



presented by
RUSSIAN AMERICAN CULTURAL CENTER



in collaboration with

the RUSSIAN AND SLAVIC STUDIES PROGRAM, HUNTER COLLEGE, CUNY

on Sunday, March 26, 2017 2PM - 9 PM at Ida K. Lang Recital Hall at Hunter College, 695 Park Ave, New York, NY 10065

In the spirit of the Centennial of the Suffragist Movement in the U.S., the Russian Revolutions, and the historical Balfour Declaration, the Festival's program explores the turmoil of the 20th century and is dedicated to women's role in society, history and art.

FESTIVAL SCHEDULE



2:00 PM

Russian Avant-garde - A century on Revolution. New Art for a New World by Margy Kinmonth (USA Premier)

UK 2016 | 85 min | Feature Documentary | English | Foxtrot Films

Drawing on the collections of major Russian institutions, contributions from contemporary artists, curators, and performers and personal testimony from the descendants of those involved, the film brings the artists of the Russian Avant-Garde to life. It tells the stories of artists like Chagall, Kandinsky, Malevich and others – pioneers who flourished in response to the Utopian challenge of building a New Art for a New World, only to be broken by implacable authority after 15 short years.

Director Margy Kinmonth, a creator of highly acclaimed documentary *Hermitage Revealed*, says: "I was inspired, as an artist, to discover how many of the descendants of Russian Avant-Garde artists are themselves working as artists today. Access to their intensely moving stories brings to life this extraordinary period of artistic innovation, which continues to exert such a powerful legacy a hundred years on."

Q&A with Regina Khidekel, Festival's Curator



3:45 PM

Miss Bluwstein by Sivan Arbel (USA Premier)

Israel 2015 | 55 min | Documentary | Hebrew with English subtitles

The Bank of Israel recently announced that two Israeli banknotes, which are part of a new series highlighting renowned 20th century Israeli poets whose life and work parallel the birth of the State of Israel, will be dedicated to two women: Rachel Bluwstein and Leah Goldberg. Rachel Bluwstein (1890 – 1931), the matriarch of modern Hebrew poetry, will grace the new oft-used 20-Shekel bill that includes vistas of her beloved Sea of Galilee shoreline, palm trees, and verses from her signature poem "Kinneret". The documentary marks 125th birthday of Rachel, strengthens the image of the first Hebrew poet, the immigrant from Russia, who managed to express the emotional life of an entire generation in a language which lives and breathes to this day. Dana Olmert, Anat Weisman, Efrat Mishori, Muki Tsur, Uri Milstein, Yehudit Ravitz, Karni Postel and others, speak, and sing along with animations and previously unknown letters by Rachel re-paint her extraordinary character.

Q&A with Eran Polishuk, Director of Film & Media, Consulate General of Israel in New York



5:00 PM

The Babushkas of Chernobyl: A story of three unlikely heroines in the most toxic place on earth by Holly Morris

USA 2015 | 70 min | Documentary | Russian, Ukrainian with English subtitles

In the radioactive Dead Zone surrounding Chernobyl's Reactor a community of old women cling to their ancestral homeland. While their neighbors have long since fled and their husbands gradually died off, this sisterhood of women labour to cultivate land deemed uninhabitable. Ignoring government orders and health warnings, the Babushkas of Chernobyl continue to forge an existence in one of the most toxic environments on earth.

Q&A with Yasha Klots, Assistant Professor of Russian, Hunter College, CUNY



6:20 PM

Mirrors by Marina Migunova (USA Premier)

Russia 2013 | 119 min | Feature film | Russian with English subtitles

A feature *Mirrors* is the first historical-biographical feature film that focuses on the tragic fate of the poet Marina Tsvetaeva, one of the greatest poets of the 20th century. The authors follow her in Russia, then in emigration in Prague and Paris, and then upon her return to Russia, where she committed suicide a few months after she came back

Q&A with Regina Khidekel, Festival's Curator

Tickets are available via EventBrite www.eventbrite.com/e/2017-art-film-festival-tickets-32450478254 (Hunter College students free)

Photo ID is required for entry into the college. Please allow additional time for check. Entrance on East 69th Street. Lang Hall is on the 4th Floor of the North Building, Room 424.



The Russian American Cultural Center (RACC), established in 1998 and headquartered in New York, is the US leading nonprofit organization with the mission to facilitate cultural life within the Russian émigré community and to promote international understanding of Russian and Russian Jewish culture by supporting cultural awareness, cultural exchange and cultural diversity. RACC producing events in multidisciplinary fields such as art, music, performance, literature and serves an enormous audience including both Russian speakers and general public, connecting people of all ages and enriching the cultural perspective of audiences across the United States and abroad. 520 East 76 Street # 7E, New York, NY 10021. More information: 646-831-0554, russculture@aol.com; www.russianamericanculture.com

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