

SOUND of the SUN

Paintings, Photographs and Ceramics
from Vladimir, Russia
An Illinois State University and Sister Cities Event

JUNE 2 - AUGUST 2, 1998



UNIVERSITY GALLERIES

110 Center for the Visual Arts, Illinois State University
Normal, Illinois 61790-5620, (309) 438-5487

Opening Reception:

TUESDAY, JUNE 2 AT 7:00 P.M.

A welcome from Normal Mayor, Kent Karracker, and Bloomington Mayor, Judy Markowitz, will be followed by a short presentation by curator, Debra Risberg and a reception.

The exhibition will travel to The Mitchell Museum at Cedarhurst, Mt. Vernon, Illinois. Call (618) 242-1236 for more information.

CHILD/PARENT PROGRAM

Saturday, June 20, from 10 am. to 12 pm.

Russian Fairytales, told by Ann White, will be followed by a tour of the art exhibition with curator, Debra Risberg.

Pre-registration required.
Call (309) 438-5487 to register.

A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF VLADIMIR

Vladimir, Russia has a long and complex history. Established one thousand years ago, Vladimir predates Moscow and was an early capital of Russia. The Vladimir region, also referred to as "The Golden Ring," is known for its ancient cathedrals and was once a center of Russian Orthodox Icon painting. Icons are still restored and created within the city. The city is home to many artists. Some teach in the art schools while others, trained in traditional methods, make a living selling their work. Vladimir is also home to several of Russia's most revered choirs, a world-class gymnastics school and two universities.

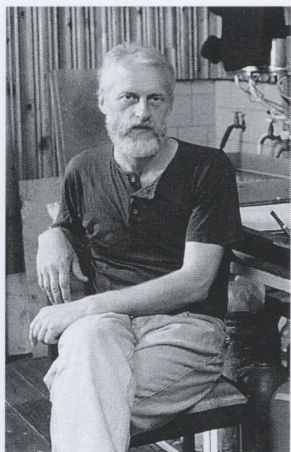
With a population of approximately 400,000, Vladimir is a major industrial area, producing everything from tractors, to military hardware to textiles. Most people live in large apartment buildings erected during the Soviet period and use the trolley for transportation. Moscow is only 130 miles away and St. Petersburg can be reached while sleeping on the night train from Vladimir.

THE SISTER CITY CONNECTION

Our sister city connection with Vladimir dates back to 1986, before the end of the cold war. Since then, many good friendships, business ventures and cultural exchanges have been made between our two communities. The members of the Bloomington/Normal Sister Cities Association are busy planning student and faculty exchanges, a garden project, visiting lecturers, group tours and a variety of other activities throughout the year. New members are always welcome. If you would like to participate in the association please call the President of our local chapter, Orlyn Edge, at (309) 452-3021.



Sergei Skuratov, *Bell Ringer, Suzdal, 1995*



Sergei Skuratov



Olga Gollman



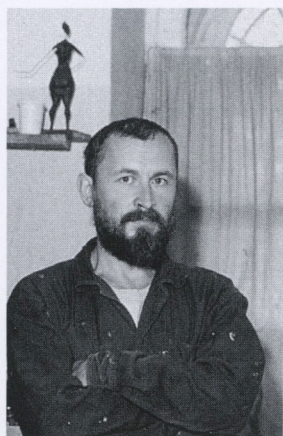
Alexei Veselkin, *Untitled*, enamel on metal, 23 x 23 cm, 1995



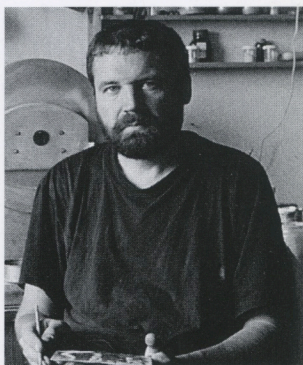
Leonid Kosinstev, *The Birth of Democracy*, oil on muslin, 90 x 88 cm, 1992 - 1994



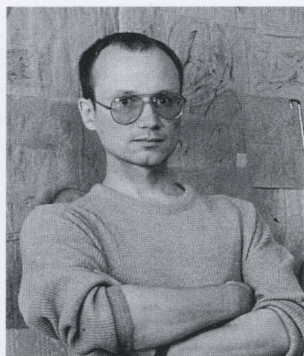
Yuri Lebedenko, *Untitled*, oil on linen, 162 x 196 cm, 1993-97



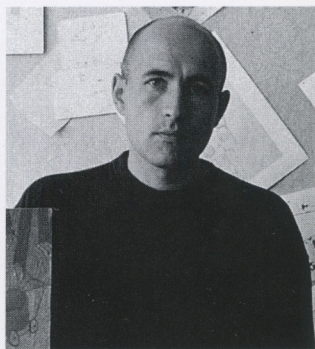
Yuri Lebedenko



Alexei Veselkin



Leonid Kosinstev



Yuri Negodaev

ARTISTS' PORTRAITS BY MARK RABUNG



Raisa Vartsava



Raisa Vartsava, *Untitled*
porcelain, 1996



Olga Gollman, *Actors*, 88 x 75 cm, oil on linen, 1997

A C K N O W L E D G E M E N T S

RUSSIAN SPONSORS

This exhibition would not have been possible without the generous in-kind and financial support of Serendipity, a consulting and development firm in Vladimir. Ron Pope, President/Founder of Serendipity and Illinois State University Political Science Professor, provided the contacts and resources necessary for me to work in Russia. If you are interested in travel, business and educational opportunities in Vladimir you can contact Serendipity at (309) 454-2364.

Professor Alexei Altonen in Vladimir coordinated studio visits, meals, travel in Russia, places to stay and social events during my two visits. Alexei's fluent English was invaluable. Galina Altonen, head of the English program at Serendipity's American Home Project, and all of Serendipity's Russian staff were extremely helpful.

Sergei Miliaev provided housing and introduced me to several artists from Kazakhstan, including Yuri Negodaev and Olga Gollman. Vladimir Miliaev spent endless hours interpreting discussions between the artists and myself. Rima and Nellie Miliaev provided delicious home-cooked meals. Alexei Veselkin provided housing and travel in Suzdal. Sergei Skuratov photographed the artists' work, and helped with countless details and negotiations too numerous to list.

-Debra Risberg, Curator-

AMERICAN SPONSORS

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The Bloomington/Normal Sister Cities Association

Elizabeth Weir

David Proeber

The Pantagraph

International Studies at Illinois State University

State Farm Insurance

Thomas and Nancy Malone

The Town of Normal

This program is supported in part by a grant from the Illinois Arts Council, a state agency, the McLean County Arts Center, and the Maurice Irvin Foundation.

Cover Image: Yuri Negodaev, *Three Musicians*,
oil on canvas, 60 x 73 cm, 1997

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SUMMER HOURS
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CLOSED SUNDAY

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