



THE UNIVERSITY of EDINBURGH

# THE PRINCESS DASHKOVA RUSSIAN CENTRE DECEMBER - JANUARY 2015-2016 NEWSLETTER

14 Buccleuch  
Place, EH8 9LN,  
Edinburgh, Tel: 0131  
650 99 02

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## Upcoming Events,

### January - February 2016

'The Scots in Russia': A  
Presentation by the Writer  
& Broadcaster Billy Kay  
Time: Thursday, January 21,  
6 p.m. Venue: Screening  
Room (Ground Floor), 50  
George Square

Dashkova Open Research  
Seminars

Professor Mika  
Lahteenmaki (Jyväskylä  
University, Finland)

'The construction of  
national unity through  
language ideology in  
contemporary Russia'  
Time: Thursday, January 28,  
5.10 p.m. Venue: The  
Princess Dashkova Russian  
Centre, 14 Buccleuch Place

Professor Nancy Ries  
(Colgate University, US)  
'Voices of Apocalypse:  
Russian Military News and  
the Horizons of Future  
War'  
Time: Thursday, February  
18, 5.10 p.m. Venue: The  
Princess Dashkova Russian  
Centre, 14 Buccleuch Place

Dr. Olga Gurova (Helsinki  
U, Finland) 'Political  
consumerism in Russia after  
2011'. Time: Thursday,  
February 25, 5.10 p.m.  
Venue: The Princess  
Dashkova Russian Centre,  
14 Buccleuch Place

The Russian Word in  
Scotland. A Poetry Evening  
with Dmitry Vodennikov  
Time: Monday, February  
29, TBA Venue: TBA

## Reporting on our October - December 2015 News and Events

International Workshop  
'The global Russian:  
international travel as  
cultural and linguistic  
practices'



## Upcoming Events, January - February 2016

### 'The Scots in Russia': A Presentation of the BBC radio series by the Writer & Broadcaster Billy Kay

**Time:** Thursday, January 21, 6 p.m

**Venue:** Screening Room (Ground Floor), 50 George Square, EH8 9JU

Event registration: <http://billykay.eventbrite.co.uk>



The Princess Dashkova Russian Centre will start 2016 by launching the new series 'The Scots in Russia' produced for the BBC Radio Scotland. The series will be presented by its author, Scottish writer and broadcaster Billy Kay. In his presentation, Billy Kay will talk about the substantial contribution to Russia made by Scots from the 17th century to the time of the Revolution. The 3-part BBC series covers such areas of lasting influence as the army, navy, architecture, town planning, engineering, painting, intellectual history and literature. The talk

will be illustrated with clips from Billy Kay's series. Members of the Dashkova Centre – Lara Ryazanova-Clarke and Vera Zvereva – were interviewed for the programme and we are very excited to listen to the final product!

Prof. Diane Koenker (University of Illinois) 'Vacations, Tourism, and Socialist Consumption in the Post-Stalin USSR'

An evening with Dmitry Krylov, author and presenter of *Neputevye zametki* (Russian TV Channel 1)

Catherine the Great's Medals meet the Princess: The Dashkova Centre Display at the Royal Opening Ceremony of 50 George Square

A Book Launch: 'French and Russian in Imperial Russia'. A talk by Prof. Derek Offord

A Poetry Evening with Peter France. Presentation of the book 'Yevgeny Baratynsky'

A Public Lecture by Sergey Parkhomenko

Dashkova Open Research Seminars  
Dr Diana Izmailian (RANKHiGS) 'The Representation of the Russian economic crisis of 2014-15 in the UK national press'

Dr Margaret Beissinger (Princeton University): 'Pentecostal Faith and Identity in Contemporary Romania'

Dr Vadim Golubev (St Petersburg University), 'British and Russian media language: cultural and linguistic aspects of English-Russian translation'

Professor Alexander Nakhimovsky (Colgate University). 'Habitat in Revolutionary Times: Struggles for Symbolic Capital in a Russian village in 1918'

Transatlantic Seminar Series  
Prof Mark Beissinger (Princeton University): 'The Changing Face of Revolution, 1900-2014'

Language and Violence  
Research strand: Ethics  
Research Afternoon

Billy Kay joined the BBC as a researcher in 1979, then as a producer, he created the acclaimed *Odyssey* series of documentaries recording the oral history of the Scottish working class. Later as a freelance writer and broadcaster he continued this theme in a number of television documentaries for BBC Scotland. Today, Billy is an active member of the Cross Party Group on the Scots Language at the Scottish Parliament. Billy's book 'The Scottish World' contains a chapter called 'A Forgotten Diaspora', which is about the Scots in Poland, Prussia and Russia. Copies will be available at the event.

## Dashkova Open Research Seminars

**Professor Mika Lahteenmaki (Jyväskylä University, Finland)**

**'The construction of national unity through language ideology in contemporary Russia'**

**Time:** Thursday, January 28, 5.10 p.m

**Venue:** The Princess Dashkova Russian Centre, 14 Buccleuch Place, EH8 9LN

The paper will discuss language ideological discourse in contemporary Russia and its role in the promotion of national unity. Recent attempts to foster the national unity and patriotism in the Russian Federation show that the concept of a unified language is an important tool and symbol in the creation of the shared experience of belonging. Contemporary language ideological discourses emphasize the universalistic significance of the Russian language as a semiotic resource shared by all nationalities in the Russian Federation, and are also concerned about the need to treasure the purity of Russian. Moreover, the significance of the unified language transcends the geographical boundaries of Russia, and Russian is seen as the unifying feature of the 'Russian world', that is, a specific linguistic and cultural space consisting of Russian-speaking people and diasporas scattered around the globe. While the Russian language and the 'Russian world' are seen as translocal phenomena, the paper will aim to illustrate that contemporary language ideological discourses are characterized by a fluctuation between the local and global points of view.

**Professor Nancy Ries (Colgate University, US)**

**'Voices of Apocalypse: Russian Military News and the Horizons of Future War'**

**Time:** Thursday, February 18, 5.10 p.m

**Venue:** The Princess Dashkova Russian Centre, 14 Buccleuch Place, EH8 9LN

Using Guy Debord's concept of 'the spectacle', this talk analyzes a collection of military news and entertainment videos, some which highlight contemporary tools and forces (Tupolev bombers over Europe, *opolchenty* in Ukraine, bombing in Syria, Russian nuclear modernisation) and some which warn of the coming 'Third World War' started by the US and NATO.

### Advance announcement – February 2016 events

Please note the dates for the Dashkova events in February:

Dr **Olga Gurova** (Helsinki University, Finland): open seminar 'Political consumerism in Russia after 2011', 25 February, (a joint event with the Russian Section)

The Russian Word in Scotland annual series of events: an evening with the poet **Dmitry Vodennikov**, 29 February.

# Reporting on our October-December 2015 News and Events

## Our News: Research Fellows at the Centre

In November and December, the Dashkova Centre welcomed two Visiting Fellows from St Petersburg.

Dr Vadim Golubev (St Petersburg University, Russia) was working on his research titled ‘British and Russian media language: cultural and linguistic aspects of English-Russian translation’.

Dr Elena Kalimova (Russian Academy of Fine Arts, St Petersburg, Russia), Assistant Professor at St Petersburg State Academic Institute of Painting, Sculpture and Architecture. Her research interests include contemporary art and media culture. During her fellowship at the Dashkova Centre, Elena has been working on a research project exploring the role of cultural diplomacy as an instrument of ‘soft power’ in the national foreign policy.

## Catherine the Great’s Medals meet the Princess:

The Dashkova Centre Display at the Royal Visit and Opening Ceremony of 50 George Square Building.

The University of Edinburgh recently welcomed its Chancellor **HRH Princess Royal**, for the opening ceremony of the newly refurbished 50 George Square – housing the School of Literatures, Languages and Cultures.

To commemorate the Chancellor’s visit, The Princess Dashkova Russian Centre was asked by the College to organise an exhibition of the Centre’s activity. The display located on the third floor of 50 George Square illuminated three dimensions of the work of the Centre: research, academic diplomacy and a showcase of Russian culture in Scotland. As part of the display, we organized an exhibition of the medals gifted to the University of Edinburgh in 1779 by Princess Ekaterina Dashkova to mark the occasion of the graduation of her son, Pavel Dashkov, as a Master of Arts. A total of 150 medals, made of copper, were entrusted to Professor John Robison, who was a Professor of Natural Philosophy and a fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh. The medals are permanently kept in the Special Collection of the University’s Main Library and our exhibition was one of the few occasions that the medals have been available for public viewing.





## Our Events:

### International Workshop

#### 'The global Russian: international travel as cultural and linguistic practices'



THE UNIVERSITY of EDINBURGH



#### Programme:

##### Thursday, 26<sup>th</sup> November

5.10 pm Public Lecture

Diane Koenker (U of Illinois) Vacations, Tourism, and Socialist Consumption in the Post-Stalin USSR

Tatiana Gladkikh (U of Winchester) Does international business travel weaken the national attachments of Russian business people?

##### Friday, 27<sup>th</sup> November

9:30- 11:00 **Panel 1: Tourism as cultural practice**

Diane Koenker (U of Illinois) Russians in Groups: From the History of the Soviet Package Tour

Coinneach Maclean (U of Glasgow) The Tourist Gaze on Gaelic Scotland

Chiara Rabbiosi (U of Bologna) Russian tourists itineraries of consumption: Transforming space and place in Rimini, Italy

**2:00 – 3:45 Roundtable part 1: Narrating foreign places**, moderated by Vera Zvereva (U of Edinburgh) Russian travel programme creators, writers of guidebooks, and Russian-speaking guides in Scotland explore touristic representations of Scotland for the Russian audience.

Marina Koroleva ('Echo Moskv' radio station, Moscow)

Sergey Parkhomenko ('Echo Moskv' radio station, Moscow)

Dmitry Krylov ('Neputevye zametki', Channel 1 Russia travel TV programme)

11.15- 1:15 **Panel 2: Russian Tourism as linguistic practice**

Lara Ryazanova-Clarke (U of Edinburgh) The 'Globe-Trotting Russian' in Scotland: Discourses of Russian Cultural Tourism

Sebastian Muth (Fribourg U) 'The ideal Russian speaker is no Russian': Testing the limits of commodification in medical tourism to Switzerland

Ana Tominc and Monika Huserkova (Queen Margaret U, Edinburgh) Discursive construction of Scotland as a gastronomic destination: A multimodal analysis of *Visit Scotland* brochures (2004–2015)

**4:00 – 5:30 Roundtable part 2: Narrating foreign places**

Sofia Soboleva (Edinburgh), Galina Rampton (Norwich), Tatyana Herries (Edinburgh), Oxana Rogovets (Edinburgh), Georgii Morgunov (Edinburgh)

**6:00-7:00 Evening with Dmitry Krylov, 'Neputevie zametki' (Channel 1 Russia)**

Moderated by Lara Ryazanova-Clarke and Vera Zvereva

In November, the Princess Dashkova Russian Centre hosted an international workshop 'The Global Russian: International Travel as Cultural and Linguistic Practices'. It was supported by the CRCEES - LBAS (AHRC) grant as part of the research project 'Travel of Cultures: Discourse of Russian Tourism in Scotland', and was arranged by the Dashkova Centre as part of its ongoing 'Global Russian' research strand. The event brought together scholars from Scotland, England, the USA,

Italy, Switzerland and Russia, who examine tourism from the linguistic, historical and cultural perspectives, as well as practitioners who produce tourist discourses: the writers of guidebooks, authors of travel programmes on Russian TV and radio, and Russian-speaking guides based in Scotland.

The workshop aimed to explore tourist narratives as a product of cross-cultural interaction, and addressed questions of how globalization affects narratives produced for and by Russian tourists, and what meanings are attached to the newly emerged phenomenon of the Russian international traveller.



The workshop started by Professor Diane Koenker (University of Illinois), a world expert on history of Soviet tourism, who gave a public lecture ‘Vacations, Tourism, and Socialist Consumption in the Post-Stalin USSR’. The lecture discussed touristic scenarios along which tourism developed in the 1950-1970s, and analysed ‘travel for rest’ and ‘travel for sightseeing’ as different social practices. The so called rest houses and sanatoriums cultivated the idea of ‘rest’ and recreated features of aristocratic *high* culture under the conditions of a socialist society. On the other hand, the image of *active* proletarian rest was embodied in practices of tourism and backpacking trips, with their basic conditions, tents and gruelling routes.



In both cases, such practices were opposed to the idea of ‘bourgeois’ tourism practices of package tours, i.e. fully pre-arranged tours that had been rejected for a long time as a recreational activity typical of a capitalist society. Due to this, hotel-based tourism and travels abroad were slow to develop during Stalin’s times. Thus, the first exploration of the world for Soviet travellers took place within the Soviet space, by means of both organised and independent ‘domestic tourism’. The lecture paid special attention to the issue of ‘consumer regimes’ under socialism. According to Prof. Koenker, practices of tourism and holiday trips considerably complicated the idea of socialist consumption, as instead of consumption of

goods they were centred on consumption of services and various experiences.

Two research paper panels titled ‘**Tourism as Cultural Practice**’ and ‘**Russian Tourism as Linguistic Practice**’ discussed both general issues of transformation of discourses of tourism due to increasing complexity of demands of an ‘experienced’ global traveller, and issues of discourses and production of cultural meanings by Russian travellers in Europe and the UK.

In 2013, Russian tourism in the UK showed an impressive rise: according to Lara Ryazanova-Clarke (University of Edinburgh), Russians constituted one quarter of all tourists to the UK, and they also accounted for a considerable share of consumption of local goods and services. Despite last year’s decline, the Russians still continue to actively explore the whole of Britain, and Scotland in particular. However, what values do they attribute to their discoveries and new experiences? Based on the interview data obtained from Russian travellers Lara Ryazanova-Clarke argued that the ‘globe-trotting Russians’ in Scotland construct their discourse of tourism by orienting at two major

imaginative frames: the ‘cosmopolitan frame of equivalence’, and ‘provincial frame of differentiation’. She further discussed the ways in which Russian tourists experience Scotland’s cultural otherness and develop strategies of appropriation of Scotland, and articulate their identity.



A number of papers discussed the problem of ‘tourist gaze’ through which a place of travel is constructed. According to Coinneach Maclean (University of Glasgow), many international travellers arrive to Gaelic Scotland with rooted stereotypical attitudes with regard to what they would like to see and in which ways. In turn, tourist guides fulfil this request and offer a discourse about Scotland that travellers can consume at ease. Often, this occurs at the expense of dismissing more accurate knowledge about history, culture and society of Scotland. The talk by Chiara Rabbiosi (University of Bologna) illustrated how interests of Russian tourists arriving to Rimini with the idea to find the ‘real Italy’ dramatically transformed Rimini’s urban space, which had been previously tailored to the demands of European tourists focused on seaside holidays.



The texts produced by the tourism industry that represent a particular tourist destination also become adjusted to suit the ‘gaze’ and demands of a sophisticated traveller. Ana Tominc and Monika Huserkova (Queen Margaret University) showed that over the past ten years *Visit Scotland* considerably changed the way it represented Scotland to international travellers in its brochures. Scotland, never previously described in terms of haute cuisine, is currently being branded as a destination attractive in

terms of gastronomic tourism, whilst brochures and materials as much as possible involve sensory perception and creative thinking of readers for conjuring up visually appealing and rich images of the everyday culture of this place.

Sebastian Muth (Fribourg University) discussed the Russian medical tourism in Lithuania and Switzerland and examined the issue of commodification of Russian and its interpretation as a



symbolic resource that enables one to sell services to tourists. He demonstrated how multilingualism and, in particular, knowledge of Russian and awareness of cultural semiotics are considered by the Swiss health industry as appropriate and viable skills that allow for constructing a perfect image of a doctor for Russian-speaking customers.

The workshop paid special attention to the role of global mobility in shaping the identity of travellers. In this respect, Tatiana Gladkikh (University of Winchester) discussed Russian international business travellers' self-representation of their cultural identity. Do professional interactions within the context of international business travel weaken national attachments and lead to assimilation of global standards and removal of cultural barriers? The paper showed that business travellers become more international while preserving national affinity with the country of origin. At the same time, their desire to preserve their Russian identity in international business operations leads to cultural friction and violation of a number of cultural codes.



The workshop continued with a series of roundtables titled **'Narrating foreign places'** at which academics exchanged knowledge and ideas with the practitioners of tourist narratives. The first roundtable featured Russian television and radio journalists – the authors and presenters of



programmes on foreign travel: Marina Koroleva, the host of *Poekhali* ('Let's Go') programme on Radio Echo of Moscow; Sergei Parkhomenko, the broadcaster and chief editor of *Vokrug sveta* ('Around the World') magazine and publishing house in 2009-2011; and Dmitry Krylov, the author of the cult travel show 'Neputevie Zametki' on Channel 1 of Russian TV. At the second roundtable, authors of guidebooks on Scotland (Sofia Soboleva) and England (Galina Rampton), as well as professional Russian-speaking guides in Scotland (Tatyana Herries, Oksana Rogovets, Sofia Soboleva, and Georgy Morgunov) shared their views and experiences.

The focus of attention was on tourist representations of foreign destinations and specifically the UK for Russian travellers. The round tables discussed how authors of travel narratives imagine their audience, and how globalization processes affect narratives (texts, books, software) created for Russian visitors; and how the British culture is presented for Russian tourists in the media shows, and in the guidebooks and tours.

Discussing the current Russian tourism situation, the roundtable participants observed that from a social point of view tourism is not homogeneous and involves different groups of Russians with different requirements, interests and behavioural patterns. Despite the economic crisis and the decrease of outbound tourism, many Russians are still actively exploring both familiar and new destinations. The so-called ‘global Russians’ who preserve their identification with Russian culture but who are permanently reside outside Russia are now a prominent phenomenon of the new Russian-speaking tourism.



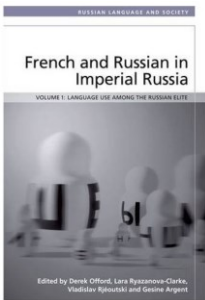
In recent years, there emerged a new type of a ‘global tourist’ with more experience of individual travel, more knowledge of history and cultures of foreign countries, and with a dedicated range of interests. Therefore, in addition to the established practices of recourse to mass tourism, both hosts of travel programmes, authors of travel texts, and tourist guides nowadays have to respond to requests coming from their ‘sophisticated’ clients, i.e. those who can independently read in foreign languages, who renounce Russian guidebooks, are focused on broadcasting their experience via social networks, and use mobile applications instead of traditional brick and mortar travel services. Such conditions, on the one hand, demand that authors of travel narratives produce targeted stories about a variety of experiences related to a particular place, in order to supply an ‘advanced’ client with required information. On the other hand, the ‘global Russians’ also produce a request for global events that promote values of Russian culture across various countries.





The workshop culminated in a large-scale event with **Dmitry Krylov**, the author and presenter of the programme ‘Neputevye Zametki’ (Channel 1). Sharing his experience in representing foreign countries to his Russian viewers - ‘the arm-chair travellers’ - Dmitry Krylov focused in particular on the theme of representation of Scotland, as his series of programmes started in the mid-1990s here, in Edinburgh, and since then he has been returning to Scotland in his show.

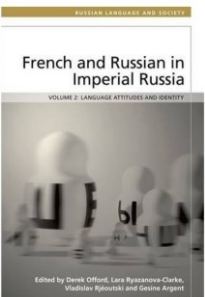
## A Book Launch



A joint event of the Dashkova Centre with Blackwell’s bookstore and Edinburgh University Press: **Derek Offord, Lara Ryazanova-Clarke, Vladislav Rjéoutski and Gesine Argent (eds)**. ‘**French and Russian in Imperial Russia**’, in 2 volumes. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 2015. A talk by Professor Derek Offord (University of Bristol)

Tuesday, 20 October

The Princess Dashkova Centre was delighted to welcome one of the leading scholars in Russian studies, Derek Offord, (The University of Bristol) as the speaker at the launch of the *French and Russian in Imperial Russia*. The event was held at the Blackwell’s Bookshop in Edinburgh and co-hosted with our Centre and Edinburgh University Press.



The phenomenon of *Francophonie* in pre-revolutionary Russia has often been noted but never before closely studied. In this way, *French and Russian in Imperial Russia* fills this gap in knowledge by exploring the use of bilingualism and biculturalism in Russia and the impact that French had on Russian social and political attitudes and on the formation of a sense of Russian national identity.

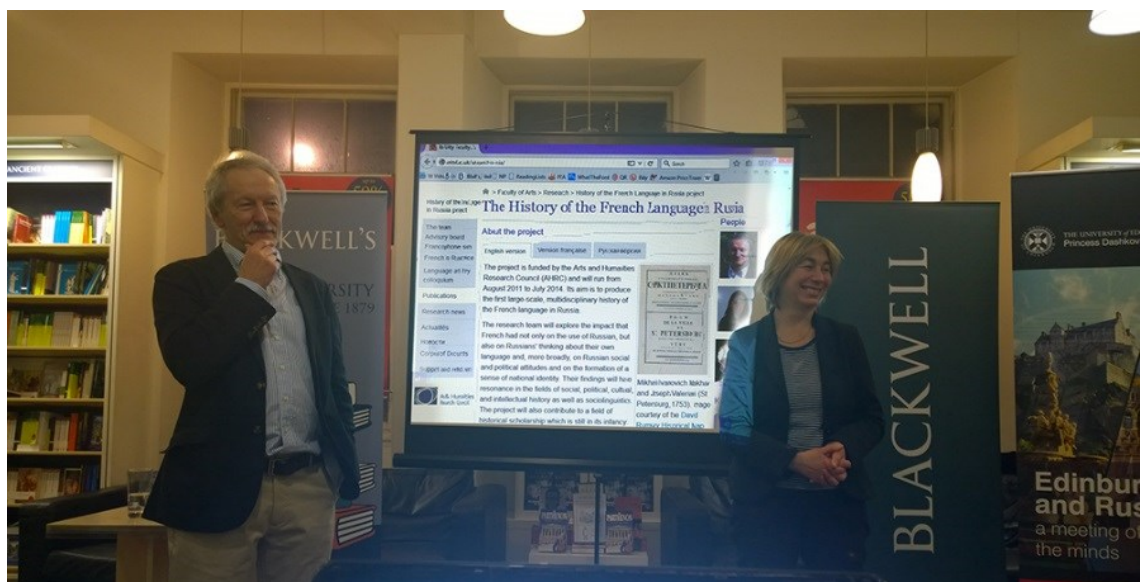
*French and Russian in Imperial Russia* has been published in two companion volumes which examine language use and language attitudes in eighteenth- and nineteenth-century Russia, focusing on the period from the Enlightenment to the age of Pushkin.

Set against the background of the rapid transformation of Russia into a major European power, the books consider the functions of multilingualism and the use of French as a prestige language among the elite, as well as the benefits of Franco-Russian bilingualism and the anxieties which it gave rise. Volume 1 'Language Use Among the Russian Elite' provides insights into the development and practice of speaking French at the Russian court and among the nobility. It examines linguistic practice, the use of French in Russia in various spheres, domains and genres, as well as the interplay between the two languages. Volume 2 'Language Attitudes and Identity' Volume 2 explores the impact of French on Russian language attitudes, especially among the literary community. It examines the ways in which perceptions of Russian Francophonie helped to shape social, political and cultural identity as Russia began to seek space of its own in the European cultural landscape. In the process, it investigates approaches to translation, journalistic debate about language, literary representation of devotees of French social practice and fashion, and manifestations of linguistic purism and patriotism.



In his talk, Professor Offord argued that *French and Russian in Imperial Russia* demonstrated that language was itself a social institution, a key factor in the conceptions that peoples or groups had of themselves, a political instrument, and a potent force in national life.

The book launch attracted a large and varied audience, and Blackwell's Bookshop proved an excellent venue for this event. The Princess Dashkova Centre would like to thank Blackwell's Bookshop and Edinburgh University Press for their help throughout in organising the event.





## A Poetry Evening with Peter France

**Presentation of the book 'Yevgeny Baratynsky. Half-Light and Other Poems'. Translated and introduced by Peter France. Arc, 2015.**

**Thursday, 29 October**

An inspirational evening of poetry in both English and Russian marked the publication of Peter France's new collection of translated poetry *Yevgeny Baratynsky. Half-Light and Other Poems*.

Peter France has produced multiple works on Russian and French literature (including *Poets of Modern Russia*, 1982) and edited *The Oxford Guide to Literature in English Translation* and the five-volume *Oxford History of Literary Translation in English*. He has translated French and Russian prose texts as well as several volumes of Russian poetry – Blok and Pasternak (with Jon Stallworthy), Mayakovsky, Mandelstam, and in particular Gennady Aygi, including *Selected Poems 1954 – 1994*, *Child-and-Rose*, *Salute – to Singing*, *Field-Russia*, and *Winter Revels*. He is a joint editor of *After Lermontov: Translation for Bicentenary* (with Robyn Marsack).



At the start of this event, Dr Boris Dralyuk of the University of St Andrews presented an overview of Baratynsky's life and oeuvre, both full of profound melancholy. Pushkin's contemporary, Baratynsky is virtually unknown amongst western audiences. As Peter France pointed out: 'Pushkin famously said of Baratynsky: "He is an exception among us, because he thinks"', and this has given rise to the standard view of Baratynsky as a "philosopher poet". ... The reader does well to bear in mind the words of the poet and critic Ilya Kutik: "As a poet Baratynsky was neither a philosopher nor a thinker. He was a fearless, dispassionate spectator of himself and his actions, seen in an epic light'.

An audience of over fifty people had the chance to enjoy Baratynsky's poems in both their original language and in Peter France's translation'.





## Sergey Parkhomenko: A Presentation of the ‘Project ‘The Last Known Address’: public memorial as the basis of civic movement’

Saturday, 28 November

One of the most exciting events of the season was an evening with the famous Russian journalist, publisher and civil rights activist Sergey Parkhomenko (‘Echo of Moscow’ radio station) who presented the ‘Last Address’ civic memory project which he initiated.

The purpose of this initiative is to perpetuate the memory of victims of the Soviet era political repressions. The idea of the ‘last address’ goes back to a similar German project dedicated to the memory of the Holocaust victims. A small plaque is affixed onto the façade of the house where the person executed by the regime lived before their arrest, and it lists the name, occupation, and dates of birth, death and rehabilitation. The project is linked to the archive of Russia’s ‘Memorial’ Foundation that contains data about victims of Soviet Union political repressions.



## Dashkova Open Research Seminars

**Dr Diana Izmailyan (RANKHiGS, Russia)**

**‘The Representation of the Russian economic crisis of 2014-15 in the UK national press: A corpus-assisted framing analysis study’**

Thursday, 1 October

Dr Diana Izmailyan is a lecturer at the Russian Presidential Academy of National Economy and Public Administration in Moscow. Her main research interests are in sociolinguistics, intercultural communication, critical discourse analysis and media studies.



This research project, which was entitled ‘The Representation of the Russian economic crisis of 2014-15 in the UK national press: A corpus-assisted framing analysis case study’ explored the discourses of the Russian economic crisis in the UK national press. This research aimed to reveal how these media representations influenced readers’ understanding of the societal impact of the crisis and consequently their vision of the political situation in Eastern Europe.

With the employment of computational corpus linguistic techniques, this research aimed to

uncover salient linguistic patterns through an analysis of a large volume of data using the quantitative corpus-assisted approach and qualitative frame identification and analysis.

Dr Izmailyan’s research established six dominant thematic frames which are represented by means of such cultural oppositions as ‘villain and victim’ or ‘friend and foe’. In the first frame package Russia is represented as a villain while Ukraine is a victim; the second and third frame packages portray the West as a villain, leaving Russia victimized economically; the fourth frame restores Russia’s authority as a villain, portraying how the Ukraine and the West are dependent economically on Russia; and the last two packages frame the principle actors as friends and foes simultaneously.

Diana Izmailyan’s selected analysis tools allowed for a more comprehensive and encompassing picture of the current economic situation in Russia, as opposed to one based on anecdotal assumptions in the complex geo-political context.

#### **Dr Margaret H. Beissinger (Princeton University, US)**

##### **‘Pentecostal Faith and Identity in Contemporary Romania: Religious Conversion among Traditional Romani Musicians’**

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> November

Based on fieldwork between 2006 and 2014 in southern Romania, Dr Beissinger’s presentation explored a trend among some Romani professional traditional musicians (lăutari, sg. lăutar) to adopt the Pentecostal faith, a transformation that radically alters their lives.

As Romani musicians embrace their new religious identity, they are apparently expected to reject their secular profession—music-making. Dr Margaret Beissinger discussed why Romani musicians are converting to Pentecostalism in the post-communist period in Romania, how they are adapting to a reshuffling of their professional priorities, and how they are managing to support their families without their former incomes.



#### **Professor Mark Beissinger (Princeton University, US)**

##### **‘The Changing Face of Revolution, 1900-2014’ (in collaboration with Transatlantic Seminar Series)**

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> November

Defining a revolutionary episode as a mass siege of an established government with the aims of displacing the incumbent regime and substantially altering the political or social order, Professor Beissinger examined the changing character of revolution as a mode of regime-change using a new dataset on revolutionary episodes from 1900 to 2014. He showed that we live in a revolutionary era in which attempts to overthrow government through large-scale mass mobilization occur at a significantly greater pace than was the case during the first half of the twentieth century or the Cold War. A combination of social and political forces – global urbanization, geopolitical change, and the emergence of new communications technologies – have led to a shift in the character and frequency of revolutionary activity worldwide.

While social revolution has grown marginalized, and the agrarian-bureaucratic societies that Theda Skocpol identified as so central to social revolution have now urbanized, a new model of urban civic revolt has emerged that aims to mass as many people as possible in central urban spaces in a concentrated period of time, with the aim of precipitating defections from an incumbent regime.

**Dr Vadim Golubev (St Petersburg University, Russia)**

**‘British and Russian media language: cultural and linguistic aspects of English-Russian translation’**

Thursday, 12 November



The talk discussed Russian translations of British newspaper articles published on the InoSML.ru website (‘foreign mass media in Russian’). This service, which is affiliated with the RIA Novosti News Agency and sponsored by the Federal Agency on Press and Mass Communications of Russia, is the most popular online resource for Russian translations of publications in other languages. The range of topics varies, but most of the translated articles are analytical essays

written by Western journalists and cover events relating to Russia. In his talk, Dr Golubev explored translation approaches implemented on the website, including abridged translation, translation summary and other choices motivated by a political agenda.

**Professor Alexander Nakhimovsky (Colgate University, US)**

**‘Habitus in Revolutionary Times: Struggles for Symbolic Capital in a Russian village in 1918’**

Thursday, 8 December

Through application of Pierre Bourdieu’s theories, Professor Alexander Nakhimovsky investigated how class struggle and personal relationships triangle were reflected in dialects of the characters of Lydia Seifullina’s novella ‘Humus’ (‘Peregnoi’). According to Nakhimovsky, the struggle between social classes in the first years that followed the Bolshevik Revolution was reflected in the struggle of social dialects. Changes in the latter, in turn, could be described as a symptom of transformation of habitus of intelligentsia and peasants. Meanwhile, the competition of social dialects in Seifullina’s novella could be analysed as struggle for symbolic power.



## Co-operation with DELC's Language and Violence Research strand Ethics Research Afternoon

Monday 7 December

The Dashkova Centre is involved in the Department of European Languages and Cultures interdisciplinary 'Language and Violence' research stream. As part of this activity the Centre hosted a workshop devoted to Ethical Issues in Humanities Research.

The workshop's roundtable was moderated by Lara Ryazanova-Clarke (Russian). The speakers: Emmanuelle Lacorre-Martin (French), Frauke Mathes (German), Vera Zvereva (Russian), Peter Davies (German), and Mathias Thaler (Politics), and discussing participants: Sharon Dean-Cox (Translation Studies), Charlotte Gleghorn (Hispanic Studies), Mihaela Mihai (Politics), Raquel Ribeiro (Hispanic Studies), Carlos Soler Montes (Hispanic Studies) and Kath Swarbrick (French) made the roundtable a very productive and lively event.



The workshop focused on the following issues: the ethical questions in literature, culture, and film: representations of 'the other' in various historical contexts; ethical issues of representation of religion, gender, ethnicity, and environment; ethical implications of responsibility and power; moral/civic values; challenges and problems of Ethics and research; and Ethical reading and teaching of literature and culture.

**The Dashkova Centre wishes you all a Merry Christmas and a Very Happy New Year!**

### We're on the Web!

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### The Princess Dashkova Russian Centre

The University of Edinburgh

14 Buccleuch Place, EH8 9LN, Edinburgh, Tel: 0131 650 99 02, Email: [Dashkova.Centre@ed.ac.uk](mailto:Dashkova.Centre@ed.ac.uk).