

STEAMBOATARTMUSEUM

December, 2013

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“The Russian Experience” – A Private Collection Opens December 6 at the Steamboat Art Museum

PRESS RELEASE

The Steamboat Art Museum is pleased to announce “The Russian Experience,” a private collection of Russian paintings from the mid-twentieth century, will open at the Helen Rehder Gallery in the Steamboat Art Museum starting December 6, 2013. The exhibit will be open through April 12, 2014.

This collection will introduce a hidden world of Russian paintings from the 1930s to the 1980s. This is one of the most interesting, exciting, but not well-known periods of Russian socialist realism and impressionism styles. These art works became accessible to the western viewer when Perestroika occurred in the Soviet Union and Russian president Mikhail Gorbachev made it possible for the Russian artists to exhibit their works and allowed them to sell their paintings to private collectors.

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It all started in the 1990s when the Western art collectors found a unique opportunity to discover these treasures, purchase them, and bring them home. The collectors and art specialists were impressed and excited about the high standards and quality of these pieces, which were found in the artists' private studios and small museums. This was the unique opportunity to obtain the real gems. Now the Russian government has realized that during those turbulent times many of these prized works of art had disappeared into the private collections all over the world and subsequently the government has prohibited taking any piece of art of that period without special permits from the ministry of culture.

The private collection presented by the Steamboat Art Museum consists of more than 50 selected paintings by renowned Russian artists of the mid 20th century. Visitors to the museum will see landscapes, genre scenes, portraits, and historical paintings by such artists as Vasin, Lomakin, Sychkov, Gulyayev, Shevandronova, and many others, whose works can be found in the famous Trytyakov Art Gallery and in prominent Russian Museums. The techniques of their painting, the color and brushwork, the subject matter, and the emotional power and energy the artists have put into their works are very powerful.

This exhibition can be of great interest to those who would like to discover an intriguing and fascinating world of the Russian "Hidden Treasures" during the 1930s to the 1980s.

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Museum Events:

“The Russian Experience” - A Private Collection

Opening Reception

Friday, December 6, 2013 5 PM – 8 PM

Lecture

Saturday, December 14, 2013 10 AM \$20

A Night at the Museum - Elegant dinner with the Collectors

Saturday, December 14, 2013

6 PM – 9 PM \$75

www.steamboatartmuseum.org