

# PHOTOGRAPHER TO THE TSAR: REVEALING THE SILK ROAD

The Museum of Russian Art (TMORA) is pleased to present the traveling exhibition **Photographer to the Tsar: Revealing the Silk Road**. This extraordinary exhibition features 26 color photographs, illuminated in custom light boxes, of the Russian Empire's portion of the Silk Road that were taken shortly before Russia's 1917 Revolution by Sergei M. Prokudin-Gorskii (1863-1944). Using a camera of his own design, Prokudin-Gorskii, an artist, scientist and pioneer in the field of color photography, traveled to Turkestan in 1906 and 1911, documenting legendary sites and contemporary life thriving amidst the ruins of ancient towns at the heart of the fabled Silk Road.



The Silk Road spanned thousands of miles, connecting East and West, stretching from China and India to Central Asia, Afghanistan and the Mediterranean Sea. Caravans of camels transported rare spices, aromatic teas, richly colored textiles, precious Chinese porcelain, gold, and gunpowder to cities in Asia and Europe. A land of ancient oases and sunburnt deserts, Central Asia was added to the Russian Empire in the mid-19th century through conquest and annexation. Russia's southern expansion into Turkestan in the 1860s occurred during the same decade it sold Alaska to the United States.

## Exhibition Components

- 26 photo images (with completed photo correction) in custom-built light boxes
- 26 fluorescent bulbs + additional replacement bulbs
- Six black & white photos on syntra
- Installation design
- Packing & crating
- Curatorial content for visitor guide
- Graphic design kit for invitations &

*Size* Approximately 2,000 sq. ft.

*Availability* 2011 - 2013

*Bookings* 12 weeks

*Fee* \$20,000 + pro-rated shipping

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, [lb Brooks@tmora.org](mailto:lb Brooks@tmora.org) or [www.tmora.org](http://www.tmora.org) or 612-821-9045.