

Authors

Yanina Arnold is a PhD candidate in the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures at the University of Michigan. She is currently working on her dissertation, which deals with the vibrant interplay between law and literature in the aftermath of Russia's legal reform of 1864. Specifically, she investigates the significance of Russia's „literary lawyers,” a group of prominent legal professionals and gifted literary critics (among them Vladimir Spasovich, Anatoly Koni, Sergey Andreevsky, and several others), who utilized their literary gifts and access to the literary milieu of the time as a means for advancing the positive image of public justice in Russia.

Sergej Bychkov, PhD, is a historian of the Russian Church (and hagiographer) actively engaged in publishing as well as in publicistic work for both foreign and Russian journals. He has prepared and published 9 volumes of a projected 12 volume set of the collected works of the Russian thinker G. P. Fedotov. Other books of his include a 1992 volume (reprinted in 2002) on the lives of Russian saints, and his first volume of *Studies in the History of the Russian Church*, which appeared in 1998. His *The Russian Church and Imperial Power* was followed by *The Bolsheviks against the Russian Church*. In addition, he has also found time to write many monographs as well as scenarios on priests and martyrs for television films.

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Gayane Hakhverdyan is a poet, essayist, and literary critic, who graduated from Erevan State University in 1979. She lives in Erevan and is the author of a work on the creative work of Anna Akhmatova and Osip Mandelshtam as

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Grigorii Kacnel'son graduated from the Faculty of Arts of the Herzen State Pedagogical University in 1997. Since 1999 he has been an art teacher at the Krylov Gymnasium in St. Petersburg and a member of a number of art associations in that city. Since 2005 he has illustrated and published *Van Gogh's Ear*, an untraditional journal of poetry and graphics. He paints portraits and landscapes but is known lately for his creation of author's and artist's book-objects. His work may be seen online at <http://girsh4.narod.ru> and <http://girsh1.livejournal.com>.

Alexei Lalo holds a PhD (kandidat nauk) in Philology (US Lit.) from the Gorky Institute for World Literature, Moscow (2002) and a PhD in CompLit from UT-Austin (2010). He worked as an instructor, sen. instructor, and assistant professor at the European Humanities University in Minsk from 1994 to 2004. In 2004–05 was a Rockefeller postdoctoral scholar at the UC-Santa Cruz. In 2005–2011 he was an assistant instructor / lecturer of Russian studies at UT-Austin. He has published two monographs and co-edited a collection of essays, as well as about 25 articles in Europe, Russia, Belarus, the United States, and Canada.

Aleksandr Laskin is a doktor in art history and an Professor at St. Petersburg University of Culture and Art. He is a member of the St. Petersburg Union of Writers and is a winner of the International Tsarskoe Selo Prize in Art (1993) and the Zvezda Prize (2001). His books include: *Neizvestnye Diagilevi, ili konets tsitaty* (St. Petersburg, 1994); *Neizvestny Mariengof* (St. Petersburg, 1996); *V poiskakh Diagileva* (St. Petersburg, 1997); and the scholarly monograph *Russkii period deiatel'nosti S. P. Diagileva* (St. Petersburg, 2002). He was curator of the exhibition „S. P. Diagilev in Photographs, Graphic Art and Sculpture“ (All-Russian Pushkin Museum, 1997).

Aleksandr Mets graduated from medical school in 1968. He is the author of the collection, *Osip Mandel'shtam and His Time: An Analysis of Texts* (2005, 2011) and the compiler-editor of *The Complete Works and Letters of O. Mandelshtam* (2009–2011). He lives in Gatchina.

Natalya Prozorova studied Department of Russian literature at St. Petersburg University, was a scientist worker at Literature museum „Shahmatovo“, the author of articles about the Silver Century of Russian poetry. Her last most interest — creation of Joseph Brodsky. Since 1995 she is graduate guide in Israel.

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Rustam Shayakhmetov is a literary specialist, author of the study of Bashkir and Slavic mythology, articles on the history and theory of literature.

Tat'jana Sokolova, a philologist, was a research assistant at the State Literary Museum in Moscow from 1978 to 2003 and the author of many works on 19th Century Russian literature and culture, including „The Inviolable Bond”: Towards a History of Goncharov's Novel *The Precipice* and Reminiscences about E. P. Maikova. She also wrote the introductory essay and prepared both the text and the annotations for a reprint of B. A. Gritsov's 1927 book *The Theory of the Novel*.

Mark G. Sokolyansky, PhD, Dr. hab., has recently retired as a Professor of Comparative Literature at the University of Odessa (Ukraine). He now lives in Lubeck (Germany) and lectures in various European universities as a visiting professor. His publications include books on Shakespeare (*Perechityvaia Shekspira*, Odessa, 2000), Henry Fielding, Alexander Pushkin, Oscar Wilde, a monograph on typology of the 18th-century novel and more than 250 essays, articles, reviews on various problems of theory and history of literature and theatre.

Georgi Vasilev, PhD, DSc, is Senior Researcher at the Agency for Bulgarians Abroad at the Council of Ministers in Sofia. He has a special interest in contemporary literature and, specifically, in the works of Stephan Gechev. He co-organized international conferences on Stephan Gechev and on the Bogomils, his second area of research. His book, *Bogomil and Apocryphal Ideas in Medieval English Culture: The Bulgarian Image of Christ Plowman as Piers Plowman in William Langland's „The Vision Of Piers Plowman“* was published in Bulgaria in 2001.