

PETRE M. PETROV

Assistant Professor of Russian, Princeton University

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PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Faculty, Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures, Princeton University (Fall 2007-present)
- Visiting Fellow, American Academy in Rome (2011-2012)
- Post-Doctoral Fellow, Humanities Center, University of Pittsburgh (2009-2010)

EDUCATION

- Certificate for advanced proficiency in Polish, 2007, Center for Polish Language and Culture in the World, Jagiellonian University, Kraków, Poland
- Ph.D. degree in Russian Literature, 2006, Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures, University of Pittsburgh
Dissertation thesis: "Laying Bare: The Fate of Authorship in Early Soviet Culture"
Major areas of specialization: early Soviet culture, literature, and film; modernism; Stalinism; twentieth-century Russian and Soviet critical theory; socialist realism.
- Ph.D. certificate in Area Studies, 2005, Center for Russian and East European Studies, University of Pittsburgh
- Ph.D. certificate in Cultural Studies, 2003, Graduate Program for Cultural Studies, University of Pittsburgh
- M. A. degree in Russian Literature, 2000, Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures, University of Pittsburgh
- M.A., 1997, "Kliment Okhridski" University of Sofia, in Bulgarian Philology.
Honors' thesis: "Luzhin' Defense and Invitation to a Beheading as Links in Vladimir Nabokov's Meta-Discursive Chain"
- B.A., 1995, "Kliment Okhridski" University of Sofia, in Bulgarian Philology

EMPLOYMENT

- Assistant Professor, Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures, Princeton University (Fall 2007-present)
- Teaching Fellow, Fall 1999-Spring 2002, Fall 2004-Summer 2005, Fall 2006, Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures, University of Pittsburgh

- Teaching Assistant, Fall 1997-Spring 1999, Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures, University of Pittsburgh
- Language Instructor at the Russian and East European Summer Language Institute, 1998-2000, 2002, University of Pittsburgh

ARTICLES AND REVIEWS

- [forthcoming] “Calcified Intelligence: John Deely’s Case for Global Semiosis.” *Sign System Studies* 41.3/4 (2013)
- [forthcoming] “The Soviet Gnostic (On the Peculiarities of Generic Phenomena in Stalinist Officialese).” *Slavic and East European Journal* 57.4 (Winter, 2013)
- Rev. of *Cultivating the Masses: Modern State Practices and Soviet Socialism* by David L. Hoffmann. *Slavic and East European Journal* 57.1 (Spring, 2013).
- Rev. of *Otkrytaia Struktura: Iakobson—Bakhtin—Lotman—Gasparov* by Nataliia Avtonomova. *Kritika: Explorations in Russian and Eurasian History* 13, 3 (Summer 2012): 752-62.
- “The Industry of Truing: Socialist Realism, Reality, Realization,” *Slavic Review* 4 (2011): 873-92.
- with Boris Groys, “The Temporalities of Soviet and Post-Communist Visual Culture (Conversation).” *Contemporaneity: Historical Presence in Visual Culture* Vol. 1 (2011). <http://contemporaneity.pitt.edu/ojs/index.php/contemporaneity/article/view/34/4>
- Rev. of *Stalinist Cinema and the Production of History: Museum of the Revolution* by Evgeny Dobrenko. *The Slavonic and East European Review* 2 (2011): 347-48.
- Rev. of *The Communist Postscript* by Boris Groys. *Slavic and East European Journal* (2011)
- “Russian Formalism.” *The Encyclopedia of Literary and Cultural Theory*. Vol. 1. London: Wiley-Blackwell, 2011. (length: 5,000 words)
- “*Fabula/Sjužhet*.” *The Encyclopedia of Literary and Cultural Theory*. Vol. 1. London: Wiley-Blackwell, 2011. (length: 2,000 words)
- “Form.” *The Encyclopedia of Literary and Cultural Theory*. Vol. 1. London: Wiley-Blackwell, 2011. (length: 2,000 words)
- “The Modernist Mirror and the Hold of Being: Rilke and Zamiatin.” *Studies in 20th and 21st Century Literature* 2 (2010)
- Rev. of *Russia-88* by Pavel Bardin. *KinoKul'tura* 26 (2009) <http://www.kinokultura.com/2009/26r-russia88.shtml>
- “The Scars of History and the Balms of Melodrama in Soviet Thaw Cinema.” *Studia Filmoznawcze* Vol. 2, October 2008.
- Rev. of *Aesthetics of Alienation: Reassessment of Early Soviet Cultural Theories* by Evgeny Dobrenko. *Modern Language Review* 2 (2007): 612-13.
- “Mikhail Bakhtin.” *Encyclopedia of Contemporary Russian Culture*. London: Routledge, 2006. (length: 500 words)
- “Socialist Realism.” *Encyclopedia of Contemporary Russian Culture*. London: Routledge, 2006. (length: 2,000 words)

- “The Freeze of Historicity in Thaw Cinema.” *Kinokul'tura*. April, 2005
<http://www.kinokultura.com/articles/apr05-petrov.html>
- “Prostranstvo ‘Amnaziï’.” *Kurak: Kul'tura i iskusstvo* 6 (2004): 59-60. (Published in Russian.)
- “The Birth of Theatre from the Spirit of the Game: The Structure of Play in Gogol’s *Gamblers*.” *Essays in Poetics* 29 (Autumn 2004): 134-44.
- “The Truth of the Body: from *War and Peace* to *Anna Karenina*.” *Studies in Slavic Cultures* II (2001): 30-62.
- with David Birnbaum, et al. “Designing a Russian Fairy Tale Course.” *SEEFA Journal* Vol. VI, No. 1 (Spring, 2001): 49-56.
- “Zimniaia spiachka dramy: Snova o probleme stsenichnosti pushkinskogo ‘Borisa Godunova.’” *Graduate Essays on Slavic Languages and Literatures* 11-12 (1999): 84-89. (Published in Russian.)

BOOKS

- [under contract, Toronto UP] *Automatic for the Masses: Authorship and Agency in Early Soviet Culture*, expected publication: winter 2013/14

EDITED VOLUMES

- [under review, Routledge] *The Vernaculars of State Socialism in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe*, Co-Editor (with Lara Ryazanova-Clarke)
- *Mikhail Bakhtin. Studies in Slavic Cultures IV* (University of Pittsburgh, 2003), Co-Editor (with Seth Graham)
- *Anna Karenina on Page and Screen. Studies in Slavic Cultures II* (University of Pittsburgh, 2001), Co-Editor (with Helena Goscilo)

INVITED LECTURES

- “The Soviet Gnostic: Semantic Peculiarities of Stalinist Ideological Discourse”
University of Texas, Austin, April 2013
- “The Soviet Gnostic: On the Peculiarities of Generic Phenomena in Stalinist Officialese”
Princess Dashkova Center, Edinburgh University, January 2012
- “The Industry of Truism: Socialist Realism, Reality, Realization”
Humanities Center, University of Pittsburgh, December 2009
- “The Stain of the Margin: Central Europe in the Ironic Geography of Menzel and Hrabal”
Dalhousie University, November 2009
- “Aleksii Balabanov’s Wax Museum of Pain”
Russian Film Symposium, Pittsburgh, May 2009

CONFERENCES

- “The Soviet Gnostic: On the Peculiarities of Generic Phenomena in Stalinist *Officiales*”
Centenary Conference of Slavic Studies, “The Language of Power and the Power of Language”
University of Leiden, The Netherlands, October 2013
- Panel, “From Material to Architecture,” Chair
Conference, “Illusions Killed by Life: Afterlives of Soviet Constructivism,”
Princeton University, May 2013
- Panel “Soviet Hegel,” Discussant
Conference, “Hegel to Russia and Back,” New York University, April 2013
- Panel “Reframing the Story,” Chair
Conference “The End of the Story? Problems and Perspectives of East European
Literary Studies,” Princeton University, February 2013
- “Organicity by Ordinance: Socialist Realism and the Resurrection of Style”
American Comparative Literature Association, Vancouver, BC, April, 2011
- Panel “Mimetic Resistance,” Chair
AAASS Convention, Philadelphia, PA, November 2010
- “The Soviet Unconscious”
AAASS Convention, Los Angeles, CA, November, 2009
- “Zamiatin’s Thick Mirror and the Ontological Confusions of Modernism”
AAASS Convention, Boston, MA, November, 2009
- “Socialism as the Sublime Object of Socialist Realism”
“Ghosts of the Past” Conference, London, Great Britain, June, 2009
- “Popular Culture: Genitive or Dative?”
AAASS Convention, New Orleans, LA, November, 2007
- “The Freeze of Historicity in Thaw Cinema”
AAASS Convention, Boston, MA, November, 2004
- “*Iurodstvo* and the Dialectics of the Post-Soviet Body”
AAASS Convention, Pittsburgh, PA, November 2002
- “Libidinal and Lectoral Stakes in Gogol’s *Gamblers*”
Neo-Formalist Circle Conference, Oxford, UK, September 2002
- “The Space of Amnesia”
Film Conference “Global Amnesia,” Moscow, Russia, May 2002
- “What’s the Thing about Socialist Realism: Transcribing the Marxian Dialectics of
History”
MLA Convention, New Orleans, LA, December 2001
- “How Does the Seer Make Us See?—Representation of the Body in Tolstoy’s *War
and Peace*”
AATSEEL Convention, Washington, DC, December 2000
- “Mythological Sources for the Cult of the *Iurodivye* in the Christian Tradition of
Medieval Rus’ ”
AATSEEL Convention, Chicago, IL, December 1999

- “The Hibernation of Drama: Once Again on the Theatrical Value of Pushkin’s *Boris Godunov*”
AATSEEL Convention, San Francisco, CA, December, 1998

 COURSES TAUGHT

Princeton University

- VIS 342: “Russian Cinema” (undergraduate course), Spring 2013
- SLA 542: “Socialist Realism” (graduate seminar), Spring 2011, Fall 2012
- SLA 240: “Cinema and Socialism” (undergraduate course), Fall 2010
- SLA 519: “Soviet Literature of the 1920s,” Spring 2009 (graduate seminar)
- GLS 001: “Central Europe through Film and Touch” (study-abroad seminar in Kraków, Poland; co-taught with Elzbieta Ostrowska), Summer 2008
- SLA 221: “Soviet Literature, 1917-1962” (undergraduate course), Spring 2013, Spring 2011, Spring 2008, Spring 2007
- FRS 133: “Figures of Madness in Russian Culture” (freshman seminar), Fall 2007
- PLS 105: “Intermediate Polish I,” Fall 2010, Fall 2012
- PLS 102: “Beginning Polish II,” Spring 2007
- PLS 101: “Beginning Polish I,” Fall 2008, Fall 2007

University of Pittsburgh

- RUSS 0850: “Early Russian Culture ” (undergraduate course)
Fall 2004 (self-standing), Fall 2006 (self-standing)
- RUSS 0811: “Madness and Madmen in Russian Culture, ” Spring 2005 (self-standing, 40 students)
- RUSS 0090: “Russian Fairy Tales”
Summer 2005 (self-standing), Summer 2004 (self-standing), Summer 2004 (self-standing), Spring 2002 (self-standing), Fall 2000 (self-standing), Spring 2000 (self-standing), Fall 1999 (TA), Spring 1999 (TA)
- SLAV 0880: “Vampire: Blood and Empire”
Fall 2001 (self-standing), Summer 2001 (self-standing), Spring 2001 (TA)
- SLAV 0213: “Beginning Intensive Bulgarian”
Summer 2002 (self-standing), Summer 2000 (self-standing), Summer 1999 (self-standing), Summer 1998 (self-standing)
- RUSS 0030: “Intermediate Russian I,” Fall 1998 (TA)
- RUSS 0020: “Elementary Russian II,” Spring 1998 (TA)
- RUSS 0030: “Intermediate Russian I,” Fall 1997 (TA)

 SERVICE AND ACTIVITIES

- Manuscript reviewer:
 - Slavic and East European Journal
 - Slavic Review
- Departmental Representative for Undergraduate Studies

- Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures, Princeton University (2007-2011, presently).*
- “Sots-Speak: Regimes of Language under Socialism” (international inter-disciplinary conference, Princeton University, May 2011)
Principal organizer.
 - “Totalitarian Laughter: Cultures of the Comic under Socialism” (inter-disciplinary conference, Princeton University, May 2009)
Member of the organizing committee.
 - “Einstein, Margarita, and the Bomb” (inter-disciplinary event, Princeton University, November 2008)
Principal Organizer.
 - “The Pain of Words: Narratives of Suffering in Slavic Cultures” (inter-disciplinary conference, Princeton University, May 2008)
Member of the organizing committee.
 - “Stalinka”: Digital Library of Staliniana (<http://images.library.pitt.edu/cgi-bin/i/image/image-idx?c=stalinka>)
Collaboration with Helena Goscilo and Susan Corbesero.
 - Russian Film Symposium, Pittsburgh (www.rusfilm.pitt.edu/)
Member of the organizing committee; 1999-2006.
 - International Conference “Modernity and Contemporaneity” (Pittsburgh, November 2004)
Member of the organizing committee.
 - *Journal Studies in Slavic Cultures*
Co-editor; 2001, 2003.

SCHOLARSHIPS, GRANTS, AND AWARDS

- Conference Fund Grant (\$15,000) from the Princeton Institute for International and Regional Studies for the international conference “Sots-Speak: Regimes of Language under Socialism,” 2011 (with Mirjam Fried)
- Post-Doctoral Fellowship, Humanities Center, University of Pittsburgh, 2009/2010
- Graduate Honors Award, University of Pittsburgh, 2005/2006
- Ivan Elagin Fellowship, Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures, University of Pittsburgh, 2005/2006
- Central Research Development Fund Grant for a digital library of Stalin-related materials (with Helena Goscilo and Susan Corbesero), 2003-2005
- University of Pittsburgh Cultural Studies Fellowship, 2003/2004
- University of Pittsburgh Andrew Mellon Pre-Doctoral Fellowship for the Humanities, 2003/04 (declined)
- South West Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies (SWAAASS) Award for Best Graduate Essay, 2003
- University Center for International Studies (UCIS) Small Grant for research trip to Moscow, Russia, 2003
- University of Pittsburgh Andrew Mellon Pre-Doctoral Fellowship for the Humanities, 2002/2003

- Kliment Okhridski University of Sofia Scholarship for Merit, 1992-1997

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES)
- American Association of the Teachers of Slavic and East European Languages (AATSEEL)
- Modern Language Association (MLA)

LANGUAGES

- Bulgarian (native)
- English (near-native)
- Russian (near-native)
- Polish (near-native)
- Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian (advanced)
- Italian (advanced)
- French (reading: intermediate)
- German (reading: intermediate)