



RUSSIAN WINTER-2007 IN LONDON



Coat of Arms
of London

On January, 13 the third Russian culture festival entitled "Russian winter – 2007" took place on the Trafalgar square, the heart of the British capital. At the festival citizens and guests of London got acquainted with the ways and traditions of the Russian world, culture and art of contemporary Russia.

A delegation of the Moscow Administration, led by the deputy Mayor in the Moscow Administration for interregional cooperation, mass communication and sports Valery Vinogradov, attended the solemn opening ceremony. The London Mayor Ken Livingstone, Russian Ambassador in the UK Yury Fedotov, head of the Moscow Committee on tourism Grigory Antjufeev delivered friendly welcome addresses to the guests of the festival. All the reporters mentioned that magnificent scope and atmosphere that marked the Russian Winter festival.

"Who could have thought 30 years ago that we would celebrate the Old New Year on this square. But today it is impossible to imagine London without Russians and the Russian festival", Mr. Livingstone said.

The London Mayor reminded the public about the unusual match which took



place on the 11th of January, two days ago, between the teams of the two capitals. Gigantic chess boards were installed on the Trafalgar square in London and on the Pushkin square in Moscow. Ice figures of 1.2 m. high shifted on them. Besides, kings and queens represented famous London and Moscow places of interest. Thus, London featured Big Ben and the Cucumber while Spasskaya tower of the Kremlin and the building of the Moscow Administration on Novy Arbat street played for Moscow. Experienced Grand Masters Nigel Short and Anatoly Karpov led the teams, but the main players of this tournament who decided on the

moves were an 8-year-old Moscow chess player Konstantin Savenkov and his British colleague Darius Parvizi Wane.

As it is due to happen on such occasions, the match was a draw game. It was attended by the deputy Mayor in the Moscow Administration Mr. Joseph Ordzhonikidze who stressed the importance of this tournament. "Today we witnessed the first tournament in ice chess in the world. Undoubtedly this event promotes the image of Moscow on the world arena and contributes to the friendship between the two cities". The atmosphere of friendship and goodwill reigned at the "Russian winter" in



Aleksandr Pogorelov

London. A stage and izba-stands were mounted on the Trafalgar square near the Nelson column especially for the festival. The guests had a chance to get acquainted with Russian history and traditions. They could watch wood-carvers, pottery painters and masters of other folk trades working, try national Russian cuisine, study playing Russian folk instruments such as wooden spoons, treschetkas (rattle), balalaikas, guslis (kind of harp), and even get a photo with the real Ded Moroz (Santa Claus) from Veliki Ustjug.

The presentation of Sochi as an official candidate for hosting winter Olympic games in 2014 was a peculiar trait of the festival this year. "Olympic" possibilities of the cities were introduced by the members of the Bid committee, famous Russian sportsmen Irina Rodnina, Svetlana Khorkina, Irina Slutskaya and Evgueny Pljuschenko. The delegation of Moscow Administration held talks with the London Mayor Ken Livingstone. Issues of organizing M-4 meeting of the mayors of the largest European cities in

February and staging the Days of London in Moscow in 2007 were discussed.

Valery Vinogradov delivered official congratulations to the guests of the festival. He also participated in the traditional reception for British veterans of the Second World war, who risked their lives while supplying the USSR with necessary cargos, food, ammunition and equipment.

The concert program of the "Russian Winter-2007" opened with performances of students of London Russian-language schools. They were followed by professional folk and pop bands, choir of Saint Daniel's monastery and cadets of Moscow Military Musical Institute under the Russian Ministry for defense. Besides, stars of the Russian stage performed at the Trafalgar square.

The culmination of the festival coincided with the performance of the Russian hymn. It was accompanied by snowfall highlighted by colors of the Russian flag, e.g. blue, white and red. By all accounts, the festival was a success. The organizers managed to create an atmosphere of a real Russian winter, and make it especially solemn. Once again the festival brought closer citizens of Moscow and London, and its organizers assured that next year the "Russian Winter" will come back to the British capital.

Ljudmila Ivanitskaya

MOSCOW SUVOROV CADETS CONQUERED LONDON



Moscow Suvorov cadets from the Military musical institute under the Russian Ministry for defense took part in the third "Russian Winter" festival in London.

The event aims at introducing citizens and guests of the British capital to the

traditional Russian culture, giving a most full view of contemporary Moscow. From this point of view, the presence of Suvorov cadets at the London festival corresponds to its main goal in the best possible way.

Orchestras of Moscow Military Musical institute are real agitators of Russian patriotic music who perform best pieces of this genre on the world stages. This institute was founded by the end of the 1930s in the XX century. In 65 years more than 3,000 qualified musicians graduated from it and joined the armed forces. Today about 200 boys are studying there, and annually 40-50 military musicians graduate from this institute, and the best among them enter Moscow

Military conservatory. Orchestras of Moscow Military musical institute perform at the stage of the Bolshoi Theatre, State Kremlin Palace, Grand Hall of the Conservatory, Concert hall named after Tchaikovsky, "Rossiya" State Concert hall.

At the "Russian Winter-2007" festival Suvorov cadets gave their traditional performance: 35 boys in black shirts with scarlet shoulder straps received a roaring welcome from the public. Both military marches, folk and soldier songs were performed by the orchestra. As a surprise number, contemporary jazz was played, which aroused special excitement in the public.

Vladimir Vlasov

JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR -2006

On January, 19 the Moscow Union of journalists and the Moscow Administration delivered awards to the best journalists of the year 2006. The solemn evening in the Metropol hotel restaurant was timed to coincide with the professional holiday of all journalists, the Day of the Russian press.

The Journalist of the Year 2006 Award listed 15 nominations, two of which were presented by the International relations Department of Moscow. The president of "Sovershenno Sekretno" group of companies, Veronika Borovik-Hilchevskaya won in the "For supporting international activities of the city of Moscow" nomination. Two journalists, Aleksey Pushkov, well-known among the audience of TVTs by his weekly analytical program entitled



Aleksei Pushkov

"Postscriptum", and Boris Pyadyshev, editor-in-chief of the monthly magazine entitled "International Life" and published by the Russian Ministry for foreign affairs.

The winners received diplomas of honor and money prizes of 30,000 rubles. But as it was reiterated at the ceremony the recognition of their professional activities and high evaluation of their hard job is even more important to the journalists.

Oleg Melnikov



Veronika Borovik-Hilchevskaya



Boris Pyadyshev

PUSHKIN HOUSE IN LONDON



An official opening ceremony of a new Russian culture center called "Pushkin House" took place in the British capital.

The solemn ceremony was attended by a delegation of the Moscow Administration led by the head of the International relations Department Mr. Muradov.

The Moscow guests got acquainted with the representatives of the British Russian-language community and the Association of Russian-language Culture and Education associations. Issues of interaction between Moscow and Russian diaspora abroad were discussed. The hosts and the guests of the ceremony reiterated in unison that taking into consideration the growing number of Russian citizens and Russian-speaking people in the UK, a new Russian culture center is an important event in London life.

The director of Pushkin museum, famous British conductor and impresario Julian Gallant in his welcome speech shared working plans of the center. Different types of events are scheduled to take place here, e.g. seminars, conferences, exhibitions, film projections, concerts, and evening Russian-language classes for everyone.

"We are eager to forge direct ties with Russian organizations, from Moscow Library of foreign literature to Russian museums, Julian Gallant said. - Luckily, we already have many suggestions. At the moment we're preparing a course of Russian history, economics and law classes, translation awards and Andrew Tarkovsky jubilee celebration this year". "Pushkin House" is open to visitors from 9 am to 6 pm daily, except Saturday and Sunday. The new building has already staged several events. In particular, famous Russian actor and director Mikhail Kozakov read out Pushkin's poetry.

Aleksandra Kornilova

CHARITABLE CHRISTMAS CONCERT



Aleksandr Pogorelov

On January, 7 a charitable Christmas concert took place in the International Theatre center named after Meyerhold (on the photo) in Moscow. It was the first event staged by the International Council of Russian Compatriots (ICRC) and the Council of Russian-Language Danish Societies (CRLDS) in this year.

The initiative of staging a charitable Christmas concert received active support from the Moscow Mayor Mr. Luzhkov. He urged city prefects to participate in the event.

Moscow society, artists, and younger public shared an interesting and highly-professional concert program of the orchestra under the conduct of Aleksey Utkin, bard song master Veronika Dolina, as well as poetry and songs performed by the famous Russian actor Yury Vasiljev. Young talents, musicians from the Vladimir Spivakov's Foundation, received an especially warm welcome.

The host of the concert Tatjana

Derbeneva, once actress at the Lenkom theatre, and now chairman of the CRLDS, addressed warmly the public and the artists who granted for free their mastery and talent to those who value true humanity art, mutual support and kindness.

The profits from selling tickets will be spent on the needs of our compatriots' organizations abroad, in particular, on their participation in the International Festival of Russian compatriots abroad entitled "Russian Song" and scheduled for July, 2007.

Vyacheslav Durnev

MOSCOW AGRIHOLDINGS CATERING FOR BAVARIAN COWS

500 Bavarian brood cows were brought to Moscow Agriholdings on the New Year's Eve.

The agreement on simmental cows purchase was reached in October, 2006 during the visit to Bavaria by the Moscow Mayor Mr. Luzhkov. In compliance with the agreement, cows are bought for Moscow agri-industrial enterprises, and a center on raising cattle in Russia is created. At the same time the German side provides Moscow households with a priority right in purchasing 5,000 simmental cows a year.

Why these cows were chosen? Simmentals are a meat and milk breed, almost completely degenerated in Russia. A cow yields 25-30 liters of milk daily for 5 or 6 years. Rich in fat and protein, it is excellent for cheese and yoghurt production. So Moscow citizens will be pleased by tasty milk and meat products.

"Kurba" household in the Yaroslavskaya district is one of the

first to study catering for Bavarian cows. It is one of the "Ikma" Moscow agriholding divisions, which provides the capital with meat and milk products. A whole herd of Bavarian cows, more than 300 heads, has arrived here recently.

According to "Kurba" specialists, the preparation works to the arrival of the simmental cows was quite serious. The chief zootechnician studied in Germany, a catering personnel group had special training. A special zoohygienic regimen is provided for better adaptation and illness prevention, indi-

vidual places separated by fences are equipped in the fold, and a special diet taking into consideration particularities of their feed and acclimatization is prepared.

Judging by the first impressions, the animals recovered from the so-called immigration and are feeling quite well in Russia. Besides, this winter is breaking some warm winter records which gives the Bavarian cows an opportunity to get accustomed to Russian conditions quicker.

Leonid Ivakin



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