

EXPLORING RUSSIA'S ARCHITECTURE

PUSHKIN HOUSE, London's new centre of Russian culture, and **THE MOSCOW ARCHITECTURE PRESERVATION SOCIETY (MAPS)** present a series of lectures on Russian architecture:

Wednesday 19th December 2007
The Lost Vanguard

Celebrated photographer Richard Pare will show slides of rarely seen Soviet avant-garde buildings and talk about his experience of photographing them over the last fifteen years. This labour of love culminated in a recent exhibition at MoMA, New York, and a book.

Wednesday 16th January 2008

Moscow's Churches Today: Rebirth or Death by Restoration?
MAPS trustee Edmund Harris tells the story of the fate of Moscow's famous churches and monasteries since the revolution when many of them were turned to secular use, and explores the challenges church architecture faces today as they are restored and re-opened.

Wednesday 13th February

Moscow's Art Nouveau

An introduction to Moscow's rich Art Nouveau legacy by architectural historian and author Kathy Murrell. The buildings, from railway stations to hospitals and private houses, are rich in applied art and the interiors some of the most exquisite in Moscow.

Wednesday 12th March

Images of Stalinist Moscow

Preservationist, professor of architectural history and granddaughter of celebrated Stalin-era architect Alexei Dushkin, Natalia Dushkina reveals the story of the mega-projects of the thirties to fifties including the *Moscow Metro*, when architects and artists collaborated to create 'palaces for the masses'.

Wednesday 16th April

Literary Moscow.

Author and translator Rosamund Bartlett takes us on a tour of the apartments, houses and palaces of Russia's great writers, and the settings of books like *War and Peace*. This is a fragile legacy for many of these houses are under threat.

Wednesday 7th May

Rediscovering Russia's Abandoned Churches

Historian Ekaterina Shorban tells us about her field trips in the depths of the Russian countryside documenting thousands of semi-ruined eighteenth and nineteenth century masonry churches, abandoned under Communism, and now being recorded for the first time.

Tuesday 27th May

Narkomfin: The Fate of a Lost Utopia.

MAPS trustee Clementine Cecil tells the story of a key building of the Soviet avant-garde. Designed for the Soviet man, Narkomfin was a semi-communal experimental apartment block that influenced Le Corbusier. Neglected for decades it is finally being considered for a ground breaking restoration project.



MAPS (The Moscow Architecture Preservation Society) was set up in May 2004 by a group of international journalists and architects. A Russian non-governmental organisation, MAPS works with preservationists, architects and historians within Russia and abroad to raise awareness about the neglect and destruction of the Moscow's historical buildings.



www.maps-moscow.com

All lectures begin at 7.30 and end at approximately 8.30

This series aims to give a general history of Russia's architecture, focussing on Moscow. Moscow is home to imposing, innovative, beautiful, and fascinatingly bizarre buildings in a variety of styles. Due to a massive building boom, this dense and delicate fabric that defines the character of the city is under full-scale attack. This is why Pushkin House and MAPS have chosen to hold this series of talks – in the hope that increased awareness will lead to Moscow's architectural legacy being treated with more care.

Tickets £7, £5 for Friends of Pushkin House and students

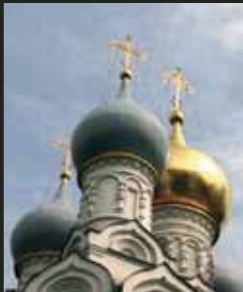
Reservations: + 44 (0)20 7269 9770 or email to:

bookings@pushkinhouse.org.uk

Pay by cash, credit card or cheque in advance or on the night.

Pushkin House is a centre for Russian culture in London. The House has developed a lively and varied cultural programme on Russian literature, art, film, music, theatre and dance, as well as history, philosophy and politics. Events include lectures and talks, seminars, conferences, exhibitions, films, concerts and readings.

Any profits from the series will go towards the publication of a book on buildings of the Soviet avant-garde for FUEL Publishers. Please make donations payable to the Pushkin House Trust.



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