



**RUSSIAN HERITAGE**

Post Office Box 66123  
St. Pete Beach, Florida 33736

TO:

VOL. III - 2  
October 1998

**INSIDE THIS EDITION**

**PLANS FOR OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER**

# RUSSIAN HERITAGE NEWSLETTER

Volume III Issue 2

October 1998

## October Meeting to Focus On Orthodox Church

The second meeting of Russian Heritage will take place on Tuesday, October 13 at the Pinellas Room of the Allstate Campus of the St. Petersburg Junior College. The topic will be "The Russian Orthodox Church and Russian Culture." Father Igor of St. Andrew's Russian Orthodox Church and Vera Espinola, the curator of the "Treasures of the Czars" and our own Board Chair, will present the program.

Also of interest this month, as the preparations move forward for the 50th anniversary of St. Andrew's parish, is the "CONCERT OF RUSSIAN MUSIC" at the Fine Arts Museum on Sunday, October 25, at 3:00 pm. To purchase tickets, please call 367-2092 or 544-8903.

An exhibit of icons and the history of St. Andrew's Church is also scheduled to open at the St. Petersburg Museum of

History on November 1, extending into 1999. The St. Andrew's Church banquet is scheduled for Sunday, November 1 at 6:00 at the St. Petersburg Yacht Club.

Check to see what Russian music is being performed by the Florida Orchestra in the September Newsletter, and let us know at the October meeting or by phone if you would like to be a part of the Russian Heritage group.

## Russian Film Festival in November

The plans for the Russian Films Festival are going forward for November, but we have had to scale back our plans somewhat. The director we had invited was not able to come and bring his film as we had announced in the last newsletter. The new schedule of activities is included in this newsletter, and you will be hearing more about this in the near future.



ST. PETERSBURG RUSSIAN FILM FESTIVAL  
ST. PETERSBURG, FLORIDA  
NOVEMBER 1998

One good way to learn about a country's current culture is to see its films. Tampa Bay residents will have a chance to do just that November 5-9 when the St. Petersburg group "Russian Heritage" and Eckerd College present THE ST. PETERSBURG RUSSIAN FILM FESTIVAL.

The festival begins with a preview of the films to be shown, and a roundtable discussion on the state of contemporary Russian cinema at Eckerd College on Thursday, November 5th. Participating in this opening event will be Professors Sergei Novikov and Bill Parsons of Eckerd College, and Professor Victor Peppard of the University of South Florida in Tampa. On the following three days a series of Russian films will be shown on the Eckerd campus. Two of these film programs will be repeated at the St. Petersburg Museum of History on November 8th and 9th.

The feature films shown at the St. Petersburg Russian Film Festival will include "The Thief", nominated for an Oscar as the best foreign film of 1997; two recent films about the city of St. Petersburg, Russia in a time of transition after the fall of Communism; two classics by Sergei Eisenstein; and several animated Russian folk tales and stories. More information about the films planned for the festival are listed on the back page.

Viewing films about contemporary St. Petersburg Russia will not give an exact picture of what life is like in Russia today, just as watching many American films might give a distorted view of life here. However, these films have been chosen to present a cross-section of contemporary Russian experiences that will be of interest to the American audience.

The retrospective of the films by Eisenstein is particularly appropriate this year, because it is the 100th anniversary of his birth, the 50th anniversary of his death, the 70th anniversary of "Ten Days That Shook the World", and the 60th anniversary of "Alexander Nevsky". Although they have an element of historical propaganda in them, they are classic statements of Soviet, and in fact, world cinema.

The theme of ANIMATED RUSSIAN FILMS will delight children of all ages. Three classic features based on Russian folklore, "Beauty and the Beast: A Tale of the Crimson Flower", "The Magic Horse" (on the Firebird theme), and "The Twelve Months" will be shown. Children's animated cartoons will also be featured. "You're Going to Get It!" is a Russian series similar to the American Roadrunner cartoons, and "Alice and the Mystery of the Third Planet" is a children's adventure story. The most recent animated film at the festival will be "Rusalka" (the Mermaid) -- a classic fairy tale about a young man who falls in love with a mermaid. This Russian short film was nominated for an Oscar for the best animated film in 1998.



ST. PETERSBURG RUSSIAN FILM FESTIVAL  
November 5-9, 1998

**SCHEDULE.** All events will take place in Dendy Auditorium on the Eckerd College campus, except for Sunday, November 8, during the St. Petersburg Times Reading Festival, when the ANIMATED RUSSIAN FOLKTALES AND STORIES will be shown in Franklin-Templeton Bldg.

**Thursday, November 5      OPENING DAY**

7:00 "The State of Russian Cinema" - Panel Discussion, including previews of the films to be shown in the festival, with Professors Bill Parsons, Sergei Novikov, and Victor Peppard

8:00 Intermission: Russian tea & zakuski (hors d'oeuvres)

8:45 Film: "The Thief." Nominated for an Oscar as the best foreign film of 1997. The story of a thief who befriends a single mother and her child Tolyan, with strange results. (R)

**Friday, November 6. FILMS OF CONTEMPORARY ST. PETERSBURG, RUSSIA**

7:00 Film: "Window to Paris." A music teacher in St. Petersburg finds he can magically pass through a window from his apartment and end up in Paris. A comedy showing a clash of cultures. (PG-13)

8:45 Film: "The Brother." (Florida Premiere) A young Russian soldier leaves the army and goes to St. Petersburg to find his brother who is a mafia man. This is an action film about the hardships of life, including violence. (R)

**Saturday, November 7. MATINEE VIDEOS (dubbed into English)**

1:30 Animated Film: "The Russian Beauty and the Beast: The Tale of the Crimson Flower"

2:15 Animated Film: "The Mermaid"

2:30 Animated Film: "The Twelve Months"

3:30 Animated Film: "The Magic Horse"

**Saturday, November 7. CLASSIC FILMS OF SERGEI EISENSTEIN**

7:00 Film: "Ten Days That Shook the World." (also known as October) Silent film with English subtitles, with a soundtrack of music by Shostakovich) A propaganda film about the Russian Revolution.

8:30 Film: "Alexander Nevsky." Russian language with English subtitles, and music by Prokofiev. Eisenstein's first sound film about the defeat of the German knights by the Russians in the thirteenth century.

**Sunday, November 8. ST. PETERSBURG TIMES READING FESTIVAL**

ANIMATED RUSSIAN FOLKTALES AND STORIES (Dubbed - English)

12:00 "The Russian Beauty and the Beast: The Tale of the Crimson Flower."

1:00 "The Twelve Months." "The Mermaid."

2:00 "The Magic Horse."

3:00 "You're Going to Get It!"

4:00 "Alice and the Mystery of the Third Planet."

