

MATRYOSHKA: THE RUSSIAN NESTING DOLL

The Museum of Russian Art (TMORA) is pleased to present the traveling exhibition **Matryoshka: The Russian Nesting Doll**. Featuring 83 Matryoshka sets spanning 100 years, the lavishly painted wooden nesting dolls have become an iconic symbol of Russia. Whether depicting ancient legends, religious themes, or political caricatures, Matryoshkas can tell us more than meets the eye—as one doll opens to reveal the next one inside—about the history of Russia. The dolls were selected from a private San Francisco-based collection of wooden dolls, one of the largest collections of its kind in the United States.



Matryoshka nesting dolls are one of the most popular gifts that millions of travelers purchase during their trips to Russia. The brightly painted wooden toys have become a symbol of Russia and Russian folk art; their bell-shaped silhouettes are familiar to the young and old. However, the Matryoshka's history and meaning remain virtually unknown to many admirers of this popular art form. The exhibition **Matryoshka: The Russian Nesting Doll** is the first of its kind, uncovering the artistic and historical meaning of this iconic Russian toy and revealing the Matryoshka's artistic richness and variety. The exhibition layout reflects the evolution of the medium starting from early 20th century dolls to contemporary works, as well as various types and styles of contemporary matryoshka painting.

Exhibition Components

- 83 Matryoshka sets
- Installation design
- Cases, pedestals and vitrines
- Packing and crating
- Wall labels and interpretive panels
- Graphic design kit for invitations and printed materials
- K-6 educational materials
- Docent training materials

Size

Approximately 550 sq. ft

Availability

2011 - 2013

Bookings

12 weeks

Fee

\$25,000 + pro-rated shipping

Security

Medium

Installation photos of the exhibition are available on TMORA's FTP site at <http://ftp2.tmora.org> (Username: traveling; Password: exhibits). Didactics are available upon request.

For more information, contact Lana Gendlin Brooks, Director of Operations, at The Museum of Russian Art, 5500 Stevens Ave. South, Minneapolis, MN 55419, lbrooks@tmora.org or www.tmora.org or 612-821-9045.