru)

4 Ulitsa Durova

Metro Prospekt Mira

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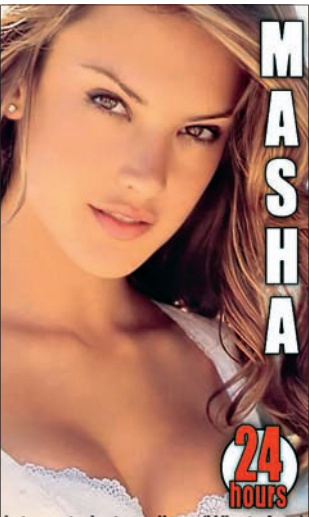
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