

Alexander Genis is an established writer, literary critic, and radio broadcaster. Born in Ryazan, Russia, in 1953, he grew up in Riga, Latvia, and immigrated to the US in 1977. Alexander Genis is a true cosmopolitan, full of passion for world culture that influences his texts. Milorad Pavic compared the texts Genis creates to a “pulsating stream of explosions”. Alexander Genis hosted weekly audio magazine ‘American Hour’ (Radio Liberty), the TV Show "Letters from America" (TV channel ‘Culture’), and wrote columns for several periodicals. His numerous books reflect the author's bi-culturalism: Russian and American manifestations of civilization are compared. A shrewd and observant writer, Genis pioneered the trend of cultural *essayism*, a specific genre combining lyrical narrative with methods used in cultural studies. Alexander Genis is probably the best essayist at work in the Russian language today. In his work Genis has incorporated traits the Western European and American tradition – wordplay, wit, and precision. His essays are dynamic, informative, and a consistently unfolding feast of joy for readers.

Alexander Genis’s essays have been translated into English, Japanese, German, French, Italian, Serbian, Hungarian, Latvian and other languages, and included in various anthologies and university studies.