

2.2016

Art and Literature Scientific and Analytical Journal TEXTS

2.2016

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“The Moscow Metro is the Best in the World”

Summary: The Moscow Metro, which is known as the “most beautiful in the world”, has become a kind of a symbol of a socialist utopia. The author examines certain aspects of the evolvement and development of the ideological, design and image concepts of metro engineering in 1930—1950. The article includes an “Attachment” with the author’s interviews with both those, who designed and built the first lines and their family members.

Keywords: the Moscow Metro, station, aboveground metro pavilion, platform, tunnel, facing, mosaic panel, sculpture.

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Sculpture of the Russian Provinces in the 18th Century

Summary: This article summarizes the results of studying the history of the provincial Russian town of Morshansk and the results of scientific investigation of Morshansk History and Art Museum collection of sculpture. The collection of sculpture has a high artistic level, thematic and species diversity, and it is a reflection of several centuries of history and culture of the town and the environs of Morshansk. One of the largest sections of this assembly is a collection of church sculpture that make up the statues, fragments of the iconostasis, the Royal Doors originating from closed and lost in the first quarter of the XX century temples, as well as the items of personal piety — relief crosses, icons and foldings.

Keywords: Morshansk, Russian province, sculpture, church sculpture, Morshansk History and Art Museum.

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D'une condamnation à l'autre 1932—1936. L'opéra La Lady Macbeth du district de Mzensk. Du succès à l'interdiction

Résumé: L'article concerne Dimitri Chostakovitch, célèbre compositeur russe de la période soviétique en qui, peut-être parce qu'il fut un grand symphoniste, parce qu'il a écrit de nombreux quatuors à cordes et parce que son œuvre exprime et assume un ensemble de tensions excédant largement la stricte dimension musicale, certains ont voulu voir une sorte de « Beethoven du XXe siècle ». Une grande confusion persiste à son égard: bien des questions concernant sa vie et son œuvre sont longtemps demeurées obscures. De nombreux éléments touchant à son attitude et à ses intentions artistiques ont été mal compris voire manipulés et une part important de son œuvre est toujours méconnue.

Les mots clés: Dimitri Chostakovitch, musique, symphoniste, la période soviétique.

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“The Moscow Metro is the Best in the World”

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Keywords: the Moscow Metro, station, aboveground metro pavilion, platform, tunnel, facing, mosaic panel, sculpture.

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In search of high-rise centerpiece: The Palace of the Soviets project development in the 1930s

Summary: The article observes one of the most ambitious architectural contests of the Soviet Union — the Palace of the Soviets episode took place in the early 1930s. Four rounds of public contest, hundreds of projects and designs, polemics in Kremlin, in press and among soviet and foreign architects — even now the Palace of the Soviets phantom provokes society's interest and its image is used in popular culture, movies, literature, etc. Despite the fact that the Palace of the Soviets had never been constructed, that project became a forerunner of high-rise construction in the Soviet Union. For example, so called “seven sisters” — architectural ensemble built in Moscow in 1940—1950s — were born as a supplement to the Palace of the Soviets project.

Keywords: soviet architecture, architectural contests, The Palace of the Soviets, seven sisters.

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Livre d'artiste as an isoverbal text in the culture of Symbolism¹

Summary: The article examines the unique genre of the livre d'artiste which combines visual and verbal representations. The binary model of this book form was determined by its synthetic intermedial genre which reflects the isoverbal experience of modernism. The *livre d'artiste* in the original sense appeared thanks to the prominent French collector and marchand d'art Ambroise Vollard. His idea was to promote an artist's work with the help of a book containing original prints. An inimitable individual style, experimental print techniques and innovative design — all of these factors helped make every book unique. As a rule, its pages were not stitched together, with a marked focus on the inlaid fonts, headpieces and frontispieces, which brought the artist back to the main principles of the book art of the Baroque. An important place in the history of the *livre d'artiste* as a genre belongs to the controversial *Les Fleurs du mal* — a volume of poetry by Charles Baudelaire. Since they were first made public by the author, Baudelaire's poems fascinated both book illustrators and painters, including such Symbolists as Émile Bernard, Odilon Redon, Carlos Schwabe, Félicien Rops, François-Auguste-René Rodin and Armand Rassenfosse.

Keywords: Livre d'artiste, Symbolism, isoverbal text, intermediality, visual representation, poetic picture, synthetism, ekphrasis.

¹ The article was supported by the Russian State Science Foundation (RSSF), project number 15-04-00005 (a): "The verbal & visual: the grammar of poetic culture".

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**Language Alter Ego —
myth or reality? The concept
based on the studies of the linguistic personality
and the relations of power**

Summary: Being an extract from a dissertation report, this article covers the topic of cultural and linguistic studies. The author reviews the recent studies related to language learning in cultural and social contexts, arguing her theory on a language alter ego and its formation during the second language acquisition.

Keywords: culture, teaching, multilingual, inter-cultural, personality.