

A LOOK AT THE CULTURE AND ART OF THE RUSSIAN PEOPLE

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**Abstract:** Russian culture is a fascinating tapestry woven over centuries, shaped by a vast area, diverse traditions, and complex history. From the opulent palaces of St. Petersburg to the timeless villages of Siberia, Russia’s cultural mosaic is a fusion of artistic brilliance, literary splendor, and Russian cultural traditions. This article is about the art and culture of the Russian people.

**Key words:** Russia, culture, art, theater, opera, genres, Shishkin, Petrov-Vodkin

**Аннотация:** Русская культура — это увлекательное полотно, сотканное на протяжении веков, сформированное огромной территорией, разнообразными традициями и сложной историей. От роскошных дворцов Санкт-Петербурга до вневременных деревень Сибири – культурная мозаика России представляет собой сплав художественного блеска, литературного великолепия и русских культурных традиций. Эта статья об искусстве и культуре русского народа.

**Ключевые слова:** Россия, культура, искусство, театр, опера, жанры, Шишкин, Петров-Водкин.

Russian culture is the culture of Russian peoples and nations; includes spiritual values. Ancient Russian culture is characterized by the following features:

1. The experience of previous generations, traditions played an important role.
- 2 Locality, isolation, fragmentation of the Russian land, caused by the lack of economic interests in natural economic conditions
3. The powerful influence of religion.

Russian icons were not merely imitations, but had their own style, and masters such as Andrei Rublev took icon painting to new heights. Russian icons inherited the traditions of Byzantine masters. At the same time, Russia had its own traditions. The most comprehensive collection of icons is in the Tretyakov Gallery.



The first realistic portraits appeared in Russia in the 17<sup>th</sup> century, and in the mid-18<sup>th</sup> century, major Russian artists such as Levitsky and Borovikovsky appeared in Russia. Since then, Russian painting has followed global trends. The famous artists of the first half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century are: Kiprensky, Bryullov, Ivanov (“Christ’s Appearance to People”).

In the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, realistic painting developed. The creative association of Russian artists “Sayor Art Exhibitions Association” (“Sayors”) was established, including such great artists as Vasnetsov, Kramskoi, Shishkin, Kuinji, Surikov, Repin, Savrasov.

Throughout the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, the “World of Art” association was active. Its members or artists close to the movement were Mikhail Aleksandrovich Vrubel, Kuzma Sergeevich Petrov-Vodkin, Nikolai Konstantinovich Roerich, Isaac Ilyich Levitan. In the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, Russia became one of the centers of avant-garde art. Famous representatives of the avant-garde: Wassily Kandinsky, Kazimir Malevich, Marc Chagall, Pavel Filonov. It was typical for the Russian avant-garde to reject the old forms of new art that corresponded to the current moment of reality. A similar direction in the development of artists’ thinking existed in all other European countries, while American art was behind in its development. In those years, for the first time since the time of Peter I, there was a clear connection between the visual arts of Russia and the visual arts of European countries. In the 1930s, this connection was broken with the growing influence of socialist realism. Many researchers associate the origin of the Russian avant-garde not with the revolution, but with the industrial development of that time.

Pop music began to develop in the USSR and Russia according to the Western

prototype from the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. It is popular, first of all, among the Russian-speaking population of the world. In Western countries, Russian pop musicians rarely achieve great commercial success (this was done, for example, by the group Tatu).

In the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, performers such as Alexander Vertinsky and Leonid Utyosov were famous.

The first jazz concert in the USSR took place on October 1, 1922 in Moscow at one o'clock in the afternoon on the stage of the Central College of Theater Arts (later – GITIS) on Mali Kislovsky Street[4][5]. It was a concert of the “eccentric orchestra of the first Valentin Parnakh jazz groups in the RSFSR”.

Russian theater art is one of the most promising in the world. Russia has such world-famous theaters as the Mariinsky Theater, the Bolshoi Theater and the Mali Theater. Film critics believe that the first Russian cartoon Perrot's artists, filmed by the ballet master of the Mariinsky Theater Alexander Shiryaev, was taken in 1906.

In 2003, the cartoon “Hedgehog in the Fog” filmed in Tokyo by Yuri Norstein was named the best cartoon of all time according to the results of a poll of 140 film critics and animators from different countries. Soviet animation is known all over the world, it is distinguished by the use of pastel colors, spirituality, kind content and the presence of a strong educational component. The most famous studios of the USSR and Russia (“Soyuzmultfilm”, “Centrauchfilm”, “Kievnauchfilm”) created thousands of cartoons.



Rooted in the historical past and enriched by the fusion of Eastern and Western traditions, Russian culture has produced some of the world's greatest achievements in literature, art and music. From the magnificence of Russian literature by famous

authors such as Tolstoy and Dostoevsky to famous ballet performances in historic theaters, Russia's cultural tapestry is a vibrant mix of artistic expression, religious heritage and enduring traditions.

Russian literature is a broad and rich tradition that dates back to the 11<sup>th</sup> century. Alexander Pushkin, Leo Tolstoy, Fyodor Dostoyevsky, Anton Chekhov, Vladimir Nabokov, the world's most famous and beloved writers grew out of it. These writers explored a variety of themes in their works, including love, loss, war, revolution, and the human condition.

Among the art forms, ballet, which stands out for its elegance, an art form that transcends simple movement, finds its most attractive expression in the heart of Russia. From the glittering stages of St. Petersburg's Imperial Theaters to the world-renowned Bolshoi in Moscow, Russian ballet has forever enchanted the world. This complex dance form is not just a performance – it is a story of grace, emotion and tradition.

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