

Summary

Epistolary Connections with the Field and the Production of Anthropological Knowledge

The article “Letters from the Field: Principles of the Leningrad Ethnographic School and Soviet Realities” by **Nikolai Vakhtin** and **Elena Lyarskaya** is devoted to former political exiles, ethnographers and experts in Siberian indigenous minorities L.Ya. Sternberg, V.G. Bogoraz and others. Since 1918, they began to systematically train the younger generation of ethnographers, first at the Geographical Institute, then at the Geographical Faculty of Leningrad State University. The curriculum was aimed primarily at training field researchers and was based on several principles: the combination of research and administrative work in the North, the longitudinal fieldwork, mandatory knowledge of the languages of the peoples being studied, careful and respectful attitude towards them, etc. These principles were rooted in the *Narodnaya Volya* ideology; however, in the conditions of uncertainty and the constantly changing ideology of the new government in the 1920s — early 1930s, these principles inevitably began to conflict with reality. The article, based on letters from students of Bogoraz and Sternberg to their teachers “from the field”, examines in detail the process of adaptation of the “populist” principles of the Leningrad ethnographic school to the new Soviet reality, and examines the complicated relationship between younger ethnographers and the central and local authorities.

Maria Momzikova’s article “Post-Fieldwork Letters: Soviet Scholars, Nganasan Correspondents, and the Co-Production of Anthropological Knowledge through Reciprocal Dialogue” examines the correspondence between Nganasans and visiting Taimyr researchers of culture and language in the 1930s and 1960s as a “reciprocal dialogue”. Using archival and published materials, the study illustrates how ethnographic and linguistic knowledge emerged through ongoing dialogue between researchers and their “informants,” both in the field and through correspondence. These professional and friendly relationships involved a reciprocal exchange not only of knowledge but also of goods and even money. Letters, as a form of communication requiring a response from the recipient, ensured the continuation of this exchange after the conclusion of fieldwork. Within the context of Soviet social and political reality, this correspondence became not only a co-production of anthropological knowledge but an instrument of political education and facilitated the integration of addressees from local community representatives into Soviet political institutions.

Svetlana Podrezova’s article “‘You Can’t Explain Everything in Letters’: The Archive of Revolutionary Songs in Letters” examines a unique case of using correspondence to compile an archive of revolutionary songs. An analysis of

the surviving extensive epistolary collection reveals that, beyond its primary objective, the correspondence within the “The Russian Revolutionary Song Study Brigade” at the Institute of Anthropology and Ethnography functioned as a key element of scientific infrastructure. This correspondence not only established and reinforced hierarchies but also occasion-

ally served as a means of substitution and compensation for the absence of one of its members. The study draws on letters preserved in the manuscript department of the Pushkin House and other archives in Saint Petersburg and Moscow, with some materials also published in Volume 5 of the Complete Works of Soviet musicologist Mikhail S. Druskin.

Regimes of Memory

Based on oral interviews and materials from Kazakh state archives, **Olga Litzenberger** and **Roza M. Mussabekova** in their article “‘Everyone Has Their Own Story...’: School and Childhood in the Memories of German Special Settlers in Kazakhstan (1950s—1960s) Based on Oral History” analyze the specifics of schooling and socialisation of children of deported Russian Germans born in Kazakhstan during the period of special

settlement, 1941—1955. The article examines the impact of temporal disorientation, Soviet school ideology and social upheaval on German children. As the materials of the interviews show, the perceptions of time and life stories of German children born in Kazakhstan in the 1950s, who no longer experienced the hardships of deportation, sometimes contradict the national narrative and do not always fit into the concept of historical trauma.

On the Path Towards a “State” Literature: Institutions and Practices

Guest Editor Dmitry Tsyganov

Valerii Otiakovskii's paper “Memoirs about Vsevolod Meyerhold by Yuri Pertsovich” examines a memoir about V. Meyerhold by the critic Yuri Pertsovich, who was in touch with him in 1920 in Novorossiysk. The memoirs contain vivid episodes that characterize the unpredictability of culture-building processes in the context of the Civil War. The author's variant is published for the first time, double compared to the known publication.

The article “Petrograd House of Arts as an Organizational Experiment of the War Communism Period” by **Mariia Likhinina** explores the relations between the authorities and the intelligentsia during

War Communism in the Petrograd House of Arts case. It reveals the reasons for the decline of the House of Arts as Gorky's project to unite the artistic intelligentsia. The paper argues that the organisation's fall was caused by its uncertain position in the bureaucratic hierarchy, inner conflicts and criticism of the House of Arts by the artistic environment more than repressive state measures.

Darya Moskovskaya in her article “From the Union of Soviet Republics to the Union of Soviet Writers: The Institutional Collisions of the Production of Proletarian Literature in 1920s—1930s” discusses the formation of the Union

of Soviet Writers that took place twelve years after the Union of Soviet Republics, which was due to the class struggle in the field of culture that had not ceased during the years of the NEP and the first Five Year Plan. The victorious class remained culturally underdeveloped and could not lay claim to hegemony in the literary process. An attempt to unite the socially diverse writer's groups was made in 1927, when the Federation of Soviet Writers' Associations was formed. From 1924 to 1928, the All-Russian Association attempted to unite proletarian republican associations under its aegis. Although formally these efforts succeeded in 1928 and the All-Union Association was established, this result was not needed by the Central Committee. The reasons for this lack of interest were rooted in the demand for a new heteronomy of the literary field, which emerged during the years of the first Five Year Plan, the achievement of which

became possible after the dissolution of all literary groupings and the creation, at the behest of the Party, of the Union of Soviet Writers in 1934.

Alla Burtseva's article "Writers' Brigade in the 1930s Turkmenistan: From the Journey to the Production of Literature" examines brigade journeys, a form of collective literary production in USSR in the 1930s. A journey to Turkmenistan is one of the cases when literary policy was complexly connected with national policy. Publications in local press provide information on the reception of such projects and their goals. The production of literary material suggests in this case following the interests of the center, but the periphery also presents itself. The production of literature about periphery and literature in the periphery is mediated not only by dependent relationship, but also mutual, and the collective result is a part of this process.

The Canon Revisited

In his article "Joseph Brodsky: The Path of Literary Legitimization (1962—1965)" based on the archival materials **Gleb Morev** examines Brodsky's participation in literary events in said period and the influence of Anna Akhmatova on his literary biography. One of the key elements of that is the narrative constructed by Akhmatova about the new "first poet"

of Russia: on the one hand, there is the highest degree of poetic recognition sanctioned by Akhmatova's authority (inevitably actualizing Pushkin's connotations in the Russian tradition), and on the other hand, there is the sharply contrasting Soviet reality, which does not recognize any legitimacy for such a mechanism of non-state/unofficial canonization.

Archeology of Philological Knowledge

In her article "Boris Bukhshtab as a Phenomenon of Theory" **Lidia Tripiccione** takes as her object of inquiry two later works by the young formalist, philologist and bibliographer Boris Bukhshtab, "Bibliograficheskie razyskaniya po russkoy literature XIX veka" (1966) and "Biblio-

graficheskie rassledovaniya" (1982). The author shows the link between these publications and the theoretical discussions on bibliography from the 1960s, and concludes that through the "Razyskaniya" and "Rassledovaniya" Bukhshtab explores the possibilities of academic

genres and proposes a specific understanding of literary scholarship and of the literary scholar.

Ilya Vinitsky in his article “‘Idyllic Horror Story’: The Princeton Text in Mikhail Gasparov’s *Notes and Excerpts*” turns to the most personal and most famous (“intellectual bestseller”) book by Gasparov, which opens the last volume of his

collected works. The article is devoted not to the intellectual evolution of the scientist, but to the closely connected and hidden from prying eyes “emotional history” of the author — his internal, psychological, often irrational impulses, fears, hopes and disappointments, thus reconstruction of the image of the scientist who knows himself in the text (by the text).

Poetological Studies

Anatoly Riassov’s article “Andrei Platonov: Truth and Convulsive Vigor” examines Platonov’s style. Distancing himself from any schools or trends, Platonov managed to create his own language based on Russian word forms, replete with colloquialisms, deliberate repetitions, and bizarre violations of the usual

word order. The formation of Platonov’s writing style practically coincided in time with the strengthening of the Stalinist political system, and it is precisely the presence of ideology within these artistic texts, and in a sense its appropriation, that turns out to be the cornerstone in the question of style.

Gennady Aygi: At the Boundaries of Speech

The article “Gennadiy Aygi’s ‘Music of Silence’” by **Anton Azarenkov** deals with the concept of “verbal music” in the work of Gennady Aygi. The first part of the article describes Aygi’s authorial poeology, identifies and systematizes the corresponding transmusical topoi. The second part of the article analyzes the phonosemantic effects of Aygi’s lyrics, including the phenomenon of “semantic rhyme”, which has been actively discussed in recent decades. In Aygi’s work, the theory and practice of “verbal music” are closely intertwined and rooted, on the one hand, in European poetological topology and, on the other hand, in linguistics contemporary to the poet.

Arsen Mirzaev in his article “Gennady Aygi, Andrei Volkonsky and Poetry of the North Caucasus” discusses Aygi’s interest in the Orient, Muslim culture and

religion, and Caucasian literature, which was connected not only with his passion for poetry in general, but also with his translation activity. He translated some poetic compositions by authors from different countries; compiled several anthologies in which he himself participated as a translator: “Poets of France”, “Poets of Poland”, “Poets of Hungary”. His fascination with the North Caucasus, poetics, nature, the harsh and wonderful life of the highlanders was shared by Aygi’s close friend, musician and composer Andrei Volkonsky, who had a great influence on the poet. In 1962—1972, together they repeatedly traveled to the “country of mountains and hills”.

Atner Khuzangai’s article “Chuvash Ayhi: Russian Aygi” discusses self-identification of Chuvash poet Gennady Aygi in Russian-speaking environment of

Summary

Moscow, analyzes the cycle of his early poems written in Russian “Beginnings of the Clearings” and Chuvash poems “Ovary”, “Beginning” as a stage of transition to Russian language. In the center of

attention are friends-associates of Aygi (painters, musicians) from uncensored, non-official art sphere and interaction of two world pictures — Russian-Language and Chuvash.

Table of contents No. **190** [6'2024]

NEW POETRY

- 7** *Karina Lukyanova*. The Missed Call of the Era
10 *Konstantin Shavlovsky*. A Heart Above the Horizon

EPISTOLARY CONNECTIONS WITH THE FIELD
AND THE PRODUCTION OF ANTHROPOLOGICAL
KNOWLEDGE

- 15** *Nikolai Vakhtin, Elena Lyarskaya*. Letters from the Field: Principles
of the Leningrad Ethnographic School and Soviet Realities
44 *Maria Momzikova*. Post-Fieldwork Letters: Soviet Scholars,
Nganasan Correspondents, and the Co-Production of Anthropologi-
cal Knowledge through Reciprocal Dialogue
63 *Svetlana Podrezova*. “You Can’t Explain Everything in Letters”
The Archive of Revolutionary Songs in Letters

REGIMES OF MEMORY

- 84** *Olga Litzenberger, Roza M. Mussabekova*. “Everyone Has Their
Own Story...”: School and Childhood in the Memories of German
Special Settlers in Kazakhstan (1950s—1960s) Based on Oral History

ON THE PATH TOWARDS A “STATE” LITERATURE:
INSTITUTIONS AND PRACTICES

Guest Editor Dmitry Tsyganov

- 104** *Alexander Dmitriev*. The Sociology of a Transitional Literary Culture,
or Soviet Again
111 *Valerii Otiakovskii*. Memoirs about Vsevolod Meyerhold by
Yuri Pertsovich
117 *Mariia Likhinina*. Petrograd House of Arts as an Organizational
Experiment of the War Communism Period
131 *Darya Moskovskaya*. From the Union of Soviet Republics to the
Union of Soviet Writers: The Institutional Collisions of the Produc-
tion of Proletarian Literature in 1920s—1930s
152 *Alla Burtseva*. Writers’ Brigade in the 1930s Turkmenistan: From the
Journey to the Production of Literature

THE CANON REVISITED

- 165** *Gleb Morev.* Joseph Brodsky: The Path of Literary Legitimization (1962—1965)

ARCHEOLOGY OF PHILOLOGICAL KNOWLEDGE

- 192** *Lidia Tripiccone.* Boris Bukhshtab as a Phenomenon of Theory
- 212** *Ilya Vinitsky.* “Idyllic Horror Story”: The Princeton Text in Mikhail Gasparov’s *Notes and Excerpts*

POETOLOGICAL STUDIES

- 233** *Anatoly Riassov.* Andrei Platonov: Truth and Convulsive Vigor

GENNADY AYGI: AT THE BOUNDARIES OF SPEECH

- 256** *Anton Azarenkov.* Gennadiy Aygi’s “Music of Silence”
- 272** *Arsen Mirzaev.* Gennady Aygi, Andrei Volkonsky and Poetry of the North Caucasus
- 284** *Atner Khuzangai.* Chuvash Ayhi: Russian Aygi

CHRONICLE OF CONTEMPORARY LITERATURE

- 293** *Aleksei Porvin.* The Freedom of Indeterminacy (Review of the book: Morozova, Katya. *Amal’gama*. Jaromír Hladik Press, 2023)
- 297** *Anna Nuzhdina.* Ice Age (Review of the book: Oborin, Lev. *Ledniki*. Jaromír Hladik Press, 2023)

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 301** *Evgeniy Savitskiy.* The Soviet “Literary Republic,” “Eastern International,” and Kemalist Turkey from the 1920s—1960s (Review of Current Research)
- 314** *Dmitry Kolchigin.* (Non)fictional Stories before the Court of History (Review of the book: *Dangers of Narrative and Fictionality*. Peter Lang, 2024)
- 325** *Tatyana Venediktova.* News of Literary Cognitive Science from the Southern Part of the World (Review of the book: Wentworth, Isabelle. *Catching Time*. Routledge, 2024)
- 330** *Valery Vyugin.* A Book on Literature, Thieves, Crooks, Scoundrels, and the Soviet Empire (Review of the book: de Oliveria, Cassio. *Writing Rogues: The Soviet Picaresque and Identity Formation, 1921—1938*. McGill-Queen’s University Press, 2023)

- 336** Valery Zolotukhin. Northern Sounds and Nighttime Voices (Review of the book: Safran, Gabriella. *Recording Russia: Trying to Listen in the Nineteenth Century*. Cornell University Press, 2022)
- 345** Игорь Кобылин. “A Continuous Stream of Chance,” or the Political Economy of Francis Bacon (Review of the book: Bacon, Francis. *Brutal’nost’ fakta: interv’yu Devidu Sil’vestru*. Ad Marginem Press, 2024)
- 356** Konstantin Lappo-Danilevsky. The Archival Gifts of Eretz Israel to Russian Culture
- 363** Alexander L. Kleitman. “So, They Strangled Him After All...”: New Research into the Murder of Tsarevich Alexei, June 26, 1718 (Review of the book: Guzevich, Dmitry and Guzevich, Irina. *Gibel’ tsarevicha Aleksey Petrovicha: 24—30 iyunya 1718 goda: versii, spory, realii*. Evropeyskiy dom, 2024)
- 367** Zhang Licheng. Post-Soviet Dramaturgy Through the Eyes of Chinese Researchers (Review of the book: Wang Lidan and Li Ruilian. *Issledovaniye sovremennoy russkoy dramaturgii [1991—2012]*. Central Compilation and Translation Press, 2016)
- 373** New Books

CHRONICLE OF SCHOLARLY LIFE

- 390** Alina Polyakova. All-Russian Research Conference “Transylvania Is Calling”: The Poetics of Elena Fanailova (Institute of Philosophy of the Russian Academy of Sciences; Russian State University for the Humanities, February 17, 2024)
- 401** Anna Shvets, Polina Levina, Elena Sosina. The Effect of Presence: Problems and Perspectives of Study. Round Table “The Effect of Presence: 20 Years Later” (Moscow State University, March 1, 2024)
- 409** Viktoria Mavrinskaya. International Conference “30th Big Bath Readings: ‘The Cultural Anthropology of Borders in Modern Societies’” (*New Literary Observer*, April 5—7, 2024)
- 430** Errata
- 431** Summary
- 438** Table of Contents
- 441** Our Authors

Our authors

Anton Azarenkov

(PhD; Lecturer, HSE University (St. Petersburg)) aazarenkov@hse.ru.

Alla Burtseva

(PhD; Lecturer, Department of Contemporary Russian Literature, Institute for Philology and History of the Russian State University for the Humanities) alla.burtseva@gmail.com.

Alexander Dmitriev

(PhD; Researcher, Laboratory for the History of Science and Technology, École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne) alexander.dmitriev@epfl.ch.

Elena Grechanaya

(Dr. habil.; Independent Researcher) el.grechanaya@mail.ru.

Atner Khuzangai

(PhD; Independent Researcher) anvaska@mail.ru.

Alexander L. Kleitman

(Dr. habil.; Leading Researcher, S.I. Vavilov Institute for the History of Science and Technology, RAS) malk@bk.ru.

Igor Kobylin

(PhD; Associate Professor, Department of Social Sciences and Humanities, Privozhzsky Research Medical University / Senior Researcher, Research Laboratory of Historical and Cultural Research, SASH ION RANEPА / Associate Professor, Department of Theory and History of Humanitarian Knowledge, RSUH / Editor, *Neprikosnovenniy Zapas*) kigor55@mail.ru.

Dmitry Kolchigin

(Translator (Almaty, Kazakhstan)) atacarme@gmail.com.

Alexandra Kuznetsova

(PhD Student; Artist-Researcher, Academic Supervisor of the Educational Program «Design», Art & Design School, Faculty of Creative Industries, HSE University (Moscow)) a.kuznetsova@hse.ru.

Konstantin

Lappo-Danilevsky

(Dr. habil.; Head Research Fellow, Institute of Russian Literature (the Pushkin House), RAS) yurij-danilevskij@yandex.ru.

Polina Levina

(MA Student, Faculty of Philology, MSU) p.levina15@mail.ru.

Zhang Licheng

(PhD; Associate Professor, School of Foreign Languages, Southeast University (Nanjing, China) licheng.zhang@mail.ru.

Mariia Likhinina

(Doctoral Student, School of Arts and Cultural Heritage, European University at Saint Petersburg) mlikhinina@eu.spb.ru.

Olga Litzenberger

(Dr. habil.; Professor, Research Fellow, Bavarian Centre for the Culture of Germans from Russia, Nuremberg, Germany) litzenbergerolga@gmail.com.

Karina Lukyanova

(Poet) ikhinitel@yandex.ru.

Elena Lyarskaya

(PhD; Associate Professor, European University at Saint Petersburg) rica@eu.spb.ru.

Viktoria Mavrinskaya

(Coordinator, Open Philosophical Faculty) chaicka2007@yandex.ru.

Arsen Mirzaev

(Independent Researcher) arsemir@yandex.ru.

Maria Momzikova

(PhD Candidate, University of Tartu) mmomzikova@eu.spb.ru.

Gleb Morev

(Literary Scholar) glebmorev@gmail.com.

Darya Moskovskaya

(Dr. habil.; Head of the Manuscript Department, A.M. Gorky Institute of World Literature, RAS) d.moskovskaya@bk.ru.

Roza Mussabekova

(PhD; Associate Professor, Department of Russian Philology, Eurasian National University, Astana, Republic of Kazakhstan) roza709@mail.ru.

Anna Nuzhdina

(Literary Critic) nuzhdina_anya@mail.ru.

Valerii Otiakovskii

(PhD; Postdoctoral Fellow, Harvard University) klerk95@gmail.com.

Svetlana Podrezova

(PhD; Senior Research Fellow, Head of Phonographic Archive; Institute of Russian Literature (the Pushkin House) RAS) podrezova@yandex.ru.

Alina Polyakova

(Interdisciplinary Researcher; MA Student, RSUH) apolyakova002@gmail.com.

Aleksei Porvin

(Poet, Critic) sensus.interni@gmail.com.

Andrey Ranchin

(Dr. habil.; Professor, Lomonosov Moscow State University / Leading Researcher, Institute of Scientific Information for Social Sciences, RAS) aranchin@mail.ru.

Anatoly Riassov

(Independent Researcher) x25@mail.ru.

Irina Sakhno

(Dr. habil.; Professor, Academic Supervisor of the Masters Degree Program “Practices of Contemporary Art”, Art & Design School, Faculty of Creative Industries, HSE University (Moscow)) isakhno@hse.ru.

Evgeniy Savitskiy

(PhD; Senior Researcher, Institute of World History, RAS) e_savitski@mail.ru.

Konstantin Shavlovsky

(Poet, Cinema Critic) shavlovsky@gmail.com.

Anna Shvets

(PhD; Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Philology, Lomonosov Moscow State University) shvetsanval@gmail.com.

Elena Sosina

(MA Student, Faculty of Philology, MSU) sosna.ell@yandex.ru.

Wasilij Szczukin

(Dr. habil.; Professor, Institute of Eastern Slavonic Studies, Jagiellonian University) wszczukin@yandex.com.

Lidia Tripiccione

(PhD Candidate; Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures, Princeton University) lidiat@princeton.edu.

Alexander Ulanov

(Dr. habil.; Associate Professor, Samara State Aerospace University) alexulanov@mail.ru.

Nikolai Vakhtin

(PhD; Professor, European University at Saint Petersburg) vakhtin@eu.spb.ru.

Tatyana Venediktova

(Dr. habil.; Professor and Chair, Department of Discourse and Communication Studies, MSU) tvenediktova@mail.ru.

Ilya Vinitsky

(Dr. habil.; Professor, Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures, Princeton University) vinitsky@princeton.edu.

Valery Vyugin

(Dr. habil.; Head Researcher, Institute of Russian Literature (the Pushkin House) RAS / Professor, St. Petersburg University) valeryvyugin@gmail.com.

Valery Zolotukhin

(PhD; Researcher, Seminar für Slavistik & Lotman-Institut, Ruhr-Universität Bochum) Valeriy.Zolotukhin@ruhr-uni-bochum.de.

Editorial board

- Irina Prokhorova** PhD (founder and establisher of journal)
- Tatiana Weiser** PhD (editor-in-chief)
- Arseniy Kumankov** PhD (theory)
- Kirill Zubkov** PhD (history)
- Alexander Skidan** (practice)
- Abram Reitblat** PhD (bibliography)
- Vladislav Tretyakov** PhD (bibliography)
- Nadezhda Krylova** M.A. (chronicle of scholarly life)
- Alexandra Volodina** PhD (executive editor)

Advisory board

Konstantin Azadovsky
PhD

Henryk Baran
PhD, State University of New York at Albany, professor

Evgeny Dobrenko
PhD, Università Ca'Foscari Venezia, professor

Tatiana Venediktova
Dr. habil. Lomonosov Moscow State University, professor

Elena Vishlenkova
Dr. habil. HSE University, professor

Tomáš Glanc
PhD, University of Zurich, professor / Charles University in Prague, professor

Hans Ulrich Gumbrecht
PhD, Stanford University, professor

Alexander Zholkovsky
PhD, University of South Carolina, professor

Andrey Zorin
Dr. habil. Oxford University, professor / The Moscow school of social and economic sciences, professor

Boris Kolonitskii
Dr. habil. European University at St. Petersburg, professor / St. Petersburg Institute of History, Russian Academy of Sciences, leading researcher

Alexander Lavrov
Dr. habil. Full member of Russian Academy of Sciences Institute of Russian Literature (the Pushkin House), Russian Academy of Sciences, leading researcher

Mark Lipovetsky
Dr. habil. Columbia University, professor

John Malmstad
PhD, Harvard University, professor

Alexander Ospovat
University of California, Los Angeles; Research Professor

Pekka Pesonen
PhD, University of Helsinki, professor emeritus

Oleg Proskurin
PhD, Emory University, professor

Roman Timenchik
PhD, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, professor

Pavel Uvarov
Dr. habil. Corresponding member of Russian Academy of Sciences. Institute of World History, Russian Academy of Sciences, research professor / HSE University, professor

Alexander Etkind*
European University Institute (Florence)

Mikhail Yampolsky
Dr. habil. New York University, professor

* Включен Минюстом РФ в реестр иностранных агентов.