I often hear from friends of the Harriman that they would have loved to attend an event but couldn’t make it for one reason or another. Well, all hope is not lost. Over the last year or so, we have video-taped many of our events and posted them on the Harriman Website. This is a great way to catch up on events that might not have fit your schedule. For example, events from the spring semester currently available include, “Nonconformism and Dissent in the Soviet Bloc: Guiding Legacy or Passing Memory?” a three-day conference hosted by the Harriman in spring with perspectives on the topic from Ukraine, Russia, and Poland; a reading by renowned Russian author Ludmila Ulitskaya from her new novel Daniel Stein, Interpreter (Overlook Press, 2011); a roundtable on Emma Gilligan’s Terror in Chechnya: Russia and the Tragedy of Civilians in War with commentary by Kimberly Marten of Barnard College, Jason Lyall of Yale University, and Diederik Lohman of Human Rights Watch; and panels from last year’s very successful core project “Human Rights in the Post-Communist World: Strategies and Outcomes,” including events that focus on transitional justice and the politics of international media rankings.

These events are available at http://www.harrimaninstitute.org/events/event_videos.html. We hope to expand our video operations this year so please take advantage of this option if you cannot make it to campus. If you don’t have time for the video, you can also read the highlights of many of our events on the Harriman website at “Events in Brief” which is very ably edited by Masha Udensiva-Brenner. You can find these informative short reports at http://www.harrimaninstitute.org/events/lecture_transcripts.html.

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This summer has been busier than most around the 12th floor thanks in part to the Summer Institute “America Engages Eurasia” organized by Edward Kasinec and Robert Davis. Thanks to a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, Harriman hosted about two dozen researchers from June 13 to July 1 who came to learn about how academia in the United States has studied Russia and the Soviet Union from a variety of disciplinary perspectives. Edward and Rob brought a tremendous group of scholars to campus, including Valerie Bunce of Cornell University, David Engerman of Brandeis University, Mark von Hagen of Arizona State, Michael Kennedy of Brown University, and a host of current Harriman faculty members. Many thanks to Edward and Rob for their efforts in putting together a great program and to those Harriman faculty members who participated.

Now that the Summer Institute is behind us and August is drawing to a close, it is a good time to look forward to some events that are planned for the fall. Of course new events are always in the works, so keep an eye on the Harriman Institute Website for updates. On October 15th, the Harriman Institute will partner with Carnegie Hall to host a “Discovery Day” dedicated to “Tchaikovsky in St. Petersburg.” The first concert at Carnegie Hall in 1891 was conducted by and featured the work of Tchaikovsky and Carnegie is returning to this theme this fall as part of its 120th anniversary celebration with performances by Anna Netrebko, Valery Gergiev and others. In addition, from 1:00 to 6:00 on October 15 in Weill Auditorium at Carnegie Hall, Harriman will host panels that explore St. Petersburg at the turn of the century, through its architecture, politics, music, culture, and dance. Thanks To Lynn Garafola and Catharine Nepomnyashchy for organizing this event.

In mid-November, Harriman will host a high-powered group of commentators on Russian politics, including Konstantin Sonin from the New Economics School and Vedemosti, Masha Lipmann from the Moscow Carnegie Center, Yulia Latynina from Novaya Gazeta, and Nikolai Petrov of the Moscow Carnegie Center. This should be a great opportunity to gain the latest insights in Russian politics on the eve of parliamentary and presidential elections.

In early December, Alex Cooley and Lincoln Mitchell will oversee a two-day conference titled “Frozen Conflicts Twenty Years after the Fall of the Soviet Union” to explore this vexing foreign policy issue. Thanks to a stellar group of scholars and analysts with deep expertise on the region who have committed to attend, this should be an exciting and important event.

Looking into the spring, the Harriman Institute will continue our successful partnership with the Paul Klebnikov Foundation to hold a fundraising event in February. We will provide more information on this event as our plans develop.

I look forward to seeing you in September.

—Tim Frye

Kathleen Harriman Mortimer (1917-2011)

Kathleen Harriman Mortimer, daughter of W. Averell Harriman, died at her cottage in Arden, New York, on Thursday, February 17, 2011. She was 93 years old. A reporter for the International News Service and Newsweek in the 1940s, Kathleen Harriman was the official hostess at the Moscow Embassy and diplomatic functions when her father was U.S. Ambassador to Moscow. She accompanied her father to the Yalta Conference in 1945 and was her father’s representative to investigate the Katyn Massacre in 1944. According to the New York Herald Tribune she was the “best-known America woman in the Soviet Union.” Her Moscow tour of duty ended with being presented with two magnificent horses by Stalin.

Mrs. Mortimer has been a steadfast friend of the Harriman Institute since its founding. She will be greatly missed.
The 2011-12 Harriman Institute Core Project is a discussion on migrations, of various times and for various reasons and among various countries. Alan Timberlake, Professor of Slavic Languages and Director of the Institute on East Central Europe, is the Project Director. Marina Mikhailova, Harriman Institute Postdoctoral Fellow, will investigate labor movement from Lithuanian to England as one case of migration in recent years. Dr. Mikhailova received her Ph.D. from the University of Chicago, where she defended her dissertation on “Projecting Europe: The Politics of Youth in Contemporary Lithuania.”

Activities of the project include two full-scale conferences:

On December 1-2, 2011, the Harriman Institute will co-host with the Kazakh Embassy a conference on the migration from Asia to the Americas.

On March 2-3, 2012, the Harriman Institute will sponsor, together with the Institute on East Central Europe, the conference “Labor Moves in the Post-Soviet World (Impetus, Experience, Effects, Policy).” The conference will examine the movement of people for economic reasons from former Soviet republics to Russia and movement of people from states of the Soviet sphere (republics and Eastern Bloc countries) westward. Much work has been done on this kind of immigration and a set of basic factors have been identified. We hope that the conference will lead to a more polyvalent approach to the mechanisms of labor migration. In addition, by including westward movement as well as movement towards Russia, we hope to encourage a comparative approach. Finally, we will invite NGO representatives who deal with the problems of migrants on the ground. For this more public discussion we will hold a special panel on the evening of Friday, March 2.

We are fortunate to be able to host an event in the fall that comes out of Rebecca Kobrin’s “Voices of the New Russian-Jewish Diaspora,” an autobiography contest, co-sponsored by the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society and the Harriman Institute. Kobrin is Russell and Bettina Knapp Assistant Professor of American Jewish History at Columbia.

The planning committee for Core Project events includes: Elise Giuliano (Visiting Assistant Professor, Political Science Department, Barnard College/Harriman Institute) and Marina Mikhailova (2011-12 Harriman Postdoctoral Fellow) and the Core Project Director.

In April the Harriman Institute again hosted the Annual World Convention of the Association for the Study of Nationalities (ASN). This year’s convention was the biggest in its sixteen-year history, drawing over 700 participants to attend 140 panels held over the course of three days. More than half of the participants came from outside the U.S. Highlights of the 2011 convention included book panels on Stepan, Linz, and Yadav’s Crafting State-Nations, Columbia and HI alum Lara Nettelfield’s Courting Democracy in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and HI Visiting Assistant Professor Elise Giuliano’s Constructing Grievance: Ethnic Nationalism in Russia’s Republics. The ASN film festival, an integral component of the overall convention, featured numerous important new documentaries covering topics from corruption in Russia to the Armenian Genocide, and human trafficking in Eastern Europe. The co-directors of the 2011 ASN World Convention were HI program assistants Karina Grinstein and Liya Mikhailova.
**Emma Lieber** received her Ph.D. in Russian Literature from Columbia University in 2011. Her dissertation, which takes as its starting point Leo Tolstoy’s famous contention that the works of the Russian literary canon represent “deviation[s] from European forms,” addresses the question of what is distinctive, or “deviant,” about the Russian novel. It examines two pairs of English and Russian novels from two centuries—Daniel Defoe’s *Moll Flanders* (1722) alongside Mikhail Chulkov’s *The Comely Cook* (1770), and Charles Dickens’s *Bleak House* (1853) alongside Fyodor Dostoevsky’s *The Brothers Karamazov* (1880)—concentrating particularly on questions of narrative form, the human body, and the body politic. At the Harriman Institute, she will be developing her dissertation into a book-length manuscript by expanding the catalog of Russian-English pairings to examine Laurence Sterne’s *A Sentimental Journey* (1768) against Nikolai Gogol’s *Dead Souls* (1842), and George Eliot’s *Daniel Deronda* (1876) with Leo Tolstoy’s *Anna Karenina* (1877). Throughout both projects, she asserts that the Russian novelistic canon is distinguished by its intimations that healing, re-integration, and recovery—as well as the coexistence of both personal freedom and communal rapport—are possible in the real world and in realist narrative.

**Elidor Méhilli** received his Ph.D. in modern European and Eurasian history at Princeton University in 2011 and A.B. and B.S. degrees from Cornell University in 2005. At the Harriman Institute, he will prepare his dissertation for publication and contribute to a workshop in February 2012 on new approaches to Sovietization. Based on extensive research in Albanian, British, German, Italian, Russian, and US archives, Méhilli’s dissertation explores socialist transnational exchange in ideas, practices, and technologies throughout the so-called Second World. Through the angle of postwar Albania, a recipient of Yugoslav, Soviet, Eastern bloc, and Chinese developmental aid, the project argues that Soviet-inspired circulations amounted to a kind of socialist globalization. One chapter of the dissertation won the 2011 Webb-Smith prize at the 46th Annual Walter Prescott Webb Memorial Lecture Series on “Transnational Perspectives on the Soviet Bloc, 1944-1991” and is forthcoming in a volume edited by Patryk Babiracki and Kenyon Zimmer. Previously, Méhilli has held a Mellon fellowship in contemporary history at The George Washington University and a Whiting fellowship at Princeton. He is currently working on two book chapters on transnational approaches to socialist material culture and the dissemination of Mao Zedong’s books. Other work is forthcoming in the *Journal of Cold War Studies* and in *Kritika: Explorations in Russian and Eurasian History*. (Photo © David Hawxhurst/Wilson Center).

**Marina Mikhaylova** has a B.A. from Rutgers University and an M.A. in International Relations from Yale University. She received her Ph.D. in Socio-Cultural Anthropology from the University of Chicago in December of 2010. Her research interests include nationalism and xenophobia, language ideologies, transnational governance, migration, and urban youth. Marina’s geographic areas of interest are the post-Soviet region and the European Union. Her dissertation “Projecting Europe: The Politics of Youth in Contemporary Lithuania” is based on fieldwork with Lithuanian non-profit organizations working with “at-risk” youth. The dissertation argues that the EU increasingly operates through a project-driven mode of governance and analyzes the effects of the EU on local political economy, social relations, as well as practices and beliefs of young people in Lithuania.

Marina is one of the coordinators of Harriman Institute’s core project, “Peoples in Motion.” During the term of the fellowship she will build on her research to begin a new project on labor migration from Lithuania to the U.K. She will explore transnational mobility engendered by the EU’s political economy and emergent identity structures of migrant workers. Marina’s research will include an ethnographic component focused on the Lithuanian community in London. In the future she plans to extend her research on migration to the post-Soviet region in order to acquire a broader perspective on labor migrant flows. During the term of the fellowship Marina will also work on revising her dissertation for publication.
Visiting Scholars

*The Harriman Institute extends a warm welcome to our incoming Visiting Scholars. For updates on Visiting Scholars, please consult the Website.*

**Abdygaliyeva**, Gaukhar, PhD Candidate, Kazakh State Law University, Kazakhstan. “Petroleum Petroleum in the Caspian Sea.” gauharke@gmail.com

**Anlar**, Aslihan, PhD Candidate, Middle East Technical University, Turkey. “The Black Sea Region in Post-Cold War Era.” aa3137@columbia.edu

**Gershenson**, Olga, Associate Professor, University of Massachusetts. “The Holocaust in Soviet & Russian Cinema.” gershensonjudnea.umass.edu

**Khvostunova**, Olga, Assistant Professor, Moscow State University, Russia. “Role of Think Tanks in Public Political Discourse: The US and Russian Experience.” Olga.khvostunova@gmail.com

**Kuhn**, Maximilian, PhD Candidate, Freie Universität Berlin. “Marine Transportation and Public Policy.” mk3235@columbia.edu

**Lordkipanidze**, Gocha, Assistant Professor, International Law, University of Georgia. “Global Politics.” gl2322@columbia.edu

**Nurtazina**, Maral, Professor, History, L. N. Gumilyov Eurasian National University, Kazakhstan. “Kazakhstan in the World Community.” mn2520@columbia.edu

**Snip**, Inge, MA Candidate, Uppsala University, Sweden. “Formal and Informal Ties Between the Intelligentsia.” inge.snip@gmail.com

**Swietochowski**, Tadeusz, Independent Researcher, “Russian Azerbaijan 1905-1920.” ts341@columbia.edu

**Udensiva**, Natasha, Independent Researcher. “Geopolitics of Russian Gas.” nu2122@columbia.edu

**Zhanara Nauruzbayeva** is a sociocultural anthropologist who received her Ph.D. from Stanford University (2011) and her B.A. from Bryn Mawr College (2002). She is currently revising her dissertation into a book entitled *Creating Markets: Artists and Cultural Capital in Postsocialist Kazakhstan*. The project is an ethnography of Kazakhstan’s art world after the dissolution of the Soviet Union. It relates how different generations of visual artists have adjusted to the withdrawal of state sponsorship, have recruited private consumers, and have begun commercializing their artwork. Her work tracks how Soviet-era elites recalibrate their status under market conditions. Nauruzbayeva’s research has been supported by fellowships from the Mrs. Giles Whiting Foundation and Social Science Research Council’s Eurasia Program.

Tsveta Petrova received her Ph.D. from the Government Department at Cornell University in January 2011 and spent the last academic year as a fellow at the Davis Center for Russian and Eurasian Studies at Harvard University.

Petrova’s work focuses on the study of democracy, democratization, and democracy promotion. At the Harriman Institute, she will be working on a book about the democracy promotion efforts of the Eastern European members of the EU. The book examines the motivations, approaches, and impact of the Eastern European governmental and non-governmental actors supporting the democratization of their neighborhood.

Petrova is the recipient of several teaching and research awards as well as numerous fellowships and grants, including a National Council for Eurasian and East European research grant, a SSRC Dissertation Completion fellowship, a Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars research grant, an IREX grant, a Smith Richardson Foundation grant, and a Council for European Studies Pre-dissertation fellowship. Her articles have appeared in *Comparative Political Studies* and *Europe-Asia Studies.*
Mark Andryczyk (Ukrainian Studies) published “Traces of Memory in Taras Prokhasko’s Prose” in the Ukrainian Quarterly (Spring-Summer 2010).

In Spring 2011 Alexander Cooley (Political Science) was promoted to Full Professor in the Department of Political Science at Barnard College and awarded the title Tow Professor for Distinguished Scholars and Practitioners. Cooley also joined the Board of Advisors of the Open Society Foundation’s Central Eurasia Project. Over the course of the semester, Cooley gave invited lectures at MIT, Carnegie Moscow, the Center for Strategic and International Studies, the National Committee for American Foreign Policy and the 10th Annual Shanghai Cooperation Organization studies academic conference in Shanghai. He is currently completing a book on US-Russia-China competition in Central Asia for Oxford University Press.

Istvan Deak (History, Emeritus) delivered public lectures on “Hungary and the Jewish Question” at the CUNY Graduate Center (April 2011) and “Jews and Non-Jews in Hungary” at the University of Toronto in March 2011, and took part in roundtable discussions on Timothy Snyder’s Bloodlands and Larry Wolff’s Galicia, both held at Columbia. New publications include “Antisemitism in Eastern Europe since 1848” in Albert S. Lindemann and Richard S. Levy, eds., Antisemitism: A History (Oxford University Press, 2010); “Helden aus Ungarn,” Europäische Rundschau (Vienna), 2010/1; and “Hungary: The Threat,” The New York Review of Books, April 28, 2011; in Hungarian, Magyarország egyépáti állam lett,” Amerikai Népszava, April 12, 2011.

Anna Frajlich-Zajac’s (Slavic) contributed the book chapters “He Also Knew How to be Gracious,” published in An Invisible Rope. Portraits of Czeslaw Milosz, edited by Cynthia Haven (Ohio University, Swallow Press, 2011) and “Moja rodzina Europa,” Rodzina Europa. Pięć minut później, edited by Anna Kałuża and Grzegorz Jankowicz (korporacja halart / kraków 2011). She travelled to Poland this summer to promote her new books Laboratorium (2010) and Czeslaw Milosz, lekcje (Wydawnictwo Forma, 2011). Besides public readings in Warsaw, Krakow, Szczecin, Poznan, and Lublin, she took part in workshops and seminars at Jagiellonian University, University in Szczecin, and Catholic University in Lublin.

Timothy Frye (HI Director, Political Science) was given an award for co-authoring, with Irina Denisova, Markus Eller, and Ekaterina Zhuravskaya, the article “Who Wants to Revise Privatization?” The Complement-

(Continued on page 7)

Two Harriman Faculty Members Named 2011 Fellows of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences

Mark A. Mazower and Michael Scammell have been named 2011 Fellows of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. Founded during the Revolutionary War by John Adams, James Bowdoin, John Hancock and other leaders of the new nation, the purpose of the society “is to provide a forum for scholars, professionals, and government and business leaders to work together on behalf of the democratic interests of the republic.” Its members include more than 250 Nobel laureates and 60 Pulitzer Prize winners.


Michael Scammell is a professor in the School of the Arts Writing Program, as well as a noted biographer, translator and literary critic. His recent biography of Arthur Koestler, Koestler: The Literary and Political Odyssey of a Twentieth Century Skeptic (2009), won the PEN/Jacqueline Bograd Weld Award for Biography, among other honors. His translations include The Gift and The Defense by Vladimir Nabokov, and Childhood, Boyhood and Youth, by Leo Tolstoy. He is currently revising his earlier published translation of Crime and Punishment by Fyodor Dostoevsky for the Modern Library.
tarity of Market Skills and Institutions,” *American Political Science Review* (2009). The award was an honorable mention and was given by the National Prize for Applied Economics from a consortium of Russian institutions, the World Bank, and the IMF. Frye is the Academic Supervisor of the newly created International Center for the Study of Institutions and Development at the Higher School of Economics in Moscow.


**Elise Giuliano’s** (Political Science) new book, *Constructing Grievance: Ethnic Nationalism in Russia’s Republics*, was published earlier this year by Cornell University Press. A special panel was devoted to Giuliano’s book at the convention of the Association for the Study of Nationalities in April.


**Rebecca Kobrin’s** (History) *Jewish Bialystok and Its Diaspora* (Indiana UP, 2010) was a finalist in the National Jewish Book Award competition.

Development and Fund-raising, and welcomes development and fund-raising input and advice from alums and other friends of the institute.

Mark Mazower (History) delivered the Eugene Lunn lecture at UC Davis and the Stephane Gerasimos lecture at Sabanci University, Istanbul.

Academic Studies Press has just published Frank Miller’s (Slavic) 50 Writers. An Anthology of 20th-Century Russian Short Stories, co-authored with Valentina Brougher (Georgetown) and Mark Lipovetsky (Univ. of Colorado). Miller’s Beginner’s Russian with Interactive Online Workbook, co-authored with Olga Kagan and Anna Kudyma (UCLA), was published in 2010.

Ronald Meyer (Slavic) spent two weeks in St. Petersburg as a Research Fellow of the Likhachev Foundation in May 2011. He travels to Moscow in September to take part in the International Symposium on Intercultural Approaches to the History of Translation to be held at the Russian State Humanities University, where he will read a paper on the multiple English translations of Chekhov’s “The House with the Mezzanine.”


Neni Panourgia (Anthropology) has been awarded a Charles H. Revson Foundation Fellowship for 2011-2012 by the Center for Advance Holocaust Studies at the US Holocaust Memorial Museum.

Gary Shteyngart (School of the Arts) was awarded the Bollinger Everyman Wodehouse Prize for comic fiction for his novel Super Sad True Love Story. The award, named in honor of P.G. Wodehouse, is sponsored by Bollinger, a producer of sparkling wines, and Everyman’s Library, a division of Random House.

Jack Snyder’s (Political Science) new publications include Religion and International Relations Theory, editor and author of introductory and concluding chapters (Columbia UP, 2011); “Tensions within Realism: 1954 and After,” in Nicholas Guilhot, ed., The Invention of International Relations Theory: Realism, the Rockefeller Foundation, and the 1954 Conference on Theory (Columbia UP, 2011); “Realism, Refugees, and Strategies of Humanitarianism,” in Alexander Betts and Gil Loescher, eds., Refugees in International Relations (Oxford UP, 2010).

Tatiana Smoliarova’s (Slavic Languages) book Zrimaia lirika. Derzhavin was published last year by NLO in Moscow. An English-language version is being prepared.


Elizabeth Kridl Valkenier (Art History) participated in a two-day conference on Russian art held at

Catharine Nepomnyashchy Recognized by AATSEEL for her Outstanding Contribution to the Profession

The award for Outstanding Contribution was presented to Catharine Nepomnyashchy at AATSEEL’s annual conference in January; the citation reads as follows: “The 2011 winner of the AATSEEL [American Association for Teachers of Slavic and East European Languages] Award for Outstanding Contribution to the Profession is Catharine Theimer Nepomnyashchy, Ann Whitney Olin Professor of Russian at Barnard College and Columbia University. One of her former graduate students commented that Cathy would make a great salon hostess in the nineteenth century style: she loves to bring people together and to combine the pleasures of the intellect and of personal interaction. She has been broadly active in the profession, especially in her term as director of the Harriman Institute at Columbia University, organizing numerous conferences and participating in even more. As President of AATSEEL, she organized a number of roundtables that drew junior and senior scholars as well as important figures from funding institutions to discuss issues in the profession and in the current state of scholarship. Professor Nepomnyashchy is a member of the Advisory Council of the Kennan Insitite, and was Chair of the Executive Committee of the Slavic Division of the Modern Language Association. She has been a generous and energetic mentor to graduate students, junior colleagues, and friends and colleagues of her own stature. For all these reasons, we are delighted to present her the AATSEEL award for Outstanding Contribution to the Profession.”
Yale University in March 2011. The following month she spoke at meetings at Brooklyn Public Library and Columbia, held in conjunction with the publication of An Invisible Rope, a volume of memoirs about Czeslaw Milosz to which she is a contributor. In June she participated in the NEH Summer Institute, “American Engages Eurasia,” organized by Edward Kasinec and Robert Davis.


Gifts to the Harriman Institute

We take great pride and pleasure in acknowledging the generous gifts made to the various funds and endowments of the Harriman Institute. Contributions from friends and alumni were earmarked this past year for the John Hazard Fellowship, the MARS Fellowship, and the Harriman Institute General Fund. For information on these and other funding possibilities, please contact Business Manager Frank Bohan (fjb7@columbia.edu; 212 854-6217).


Peter Juviler
2011 Harriman Institute Alumnus of the Year

Peter H. Juviler, Professor Emeritus of Political Science at Barnard College, and 1954 graduate of the Russian Institute, was awarded the Harriman Institute Alumnus of the Year at the annual Alumni Reception, once again held at the Russian Samovar, on April 26, 2011.

Juviler, a long-time advocate for the study of human rights at Columbia and Barnard, served as co-director of the Center for the Study of Human Rights and co-chair of the University Seminar on Human Rights at Columbia, as well as the Director of Human Rights Studies at Barnard College.


Nonconformism and Dissent in the Soviet Bloc:
Guiding Legacy or Passing Memory?

The Ukrainian Studies Program, Harriman Institute, at Columbia University presented a conference entitled “Nonconformism and Dissent in the Soviet Bloc: Guiding Legacy or Passing Memory?” (Mar. 30-Apr. 1, 2011). The conference focused on political and cultural nonconformism in Ukraine, Russia, and Poland in the 1960s to 80s. Bringing together an international assemblage of scholars studying that period, as well as several noteworthy dissidents and artists, the conference provided a historical overview of the period and presented the latest research conducted on the subject. The conference also offered an analysis of the political and cultural legacies of these movements in today’s Ukraine, Russia, and Poland. The three-day conference was launched with an evening keynote address by Dr. Myroslav Marynovych, former Ukrainian dissident and prisoner of conscience and, currently, Vice-Rector for the University Mission of the Ukrainian Catholic University (L’viv, Ukraine). Days two and three included panels and roundtables followed by cultural programming in the evenings showcasing achievements in nonconformist film, music and literature of this era. The Conference concluded with a special concert at the Ukrainian Museum by Victor Morozov, a legendary nonconformist cultural figure in Soviet Ukraine and a major recording artist in Ukraine today.


The conference was organized in collaboration with the East Central European Center (Columbia University), the Polish Cultural Institute (New York), and The Ukrainian Museum.

Photo: Dissidents’ Roundtable: Catharine Nepomnyashchy (moderator), Pavel Litvinov, Myroslav Marynovych, Henryk Wujec, John Mieciel (interpreter)

Contemporary Ukrainian Literature Series
Serhiy Zhadan “Gospels & Spirituals”

On December 2, 2010, Serhiy Zhadan, a writer based in Kharkiv, Ukraine, was the featured guest of the Contemporary Ukrainian Literature Series, cosponsored by the Ukrainian Studies Program at the Harriman Institute, Columbia University, and the Kennan Institute. Mr. Zhadan is the most popular poet of the post-independence generation in Ukraine. Zhadan’s appearance marked the seventh program in the series, which began in the fall of 2007 and has featured Andrei Kurkov, Taras Chubai, Mara’na Savka, Andriy Bondar, Yuri Andrukhovych and Taras Prokhasko. Mr. Zhadan recited poems from his many collections of poetry and read a selection of his prose writing. In addition, Zhadan and the event’s host, Mark Andryczyk, discussed, among other topics, Kharkiv’s position as a center of contemporary Ukrainian (and Russian) culture, his relationship with writers of the visimdesiatnyky (the 80s generation), his musical project Sobaky v Kosmosi (Dogs in Space) and about his play Chervonyi Elvis (Red Elvis), which is currently being staged in Ukraine. As has been the case with all events in the series, the event was conducted in English; Yuri Shevchuk interpreted for Mr. Zhadan and a handout of English-language translations of featured texts was provided for the audience. The standing-room-only audience at the Columbia event was provided with a special treat when Virlana Tkacz and Wanda Phipps, of the Yara Arts group, read several of their translations of Zhadan’s poems alongside the author. The Contemporary Ukrainian Literature Series will hold its next event in the fall of 2011.

For information about the Ukrainian Studies Program, please contact Program Coordinator Dr. Mark Andryczyk: ukrainianstudies@columbia.edu or 212-854-4697.
Congratulations, Graduates!

Master of Arts in Regional Studies: Russia, Eurasia, and Eastern Europe
Megan Ausen
Denis Batalov
Tyler James Callaway
Michael Golebiowski
Liya Mikhaylova
Yuto Ozawa
Nataliya Rovenskaya
Nathaniel Schenkkan
Joke Wils

SIPA Russia Regional Specialization
Kelsey Campbell
Julia Chardavoine
Mergen Dyussenov
Karina Grinstein
Matthew Schaaf
Sarvinoz Sara Shamsudinova

SIPA East Central Europe Specialization
Sian Griffiths
Okelsey Krylov
Jennifer Otterson
Oritse Uku

Harriman Institute Certificate
Megan Ausen
Karina Grinstein
Liya Mikhaylova
Nathaniel Schenkkan

Center on East Central Europe Certificate
Cynthia Bernstein
Tyler James Callaway
Julia Chardavoine
Hillen Francke
Joke Wils

Nataliya Rovenskaya
MA in Regional Studies: Russia, Eurasia, and Europe, 2011

“...I was able to tailor my studies as a MARS-REERS student at Columbia to my specific academic interests. I became interested in studying media freedom in Russia and Ukraine as influenced by the legal framework in each country. Several Harriman Institute courses and professors inspired me to take this direction and guided me as I researched and wrote my thesis. I supplemented my research with classes from the School of Journalism, the Law School and School of International and Public Affairs. I found doors always to be open when I looked for assistance. The Harriman Institute and the MARS-REERS program facilitated and encouraged this academic curiosity. “One of my favorite aspects of being a MARS-REERS student was the exposure to the large number of events the Harriman Institute hosts. World leaders and ambassadors, renowned journalists, scholars and authors comprise the long list of people who speak at Harriman events each year. The exposure to these people was incredible and really influenced me in setting my professional goals.

“I received guidance from the Harriman Institute’s very collaborative community of staff, faculty, and students. Maybe it is because we are a small community, but I always felt like the Harriman faculty and staff were interested in helping me and always available for consultation. My fellow students and I became a close-knit network as well, each of us eager to inspire and aid one another academically and professionally. Inspired and encouraged by several courses and professors at the Harriman Institute, I chose to tailor my coursework to focus on Eastern European foreign policy with an emphasis on civil liberties advocacy.

“The Harriman Institute exposed me to a variety of perspectives on Russian and Ukrainian democratic development scholarship. I ultimately chose to write my thesis on the soars and tumbles of media freedom in Ukraine — which was particularly exciting and relevant because the last year has been the most turbulent year for media freedom in the country.”

Nataliya graduated in May after writing her M.A. thesis, "Ukrainian Media Collapses: Yanukovych’s Systemic Censorship Campaigns Surpass those of Kuchma,” with Harriman faculty members Dr. Lincoln Mitchell and Ambassador Valery Kuchynsky. She currently works on the Russia Portfolio for the Ford Foundation in New York, liaising with Russia grantee organizations.
Joseph Brodsky: Moments in a Life

A Photo Exhibit Curated by Natalia Sharymova (September 13-October 6, 2011)

The Harriman Institute, in cooperation with the Likhachev Foundation (St. Petersburg), the Brodsky Museum Foundation, and New York Plus Plus, will present an exhibit of photographs from the life of Nobel laureate Joseph Brodsky, from his days of childhood and a young man in Leningrad, his exile in the North, and emigration in New York City. The exhibit is comprised of photos collected by Mikhail Milchik, chairman of the Brodsky Museum Foundation. Many of the photographs were taken by the poet’s father, Alexander Brodsky, a professional photographer, as well as by friends of the poet, including Yakov Gordin, Mikhail Milchik, Natalia Sharymova, Marianna Volkova, Nina Alovert, Leonid Lubianitsky, Lev Poliakov and Mikhail Baryshnikov.

The exhibit will open with a reception 6:00-8:00, on Thursday, September 15, 2011, which will feature a lecture by Professor Milchik.