

# Slavic and East European Newsletter

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## CATCO to perform Chekhov's *Uncle Vanya*

For the first time in more than three decades, Columbus will see a professional production of Anton Chekhov's classic play, *Uncle Vanya*. The Contemporary American Theatre Company (CATCO) will present the comedy-drama in the intimate Studio One Theatre of the Riffe Center, with previews beginning 1 October and the Opening at 7 pm on Sunday, 3 October.

Written and first staged in the 1890's, *Uncle Vanya* continues to be widely produced in theatres all over the world. CATCO is Central Ohio's professional Equity theatre com-

pany, now in its twenty-first season. The cast of *Uncle Vanya* includes artistic director Geoffrey Nelson as "Vanya" and resident actor Jonathan Putnam as "Astrov."

CATCO veterans Jon Farris, Linda Dorff, Robin Amy Gordon, Mark Mann, Kerry Shanklin and newcomer Joy Damschroder round out the cast. Nelson is also the director.

Performances of *Uncle Vanya* continue through Sunday, October 24, 2004. Group discounts are available as well as half-price student "rush" tickets. To reserve seats, please call the box office at 614-469-0939.



Geoffrey Nelson (left) as Vanya and Jonathan Putnam as Astrov in the CATCO production of Chekhov's classic comedy-drama, *Uncle Vanya*, playing 1-24 October 2004.

## CSEES to Host Fall Roundtable on Kosovo

On Friday, 15 October at 3:30pm in room 120 of the OSU Mershon Center, CSEES will host a historians' roundtable on Kosovo's Serb minority. The roundtable will feature historians from both the US and the former Yugoslavia, including Momcilo Pavlovic of the University of Belgrade, Tom Emmert of Gustavus Adolphus College, Bernd Fisher of Indiana University-South Bend, Charles Ingrao of Purdue University, and Melissa Bokovoy of the University of New Mexico.

The above mentioned historians are members of a US Institute for Peace program known as the Scholars' Initiative on the Former Yugoslavia. Made up of 235 leading academic authorities from North America, Western Europe, and core areas of the former Yugoslavia, the Scholars' Initiative seeks to bring scholars together in a cooperative environment in which they can examine key issues concerning the break-up of Yugoslavia.

Participating scholars are divided into eleven teams, which meet periodically to discuss the progress of their work and to coordinate new activities. Since 2001, the Scholars' Initiative has met in Novi Sad, Serbia (2001), Sarajevo, Bosnia-Herzegovina (2002), Alberta, Canada (2003), and Graz, Austria (2004).

The Ohio State roundtable includes leading researchers from the Scholars' Initiative team devoted to analyzing the historical issues of Kosovo's Serb minority. The team seeks to answer such questions as: To what extent were Kosovo's Serbs subject to discrimination and intimidation by the then-dominant Albanian majority? What, if any, disparity was there between reality and perception by the Serb minority? What role did media and officials play in molding these perceptions? What mix of motives informed Serb emigration from Kosovo?

Participants in the Ohio State roundtable will discuss these and other issues on



## From the Director



On Friday October 1 CSEES is holding its Fall Reception in the Faculty Club. We hope to take this opportunity to welcome new graduate students in Slavic Studies M.A. program and in the related departments. We would also like to introduce two faculty members: Alexander Burry, who is a new Assistant Professor in the Department of Slavic and East European Languages and Literatures, and Daniel Prior, who is a

Visiting Lecturer in History specializing in Central Asia. CSEES also welcomes Anna Goben, who is joining its office staff. Miriam Whiting from DSEELL will be our new K-12 outreach coordinator, thus replacing Susmita Sundaram, who is currently teaching at Kenyon College.

With the addition of Dr. Prior, we are strengthening our course offering on Central Asia. The Uzbek language course, offered last year via a distance learning arrangement with Indiana U., is continuing this year. We are also continuing free tutoring in Uzbek, which acquaints students with the language in an informal situation and may prepare them for regular classroom instruction. Kamoludin Abdullaev, who for the last two years has taught history of Central Asia at OSU, will return from Tadjikistan to teach four courses in International Studies.

This fall OSU has the unique opportunity to acquaint students with Czech theatre. With the help of CSEES, Joe Brandesky from OSU-Lima is teaching a course Theatre 671 "Czech Theatre and Design." From 8 November until 3 December, the OSU Theatre Department will be hosting a remarkable exhibition of Czech theatre design, which includes production photos as well as original costumes, puppets, and renderings of stage design. Peter Matasek from the Academy of Performing Arts in Prague will be artist-in residence. He will offer workshops in puppet and set design.

We are also planning a symposium on Kosovo with the participation of historians from the US and from Belgrade, in which participants will discuss the issues surrounding the break-up of Yugoslavia. The movie series for this quarter presents feature films covering the life of the Yiddish-speaking community in pre-war Poland.

On the beginning of March we will be holding the Midwest Slavic conference in the Blackwell Hotel and Conference Center. After the success last year, we have become a regular host for this event. At this point, we would like to invite the faculty and graduate students to send paper and panel proposals. The faculty is also encourage to put together undergraduate panels, which would help us to prepare the next generation of Slavic scholars.

This year CSEES is funding 18 FLAS grants for graduate students learning Russian, Polish, Serbian, Czech, Hungarian,

Romanian, and Uzbek. We are very glad that also this year, despite the recent changes in the university tuition accounting, Graduate School is supporting those students by offering them tuition wavers. Our summer FLAS grant holders returned from studying Russian, Czech and Serbian abroad. For next summer we would like to send at least ten OSU graduate students to Eastern Europe for language study.

Next summer we will also be expanding our Russian language program in Tomsk. The six weeks program will stretch to eight weeks to give the OSU students more opportunity to explore Siberia. Here we also wanted to express thanks to Dr. Jim Kinard from Business School and to Sarah Schaefer for doing the pioneer work in setting up the program and making sure that it would be a success that it turned out to be.

With best wishes for a productive and enjoyable 2004-05,

Halina Stephan  
Director



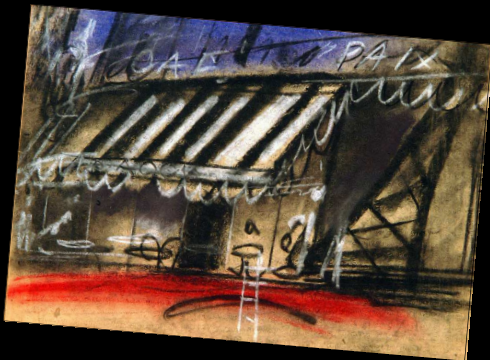
## Slavic Department Welcomes New Faculty Member

Alexander Burry is joining the Department of Slavic and East European Languages and Literatures as an Assistant Professor this fall, after completing a Post-doctoral Fellowship at Princeton University. He received his Ph.D. in Russian literature from Northwestern University. His specialties are nineteenth-century literature and multi-media adaptations of literary texts. He is currently working on a book on transpositions of Dostoevsky's works into opera, film, and drama. His publications include articles on Dostoevsky, Venedikt Erofeev, and Sergei Prokofiev. He has also co-translated Anna Politkovskaya's *A Small Corner of Hell: Dispatches from Chechnya* and Erofeev's play *Walpurgis Night, or the Steps of the Commander*. This year he will be teaching Masterpieces of Russian Literature, seminars on Tolstoy, and eighteenth-century Russian literature. He has also taught Russian language for several years, and spent three summers studying in Moscow and St. Petersburg.



From Monday, 8 November to Friday, 3 December, the Ohio State University will present an fascinating exhibition entitled "*Metaphor and Irony 2: František Tröster and Contemporary Czech Theatre Design.*" Presented simultaneously at three sites on campus, *Metaphor and Irony 2* contains stunning examples of contemporary Czech theatre including works that were part of the 2003 Prague Quadrennial. The exhibition includes original costumes and puppets, models, scene and costume design renderings, and production photos. Works by František Tröster, considered one of the most influential of mid-twentieth century Czech theatre designers, and Jaroslav Malina, past OSU guest artist, will be featured.

The three exhibition sites are located at the Hopkins Hall Gallery & Corridor, the Lawrence and Lee Theatre Research Institute (Lincoln Tower) and the Snowden Gallery Historic Costume and Textile Collection (Campbell Hall-Geraldine Schottenstein Wing). *Metaphor and Irony 2*, is co-curated by Helena Albertová, Vice Director, Theatre Institute, Prague and Joseph Brandesky, Professor of Theatre, OSU –Lima. It is funded by the Ohio Arts Council, OSU's College of the Arts, Department of Theatre, Hopkins Hall Gallery + Corridor, and the History of Costume and Textile Collection-College of Human Ecology.



Design by Frantisek Troster, 1948 from "The Madwoman of Chailot" by Jean Giradoux

### In Residence: Petr Matásek , November 14-19

Czech artist Petr Matásek is a designer of puppets, sets and costumes, as well as a teacher. From 1962-66 he studied stage design for puppetry in the Theatre Faculty of the Academy of Performing Arts in Prague, where in 1992 he became a teacher (in the department for alternative and puppet theatre). He shared in the revival of modern Czech puppet theatre, beginning in the 1960s and fully asserting itself in the 1970s. Many of his puppets are inspired by the tradition of Czech folk carvers and created by the imagination, poetry and humor of the contemporary artist, who knows how to print an individual expression on his products. Matásek is one of the featured designers in the *Metaphor and Irony 2* exhibit.

# OSU Hosts Fall Exhibition of Czech Theatre Design

8 Nov — 3 Dec 2004



Design by Petra Stetinova Goldflamova, 2003 from the play "The Forest Maid,

### Special Events:

**Opening Reception in Hopkins Gallery**, with welcoming remarks by Daniel Collins, chair of the Department of Slavic and East European Languages and Literatures, and Halina Stephan, Director of the Center for Slavic and East European Studies. Monday, November 8, 4:30 pm.

**Walk-about tour:** Tuesday, November 16 from 4:00 – 6:00 pm. Join exhibition co-curator Joe Brandesky and special guest artist and exhibitor Petr Matásek for an intriguing sequence of *Informal Gallery Talks* beginning at the Theatre Research Institute and proceeding to the Snowden Gallery and then to the Hopkins Gallery.

**Master Class Open House:** Friday, November 19, 4:00-5:30, Drake Center During his residency Petr Matásek will run a master class with theatre design students. Join us on this final day of the class for a showcase of their work.



## International Art Law: Cases from Eastern Europe

### Moritz College of Law Course Explores Issues of Disputed Art

By Prof. Mary Ellen O'Connell      Thanks to the Center for Slavic and East European Studies, The Moritz College of

Law of the Ohio State University offered a seminar in international art law for the first time. International art law is a well-recognized sub-field in international law. Law schools around the world have for decades included the subject as an advanced international law course. It was a valuable addition to the Moritz curriculum. In this offering, our focus was on cases of disputed art in Eastern Europe. Important new developments are occurring with respect to this art and the seminar members had the opportunity to learn about them and think about their implications for international art law generally.

In our first sessions, students were introduced to the major international law issues surrounding art in Eastern Europe today. We then turned to addressing the rules, principles, and legal institutions available to resolve those issues. We pursued our study through readings from two principal texts: John Henry Merryman and Albert E. Elsen, *Law, Ethics and the Visual Arts* (4th ed. 2003) and K. Akinsha, et al, *Beautiful Loot: The Soviet Plunder of Europe's Art Treasures*, 244-59 (1995) as well as numerous articles and other materials.

In addition, we had four guest speakers, who provided particular expertise on special aspects of our course: Prof. Myroslava Mudrak (OSU, History of Art Department): Art and art disputes in Eastern Europe; Prof. Vincene Verdun (OSU, Moritz College of Law): the legal obligation to provide reparations; Prof. Halpern (OSU Moritz College of Law): the moral rights of the artist; Dr. Andreas Paulus, Legal Counsel to Germany in the Case of Certain Property (Liechtenstein v. Germany): the case before the International Court.

We also took two field trips, one to the Columbus Museum of Art to speak with the curator regarding disputed title cases and to an excellent conference at Washington University in St. Louis on Imperialism, Art & Restitution (26-27 March 2004). The conference brought together the leading international art law experts in the world.

The seminar as a whole then worked on a case study raising a number of the issues at stake in Eastern European art. The Case Concerning Certain Property (Liechtenstein v. Germany), currently before the International Court of Justice, is about a painting held by the Czech government that is claimed by the Prince of Liechtenstein. The case served as a vehicle for looking at similar claims respecting Eastern European art.

After working together on the Certain Property Case, the students worked on three more case studies involving disputed art in Eastern Europe. The cases involved ownership disputes between: Germany and a private owner in Russia over Rubens' Tarquin and Lucretia; Tarquin; Russia, German and Turkey over the Treasure of Priam, Austria and a private U.S. owner over Klimt's Portrait of Adele Bloch-Bauer I. The seminar will likely be taught again in the 2005-2006 academic year, owing to the interest among law students and students of fine art.

*Prof. Mary Ellen O'Connell is the William B. Saxbe Designated Professor of Law at Ohio State University and a Fellow of the Merston Center for International Security Studies.*

CSEES maintains a video library for educators, students, and civic/educational groups in Ohio. The library contains over 1,500 documentary and feature films in Bulgarian, English, Russian, Polish, Czech, Hungarian, Romanian, Serbo-Croatian, Slovak, Ukrainian, and Yiddish languages. Videos may be rented free of charge. (For more information, contact Maryann Keisel at 292-8770).

The following VHS tapes and DVDs were recently added to the CSEES Video Library:

- The Cuckoo (DVD)
- 100 Days before the Command (DVD)
- Escape from Afghanistan (DVD)
- Farewell (VHS)
- Second Circle (VHS)
- Happy New York (DVD)
- Revenge (DVD)
- The Romany Trail, part II (DVD)
- The Ballad of Bering Strait (DVD)
- The Cameraman's Revenge: Starewicz (DVD)
- The Donkey's Hide (DVD)
- Mad Love: The Films of Yevgeni Bauer (DVD)
- Vovchka (DVD)
- The Downfall of the Monarchies (VHS)
- All My Loved Ones (DVD)
- Divided We Fall (DVD)
- Autumn Spring (DVD)
- Dark Blue World (DVD)
- Witches' Hammer (DVD)
- The White Dove (DVD)
- Avalon (DVD)
- Day of Wachko (DVD)
- Career of Nikos Dyzma (DVD)
- The Joseph Green Collector's Edition (DVD)
- The Red and the White (DVD)
- Tamas and Juli (DVD)
- Simon the Magician (DVD)
- The Gambler (DVD)
- Abandoned (DVD)
- Ukraine in World War II (DVD)
- Modern Russian Culture (CD-ROM)





## OSU Students Travel to Tomsk, Siberia

By Miriam Whiting This summer, I had the opportunity to accompany six OSU students to Tomsk, Russia for an intensive program in Russian Language and Culture. Tomsk, a city of about half a million, is celebrating its 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year, and we found the city looking its best and ready to welcome us.

Our students studied at Tomsk State University, the oldest university in Siberia and the fifth oldest in Russia. The two women who taught the class have worked with international students before, including students from Turkey and China, but we were their first group of Americans. They taught according to the second-year textbooks we use at OSU, and took the students through three quarters of Russian in six weeks. The students stayed in host families, which gave them a lot of opportunities to practice their Russian. Our class attracted the attention of the local press; we were filmed for a news program and interviewed for a newspaper article.



Students and friends at a dacha

In addition to our fantastic instructors, many other members of the university community helped make our trip memorable. The



Greg Hetrick, Doug Shaffer, and Bryan Herman enjoy dinner in Moscow

program coordinator, Tamara Budlova, enlisted the assistance of faculty from several departments. Each Wednesday afternoon we had a lecture on an aspect of Russian or Siberian culture and history. These lectures were supplemented with afternoon activities around the city, such as a visit to a rehearsal

of the folk group Peresek and a tour of the university botanical gardens.

On Saturdays, the students took part in excursions that took us around Tomsk and the surrounding area. One week we took a quick excursion to Novosibirsk, the largest city in Siberia, which gave us a chance to contrast the barely 100-year-old Novosibirsk with 400-year-old Tomsk and travel on the Trans-Siberian railroad for several hours. On our last weekend in Tomsk, we spent the day at the beautiful dacha of one of the host families, and enjoyed the food, singing, surroundings, and traditional →

## CSEES to Sponsor K-12 workshop on "Teaching Russian Culture"

On 16 October 2004, the Slavic Center's K-12 Outreach Team will host a Saturday workshop on "Teaching Russian Culture." The workshop will be held at the Kuhn Honors and Scholars House at 220 W. 12th Ave and will last from 9am to 4pm.

Consisting of advanced graduate students from the OSU Slavic Dept, the K-12 Outreach Team will present teachers with exciting lessons covering such topics as everyday life and culture in Russia, Orthodox holidays, Russian films and cartoons, folk tales, arts and crafts, music, and food.

The workshop will include 7 contact hours of work for teacher certification requirements. Enrollment is limited. To register, please email [csees@osu.edu](mailto:csees@osu.edu) and include your name, telephone, and school affiliation and mail a \$10 registration fee to the OSU Slavic Center, 303 Oxley Hall, 1712 Neil Ave., Columbus, OH 43210 (please make checks payable to "The Ohio State University")

For more information, contact the Center for Slavic and East European Studies at 614-292-8770, [csees@osu.edu](mailto:csees@osu.edu).



**Those interested in donating to the Slavic Center are invited to make tax-deductible contributions to account #307923 at the Development Office of the OSU Foundation**

Russian hospitality. In addition to our kind hosts, one neighbor showed us her beautiful flower gardens, and another brought over a bucket of freshly picked raspberries "for the Americans."

Because of the success of the trip this year we will be returning to Tomsk next summer. In addition to the program for second-year students, we are planning a program for fourth-year students. Also, the program will run for eight weeks instead of six. We will still spend six weeks in the classroom, but the additional time will allow us the opportunity to travel more extensively in Siberia. We had a great first year, and are excited about the chance to develop closer ties with Tomsk in the future.



## Faculty/Student News

Russian Fulbright scholar **Yulia Artamonova** recently ended her eight-month research stay in the Resource Center for Medieval Slavic Studies and Hilandar Research Library.

**Nicholas Breyfogle's** (Assoc. Prof., Dept. of History) book, *Heretics and Colonizers: Forging Russia's Empire in the South Caucasus* is forthcoming in January 2005 from Cornell University Press. He is co-editing a volume on the history of Russian colonization in Eurasia from Muscovite through Soviet times, and continues work on his next book project, *Baikal: The Great Lake and its People*. He will be teaching History 537.01 (Imperial Russia, 1700-1917) in the autumn quarter, and a graduate course on nineteenth century Russian political history in the winter quarter. With support from the Slavic Center, he is developing a new course: "Siberia in World History" that will be taught regularly in coming years.

**Molly Cavender** (Asst. Prof., History) presented a paper in March at the European Social Science History Conference in Berlin. This summer she also received an OSU Seed Grant for research.

**Carole Fink** (Prof., History) is currently a Revson Fellow at the Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum. From March to July 2004, she was a Fulbright Research Fellow and Lecturer in Australia attached to the University of New South Wales in Sydney, where she conducted research on Australia's policies towards European refugees in the 1930s. She also has published a new book, *Defending the Rights of Others: The Great Powers, the Jews, and International Minority Protection, 1878-1938* (Cambridge, 2004).

**Gregory Halbe** (Music History) successfully defended his doctoral dissertation entitled "Music, Drama, and Folklore in Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov's Opera *Snegurochka*." His advisor was Dr. Margarita Mazo.

**Jiri Hana, Anna Feldman and Chris Brew** (Linguistics) recently published "A Resource-light Approach to Russian Morphology: Tagging Russian Using Czech Resources," in *Proceedings of the Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing* (July 2004): 222-29.

**Yana Hashamova** (Asst. Prof., DSEELL) participated in the conference "Democracy/Totalitarianism: Political Theory and Popular Culture in an Age of Global Insecurity" (23-24 April, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign). She responded to Kenneth Reinhard's talk "Toward a Political Theology of the Neighbor" and participated in a roundtable discussion with Slavoj Zizek, Joan Copjec, Henry Sussman, among others. This summer Hashamova also conducted research in Moscow.

In early September, **Brian Joseph** (Prof., Linguistics) traveled to Tirana, Albania, where he read a paper entitled "On some ancient metaphors in the Balkans" at the 9th Congress of the Association International d'Etudes Sud-Est Europeennes. From September 30 to October 3, he will be taking part in the Second International Conference on Greek Dialects and Linguistic Theory in Mytilene, Greece, where he will be reading a paper entitled "On Continuity and Change in the Dialects of Lesvos and Environs Multilingualism and Polydialectalism over the Millennia."

**Marianna Klochko** (Asst. Prof., Sociology) presented a paper entitled

"Ukrainian students: is time preference a result of socialization or self-selection?" at the American Sociological Association annual meeting (August 14-19) in San Francisco.

**Irene Masing-Delic** (Prof., DSEELL) recently published an essay entitled "Little Snow Flakes and Petty Whiners: Gor'kij's *The Summer People* as a Parody on Cechov and his Dramaturgy," in *Telling Forms: 30 Essays in Honor of Peter Alberg Jensen*, eds. Karin Grell and Susanna Witt, Acta Universitatis Stockholmiensis, Stockholm Studies in Russian Literature 37, Stockholm: Almqvist & Wiksell International, 2004; as well as an entry for "Aleksandr Aleksandrovich Blok," in *Russian Writers of the Silver Age, 1890-1925; Dictionary of Literary Biography*, vol. 593, eds. Judith E. Kalb, J. Alexander Ogden, and Igor G. Vishnevetsky, Detroit: Gale Research, 2004.

In Summer 2004, **Katja Michalak** (Ph.D. Candidate, Political Science) received a Phyllis Krumm Memorial International Scholarship, which she used to conduct dissertation research Romania. There she worked closely with the University of Bucharest, the Romanian Academic Society, and the Invisible College in Bucharest. She also presented a paper at the Romanian Society for Political Science annual conference.

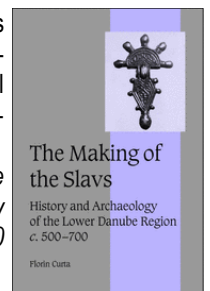
In May 2004, **James P. Scanlon** (Emeritus Prof., DSEELL) lectured on "F. M. Dostoevsky and the Problem of the Self" as part of

Cont'd p. 7

## Historian Florin Curta to present first lecture of 2004-05 Byzantino-Slavic Lecture Series

On 8 November 2004, at 7pm in Room 210 of the OSU Main Library, the Resource Center for Medieval Slavic Studies, the Department of Greek and Latin, the Archaeological Institute of America, and the Center for Slavic and East European Studies will co-sponsor a lecture by historian Florin Curta of the University of Florida. Entitled "The Making of the Slavs in Greece: the Setton-Charanis Controversy Revisited," the lecture is the first in the 2004-05 Byzantino-Slavic Lecture Series. An Associate Professor of Medieval History at the University of Florida in Gainesville, Dr. Curta is author of numerous books and publications. In 2001, he published *The Making of the Slavs: History and Archaeology of the Lower Danube Region, c. 500-700* (Cambridge).

He is also on the editorial board of three Medieval journals, including the *Medieval Review* and *Archaeologia Bulgarica*, and has conducted archeological field surveys and research in the Cernavoda-Medgidia area of Dobrudja and in Sighisoara, Romania. From August 2003 to May 2004, Dr. Curta was a Mellon Visiting Fellow at the Medieval Institute at the University of Notre Dame, and in 2001 received a Dumbarton Oaks Summer Fellowship in Byzantine Studies. This lecture is free and open to the public. For more information contact [hilandar@osu.edu](mailto:hilandar@osu.edu) or 614-292-





## Youngstown State Students Travel to Rostov-on-Don

### Students Visit Archeological Site at Tanais

A group of eight intrepid non-Russian-speaking anthropology and history majors followed Melissa T. Smith, Professor of Russian in the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures at Youngstown State University, through Moscow to Rostov-on-Don, to their ultimate destination: khutor Nedvigovka -- the campsite of MGU archeologist Natalia Leonova's Paleolithic dig site of Kamennaya Balka. Undergraduate students Eric Johnson, David Parker, Barbara Riebe, Brittany Wiley, Warren Wilson, Mike



YSU students visit Rostov-on-Don

Zatchok, Pam Zembower, and history grad student Sophia West, indulged their passions for digging, together with a crew of Russian archeologists and first-year MGU history students on their summer practicum, for three weeks, from July 7-27th 2004.

During their first week in Russia, in Moscow from June 30<sup>th</sup> to July 7<sup>th</sup>, the group developed survival skills -- shopping, riding public transportation, and, of course beer- and vodka-drinking, with some cultural programming engineered by Dr. Smith, through the services of Renee Stilling of the School of Russian and Asian Studies, based in Cambridge, MA. The international student clientele of the Plekhanov Academy of Economics, where the group was housed, provided an unanticipated, but delightful form of multicultural

education, and any minor glitches were taken in stride, in the spirit of ethnographical study.

Nedvigovka is home to a large variety of archeological objects, the most famous of which is the open-air museum at the site of the ancient Greek colony of Tanais. Field trips to Taganrog and Rostov-on-Don, with guidance from a Rostov archeologist, including visits to museums



From the Archeological Site at Tanais near Rostov-on-Don

of local history, enhanced the work-study program. To the great satisfaction of Dr. Smith, the group visited the birthplace of A.P. Chekhov on the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the writer's death -- the house in which he was born, the gymnasium in which he studied, and to the monument to Peter the Great, who attempted in Taganrog to open a "window to the West" with a southern exposure.

While only one of the students had studied Russian at YSU (first-year), three of them registered for first-year Russian classes this fall. YSU Anthropology Professor John White, who was unable to accompany his students this year, is hoping to make a visit next summer. The Youngstown-Russia archeology connection, therefore, is one that we hope to expand and build upon in years to come. *The YSU program was co-sponsored by CSEES.*

## Faculty/Student News (cont'd)

the series "Foreign Scholars at the Russian State University for the Humanities," in Moscow. The lecture was published by the University as a separate bilingual pamphlet entitled *F. M. Dostoevskii i problema individual'nogo "ia"*. He also published "From William James to Karl Marx: David Kvitko's Studies of Tolstoy the Thinker," *Tolstoy Studies Journal*, Vol. XIV: 2003, pp. 1-12.

**Olia Prokopenko** (Ph.D. Candidate, DSEELL) had an article on Mikhail Chulkov accepted for publication in the summer 2004 issue of *Slavic and East European Journal*.

**Goldie Shabad** (Prof., Political Science) presented a co-authored paper (with **Jakub Zielinski** and **Kazimierz M. Slomczynski**), entitled "Fluid Party Systems, Electoral Rules and Accountability of Legislators in Emerging Democracies: The Case of Ukraine," at the American Political Science Assoc. convention in Sept. 2004. In addition, she presented findings from a research project on electoral accountability in Poland (in collaboration

with **Jakub Zielinski** and **Kazimierz M. Slomczynski**) at a conference on "Radical Social Change in East Central Europe," in Warsaw, also in Sept. 2004.

**Mark Svede** (Dept. of History of Art) contributed the essay "On the Verge of Snapping: Latvian Nonconformist Artists and Photography" to the book *Beyond Memory: Soviet Nonconformist Photography and Photo-Related Works of Art*, ed. Diane Neumaier (Rutgers University Press, 2004), as well as two biographical entries to *The Queer Encyclopedia of the Visual Arts*, ed. Claude J. Summers (Cleiss Press, 2004).

The Hilandar Research Library and the Research Center for Medieval Slavic Studies will host Bulgarian Fulbright scholar **Nina Voutova**, assistant director of the Bulgarian National Library in Sofia, beginning 21 September for a six month stay. Voutova, an expert in watermarks from medieval Slavic paper manuscripts, will be working on a project with RCMSS Director and HRL Curator Predrag Matejic.



## CSEES Welcomes Five New M.A. Students for Fall 2004

The OSU Slavic Center is pleased to announce the addition of five new students to its Russian and East European Studies M.A. program. Founded in 1991, the Slavic Center M.A. program offers an interdisciplinary approach to the study of Russia, Central Asia, the Caucasus, and the countries of Eastern Europe and is intended for students interested in pursuing careers in government, the military, academia, and the business and non-profit sectors. CSEES wishes its new students the best of luck in 2004-05!

**Catherine Chapman** is a graduate of Kenyon College in Gambier, Ohio, where she majored in International Studies and minored in Russian. In 2001, Catherine spent the autumn semester at St. Petersburg State University. An fluent German speaker, Catherine plans to pursue a career in the Foreign Service.

**David McVey** is a graduate of Brigham Young University in Salt Lake City, Utah, where he earned a BS in Geography and a BA in Russian. In 2001, he interned as a Public Affairs Liaison at the US Embassy in Moscow. David's field of interest is Russian and East European geography, with a particular focus on the demographic processes of the former Soviet Union. He plans to pursue a Ph.D. degree in Geography.

**Anna Overman** is a graduate of Emory University in Atlanta, where she double-majored in Political Science and Russian. In 2003, Anna participated in a study-abroad program in St. Petersburg, Russia. She is interested in the present-day Caucasus and plans to pursue a career in intelligence or possibly the Foreign Service.

**Radoslaw Rusek**, is a Captain in the United States Air Force and is currently stationed at the National Air and Space Intelli-

gence Center at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton, Ohio. Originally from Poland, Capt. Rusek is a graduate of the US Air Force Academy where he earned a BA in Russian Area Studies with a minor in Russian Language.

**Gary Wright** is a second-year student in the OSU College of Law and is pursuing a joint MA degree in Russian and East European Studies. A native of Jamaica, Gary first traveled to Russia in the late 1980s on a UN-sponsored program for youth from developing nations. He is a member of the International Law Society at OSU and in Summer 2004 attended an intensive Russian language program at St. Petersburg State University.

### WOULD YOU LIKE TO LEARN UZBEK OR TADJIK?

Free language instruction by a native Uzbek speaker is available on a regular basis for students and faculty throughout the Fall quarter.

For more information contact:  
csees@osu.edu

### Roundtable on Kosovo (cont'd)

Friday, 15 October, and convene a private organizational meeting on Saturday, 16 October. The final goal of the Scholars' Initiative is to produce (1) a composite volume featuring the eleven controversies, in English and Serbo-Croatian-Bosnian, (2) a special issue of the scholarly journal, *Nationalities Papers*, comprising originally researched case studies commissioned by the research team leaders, and (3) a scholarly collection, entitled *Rethinking Yugoslavia's Dissolution*, that will include 14 articles by SI project participants, which is already under contract with Purdue University Press's *Central European Studies* series.

For more information on the Scholars' Initiative on the Former Yugoslavia, visit: [www.sla.purdue.edu/si/](http://www.sla.purdue.edu/si/)

### Dept. of Theatre Autumn Quarter 2004

#### Theatre 371 Czech Theatre and Design UG 5 Credit;

**Don't miss your chance to examine  
Czech theatre and design through a look  
at the historical background and visit  
with contemporary designers.**

**Prof. Joe Brandesky  
Friday; 9:30-12:18  
Drake 2038**





## Russian Language Table!

Practice your Russian with speakers of all levels

Everyone is welcome!!

Thursdays  
7-9pm

Woody's in the Ohio Union  
1739 N. High St.



### New OSU Program: Russia. Opera and Identity Today

During the next year, we will offer an exciting new program on Opera and Identity in Russia Today. It will consist of two courses. One, Music 694, will be taught on campus during the spring quarter, the other in Russia in June-July. Both courses will be available to undergraduate and graduate students. The students will study Russian opera and musical life today, meet with the producers, performers, critics, and the audience at the most acclaimed opera theaters in Russia.

Both courses will be taught by Margarita Mazo (School of Music) and Irene Masing-Delic (Department of Slavic and East European Languages and Literatures). The cost of the study abroad program is \$2,200 (in addition to tuition).

Please be aware that in order to participate in that program, students must sign up at the Office of International Education by January 15. Information on the second course is available from the The School of Music and the Office of International Education at Oxley Hall. Ask for the program "Russia. Opera and Identity Today."

## CSEES Awards 9 FLAS Fellowships for Summer 2004

The Slavic Center is pleased to announce that in Summer 2004 it awarded nine Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowships to OSU students. The summer FLAS Program is sponsored by the US Dept. of Education and provides students with free tuition and a \$2400 stipend to study critical East European languages abroad or in the US. Congratulations summer FLAS recipients!

**Katherine Chapman**

Adv. Russian  
Indiana University, SWSEEL program

**Kristin Collins-Breyfogle**

Adv. Russian  
St. Petersburg State University, Russia

**Emily Gaertner**

Adv. Russian  
Indiana University, SWSEEL program

**Donald Hempson**

Inter. Czech  
Charles University, Czech Republic

**David Rubin**

Adv. Russian  
Novosibirsk State University, Russia

**Sunnie Rucker-Chang**

Adv. Serbian  
Azbukum Language School, Serbia

**Nicholas Scorza**

Adv. Czech  
Palacky University, Czech Republic

**Luke Wochensky**

Adv. Russian  
St. Petersburg State University, Russia



Visit the Slavic Center  
website at:

[www.slaviccenter.osu.edu](http://www.slaviccenter.osu.edu)

## Midwest Slavic Conference

3-5 March 2005

Blackwell Hotel and Conference Center  
Ohio State University

For more information  
visit: [www.slaviccenter.osu.edu](http://www.slaviccenter.osu.edu)



## CSEES Fall Events Calendar

1-25 October

CATCO Production of Anton Chekhov's *Uncle Vanya* (Riffe Center Theatre Complex, 77 S. High Street, Columbus) For times and tickets, contact 614-469-0939

11 October

Joseph Green Yiddish Film Series: *Yidl Mitn Fidl* (8 pm in 100 Mendenhall Lab, 125 South Oval Mall, OSU Campus) Introductory remarks by Prof. David Miller, Dept. of Germanic Languages and Literatures. Co-sponsored by the Melton Center for Jewish Studies

15 October

Historians' Roundtable on Kosovo and Serbia (3:30pm, Room 120, OSU Mershon Center, corner of 8th and Neil)

15-16 October

Columbus Symphony Orchestra performs Dvorak's Violin Concerto and Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 6 "Pathetique." (8pm, Ohio Theatre, 39 East State Street, Columbus)  
For tickets, contact (614)-228-8600

16 October

K-12 Workshop: Teaching Russian Culture (9am-4pm, Kuhn Honors and Scholars House, 22 W. 12th Ave.) \$10 registration fee. For more info contact csees@osu.edu

18 October

Joseph Green Yiddish Film Series: *Purimshpiler* (8 pm in 100 Mendenhall Lab, 125 South Oval Mall, OSU Campus)

19 October

Lecture: "Social Aspects of Communist Romania Between Official Folklore and Archival Documents," by Anca Stere, Institute of Ethnography and Folklore, Bucharest, Romania (3:30pm, place TBD)

20 October

An Evening with Ivan Mueller, '56 Hungarian Émigré and Chair Emeritus of the OSU Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering and Geodetic Science (7pm, 122 Oxley Hall, 1712 Neil Ave. OSU Campus)

5-6 November

Annual International Young Researchers Conference: "The Problems of the Postcommunist State" (at Miami University) Sponsored by the Havighurst Center for Russian & Post-Soviet Studies

6 November

Ohio Kentucky Indiana Children's Literature Conference: "Imagining Russia and The World through Children's Literature" (at the Miami University Hamilton Harry T. Wilks Conference Center)

6-7 November

Second Graduate Colloquium on Slavic Linguistics (Ohio State University, Cunz Hall, time and location TBD)  
For more information, contact whiting.33@osu.edu

8 November

Opening Reception of Exhibition "Metaphor and Irony 2: František Tröster and Contemporary Czech Theatre Design" (4:30pm, Hopkins Gallery, 128 N. Oval Mall, Campus)

8 November

Lecture: "The Making of the Slavs in Greece: the Setton-Charanis Controversy Revisited," Florin Curta, University of Florida (7pm, room 210, OSU Main Library) *Part of the Byzantino-Slavic Lecture Series*

8 November

Joseph Green Yiddish Film Series: *Mamele* (8 pm in 100 Mendenhall Lab, 125 South Oval Mall, OSU Campus)

10 November

Lecture: "Ukraine within the USSR: An Economic Perspective, 1928-1932 and 1959-1980," Zenon Melnyk, University of Cincinnati (7pm, 122 Oxley Hall, 1712 Neil Ave., Campus)

15 November

Joseph Green Yiddish Film Series: *A Brivele der Mamen* (8 pm in 100 Mendenhall Lab, 125 South Oval Mall, OSU Campus)

4-7 December

American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies Annual Convention  
(The Boston Marriott Copley Place, Boston, Ma.)

# Yiddish Films from Interwar Poland

A Fall Series of Joseph Green Films

The Center for Slavic and East European Studies presents a selection of four films by Joseph Green, often referred to as the father of "the Golden Age of Yiddish cinema." Born Joseph Greenberg in Lodz, Poland, Green came to the United States in 1924, where he began acting in Yiddish theatrical troupes. In 1936 he returned to Poland, where he made the first of four separate Yiddish-language films detailing Jewish life in Poland. Green told *Jewish Week* in 1985 that "time was running out - we had to get as much as possible of that charming creative life in Poland." He returned briefly to the stage during World War II, producing two plays in the Yiddish Art Theater in New York, but never returned to film. Joseph Green died in 1995.

**Monday, 11 October**

***Yidl Mitn Fidl* (Yidl with a Fiddle)**

1936, 92mins., English subs.

Molly Picon plays a young woman who poses as a man in order to join a band of musicians traveling the Polish countryside. She falls in love with one of her colleagues with delightfully humorous results. Filled with music and charm, Molly, in her greatest role, amuses and entertains. Also with Simche Fostel, Max Bozyk and Leon Liebgold.



**Monday, 8 November**

***Mamele* (Little Mother)**

1938, 95 mins., English Subs.



Molly Picon is Khavtshi, the youngest daughter of a widower, who is left with the responsibility of tending house for a helpless and indifferent family of seven. As such, she becomes the "mamele," their "little mother." Filled with that special brand of humor and song that made Molly Picon the undisputed queen of Yiddish musicals.

**Monday, 18 October**

***Purimshpiler* (The Jester)**

1937, 90 mins., English subs.



A romantic comedy about a drifter who wanders from "shtetl to shtetl." He finds brief happiness when he falls in love with a shoemaker's daughter in a small Galician town. A likable fantasy about a love triangle and man's quest for the unobtainable. With Miriam Kressyn and Zygmund Turkow.

**Monday, 15 November**

***A Brivele der Mamen* (A Letter to Mother)**

1938, 100mins., English subs.

*A Letter to Mother's* tale of family disintegration and poverty serves as a metaphor for the displacements facing European Jews in 1939. One of the last



Yiddish films made in Poland before the Nazi invasion, the film tells the story of a mother's persistent efforts to support her family in Polish Ukraine and New York.

Films are shown at 8 pm in 100 Mendenhall Lab, 125 South Oval Mall, OSU Campus  
Co-sponsored by the Center for Slavic and East European Studies  
and the Melton Center for Jewish Studies. For more information contact 292-8770.

## Center for Slavic and East European Studies

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## Metaphor and Irony 2: František Tröster and Contemporary Czech Theatre Design

### A Fall Exhibition in Three Locations

Hopkins Hall Gallery & Corridor  
Lawrence and Lee Theatre  
Research Institute  
Snowden Gallery

**8 Nov —3 Dec 2004**

Opening Reception in Hopkins  
Gallery, 8 Nov., 4:30pm

Walk-about tour. Tuesday, November 16  
from 4:00 – 6:00 pm, Theatre  
Research Institute



Design by Petra Stetinova  
Goldflamova, 2003  
from the play "The Forest Maid,  
or Journey to America" by Josef K. Tyl