

# The Moscow Times

SINCE 1992

NO. 5767

AUGUST 11-17 2016

WWW.THEMOSCOWTIMES.COM

LOOKING BACK

## Guns of August

With rising casualties and reports of military build-up, all is not quiet on Ukraine's eastern front → Page 3

LOOKING FORWARD

## Long Shot

Russian paralympians pin Rio Olympic hopes on an unlikely court challenge → Page 4



## Corps Couture

Russia's new wave of military-inspired fashion → Pages 6, 11

18+



"Your call after the coup attempt was very welcome."  
**Erdogan to Putin** in St. Petersburg

**26,000**

people detained in Turkey after the failed military coup.

**8 months**

of tense relations after Turkey downed a Russian fighter jet last year.



"Our views on resolving the Syrian situation have often been at odds." **Vladimir Putin**

# My Dearest Friend Vladimir

By **Ola Cichowlas** o.cichowlas@imedia.ru. Additional reporting from **Matthew Bodner**

## Putin and Erdogan back on track

Until very recently, the hotline between Ankara and Moscow lay silent. Diplomatic ties between the two countries — cut abruptly in November 2015 after Turkey shot down a Russian fighter jet — looked to be well beyond repair. The subsequent journey between that and the Aug. 9 meeting of two presidents, Recep Erdogan and Vladimir Putin, was as fast as it has been unexpected.

"My dear friend Vladimir and I," began Erdogan at the St. Petersburg talks, "will ... show the rest of the world that we are ... friendly." Visibly less emotional, Putin nodded, before continuing with his own, more measured words. Russia's priority was that "relations with Turkey return to the pre-crisis level of cooperation," he said.

Only a few months ago, Russian state media accused Erdogan of having links to the Islamic State, a terrorist organization banned in Russia.

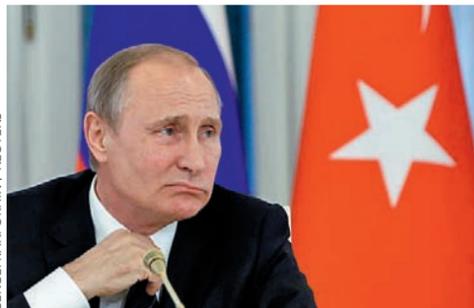
Much as advertised before the talks, Moscow agreed to gradually begin lifting sanctions from Turkish businesses. Charter flights would, once again, fly Russian tourists to Turkish resorts. The ban on Turkish imports would be lifted.

Erdogan, on his part, agreed to go ahead with the Turkish Stream gas pipeline, which had been put on hold as a result of the dispute.

A key factors driving Erdogan's rapprochement with the Kremlin was rising anger toward the U.S. in Ankara. Relations between the NATO member state and the West deteriorated in the aftermath of the last month's failed coup.

Erdogan blamed Fethullah Gulen, a Turkish cleric who has lived in the U.S. since 1999, and demanded his extradition. The West stood "on the side of the coup," he claimed.

It is no coincidence that Russia was Erd-



Putin said Russia's priority was to return relations with Turkey to pre-crisis levels.

gan's first foreign visit since the coup attempt. "Your call after the coup attempt was very welcome," Erdogan said at the St. Petersburg talks.

"By shaking hands with Putin, Erdogan wants to demonstrate to the West that Turkey could seek closer ties with Russia," says Sinan Ulgen, a former Turkish diplomat.

Russian foreign policy analyst Dmitry Suslov says Erdogan's policy contains "a strong element of blackmail." Turkish relations with the West, he says, were souring long before last month's coup. When Turkey downed the Russian jet, it expected full backing from NATO. It never got it.

"The lack of support during the Russia crisis was fundamental for Erdogan," says Suslov.

The main reason that Turkey found itself in a bind came down to a breakdown of its strategy in Syria. Turkey found itself supporting rebel forces, that themselves came under attack from Russian-backed forces. Ankara, meanwhile, could not see eye to eye with the U.S. over Kurd-

ish rebel forces, who were aligned to Kurdish separatists in Turkey.

Erdogan's plan was initially to get Russia out of Syria, says Suslov, but once Russia's air campaign kicked into high gear, the U.S. found itself forced to deal with Moscow, largely sidelining Turkey. The Su-24 incident came not long after, and "Erdogan's strategy collapsed." Now Erdogan is looking to make a deal.

Recognition that Erdogan's foreign policy efforts had failed came only with the appointment of a new prime minister, Binali Yildirim, in May. Shortly after ascending to office, Yildirim declared his government aimed to turn neighborhood enemies into friends. He even signaled a softening of Ankara's Syria policies, saying that "this war has [taken] the lives of hundreds of thousands of our brothers."

"This was Turkey's signal of a change in Syria policy that persuaded Russia to soften its stance," says Ozgur Unluhisarcikli, the director of the German Marshal Fund's Ankara office.

It remains to be seen just how far the Russia-Turkey detente can go. Both Putin and Erdogan derive huge domestic legitimacy from perceived victories abroad. Saving face will be important for Erdogan. Although it is clear that Russia retains the upper hand in this conflict, Putin did make an effort to appear cooperative and open to his new junior partner.

"Our views on resolving the Syrian situation have often been at odds," he said. "But I believe that finding a common approach is possible, at least because we both want the crisis to end."

The meeting between the Sultan and the Tsar in St. Petersburg will have been watched very closely by one individual in Damascus. **TMT**

### BEHIND THE FIGURES

## Yes, We Can Fight: How Army Has Replaced Hope in Russia

Wary of news from Syria? Worried about growing tensions in the Donbass? Choking at the thought of a Russian military jet nearly colliding with a NATO bomber? You have probably every reason to feel anxious. Not because Russia's leadership has specific military ambitions in mind — they may indeed have them, or may very well not. But, instead, because militarization is what Russia's society is expecting.

In early August, the independent Levada Center pollster conducted a poll of Russians' attitude toward President Vladimir Putin. It was a more detailed poll than usual: instead of simple approval ratings, the pollsters gauged a whole range of attitudes and feelings toward Russia's leader.

Among other things, the poll showed "fondness" of Putin falling by 8 percent in July compared to March: It fell from 37 to 29 percent. Some commentators have taken these figures to demonstrate a slide in Putin's charisma, and that his approval rating is falling amid economic turbulence.

That is a deep misinterpretation: Putin's popularity is not falling in any significant way. His overall approval rating never dropped lower than 80 percent since the annexation of Crimea in early 2014. Putin's rating stands stock solid. It dominates and overlooks the landscape. It is Russia's most stable substance.

But this doesn't mean that its nature remains the same.

In fact, public support can be a combination of various emo-

tions. That is especially true of authoritarian regimes, which suppress normal democratic institutions.

Almost 17 years ago, Putin became a "president of hope," as defined by Russia's renowned sociologist Yury Levada, the founder of the Levada Center. Back then Russia, like the rest of the world, was still trying to crack the "Who is Mr Putin?" question.

But hopes — during the 2000s — hopes there were a plenty. People hoped that order would be restored. That the conflict in Chechnya would end. That the world would respect Russia. That there would be more money. On the whole, they had a faith that the future would be better than the present.

Putin personified these aspirations. These aspirations didn't even imply that he should stay. Indeed, the first time Putin's approval rating peaked at over 80 percent was when Putin announced in 2008 he would step down from his throne. Back then, people presumed, that he had left the position forever.

This has all changed. In the latest Levada poll, the highest number of respondents in recent years say they have never relied on the president. The dreams of the past are long gone by now.

"There are no hopes," says Alexei Levinson, the lead researcher of the Levada Center. "If there are hopes, they are meaningless, not so different from despair. Social conscience is equally — and simultaneously — ready to feel both."

The future is perceived as "murky, deformed, inspiring fear,"

Denis Volkov, also from the Levada Center, wrote in the *Vedomosti* newspaper on Aug. 8. In fact, in today's Russia, there is only one thing that unites — or, to put it more accurately — fragments the whole nation. It is the lack of any vision of the future, shared by everyone, with no exception.

And, according to the poll, when it comes to Putin, there is almost nothing left to be satisfied with. During the 2000s, Russia's foreign policy was one of the major sources of national self-respect. The results of the new Levada poll would seem to prove this is becoming less so. The number of those who tick off "strengthening Russia's global stature" as Putin's major achievement stopped growing. This should not be of much surprise, since there is hardly a conscious Russian who doesn't realize that Russia has been excluded from the global decision-making club.

Most areas relating to national pride show downward trends, except just one — the number of Russians proud of the nation's "fighting capacity," which grew from 3 percent in 2012 to 14 percent in 2016. This is the clear upward trend, the only thing that may replace those hopes for a better future that Putin used to symbolize.

Putin's public image is transforming into that of a warlord. That's his major political asset at home, the new pillar of his popularity, and that's how his countrymen increasingly expect him to act and react on the global scene. **TMT**



**The Moscow Times**

No. 5767 (31) August 11 – 17, 2016

**Editor-in-Chief** Mikhail Fishman  
**Production Manager** Igor Grishin  
**Advertising Director** Maria Kamenskaya  
m.kamenskaya@imedia.ru  
**Director** Elena Stepanova  
© Copyright 2016, The Moscow Times. All Rights Reserved. This publication is registered by the Federal Service for Media Law Compliance and Cultural Heritage, ПИ No. ФС77-62664

**Founder and publisher**  
OOO Moscovtimes

**Founder's, publisher's and editorial address**  
3 Polkovnaya Ul., Bldg. 1, Moscow 127018  
**Editorial** +7 (495) 234 3223  
Fax +7 (495) 232 6529  
**Advertising Sales** +7 (495) 232 4774  
Fax +7 (495) 232 1764  
**Subscription** +7 (495) 232 9293  
**Distribution** +7 (495) 232 9295  
**Internet** www.themoscowtimes.com

The views expressed in the opinion columns do not necessarily reflect the position of The Moscow Times.

Любое воспроизведение материалов или их фрагментов на любом языке возможно только с письменного разрешения редакции.

Время подписания в печать по графику 19:30, фактическое 20:43. Заказ № 161789.

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 photo: LookBook YeZ by YEGORZAITSEV PATRONKI (w 2015/2016)  
Photographer: Pavel Parshin  
Model: Katya Romashkina (ZSModels)  
Designer: Yegor Zaitsev



By **Mikhail Fishman**  
Editor-in chief of The Moscow Times



*“DPR/LPR leaders are interested in keeping low intensity fighting.”*  
**Vladimir Frolov, political analyst**

**22**

civilians were killed in the Donbass in June and July.

**Over 9,500**

people have been killed since war erupted in eastern Ukraine in April 2014



*“He [Putin] is not going into Ukraine, OK, just so you understand.”*  
**Donald Trump, U.S. presidential candidate**

# The Big Guns Return

By **Ola Cichowlas** o.cichowlas@imedia.ru, Twitter: @olacicho

A rocky cease-fire may be giving way to war in Ukraine’s troubled east.

While the world’s attention is focused on Syria, the U.S. election and the worst refugee crisis since World War II, Ukraine once again finds itself on the edge of the unthinkable. Last month was the deadliest the Donbass has seen in over a year, and the signs are that, there, the conflict will return to its previous intensity. Meanwhile, both military activity and rhetoric is boiling up near the Crimean border

Now into its third year, the war in Ukraine has cost at least 9,500 lives. Following the Minsk peace agreements of Spring 2015, which removed most of heavy artillery from the field, the number of casualties dropped significantly. In recent months, however, both Ukrainian and Russian-backed separatist forces have returned to the most lethal and indiscriminate of equipment, including howitzers and “grad” multiple rocket launchers.

In June and July, the United Nations reported that 22 civilians had been killed and 122 were injured, which equates to almost twice the average death toll of the previous months. The Ukrainian army reported that 13 of its soldiers were killed in July, and a further three since the start of August.

In recent weeks, much unusual activity has been reported from at and around the border with Russian-annexed Crimea. In the first week of August, Ukrainian border guards claimed that Russian authorities had blocked all road entries to Crimea. Crimean Tatar officials later reported the Russian army was moving heavy weaponry in the north of the Black Sea peninsula.

On August 10, Russia’s Security Service responded by claiming to have foiled a “Ukrainian terror plot” in the border-town of Armyansk. One of its officers was killed in the operation, it said, and an interior forces officer died in clashes the following day. Ukraine has responded by saying the information is fake, designed as a pretext for future military action. Russian president Vladimir Putin responded to the events by declaring that “Ukraine’s leaders [had] chosen to embrace terrorism.”

Ukrainian fears of a renewed Russian offensive are heightened due to the time of the year. In the past, the Kremlin has chosen the Olympics as a convenient period to invade a neighbor.

Nervousness is also evident inside the Russia-backed separatist republics. On Aug. 7, Igor Plotnitsky, leader of the self-declared Luhansk People’s Republic (LNR), was wounded as the result of an assassination attempt. Both Plotnitsky and Putin blamed the attack on Ukrainian authorities and U.S. special forces, but many point toward long-held tensions between rival rebel groups and Russian security services inside the breakaway territories.

The rebels in eastern Ukraine have also heightened their rhetoric. Last week, Denis Pushilin, the self-declared chairman of the Donetsk People’s Republic (DPR), told pro-Kremlin newspaper Izvestia that there was a risk of full-scale military operations returning to the conflict. The DPR stood ready to retaliate, he said.

According to Russian political analyst Vladimir Frolov, the rebels are keen for low intensity fighting to continue, as it “allows the groups to deflect Moscow’s demands for more efficient governance and use of Russian supplies.” Although Russia “does not control every separatist sniper or artillery gunner,” the rebels cannot initiate any large-scale combat operations without Russian orders, intelligence and reinforcement, he said.

Amid the escalating violence, it is getting harder for international organizations to monitor the situation. Just last week, monitors from the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) were held at gunpoint by separatist forces. Humanitarian assistance missions have also been hindered by political problems with de facto authorities in Luhansk and Donetsk.

Journalists, too, are finding it harder to do their job.

Eastern Ukraine’s Russia-backed rebels have long made life difficult for reporters. But now, Kiev too is joining the intimidation game. Last week, hackers with known ties to Ukraine’s secret services and Interior Ministry published an archive of accreditations, passport copies and personal data of journalists covering the war. Nationalist factions in the Kiev government supported the leak and accused some of the reporters of “collaborating” with the Moscow-backed separatists. Ukraine’s Deputy Information Policy Minister Tetyana Popova resigned following the leaks, over what she described were unjustified attacks on



GLEB GARANICH / REUTERS

In June and July, the UN reported that 22 civilians had been killed and 122 were injured, which equates to almost twice the average death toll of the previous months.

journalists and freedom of speech.

The leaks came on the back of last month’s assassination of Belarusian-Ukrainian journalist Pavel Sheremet in central Kiev.

Tensions are also rising in the Ukrainian capital over how to respond. When Nadiya Savchenko, the famous Ukrainian pilot released from a Russian prison, spoke of the need for reconciliation, she provoked a backlash from Kiev politicians. Prime Minister Volodymyr Groysman has said elections could not be held in the Donbass until the Russian army withdraws from Ukraine.

Such elections are a central part of the Minsk peace settlement, and few believe it will ever be implemented in full.

Ukraine has largely vanished from Russian television screens. State propaganda streams have mostly switched attention to Russian forces fighting in Syria, and the escalating political crises in the West. At the same time, 40,000 Russian troops remain on standby on Ukraine’s border (nobody knows how many more inside Ukraine). Military supplies continue to pour from Russia into Ukraine. In August, Ukrainian authorities reported that 30 tanks and six Grad rockets had been transported across the border within several days.

According to Vladimir Frolov, sanctions mean that Russia has no overriding interest in relaunching a large-scale offensive in eastern Ukraine, especially since there is no low-hanging strategic prize. Rather, Russia is interested in low-intensity ongoing fighting which allows the Kremlin to pressure Kiev into concessions and secure Ukraine’s non-aligned relationship with NATO and the EU. Ukraine, Frolov says, also cannot afford to relaunch an offensive so long as Moscow controls the open border.

The West, distracted by its own crises, is tired of the conflict and Kiev’s often disappointing efforts to reform a system its people sought to overthrow in February 2014. The rise of American and European populism has worked in Moscow’s favor, undermining the hitherto united front on sanctions against Russia. U.S. presidential candidate Donald Trump’s recent comments on Crimea, that he as president would “look at” recognizing the peninsula as Russian territory, has raised alarm bells in Kiev while being welcomed in Moscow.

When the war began, many thought it will turn into another frozen conflict on Russia’s borders. With no end in sight, the conflict in eastern Ukraine is showing few signs of fridity. **TMT**

**РЕСТОРАН-БАР БОСФОР**

Address: Arbat 47/23, Moscow  
Tel.: +7 (499) 241-93-20







**Hours: 9:00 a.m. – midnight daily**  
 Wi-Fi • Turkish and European cuisine • Veranda  
 Noon – 4:00 p.m. business lunch weekdays  
 Sundays 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. brunch (buffet)

**RUSSIAN NATIONAL DANCE SHOW «KOSTROMA»**  
 A Russian Dance Miracle!  
 GREAT HISTORY OF THE GREAT COUNTRY

SUPPORTED BY KOSTROMA REGION ADMINISTRATION

From June till September DAILY at 7.30pm At Folk Theatre  
 Tickets & Inquiries in English at: +7 495 1398998, +7 495 7693235  
 www.nationalrussianshow.ru

# 4 Looking Forward



"IPC's policy toward Russia has always been, to put it mildly, unfriendly."  
Sports Minister **Vitaly Mutko**

The Moscow Times  
No. 5767

267

athletes are on Russia's Paralympic squad this year.

22

sports are included in the 2016 Rio Paralympic Games.



"The doping culture ... stems from the Russian government, which has catastrophically failed its Paralympic athletes." IPC president **Philip Craven**



## See You in Court

By **Daria Litvinova** d.litvinova@imedia.ru, Twitter: @dashalitvinovv | Illustration by **Katerina Lobanova**

### Following the International Paralympic Committee's decision to ban the entire team, Russia's Paralympic athletes face ever shrinking odds to make it to Rio.

Russia's Paralympic athletes didn't see it coming. "We thought they would punish those accused of doping and allow clean athletes to compete," says Alexei Ashapatov, two-time Paralympic track-and-field champion. "We didn't expect them to ban the entire team."

Ashapatov was in the middle of a training session when The Moscow Times called him for an interview. "We are all continuing to train," he said, "even though everyone is upset and worried by the decision."

By the time the International Paralympic Committee (IPC) announced their decision to ban Russia's entire Paralympic team from the Rio Games, it had seemed that Russia's Olympic hardships were finally in the past. Its Olympic squad was already competing in Rio de Janeiro, having avoided being barred from the Games at the very last minute. Athletes were scoring their first medals, and doing their best to ignore some boos and jeers from spectators.

Yet on Aug. 7, IPC president Philip Craven stunned the world by announcing the whole Paralympic team would be banned from competing in Rio. In forthright comments, Craven said Russia's anti-doping system was "broken, corrupted and entirely compromised," with a "medals over morals" mentality.

The IPC based its decision on the same damning WADA report that their colleagues at the International Olympic Committee had studied. According to the report, Russian government had promoted a state-sponsored doping program for their athletes between 2011 and 2015. Twenty-seven samples relating to eight Paralympic sports were manipulated. The IPC also found evidence that samples were swapped during the 2014 Sochi Paralympics.

With a month until the opening of the 2016 Summer Paralympics, Russia's 267 athletes still have a chance to make it to Brazil. Government officials have already filed an appeal to the Court of Arbitration for Sports (CAS) in Lausanne and are hoping the decision can be overturned in time.

But the odds seem stacked against them.

#### Hopes Not Yet Crushed

The decision has hit the athletes hard. "I'm in my forties, and every Olympiad could become my last," Ashapatov told

The Moscow Times. "It hurts to think that all the effort we've put into training could go to waste."

Ashapatov, 43, started off as an amateur volleyball player. After losing his leg in a tragic accident in 2002, he took on track and field, as well as continuing to play volleyball and train in arm wrestling. During the 2008 Beijing Paralympics, he won two gold medals in discus throwing and shot put, breaking world records in both. He repeated his success four years later at the 2012 London Paralympics, when he once again set new world records in both disciplines.

According to Ashapatov, doping among Paralympic athletes is not widespread. "There have been several individual cases, but I have never come across or even heard of doping being a common thing in my entire career in Paralympic sport," he says.

Valentina Zahgot, a rower who participated in the 2008 Beijing Paralympics, echoes his sentiment. "It is absurd. We only take meds which are required for our conditions," she told The Moscow Times. "Our health issues are complicated as they are, and no one wants to worsen them by doping."

Zhagot, 53, was on the Soviet national team in 1980s. She almost entirely lost her sight after a car accident in 2002, and took up Paralympic rowing five years later. Zhagot took part in the Beijing Paralympics in 2008, but her team had little time to prepare and lost. Her next dream was competing in Rio. She had been training for the Games for several years now, but with the ban in place, she's decided to take part in the World Championships instead.

"It was a big dream of mine, but the ship has sailed and it is what it is," she says with a chuckle. "It's hard enough for us as it is to overcome our disabilities each day and push ourselves to train."

For Paralympic athletes, preparing for major international events is a major ordeal, says Anna Afanasyeva, head of the Tochka Opory ("Foothold") foundation. Her group supports disabled athletes in St. Petersburg. "Imagine a person in a wheelchair getting out of their apartment and traveling to a stadium to train, which usually is

not equipped for disabled people," Afanasyeva says. "Then imagine going abroad to compete and qualify for the Paralympics."

#### Cruelty or Justice?

Officials from the Russian Paralympic Committee (RPC) stress that the IPC has had no problems with Russian Paralympic athletes until it opened suspension proceedings on the heels of the latest WADA report. "Before, they had never complained about anything," Sergei Shilov, member of the executive board of the RPC, told The Moscow Times.

Shilov confirmed that the RPC has already filed a lawsuit to CAS and said he was confident international sports authorities would come around in the end. "We've already seen them trying to ban Russian athletes from Rio on bogus accusations — they failed. Hopefully, it will be the case with Paralympics, too," he said.

Sports lawyers believe the case will be a difficult one to win. "Defending individual athletes is one thing, but cases like this one are based on violating [Olympic] principles, and that makes them so much more difficult," said Mikhail Prokopets, a lawyer who has successfully defended several Olympic athletes in CAS ahead of the Rio Games.

As expected, Russian officialdom condemned the ban as cruel and unjust.

Russian Foreign Ministry spokesperson Maria Zakharova called it "a betrayal of the very highest standards of human rights which govern the modern world."

Sports Minister Vitaly Mutko claimed that the allegations of doping were "groundless." Deputy Prime Minister Arkady Dvorkovich wrote on social media that "those who voted for this decision have no conscience and no honor."

Western experts see things differently, noting that IPC came to a decision that many expected would come from the International Olympic Committee weeks earlier.

It was "a tale of two major organizing bodies," wrote Richard Ings, the former head of the Australian Anti-Doping Agency.

"The same evidence, same country, same rules, same ethical and political arguments — bravo, IPC!" **TMT**



Russia's economy needs strong institutions and structural reforms, says deputy head of the president's economic council and former finance minister **Alexei Kudrin**.

**-1.5%**

GDP contraction in first six months of 2016.



*"The goal of American aggression is to destroy us as a nation."*  
**Sergei Glazyev**, economist, presidential advisor

**-0.7%**

Russia's economy contracted by this much in July, the lowest rate since mid-2014

# Storm Clouds Ahead

Whether you view the glass as half full or half empty, the Russian economy is in for an unpredictable ride.



Op-Ed by **Sergei Aleksashenko**  
Visiting fellow at Georgetown University, former deputy finance minister and first deputy chairman of the Russian Central Bank

Russian economic indicators were equivocal enough during the first half of the year to provide space for both optimists and pessimists. Arguably the glass was half full. Arguably it was half empty.

For the pessimists, GDP fell around 1 percent year-on-year, all components of the domestic demand continues to shrink, and the economy continues to be in recession, now six quarters in a row. For the optimists, the speed of decline is steadily reducing and, hopefully, in the second half of the year it might come to zero, after which the economy should start to recover — and a good harvest will help.

Inflation is going down. Five quarters ago, it was over 17 percent. Now it has fallen below zero, even to the point of deflation. OK, reply the pessimists, but deflation is a result of seasonal factors, while the Central Bank is keeping its key rate at a very high level (10.5 percent), and refrained from cutting it ten days ago, saying there are visible inflationary risks.

Investment continues to decline, both industrial and in residential construction. Private consumption declines as well, while Russian people say they are cutting their purchases of goods and services to survive. Then again, industrial production is stable, agriculture continues to grow, export is growing slightly in physical terms, despite the drop in commodities prices.

This economic dialogue will continue for a long time, but the main conclusion we can make is already visible. The Russian economy continues to shrink, while the rest of the world economy continues to grow. In other words, you cannot blame exter-

nal factors for everything. Oil prices started to decline two years ago and since December 2015, i.e. more than year and a half, they have remained within the \$35-\$50 corridor. The Russian economy has adjusted to this fact — oil production is growing. After a 50 percent fall, import has stabilized and started to recover.

The budget, however, has not adjusted to the new level of oil prices. Buoyed by oil and gas revenues, the state budget inflated expenditures on wages, pensions and social transfers (now 56 percent of the federal budget.) It boosted military spending to 25 percent of overall federal budget spending.

In an attempt to keep the deficit within limits, the government froze wages and pensions, and is cutting investment and current expenditure. Unable to borrow sufficient funds in the financial markets, and unwilling to embrace privatization, the government is now heavily reliant on its "reserve fund," which may be depleted as soon as the first half of next year.

Under current conditions, the main reserve fund will disappear in a couple of quarters. Russia has a second emergency fund, which will allow the deficit to be financed for another a 1-1.5 years, that is, providing budget expenditures are stable. No reform program currently implemented is likely to boost economic growth to 4-5 percent next year. That means the federal budget will be short of funds in the next 2.5-3 years at the very least.

The promotion of Alexei Kudrin to the Presidential Economic council a while ago boosted hopes for new reforms. But these hopes were soon undermined by the fact that Kudrin himself ruled out reform before 2018, and that Putin then asked for competing plans from other factions within government, including from the nationalist economist Sergei Glazyev. Such bureaucratic competition reduces the possibilities for a comprehensive plan. Each group will now report directly to Putin with minimal interaction and cooperation between them.

Putin himself is likely disinclined to make any decision on economic policy before his reelection in March 2018. No changes

should be expected while many efforts will be dedicated to tightening the system before then.

Today, Russia faces two well-known impediments to economic development. The first one is its awful investment climate that prevents business from expanding. The second is Western sanctions that isolate the Russian economy from global cooperation and reduces its competitiveness.

Both problems are not in themselves aspects of economic policy, but if they are not resolved no economic policy can ever provide needed results. Kudrin and the liberals know this rather well and try to place those ideas gently into their statements. All of them are afraid to do it openly since Putin is not yet ready to compromise and will not allow economic reform undermine positions at home and abroad.

We already know the pre-condition for sanctions to be removed, i.e. that the Minsk 2 eastern Ukraine peace agreement should be implemented, which means Russian soldiers and volunteers as well as Russian weapons should leave Ukrainian territory, and Ukraine should obtain full control over its borders. There may not be a plan for global war with Ukraine or Crimea/Abkhazia-type annexation of the Donbass, but Putin is not ready to give up the Donbass in this way.

Instead Putin hopes to use the slow progress of Ukraine in reforms and Europe's fatigue of uncertainty to remove sanctions. Such hopes are not entirely quixotic.

Putin is extremely good at tactical moves, but fails in strategy. His favorite sport is judo. Here, all you need is a general vision in mind — victory — but you can hardly build any strategy, and instead you hope tactical decisions will lead you to your goal.

Putin's lack of strategy has meant it is impossible to predict moves and actions. The continuing economic slide will force Putin to dedicate more time and efforts to the economy in the coming years. At the same time, we can expect his decisions to be chaotic and will hardly allow the economy to recover. **TMT**

advertising

**STARLITE PAINTING CLASSES!** EVERY TUESDAY AT 20:00  
RESERVE FOR 999₽ AND GET COMPLEMENTARY GLASS OF WINE  
2 FOR 1 FOR ANY GLASS OR BOTTLE OF WINE FOR PARTICIPANTS DURING EVENT

ХУДОЖЕСТВЕННЫЕ МАСТЕР-КЛАССЫ В STARLITE DINER КАЖДЫЙ ВТОРНИК В 20:00  
БРОНИРУЙТЕ ЗА 999₽ + БОКАЛ ВИНА.  
1=2 НА ВСЮ ВИННУЮ КАРТУ ДЛЯ УЧАСТНИКОВ ВО ВРЕМЯ ПРОВЕДЕНИЯ

STRASTNOY BLVD. 8A · СТРАСТНОМ БУЛЬВАР, 8A  
+7 (495) 989 44 61, STARLITE.RU

CHICAGO GRILL & BAR

ЛЕТНЕЕ МЕНЮ · SUMMER MENU

ADVERTISING

· (495) 988-17-17 ·  
STRASTNOY BLVD, 8A · WWW.CHICAGOPRIME.RU



"When everything is bad you want to return to a place where there are no problems." **Leonid Alexeyev**, designer

**200**

designers took part in a patriotic fashion show.

**1.2%**

International Monetary Fund expects Russia's economy to shrink by this much in 2016.



Orders for T-shirts with pictures of Vladimir Putin and Sergei Lavrov were sent regularly to Gazprom headquarters and the Russian Foreign Ministry, according to Konasov.



Designer Ksenia Kravtsova says one of the most popular designs in her online store melds ice cream, onion domes and the blue, white and red of the Russian flag.

# Wearing Russia

By **Howard Amos** newsreporter@imedia.ru

As demand for Vladimir Putin T-shirts fades, the Russian fashion industry takes a turn toward military vintage.

For T-shirt manufacturer Alexander Konasov, 2014 and 2015 were particularly good years. It all started in February 2014, when Russia annexed Crimea, and set free a wave of Kremlin-sanctioned nationalism. War fueled a demand for simple, patriotic-themed clothing.

Konasov's company was one of the first to sense the business opportunity.

"If you catch the moment there is a colossal amount of money to be made," says Konasov, 28, who now owns 45 shops across Russia, including one by Moscow's central Pushkin Square. "Patriotic-themed T-shirts displaced all the others because they sold ten times better."

Two years on from the height of the military confrontation with Ukraine, Russia finds itself in the middle of its longest recession since the 1990s. And the demand for patriotic gear is back to pre-Crimea levels. "We are not earning very much now," Konasov says.

But the decline in the popularity of Putin T-shirts ap-

pears to illustrate a broader shift. As Russians feel the ever-sharper bite of economic recession, the country's patriotic fashion mania and hunger for President Vladimir Putin-themed T-shirts appears to have changed into a nostalgia-driven focus on history, vintage glories and folk traditions.

## From Shoigu to the Tsars

The career of prominent designer Leonid Alexeyev, who studied fashion at London's prestigious Central Saint Martins, reflects the changing mood of Russia's fashion industry.

The bohemian Alexeyev raised eyebrows among friends and colleagues in February 2014 when he accepted a job to head a design bureau at Russia's Defense Ministry amid the military occupation of Crimea.

Last year at Moscow's Mercedes-Benz Fashion Week, a collection designed by Alexeyev, featuring lots of balaclavas and khaki, used the theme of "polite people" — a popular term

for the Russian soldiers in unmarked uniforms who seized Crimea. One of the slogans emblazoned across the items displayed by male models was "politeness takes towns."

But Alexeyev quit his job at the Defense Ministry at the end of 2015.

"Nothing lasts ... the wonderful thing about fashion is that you can alter your personality in the space of an hour," says Alexeyev.

His latest collection is based on the dresses worn by Olga, Tatyana, Maria and Anastasia — the four daughters of Russia's last tsar. The dresses are all short, made to be worn outside in the summer, and use traditional Russian sewing techniques and materials.

"People are bored and haven't found anything new so there is a return to the historical," he says. "When everything is bad you want to return to a place where there are no problems."

Continued on Page 11 →

# Out & About



August 11 – 17, 2016

7

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



WINE & CRAB



You're in for a culinary adventure at Wine & Crab, the latest buzz restaurant offering an ode to the regal crustacean.

## A Match Made in Heaven at Wine & Crab

By **Ruth Moore** arts reporter@imedia.ru, Twitter: @ruth\_ski

*The latest offering from trailblazing culinary duo the Berezutsky brothers*

How many varieties of crab do you know? We'll wager two, maybe three if you're a true foodie. Either way, you're in for a culinary adventure at Wine & Crab, the latest buzz restaurant offering an ode to the regal crustacean. The new terrace eatery holds court on Tretyakovskiy Proezd, an exclusive pedestrianized alleyway framed by a stunning medieval-inspired archway. Its cobbles, fragrant decorative plants and domineering architecture provide the ideal amphitheater for the kitchen's crab creations. The Berezutsky brothers are no strangers to the elite gastronomic scene. Ivan won the Chef

of the Year prize at St. Petersburg's Where to Eat awards for his innovative use of squid ink to recreate Malevich's Black Square, while Sergei took home the San Pellegrino Cooking Cup in 2014. Hot on the heels of the pairs debut restaurant "Twins," Wine & Crab places the emphasis on provenance, with much of the seafood on the menu imported from Russia's far East to ensure the highest quality. But back to the crab, of which there are seven varieties. Snow, Kamchatkan King, Murmansk King, Helmet, Spanner, Blue King and Hanasaki crab meat can be ordered as a side or main (from

250 rubles per 100 grams). Less confident when it comes to shellfish? Start with the Kamchatka crab salad packed with citrus, fresh leaves and creamy avocado or the playful crab churros (340 rubles). The King crab phalanx with mushrooms and kimchi sauce (760 rubles) may sound and look intimidating — you're presented with a platter bearing nothing but two prehistoric, 60 cm legs — but the meat is light, sweet and perfectly tender. Other dishes nod to traditional Russian recipes — spicy adjika crab (1200 rubles) and kasha with King crab and melon (560 rubles). The Pacific scallops with cabbage puree and warm spinach melt

in your mouth and for anyone who didn't realize they were booking to eat at a seafood restaurant there's a ubiquitous — but no doubt delicious — rib-eye steak on offer. As for the wine, suffice to say the choice is so monumental that Wine & Crabs opted for a tablet over a drinks list. If you're overwhelmed — which is highly likely — expert sommelier Sergei Antonov will hold your hand through the process. **+7 (495) 621 7329** winecrab.ru 19-21 Nikolskaya Ulitsa Metro Lubyanka, Kuznetsky Most

### NEWS & OPENINGS



ARCHIE

**Archie**  
**English breakfast meets fragrant curry**  
The brainchild of London School of Business graduate Katya Primakov, Archie aims to champion the British cuisine in all its incarnations. The interior is true to its chic, loft-style ambitions, complete with exposed brickwork and a graffiti mural across one of the walls. Guests can enjoy dishes such as teriyaki salmon (890 rubles) and the infamous English breakfast (420 rubles). **+7 977 250 24 42** facebook.com/archiegastro 42 Komsomolsky Prospekt, Bldg. 2 Metro Frunzenskaya



BOSSA NOVA

**Bossa Nova**  
**Tantalizing Brazilian flavors**  
If the Olympic Games have inspired you to sample Brazil's sun-soaked cuisine, Bossa Nova is set on bringing the taste of Rio to Russia's capital. Primecuts of steak may take center-stage on the menu, but it's the restaurant's elegant starters and desserts that really steal the show. Start with scallops with lemon puree and caviar (800 rubles) and finish with a white chocolate "surprise." (550 rubles). **+7 (495) 748 9262** facebook.com/bossanovamoscow 20/3 Ulitsa Koshtoyantsa Metro Yugo-Zapadnaya



LA PEPELA

**La Pepela**  
**Hearty food and cocktails**  
La Pepela offers Georgian cuisine by day and karaoke by night. The restaurant's eccentric decor — think wooden-framed plasma screens and shisha pipes on the wall — doesn't take away from the tender chakapuli lamb stew (430 rubles) and the pillowy khinkali dumplings (195 rubles for three). For 220 rubles, the bartender will fix you one of Moscow's best homemade lemonades. **+7 (495) 656 2530** facebook.com/lapepela 30 Obraztsova Ulitsa Metro Marina Roshcha



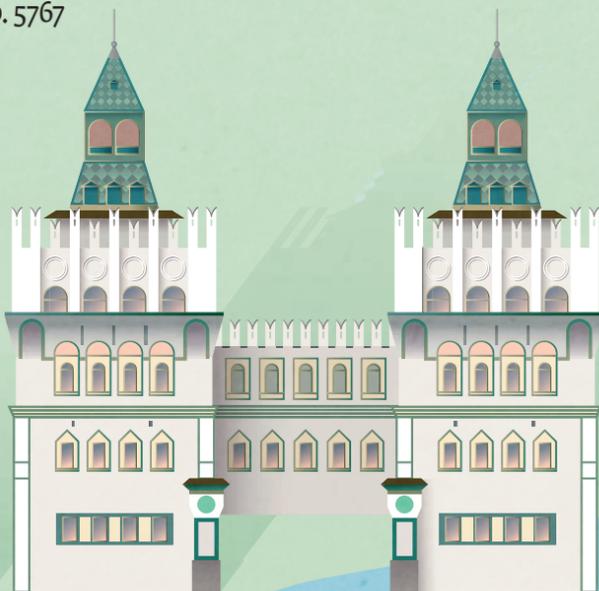
RODINA 21

**The Rodina**  
**Slavic favorites in the center**  
When you have the pick of the world's cuisines under the bright lights of Novy Arbat but all you're craving is babushka's cooking then look no further. Your essential Russian classics are covered: start off with steaming borsch or refreshing chilled okroshka (250 rubles) before digging into hearty dumplings with creamy sour cream (400). It's nothing fancy, but it's hearty and filling. **+7 495 691 7787** the21.info 21 Novy Arbat Metro Smolenskaya, Arbatskaya

## Take it and go!

Four pages packed with the best places in Moscow to eat, drink, walk, shop, listen, watch, dance and sightsee. A new walking route and listings every week! **Take it, use it, save it!**

6



Grape Pond

#### 6. Izmailovo "Kremlin"

On the other side of the island you re-enter mad, modern Moscow. To the right is a fairy-tale Kremlin built up over the years on the site of a big flea market. What were once disorganized rows of stands are now shops, stands, and cafes, some under tents, others under brightly covered turrets, cupolas, and vaulted roofs. Here Disneyland meets Russian artisans, and if you have patience and stamina, you will actually be able to find many beautiful things. If you don't want to indulge in retail therapy, you can take a master class in ceramics or bread-baking, or stop in one of the museums, from vodka to toys, or attend one of their musical events. When you get hungry, there are food stands. And when you get overwhelmed, simply head back to the Partizanskaya metro station. Or better yet: go back to the birch grove.

73Zh Izmailovskoye Shosse



5

#### 5. Birch Grove

Across the courtyard to the left is the space where the original residence stood. Leave through the side gate and enter a little bit of heaven. Next to the long white wall of the south administration building is one of the most glorious birch groves in the city. Soft grass, white-bark birches, fluttering silvery leaves... take off your shoes and walk in the grove, or lie down in the soft grass and relax. Now you know why Russians love birch groves, and why every painter has tried to capture their soft beauty. After a long rest in the grove, continue down the road that runs along the wall to the right. From 1924 to the 1960s, the island was home to the Bauman Worker's Settlement, with over 3,000 people living in communal apartments. You'll pass tennis courts and overgrown playing fields before you come to a little hunchbacked bridge. This crosses the Silver Pond; to the right is Grape Pond. Nearly 40 ponds were formed when the Silver River was dammed in various locations, although today only nine remain.

Silver Pond

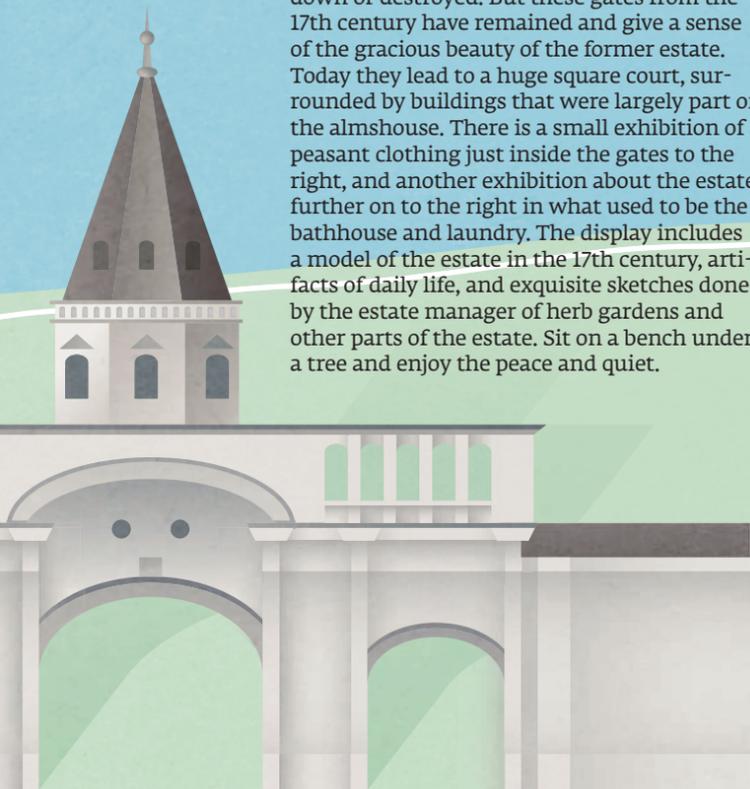
# Izmailovo Island and Kremlin Tsars' Former Estate And Fabulous Flea Market

By [Michele A. Berdy](#) [m.berdy@imedia.ru](mailto:m.berdy@imedia.ru) | Illustration by [Olga Marchenko](#)

Stroll across a bridge onto a peaceful island of natural beauty and history next to Moscow's favorite shopping spot

#### 4. Front Gates of the Royal Court

Walk through the little square to the left toward a white tower. Almost nothing is left of the original royal court of the Romanovs; the wooden palace — probably similar to the one reconstructed at Kolomenskoye — is long gone, and most of buildings were torn down or destroyed. But these gates from the 17th century have remained and give a sense of the gracious beauty of the former estate. Today they lead to a huge square court, surrounded by buildings that were largely part of the almshouse. There is a small exhibition of peasant clothing just inside the gates to the right, and another exhibition about the estate further on to the right in what used to be the bathhouse and laundry. The display includes a model of the estate in the 17th century, artifacts of daily life, and exquisite sketches done by the estate manager of herb gardens and other parts of the estate. Sit on a bench under a tree and enjoy the peace and quiet.



#### 2. Church of the Intercession

To the left of the Bridge Tower is the enormous Church of the Intercession of the Mother of God, built by craftsmen from Kostroma and Yaroslavl and completed in 1679. Be sure to look up to see the particularly beautiful ceramic tiles on the facade and around the drums holding aloft the cupolas. In 1837, when many of the original chambers and buildings of the royal court had fallen into disrepair or been torn down and the church had been damaged by Napoleon's troops in 1812, Nicholas I decided to dedicate the island to providing housing and services for disabled soldiers and their families. The massive church had three equally massive wings built onto it for the patients and became the almshouse's place of worship. The almshouse lasted until 1918, when the new Soviet government stopped funding it. The church was closed and plundered, then used as an archive of the KGB and a vegetable warehouse. The church was re-consecrated in 1997 with two of the original icons that had been found and returned.

#### 3. Statue of Peter the Great

At the edge of the little square in front of the church is a statue of Peter the Great by Lev Kerbel, installed in 1998. Peter spent a lot of time here in his youth, and this was one of the places where he and his young soldiers had their play battles. In 1688 he was poking around his grandfather's old things in a storeroom of a linen-making shop when he found an old boat. He asked around until he learned that it was English and had the extraordinary ability to sail not just with the wind, but against it. This unbelievable assertion had to be proven, and so they found a Dutch master who fixed the boat up and sailed it here on the ponds. Peter later dubbed this boat "grandfather of the Russian navy," and it is now enshrined in the home of the fleet in St. Petersburg.



#### 1. Bridge Tower

For this walk, take the metro to Partizanskaya station and walk along Izmailovskoye Shosse (away from the city center) on the left side. At the second traffic light, turn left and then veer left away from a gas station. After a short walk along a leafy road you'll cross Silver Pond and find yourself on Izmailovo Island, one of the best places in Moscow you've never heard of. It was originally the Romanov family's estate, and after Mikhail became tsar in the 17th century, it became one of the royal courts out of the city. It was ahead of its time with orchards, gardens producing rare fruits and vegetables, and one of the first palace theaters, advanced water pumping devices and other engineering innovations. It was described as an idyllic place where the fish in the ponds wore gold rings in their gills and concerts were held outside in the summer so that the music joined with the sound of tree boughs rustling in the wind. To the right of the current bridge was a 106-meter stone bridge with 14 arches that stretched to the three-level Bridge Tower, built in 1674. The lower level had a chapel, the middle level had a "Duma" room where boyars confabbed with the tsar, and the top level held a bell tower. Now there is a small exhibition space with a fascinating exhibition on the Garden of Eden in Russian religious and secular art.





Grace Watson, teacher

One of my favorite places right now is **Mestechko** off Tverskaya Ulitsa. Polite staff serve fresh, high-quality Israeli and Mediterranean dishes in a cozy atmosphere. Then head up to **Pod Mukhoi**, an underground dive bar with a lot of character."



## Seven Productions for After the Summer

Moscow is still a city where the theater draws the crowds as much as any concert, film or exhibition. So that you didn't have to, we took ourselves to last season's premieres and scouted out the best productions making a return this autumn. Sharpen those elbows and get yourself to the box office — you can thank us later.



### Muller Machine

**The most scandalous play of the season**

Let's get the main thing out of the way: yes, throughout the performance of this play the stage background is dominated by a group of dancing nude models. Directed by Kirill Serebrennikov, "Muller Machine" is based on "Quartet" and "Hamletmachine," two plays by Heiner Muller. "Quartet" is a compact version of Choderlos de Laclos' "Dangerous Liaisons" with all the characters played by two actors and gender roles reversed. Konstantin Bogomolov and Sati Spivakova play the main roles. "Hamletmachine" is loosely based on Shakespeare's "Hamlet," condensed into several monologues devoted to the state of world affairs. Alexander Gorchilin, one of the best actors

at Gogol Center, plays the central protagonist.

**Gogol Center**  
gogolcenter.com  
8 Ulitsa Kazakova  
Metro Kurskaya  
Sept. 18, 19



### Pasternak. My Sister Life

**A life in poems**

This play about Pasternak's life is directed by Maxim Didenko, best known for his unorthodox and post-modernist productions based of Daniil Kharmis and Isaac Babel's works. There's plenty of cultural references in this play if you're following carefully enough. Intentional or otherwise, some scenes are reminiscent of Tarkovsky, while others remind you

of something from Spider-Man. Watch out for the symbolic moment when a Stalin-like figure begins walking around on the stage. The production is accompanied by atmospheric music from Ivan Kushnir, which sounds like a mix between Massive Attack and DJ Shadow.

**Gogol Center**  
gogolcenter.com  
8 Ulitsa Kazakova  
Metro Kurskaya  
Oct. 5, 6



### 24 Plus

**Documentary theater**

Written and directed by Mikhail Ugarov, "24 plus" refers to a non-existent age restriction. In this bold interpretation of love and lust in Moscow, a wife having an affair suggests to her husband and lover that they try living together. Can real love survive in such a complex triangle? Alongside the main plot, "24 Plus" also tells stories of the main characters' ex-lovers, and here the actors relay their actual personal experiences. Don't be surprised, it's called "documentary theater" (Teatr.doc) after all.

**Teatr.doc**  
teatrdoc.ru  
Metro Kurskaya  
Aug. 20, 27



### SWAN

**The world but not as we know it**

"SWAN" is a play in verse about a dystopian Russian future. For an immigrant to be naturalized in Russia they have to win a poetry battle because "Russia is a land of poets." Directed by Yury Kvyatkovsky, one Moscow's most promising young directors, it's only fitting that the play will be staged this autumn at the Meyerhold Center (TsIM) — one of the leading experimental theaters in the city. "SWAN" is part political satire, part poetry and if you're not quite sold, TsIM also gives theater fans the opportunity to attend rehearsals before the show at no extra charge.

**TsIM**  
meyerhold.ru  
23 Ulitsa Novoslobodskaya  
Metro Mendeleevskaya, Novoslobodskaya  
Sept. 19, 20



### Don't Leave Your Planet

**A re-imagining of The Little Prince**

This interpretation of the iconic book by Antoine de Saint-Exupery stars Konstantin Khabensky — one of the most popular

actors in Russia — playing the role of every character. Director Viktor Kramer's version of "The Little Prince" is more gritty and less celestial than the original. Special effects and video art compliment the modern interpretation of the childhood classic.

The performance is also accompanied by music from composers Johannes Brahms and Gustav Mahler, played by the Grammy Award winners Yuri Bashmet and his "Soloists of Moscow" orchestra.

**Sovremennik**  
www.sovremennik.ru

On the stage of Mossoviet Theatre  
16 Ulitsa Bolshaya Sadovaya  
Metro Mayakovskaya  
Oct. 21, 22



### Psychosis

**Dark, disturbing and inventive**

One of the most anticipated premieres of last season, "Psychosis" is as much an experiment as it is a theater production. The director is Alexander Zeldovich — best known for his films based on Vladimir Sorokin's dystopian screenplays — while visuals for the backdrop were provided by AES+F, Russia's most famous group of video artists. Based on Sarah Kane's "4.48 Psychosis," the play chronicles a case of clinical depression through the monologues of 19 different women. Kane's lines are both powerful and disturbing, especially when accompanied by AES+F's vivid imagery which oscillates between happiness and vulgarity. The production is accompanied by English subtitles.

**Electro Theater**  
electrotheatre.ru  
23 Tverskaya Ulitsa  
Metro Pushkinskaya, Tverskaya  
October 8, 9, 10



### The Colonel Bird

**War and peace in the mountains**

The Electro Theater series of productions from the rising directoral talent starts with "The Colonel Bird," directed by Roman Drobot. The play was written by Bulgarian Hristo Boytchev and is set during the Balkan wars of the 1990s. An old monastery in the mountains houses a psychiatric ward which gets cut off from supplies. A UN airplane accidentally drops a shipment of uniforms meant for peacekeepers on the grounds of the ward leading to a scenario in which one of the patients — a former Soviet colonel — molds his companions into a military unit and helps them recover. In today's world of never-ending conflicts, Boytchev's pacifist message from the 1990s is well-timed.

**Electro Theater**  
electrotheatre.ru  
23 Tverskaya Ulitsa  
Metro Pushkinskaya, Tverskaya  
Performance schedule to be announced



The Moscow Times  
**CONFERENCES**

**SEPTEMBER 20**  
MARRIOTT ROYAL AURORA

## CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS CLUB

Topics for discussion

- Standards in the field of administrative quality management: assessment, improvement, focus.
- The role of administrative supply departments in raising employee involvement.
- Organization of business trips and off-site training for employees: reducing costs.
- Corporate restaurant: performance control and objective quality assessment.



**Yevgeniya Ignatyeva**  
Administrative Director, Yota



**Leonid Kalinichenko**  
Development Director, R7 group



**Andrey Khazov**  
Managing Director, Fort Project



**Anna Latkina-Turkova**  
Administrative Director, Mail.Ru Group



**Nataliya Prokopenko**  
Director for Administrative Matters, X5 Retail group

Producer **Anna Shmakova**, +7 495 232-3200, ext. 3039, a.shmakova@vedomosti.ru

Sponsorship opportunities **Olga Kalinina**, +7 495 232-3200, ext. 4223, o.kalinina@vedomosti.ru

Participation in the project **Ekaterina Zorkova**, +7 495 232-3200, ext. 4229, e.zorkova@vedomosti.ru

Payment: 20 000 rubles + VAT

Advertising | 16+



"I wanted to reflect what was happening." **Anna Kreidenko**, a designer who launched a Putin-themed brand of clothing last year

## 2016

Defense Ministry opened shop near U.S. Embassy.



The annexation of Crimea in February 2014 provoked an outpouring of Russian nationalism and pushed President Vladimir Putin's approval ratings to record highs.

## 2014

Defense Ministry recruits designer Leonid Alexeyev to head design bureau.



KRANTSOVA SHOP

← Foreign imports have become more expensive and Russian-made and Russian-designed clothing has become more attractive

→ Nostalgia is particularly intense about the Soviet period.



FASHION

← Continued from Page 6

### Reality Bites

The shift away from displaying the brash patriotism of 2014 and 2015 on clothes is in part explained by changing tastes. But the process appears to have been accelerated by the economic and social problems that have stacked up in Russia amid a collapse in oil prices and Western sanctions over Ukraine.

Russia's gross domestic product (GDP) contracted 3.7 percent last year and is on course to fall again this year. Real wages collapsed 9.5 percent over the same period and are not expected to resume growth until 2017. Poverty levels are currently at their highest for almost a decade. Many experts fear Russia faces years of economic stagnation.

Nationalist sentiment was briefly reignited by the beginning of an armed Russian intervention in Syria's civil war — its first in the Middle East for decades. But most of the military presence was withdrawn in March.

Economic woes appear to have underwritten the shift toward clothing that draws inspiration from a more distant history as people seek distraction from the day-to-day. The collapse of the ruble has also fueled this trend. Foreign imports have become more expensive and Russian-made and Russian-designed clothing has become more attractive.



MERCEDES-BENZ FASHION WEEK

Leonid Alexeyev's designs used the theme of 'polite people,' a term for Russian soldiers in Crimea.

### Popularizing the Military

Some state behemoths, with large financial backing, are not put off by the economic troubles or the apparent fall in demand for Putin T-shirts. Instead, they are doggedly pushing forward in attempts to sell their own brands of patriotic and military clothing.

The Russian Defense Ministry recently launched its Armia Rossii brand and has outlets in prime locations in Moscow, St.



PUTINVERSTEHER

The People Who Understand Putin range featured at the New Russian fashion show in 2015.

Petersburg and the southern city of Krasnodar. Iconic weapons manufacturer Kalashnikov is reportedly planning to roll out its own brand of sporting and outdoor clothing later this year.

The most recent branch of Armia Rossii opened in May opposite the U.S. Embassy in Moscow. It sells T-shirts with pictures of Russian military hardware, jokes about the seizure of Crimea and portraits of Putin — as well as flags, figurines and real military uniforms.

It is unclear how much money the Defense Ministry is making from the project, if any at all. A spokesperson for Armia Rossii declined to comment. Some of designer Alexeyev's clothing lines are featured in the stores. He says the idea for the brand was thought up personally by Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu as a way of popularizing the military rather than earning money.

T-shirt manufacturer Konasov says companies like the Defense Ministry were unlikely to be driven by commercial aims. "They have a shop near Triumfal'naya Ploshchad [in downtown Moscow] that I drive past all the time. I see them washing the windows but the shop is still shut. It's been like that for half a year," Konasov says. "If we paid the rent for that shop for 6 months without opening we would have gone under ages ago."

### Kremlin Approved Design?

There is no evidence that any patriotic clothing manufacturers have received financial support from the Kremlin. Konasov said an official request he submitted to the presidential administration seeking permission to use Putin's image was redirected to the Moscow government and he never got an answer.

But groups close to the Kremlin have sought to back the fledgling patriotic fashion industry in the wake of the Ukraine crisis.

Set, a pro-Putin youth movement advocating political conservatism and fanatical support for the president, put on a fashion show for patriotic designers, called New Russian, last year.

"In Russia there are hundreds of thousands of young, modern, patriotic people ... If you put it in simple terms they have Putin on their T-shirts and an iPhone in their pocket," says Set's Maria Alyoshkina, who organized New Russian.

The event in June 2015 showcased the work of 200 different patriotic designers and was judged by Russian fashion veteran Vyacheslav Zaitsev. Prizes were awarded in four categories: Imperial, Victory, the 1990s and New Russian.

### Shifting Focus

But many of the designers at New Russian appear to have moved on. Designers contacted by The Moscow Times who took part in New Russian with collections that featured Putin said they were no longer designing clothes using the Russian president.

Anna Kreidenko designed a collection last year called Putinversteher, or People Who Understand Putin, which was featured at New Russian. Her range of summer clothes for men and women was made up of print designs using phrases from Putin's 2014 State of the Nation address.

But Kreidenko's line of clothing was sold out by the end of 2015 — and now she is focused on making a success of her sewing business, which currently employs seven people. One collection she has produced since Putinversteher took the Moscow metro as its inspiration.

Ksenia Kravtsova, who was placed fourth at the New Russian event, set up a clothing company to explore patriotic themes four years ago — before the Ukraine crisis.

After 2014 she released T-shirts with Putin, but her upcoming collection will feature designs based on figures from Russian history and literature, including reforming Tsar Peter the Great and poet Alexander Pushkin. She says one of the most popular designs in her online store melds ice cream, onion domes and the blue, white and red of the Russian flag.

"Cliched photographs are not interesting anymore," she says, whereas Russian folk designs and ideas that explore where Russians came from have an "eternal" relevance.

### Dreaming of the Past

Businessmen like Konasov are unsure of what the next craze in T-shirts will be. "I wish I knew," he says. But others are already mining a deep vein of nostalgia in Russian society.

Nostalgia is particularly intense about the Soviet period. An April survey conducted by independent Levada Center pollster showed over half of all Russians regretted the breakup of the Soviet Union, and 44 percent would like to see the resurrection of the Soviet system.

Earlier this year, 28-year-old Muscovite Yevgeny Raikov relaunched the production of Soviet-era sneakers Dva Myacha, which were mass-produced in the 1960s and 1970s.

And last year, Alexander Malanin, 35, and Yakov Teplitsky, 36, launched their company OLOVO, which uses modern materials and slight redesigns to repackage Red Army military clothing. They are open about the appeal of their clothes to feelings of nostalgia and patriotism.

"We started when we saw some beautiful, mind-blowing items from the Soviet army," says Teplitsky. "There is nothing more patriotic in a state than the concept of an army, so creating a military-based clothing has patriotism encrypted in the brand's DNA."

They have scoured old military storage depots and incorporate 1969 military blankets into the jackets they produce. They say their target buyers are men aged between 30 and 45 who were born in the Soviet Union.

"People are looking back," says Teplitsky. "The demand is huge and we have bigger and bigger plans with each passing day," adds Malanin. **TMT**



Armenian president **Serzh Sargsyan** came to power in 2008, following the suppression of mass street protests.

**30%**

of Armenians live below the country's poverty line.

**1988-1994**

the duration of the Nagorno-Karabakh war which has turned into a frozen conflict.



Thousands of anti-government protesters rallied in support of the gunmen and accused Moscow of meddling in Armenian affairs.



ROBERT NIKOCHOSYAN ART

Graffiti in the Armenian capital of Yerevan shows three of the Sassoun Daredevil gunmen, with the word 'Patriot' written below.

# Rebels at Heart

By [Anna Nemtsova](#) newsreporter@imedia.ru

A group of gunmen who seized a police station have become unexpected Armenian sex symbols.

Just a few weeks ago, Lilly Minasyan was dreaming of leaving her country for a better life in the West. In this, she was no different from other young, well-educated Armenians, who see their country's population, economy and trust for government ebbing away.

The 26-year-old says she was convinced nothing good lay in store for Armenia. But one day in late July changed everything.

This was when she laid her eyes on a picture of a "sexy, courageous, handsome, patriotic and heroic" 22-year-old. His name was Aram Manukyan, Armenia's newest nationalist sex symbol.

When Lilly talks of the subject of her admiration, she smiles a wide, enchanted smile. "The instant I saw his photograph on Facebook and heard his story, I fell madly in love," she tells *The Moscow Times*. And was not alone. More than 15,000 people liked the same picture, most of them women.

"Neither Putin, nor [Armenian President Serzh] Sargsyan can claim to be Armenia's sex symbols any longer," Lilly continues.

She says she had liked Russian President Vladimir Putin when he first came to power. He was "strong, successful and sporty." But as the years passed by, the young graduate student in political science began to wonder. "I asked myself how much more money do Putin and Sargsyan need to make before they can let other people participate in politics," she says.

## A Romantic Movement

In the early days of July, Aram Manukyan was among a group of 31 gunmen calling themselves Daredevils of Sassoun, who captured a police compound in the Erebuni district of Yerevan. Their demands were clear: President Serzh Sargsyan was to resign and release their leader, Jirayr Sefilyan, a celebrated veteran of the Karabakh war. A sharp critic of Sargsyan, Sefilyan had been arrested on June 22.

The tense situation developed into a two-week siege, complete with hostages, gun fights and violent clashes that left two policemen killed and over 60 people wounded.

It also marked the start of a romantic movement.

During the days and nights of the hostage crises in Yerevan, hundreds of people stayed out on the streets. They were not there to support hostages, policemen or even the doctors. They had come in support of the Daredevils — to support the older gunmen, celebrated heroes of the six-year long Karabakh war, and to support their younger friends and relatives, like Aram.

The protesters yelled the Daredevils' names, artists drew their portraits, men drank to their courage, and young women fell in love. On July 22, five days into the siege, the crowd could be heard chanting: "Pavlik! Pavlik! Keep going!"

Pavlik Manukyan was the charismatic war hero, a sex symbol in his own right; and, more to the point, father of the newest Armenian hunk, Aram.

Pavlik's fans were especially happy to hear his promises

that the rebels would not cause any harm to their hostages. "We are going to fight to the end," Pavlik said. "We'll do everything to ensure the safety of the captives even if police storm the premises." He was cheered when he appeared with his friend, Arabic Khandoyan, a bearded rebel in a Che Guevara beret, better known as "Lonely Wolf."

The police enjoyed little public support. Not even the news that two of their number had been killed in the standoff was enough to move people to their side. According to Helena Melkonyan, a manager at Ayo NGO, a Yerevan based crowd funding platform, Armenians remain angry about the brutality police showed at last year's Electric Yerevan protests. "They beat up people so much that nobody felt sorry for them," she says. "I personally feel so ashamed of our police; I want to officially ask them not to protect me."

Every afternoon, Melkonyan joined the rallies in support of the Daredevils. But before the summer, she hadn't the slightest idea that they even existed; she was running half marathons, teaching English at a new age educational center, and reading novels by George Orwell and Haruki Murakami.

She remembers the day she found out about the Daredevils. It was July 26, 2016; a date, she says, that will always remain etched in her memory. This was the day she opened her Facebook and saw Aram's serious, piercing eyes, staring out from under thick dark eyebrows. Like thousands of other women, the rebel moved her heart.

On the day she became obsessed, Melkonyan left a jokey post. "When I was younger, I desperately wanted to marry a



The Daredevils of Sassoun take their title from a medieval Armenian group who fought against Arab invaders.

31

men kept hostages at a police station for two weeks.



This April saw the worst outbreak of violence in Nagorno-Karabakh in 20 years as renewed fighting killed 200 people.

1991

Almost a million people have emigrated since the country gained independence.



The police enjoyed little public support. Not even the news that two of their number had been killed was enough to move people to their side.

## THE WORD'S WORTH

# Surprises Lying In Store

Склад: warehouse, mindset

By Michele A. Berdy  
Moscow-based translator and interpreter, author of "The Russian Word's Worth" (Glas), a collection of her columns.



YEVGENY PARYONOV

policeman. I'm telling you guys, I wasn't too bright as a child," she wrote

The Daredevils' standoff gave inspiration to Armenia's civil society. Young activists ran blogs, made statements and resolutions. "We are not Erdogan's Turkey," one of the activists wrote. "It's in our cultural heritage to speak openly and we deserve it after 600 years of Ottoman oppression. Going after journalists is a sign of weakness by the government in any country."

But on one night, July 29, Armenia did feel very much like Turkey. With cynical force, police cracked down on a demonstration of a few hundred people. Reporters were hounded, some lost their cameras and many ended up in hospital. At least 12 journalists were injured in clashes.

"They deliberately broke our cameras," photographer Gevorg Chazaryan told The Moscow Times on Khorinatsi Av-



Many of the country's young people romanticize the rebels and see them as real patriots and icons.

venue. He had returned there to search for a camera part — worth thousands of dollars, a fortune in his country.

The clampdown did not only target protesters. People who had nothing to do with the rebels were also caught up in the clashes. Some of the victims included old people and children.

"Our young people romanticize the rebels, as they see real patriots and icons," the parliament deputy Zaruhi Postanjyan told The Moscow Times. Postanjyan attended every rally last month to prevent violence. She says the government did not share such an aim. "Police threw stun grenades at the crowd, at children. It was a total disaster, ordered by a president who is terrified of losing power."

In an interview for this article, the Bloomberg reporter Sara Khojayan says that she was surprised at how the majority of people she interviewed during the rallies admired the



Aram Manukyan was among a group of armed men who captured a police compound in Yerevan.

gunmen and believed in Daredevils' cause. "When the rebels eventually made a decision to surrender, people were very upset," she says. "They somehow thought these guys could put the end to Sargsyan's leadership."

Today all the surrendered rebels find themselves in jail or in prison hospitals, but that does not stop their fans from keeping the spirit of their heroism up. They do so in time-honored Armenian tradition. The Daredevils themselves took their name from an epic of Armenian folklore, from poetic stories about David of Sassoun and four generations of his warriors against Arab rule.

Today the proud statue of David of Sassoun, raising his sword on a rearing horse, is a fixture of the square before Yerevan's railway station.

Perhaps, some day, Lilly's hero Aram will find himself similarly glorified. **TMT**



ARAM KIRAKOSYAN / AP

People who had nothing to do with the rebels were also caught up in the clashes between protesters and police. Some of the victims included old people and children.

In my never-ending search for the most confusing aspects of the Russian language, I've stumbled across this: one word that means both a warehouse and a way of thinking, and has a verb that can mean adding, making up, putting together or storing. Pretty cool, right?

The word is склад, which comes from the verb класть (to place). The storehouse part is obvious — it's a place where things are put: Книги на складе нет и в ближайшее время не ожидается (We don't have that book in the warehouse and don't expect to get it any time soon.)

Small tricky thing: in the plural, the stress stays on the first syllable. So now you know how to say this properly: На складах издательств пылятся миллионы экземпляров непроданных книг (Millions of unsold books are gathering dust in the publishing house's book depositories.)

Склад isn't just the storehouse. It can also be the things being stored: Склад оружия обнаружен полицией в московской квартире (A stockpile of arms was discovered by the police in a Moscow apartment.)

You can also talk about складские помещения (warehouses) or use the handy verb складывать, which is what you do with things in a склад: Крестьяне складывали сено (The peasants were stocking up hay.) But the notion of "grouping things together" that is at the heart of складывать takes some interesting turns. It can mean to add up: Учёные знают показатели российской экономики и умеют складывать цифры (The scholars know Russian economic indicators and know how to add up the figures.) Or to place things in a particular way: Они складывают картинки из мозаики (They make pictures out of mosaics.) Or fold in a special way: Как складывать салфетки: 60 способов (How to fold napkins: 60 different ways.) And you can even put together stories: О нём складывали легенды (People made up legends about him.)

And then there is склад in the sense of the character of something or someone, a way of thinking. Here it's a stretch to see how the original sense of placing or putting morphed into mentality. Perhaps it's the notion of how information or emotions are put together in your mind — how you're wired, as it were. In any case, it can mean a type of person: Север формирует людей особого склада (The northern climate casts people from a certain mold.) Or a certain way of thinking about things: Начальником медицинской части он ни по складу, ни по духу своему не был (He wasn't meant to be the head of medical corps — he didn't have the right mindset or spirit.) Причина её снисходительности к невестке заключалась в совершенно чуждом складе ума (The reason she was condescending to her daughter-in-law was that she had an entirely different mentality.) Приехали работать люди очень разных складов. (Very different types of people came here to work.)

And this is dated, but you still might hear it: склад in the sense of a syllable: Она читать-то по складам едва научилась (She could barely read by sounding out the word syllable by syllable.) Small tricky thing, part two: when you use склад in this sense in the plural, the stress is on the suffix.

To sum up: Складывается впечатление, что в складе хранится склад идей для людей одного склада ума (You get the sense that in the storehouse there is a store of ideas for people of the same mindset.) **TMT**

"We customize each exhibition for the ease of visitors with special needs." **Anastasia Mityushina**, curator at Garage Museum



**12.45M**

disabled people registered in Russia in 2015.

**4**

collaborators worked with Garage to create the Co-thinkers exhibition



In 2015 **Garage** launched its Mediators Program, which trained members of the public to become guides and interlocutors for visitors to the newly-opened building.

# Museums Making Everyone Welcome

By **Ruth Moore** artsreporter@imedia.ru, Twitter: @ruth\_ski

Many of the capital's museums are aiming to foster universal access to their exhibits.

Instead of simply viewing the striking contemporary artwork on display at "Co-thinkers" — Garage's latest exhibition — you're encouraged to engage with it through touch, sound and imagination. This multi-sensory approach is a tangible example of how the museum is thinking more broadly about the notion of inclusivity in the art world and aiming to foster universal access to its exhibits.

## A Collaboration

Artwork for the "Co-thinkers" exhibit was selected according to its ability to alter the perception of the viewer or cast their preconceptions into doubt. Contributing artists include key players from the contemporary art scene who are rarely exhibited in Russia, such as James Turrell, Jason Rhoades and Barbara Kruger.

"Co-thinkers is the latest in a series of initiatives aimed at making Garage a place accessible to everyone, not just on a physical level, but also in terms of working with the broadest possible range of collaborators and audiences," Anton Belov, director of Garage, told The Moscow Times.

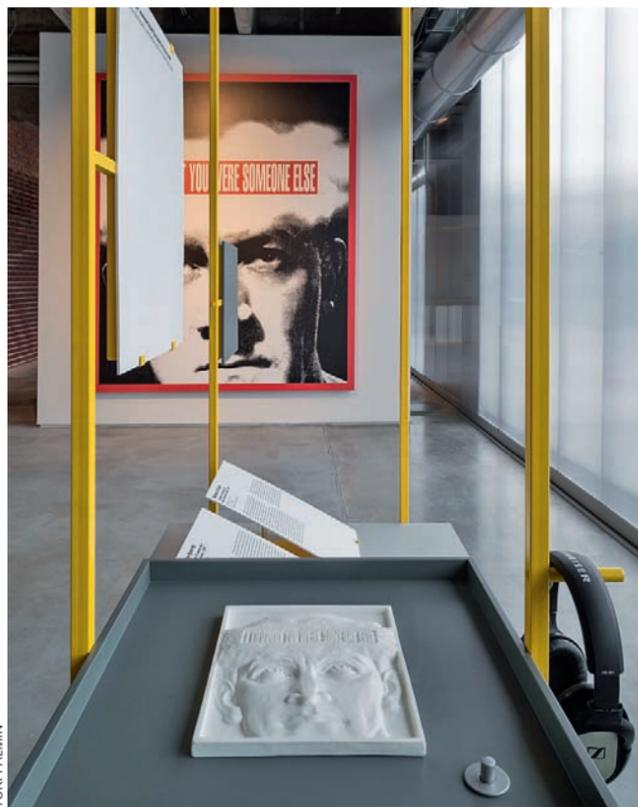
Garage invited a team of four collaborators — all with varying disabilities — to help choose artwork and curate the exhibition. The collaborators — or "Co-thinkers" as they are named in the exhibition — included Yelizaveta Morozova, an autism awareness campaigner with Asperger syndrome and Polina Sineva, a sign language instructor and screen writer who has been deaf since childhood.

"I would like that the regular museum visitor — who very often thinks an art museum is an ivory tower — could find a personal connection to an exhibition and see how it is interrelated to the social environment around them. Delving into the process of display creation leads to a drastic change of your opinion and I hope that after this project very different audiences, not necessarily with disabilities, can find ways to understand the message the museum shares," said Morozova.

To expand visitors' means to appreciate the exhibition, it has multi-sensory "stations" where they can interact with the artwork on display from a different sensory perspective. Alongside written explorations are 3D models of the artwork and audio descriptions.

## Changing Perceptions

Anastasia Mityushina, the curator of the exhibition, was eager for the exhibition to not only be about tangible access to artwork,



Visitors are encouraged to engage with exhibits through touch, sound and imagination.

but also about facilitating comprehension.

"The Russian audience is unfamiliar with the abstraction of 20th century art and therefore they are not going to find a dialogue between Cecily Brown and de Kooning — this is where the tactile model comes in. When touched, the springs beneath the rubber tell more about the energy of de Kooning and Cecily Brown's brushwork than any curatorial text."

In another of the exhibits, "No Show," artist Melvin Moti presents the visitor with footage of an empty exhibition hall, a voiceover and the echoing steps of soldiers walking around it.

The story goes that during World War II the Hermitage museum's treasures were removed. In 1943 a museum guide named Pavel Gubchevsky ran a tour of the empty walls for a group of soldiers. Having never seen the paintings, the soldier had to create them through the act of imagination. While accompanied by audio and subtitles, you realize you have been thrown into the same sightless world as the soldiers in the empty gallery.

## A Move Toward Inclusivity

And Garage is not the only museum in Moscow adapting its exhibitions for a wider audience. Similar drives toward inclusivity have been made at several of Moscow's main museums. Among them is the Pushkin museum, which, like Garage, worked with the charity "Vyhod" (Exit) to provide training to staff about how to provide a comfortable environment for people with autism.

Meanwhile, the Tretyakov is planning a new exhibition in spring of 2017 to build on the success of the "Language of Sculpture and Braille" project which has been running for several years. The exhibition is specifically aimed at engaging with blind and visually impaired visitors through interactive exhibits, braille labels and tactile floor markings.

"Can blind people have their own aesthetic experience in an art museum? We believe they can," said Yelena Gerasimova, the curator of the Sculpture and Braille exhibition. "When a blind person engages with a sculpture, they notice the details that sighted people miss. It's very rewarding as an art historian."

For Denise Roza, director of Perspektiva, an NGO that aims to promote independence and improved quality of life for people with disabilities in the Russian community, exhibitions like "Co-thinkers" signal a positive step forward in making museums in the capital more inclusive based on universal design standards.

"It's wonderful that inclusive or universal design is now part of the agenda for many museums, and it's clear that the team at Garage have made an incredible commitment to ensure their museum is as open as possible to a wide range of visitors. Provision for persons with disabilities should be integrated into the mainstream programs and museums should always try to think more broadly about who might be coming through their doors." TMT

garagemca.org

9 Krymsky Val

Metro Oktyabrskaya, Park Kultury

Through Sept. 9

## Introductions

ADVERTISING

**MASHA**  
24 hours  
www.BEAUTIES-STUDENTS.ru  
+7(495) 796-2616

www.escort-elitegirls.ru  
**KRISTINA**  
Call 24 hours!  
+7(495) 768 1222

**JULIA**  
24 HOURS  
Try the best!  
www.modelsinmyroom.com  
+7 985 7765155

**MARIA**  
+7(925)506-98-28  
www.YOUNG-ESCORT.RU  
Victoria, +7(965) 448 1100, 24H  
Olga, +7(926) 417 3373, English  
The Moscow Times is not responsible for the accuracy of advertisements contained in this section.

The  Moscow Times

To our  
advertisers:

If the services of your company are subject to obligatory licensing, in accordance with the law on advertising, the number of the license and the body it has been issued by should be mentioned in the text of your advertisement.

## Real Estate



**+7(495) 937 55 72**  
info@foursquares.com  
www.foursquares.com

---

**APARTMENT RENTALS**



**SERVICED APARTMENTS**



**FURNISHED APARTMENTS PROMOTION**



Beautiful FURNISHED townhomes now available. Priority admittance to the International School of Moscow (ISM) in Rosinka. WINTER SPECIAL RATES  
For all enquiries please call +7 916 969 1354 or +7 916 927 9465

## Services



Learn Russian with us!  
Intensive, evening, weekend programs  
Arbat, 11  
Moscow  
+7 (495) 691 5646  
info@ruslanguage.ru  
ruslanguage.ru

### EDUCATION

#### LIDEN & DENZ MOSCOW

Gruzinsky per. 3-181  
Tel.: +7 (499) 254 4991

www.lidenz.ru moscow@lidenz.ru

Russian and English language training for the needs of business community. Internationally accredited language centre.

Group/One-to-one courses.

In-company training.

Exam preparation.

Certified native teachers.

Cross-cultural seminars.

### MEDICAL CENTERS

#### US DENTAL CARE

Olimpiyskiy Prospect, 16 bld.5, Moscow 129110  
Tel.: +7 (495) 933 8686

www.usdentalcare.com

OPEN DAILY, WEEKENDS.

American Board-certified specialist. Since 1994.

We have the depth of a full service clinic and the atmosphere of a small family practice. Implantology, orthodontics, oral surgery, hygiene, cosmetic dentistry, whitening, 3D scan.

Also with the current exchange rates, getting first class dental care is now costing you approximately 50% less money for all treatment - don't miss out - book an appointment now!



## MOVING SERVICES

### ACE MOVING

Household goods and personal effects  
40/1 3rd Proyezd Marinoi Roshchi, Office 906  
Tel.: +7 (495) 645 8543; +7 (495) 645 8534; +7 (495) 798 8317  
Fax: +7 (495) 645-8539, E-mail: info@ace-moving.ru  
www.ace-moving.ru

Worldwide international moving services, export & import customs formalities, personal effects export packing, local removals in Moscow, storage, free survey.



### DELIKATNY PEREEZD

Full Service Moving  
Tel.: +7 (495) 921 3018  
www.pereezd.ru  
mos@pereezd.ru

Operating in Moscow, Saint-Petersburg, Nizhniy Novgorod, Rostov-on-Don.

Local & intercity moves. Office moves. Apartment moves. Storage services. Free survey and consulting.



## Nightlife




EXPRESS-GURMET CAFE CHICKENRUN

**HAPPY FRIDAY!**  
**SECOND GLASS OF WINE OR BEER FOR FREE**

BREAKFAST HOT DISH SNACK

WE USE ONLY ORGANIC FARM PRODUCTS

ARBAT, 1 OPEN 10:00-23:00 CHICKENRUN.RU

## The Moscow Times

### To our advertisers:

If the services of your company are subject to obligatory licensing, in accordance with the law on advertising, the number of the license and the body it has been issued by should be mentioned in the text of your advertisement.

## Classifieds

### BUSINESS LIQUIDATION

Notice is hereby given that the international business company listed below is being dissolved and the dissolution commenced on **13th day of June 2016**.

Anyone who has any claim against the company must lodge their claim within 1 month hereewith the liquidator, Axxess International Ltd. of 306 Victoria House, Victoria, Mahé, Seychelles  
Email: info@intershore.com.

**GOLDEN CENTURY LIMITED – Company № 034246**

**Axxess International Ltd. Liquidator**

Notice of Appointment of a Liquidator under Section 204 of the BVI Business Company Act.

Vigelius Worldwide Limited («the Company») (in voluntary liquidation)  
**Company № 1393820**

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to section 204 (1) (b) of the BVI Business Company Act, 2004, that the company is in voluntary liquidation. The voluntary liquidation commenced on **28 July 2016**. The liquidator is Olga Kuzmenko of Russia, Orenburg, Sadovoe koltso str. 17.

Dated 09 August 2016  
Olga Kuzmenko  
Voluntary Liquidator

### DATING

http://www.euro-dates.com

### MASSAGE

MASSAGE,  
+7 (903) 668 3201,  
lic. #77-01-005808

### HEALTH & BEAUTY

Antistress massage,  
+7 (903) 156 4674

Aromamassage,  
+7 (903) 792 1930,  
www.kalina-service.ru

Anti-stress-massage.ru,  
+7 (915) 450 5606, Irina

Aromamassage,  
+7 (929) 965 7110,  
www.bodymassage-moscow.ru

Antistress massage,  
+7-963-661-3088, Natalia,  
www.mowmassage.com

### PERSONALS

I have changed the name of my son from Anirudh Sharma to Anirudh Raj Sharma S/o Ashok Deep Sharma R/o Bhagwan Ganj Mandi, Near Petrol Pump, MODINAGAR-201 204 (U.P.) for all purposes.

### TAXI

+7 (495) 956 0800  
angel-taxi.com/moscow-tour

The Moscow Times is not responsible for the accuracy of advertisements contained in this section.

## The Moscow Times

# CLASSIFIEDS EVERY THURSDAY

Classifieds

Real Estate

Education

Services

Restaurants

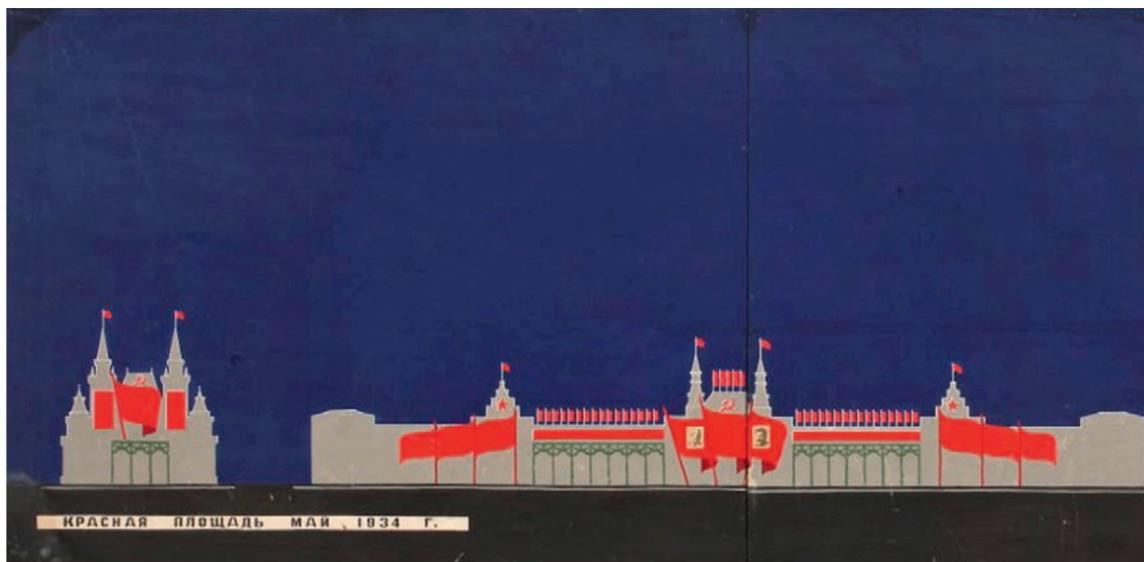
To advertise, please contact Julia Bychenkova,  
Tel.: +7 (495) 232 4774, bychenkova@imedia.ru

# What's On

The Moscow Times  
No. 5767

See [www.themoscowtimes.com](http://www.themoscowtimes.com)  
for more listings.

READ MORE AT  
[themoscowtimes.com](http://themoscowtimes.com)



## August 11 – 17

### FESTIVAL Tuborg Green Jam Celebrating street culture

Billed as “a festival from another angle,” Tuborg Green Jam is a celebration of the street music, art, sport, style and food young trendy things in Moscow are raving about. Special guests include outspoken American rapper Earl Sweatshirt and St. Petersburg musician BMB Spacekid. Feeling hungry after fighting your way to the front of the crowds? Grab a bite from Moscow institution Burger Brothers or Gyros for Heroes before watching professional and amateur skateboarders in action and treating yourself to a new pair of high tops.

[greenjam.ru](http://greenjam.ru)  
19 Bumazhny Proyezd, Bldg. 11  
Metro Savyolovskaya  
Aug. 13

### EVENT Drone Expo Free your inner pilot

Are you a drone fanatic? Do you spend afternoons setting up courses to fly your quadcopter and annoying pedestrians and stray dogs with their buzzing? If so, or if you aspire to become a master pilot, come to Sokolniki over the weekend for Russia's first drone expo. You'll get to test-drive some new models, show off your skills in competitions, check out what your next purchase will be, and hang out with other like-minded folk. Talks, workshops, and a conference are just some of the other activities on offer.

**Sokolniki Park**  
[drone-expo.ru](http://drone-expo.ru)  
Sokolniki Pavilion 4. Metro Sokolniki  
Aug. 13-14

### FESTIVAL Life Picnic How to be healthy, wealthy and wise

Head to Krasnaya Presnya Park for two days dedicated to health, beauty and sports. Come for yoga, dance classes, and other activities like cheerleading and a mood and ab enhancer. Or give your hair, make-up and nails a makeover while your buddy has a massage. Check out your blood pressure, sugar levels and get a breast cancer screening. Ask doctors for advice on fitness and meditation. Play some sports and then spend some time indulging in some uplifting and wholesome cash therapy in the marketplace. When you work up an appetite, head over to the food court for something delicious and possibly even healthy. Tickets online or at the door.

**Krasnaya Presnya Park**  
[life-picnic.me](http://life-picnic.me)  
5 Ulitsa Mantulinskaya.  
Metro Vystavochnaya, Delovoi Tsentr  
Aug. 13-14

### CONCERT Jazz in Hermitage Garden Some like it hot

This annual summer jazz festival offers a delightful — and free — way to while away an afternoon and evening as you're serenaded by jazz stars from Russia and further afield. Performers to watch out for include Juliana Rogachyova, American artist Sweet Baby J'ai and saxophonist Radovan Tarischka. If you arrive early you might be able to grab a terrace table at one of the garden's restaurants and enjoy the music with a glass of wine in hand. The event runs both Saturday and Sunday from 3 p.m.

**Hermitage Garden**  
[jazzmap.ru](http://jazzmap.ru)  
3 Ulitsa Karetny Ryad  
Metro Tverskaya, Chekhovskaya  
Aug 13-14

## An Encyclopedic Exhibition Celebrates Moscow and Its Museum

By **Ruth Moore** [artsreporter@imedia.ru](mailto:artsreporter@imedia.ru), Twitter: @ruth\_skii

The Museum of Moscow celebrates its 120th anniversary this year. In lieu of a party, Muscovites of all ages are invited to a jubilee exhibition which gathers together over 2,000 of the institution's most significant objects, paintings and archaeological finds — many of which have never been exhibited to the public before.

The sprawling project, entitled “The Alphabet of the Museum,” is as fitting a testament to the scale and diversity of the museum's collection as it is to the city of Moscow itself. The institution has certainly experienced a lot of changes in its history — from its name to its location, and even the type of exhibits it shows. One of the oldest museums in the city, the Museum of Moscow started life as a collection established by the initiative of the

Russian scientific community in 1896. After several incarnations, a brief stint housed in the city's Sukharev Tower and a rebrand, the Museum finally settled with its current name in 1987.

“The Museum of Moscow's collection is an encyclopedia of the social, cultural, architectural and management structure of the city from its ancient roots to the present day,” Alina Saprykina, director of the museum, told The Moscow Times.

When considering how to mark their 120th jubilee, the curators were struck with an obvious conundrum: how do you consolidate over a century of history into one exhibition? “We found a way that was not chronological, but artistic. With the help of 33 words — from Archaeology to Einem [the

founder of the Krasny Oktyabr chocolate factory] we could represent Moscow and the museum dedicated to it,” said Saprykina. The large central exhibition hall is divided into sections according to letters of the alphabet. Each letter represents an overriding theme connected to the city, its infrastructure and its history. Rather than being arranged in chronological order, letters are mixed haphazardly — but all for good reason. The many items on display and their layout reflects the energy of the bustling, dynamic city while the lack of a set path through the space encourages visitors to move fluidly between exhibits, creating their very own “alphabet of the city.”

This freedom encourages you to get lost in the collection. From a 1935 painting of Red Square by Boris Rybchenkov to a fascinating section showcasing maps of Moscow from different eras, you're drawn deeper into the life of the metropolis. With certain sections the connection to the city is immediately apparent. “M” for metro includes Soviet-era posters advertising the efficiency of transport to the proletariat and paraphernalia from the time of its construction. Other sections are a little more tangential: for instance the “dandy” and “tea” areas, which feature 19th century clothing and old-fashioned tin tea boxes respectively.

The overriding feeling you have walking through the exhibition is one of being on the site of some kind of excavation. The wide open shelves and the sheer number of exhibits perpetuate the notion you've been invited to a rare opening of the museum's deepest vaults.

It's a pleasing mishmash where the everyday and the extraordinary are shown side by side: school books from the Soviet-era jostle with decades-old historical photographs for your attention. A section about Ulitsa Ostozhenka is offset by an attractive full-scale vintage car.

The multitude of exhibits is an apt reflection of the polyphony of voices and people who have made the city what it is today. It's a fitting tribute to 120 years of the city and its inhabitants. **TMT**

**Museum of Moscow**  
[mosmuseum.ru](http://mosmuseum.ru)  
2 Zubovsky Bulvar  
Metro Park Kultury  
Through Nov. 13

The Moscow Times

## CONFERENCES

PROJECTS OF THE

## 2<sup>nd</sup> HALF 2016

**13 SEP** CIVIL CODE — APPLICATION PRACTICE AND RELEVANT CHANGES 2016

**20 SEP** CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS CLUB

**14 OCT** THE LEGAL ISSUES OF THE PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY ANNUAL CONFERENCE

**28 OCT** BUILDING AN EFFICIENT ONLINE BUSINESS

**24 NOV** PERSONAL DATA AS A NEW REALITY

**02 DEC** DOING BUSINESS WITH CHINA. CROSS-CULTURAL COMMUNICATIONS: RUSSIA-CHINA

**13 DEC** TOP 10 LEGAL DISPUTES: PAST AND PRESENT PRACTICES OF CIVIL DISPUTES

**14 DEC** TAX RESULTS OF THE YEAR

Head of Partnership Department  
**Natalia Bondareva**  
[n.bondareva@vedomosti.ru](mailto:n.bondareva@vedomosti.ru)

Head of Telemarketing Department  
**Irina Gavrikova**  
[i.gavrikova@vedomosti.ru](mailto:i.gavrikova@vedomosti.ru)

Read more on the site [www.themoscowtimes.com/conferences/eng](http://www.themoscowtimes.com/conferences/eng) Advertising | 16+