



# The Museum of Russian Art

2016 ANNUAL REPORT





Pictured clockwise from top left – Dedication of “Dandelion” by Gregory Potosky, November 2016; Cossack Dancers at Private Event; LOFTrecital concert during the *Unknown Fabergé. New Finds and Re-discoveries* exhibition; Association of Midwest Museums conference visit.







Dear Friends,

This past year The Museum of Russian Art (TMORA) offered an unprecedented number of events, performances, and exhibitions. I am proud to report that the impact of TMORA's mission – ***Education, Enlightenment, and Engagement through the Art of Russia*** – reached more than 180,000 people through programming both in and outside the Museum.

The vibrancy, which individuals like you bring to TMORA, permanently sets this 501(c)(3) nonprofit as a stunning jewel in our local, national, and international cultural community. The Museum of Russian Art is the only major institution in North America devoted exclusively to the artistic, historic, and cultural heritage of Russia, and it is because of your support that we continue to grow in prominence. Our strong commitment to and focus on cultural diplomacy through cross-border collaboration continues to occupy a central place in our programming. Given the current state of bilateral relations between the United States and Russia, this is likely more important today than it may have been during the Cold War. Our opportunity to embrace people to people diplomacy through the beauty of art, and the richness of culture and music, allows us to reflect on the basic principles of the arts and the humanities.

As public funding continues to dwindle, private philanthropy occupies an increasingly crucial role in allowing institutions like TMORA to meet its artistic and cultural mission through fostering mutual understanding.

Recent growth strategies implemented by TMORA's board and staff have led to tremendous results. In 2016, membership grew 10% alongside a 15% increase in museum attendance. We have nearly tripled the number of events taking place within the Museum, attracting a greater diversity of visitors than ever before. New significant changes within the building itself are planned for the near future, which will further help us engage an ever-broadening audience.

These results enable us to reinvest in the diversity of activities and services we provide to an increasing number of constituencies in the Twin Cities. It is our goal for all to feel welcome at TMORA, opening the door for transformative experiences immersed in Russian arts and culture.

Thank you for your continued support of this exemplary institution. Your membership, volunteerism, and financial support make this a truly magnificent Museum.

Yours,

Vladimir von Tsurikov, Director



# The TMORA Experience

Join TMORA for thought-provoking and educational exhibitions and entertainment! In addition to at least six exhibitions annually, the Museum has grown to present over 40 events throughout the year.

Examples of these new opportunities include:

- “The Art of Vodka” annual tasting event
- After-hours tours (available in English and Russian)
- Concerts with internationally acclaimed artists, such as DC-based *INTERFERENCE*
- Family Days, including opportunities for Russian adoptees
- Evenings of classical music featuring the best musicians from across the Twin Cities

The common thread between The Museum of Russian Art’s exhibitions, programming, and events is the theme of “**Cultural Diplomacy.**” Cultural Diplomacy ties our community to the richness and depth of Russian art through person-to-person connections and unique experiences offered by the museum,

strengthening mutual understanding. At The Museum of Russian Art you are invited to appreciate the beauty of Russian culture for yourself, up close and firsthand.

TMORA’s exhibition calendar finishes 2017 with two festive shows: *Matryoshka, the Nesting Doll* opens November 10th in the lower gallery. A variety of intricate and fascinating Matryoshka reveal great artistic depth hidden within these iconic souvenirs. On display in the main gallery, *Russian Sacred Art: Connecting Heaven and Earth* presents some of the most significant Russian icons and religious artifacts in North America, from October 14 – March 3, 2018.

Come often to experience the full value and cultural understanding TMORA provides to the community!



This page, pictured from top left – An Evening of Musical Romance with the Volovets Brothers. The opening of *The Art of Leon Hushcha* pop-up exhibit. Cover and inside spread from the *Unknown Fabergé. New Finds and Re-discoveries* catalogue.



Opposite page – Opening reception for *The Artistic Underground.*

# Accomplishments in 2016

With more programming, events, and outreach activities than ever before, 2016 was among the largest years in TMORA's history. Propelled by support from patrons like you, TMORA catalyzes energy from the community to sustain a variety of high-quality programming. This is why **membership increased by over 10%** in 2016.

Exhibitions form the bedrock of TMORA's programming, and in 2016 over 36,000 museum visitors enjoyed seven major exhibitions, among them:

***Unknown Fabergé: New Finds and Re-discoveries***

October 8, 2016 - February 26, 2017

***Masterpieces of the 20th Century: Russian Realist Tradition***

March 19, 2016 - October 2, 2016

***Winter Holidays in Russia***

November 19, 2016 - January 22, 2017

***Artistic Underground in the Late Soviet Era***

July 16, 2016 - November 13, 2016

Museum Events and activities outside the museum introduced TMORA to hundreds of thousands in 2016. Highlights included:

- TMORA's Minnesota State Fair display drew the attention of over 150,000 visitors
- Holiday reception for Russian adoptees and their parents
- Lectures and presentations at institutions around the region
- Russian Fireworks: Classical Masterpieces with music curator and pianist Denis Evstuhin
- Trunk shows at the American Swedish Institute, seen by more than 17,000



# Philanthropy at TMORA

The Museum of Russian Art is a nonprofit organization that relies upon charitable gifts from donors and members to fund and develop programs and sustain operations. An IRS 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation, contributions to the Museum are entirely tax-deductible.

## Become a member

Annual adult memberships start at \$45 for one adult (\$25 for students) and are the backbone of support for The Museum of Russian Art. All members receive the following annual benefits:

- Free, unlimited admissions
- 10% discount at The Izba gift store
- Invitations to members-only exhibition previews and events
- Discounts to public programs and events
- Subscription to TMORA's e-newsletter

Become a member at a higher level to receive additional benefits, such as:

- Additional guest passes for your friends, family, and co-workers
- Private group tours
- Individual tours with the Director or Curator
- Invitation to private Director's Circle Party

## Sponsor an Exhibition, Program or Event

Individuals, foundations and corporations are welcome to designate major support to TMORA's exhibitions, educational programming, or special events. Marquee recognition available.

## Annual Fund Donation

Gifts to The Museum of Russian Art's Annual Fund are essential. The annual fund provides support for inspiring and educational visitor experiences, and allows the Museum to keep its galleries full of top-quality exhibitions and programming. Any gift size is welcome.

## Double your Donation! Corporate Matching Gifts

Corporations encourage their employees to make donations to institutions of their choice and will often match their employee's contribution dollar-for-dollar. Often this leads to larger grants from corporations. The Museum of Russian Art will provide the appropriate information to complete the process.

## Donate to the Permanent Collection

TMORA's permanent collection benefits from the donation of art from individuals and organizations. Monetary gifts to the Permanent Collection Fund are used to purchase art for the museum's growing permanent collection.

For more information on supporting The Museum of Russian Art, please contact development officer Alex Legeros at [alegeros@tmora.org](mailto:alegeros@tmora.org) or by calling 612-821-9045 ext. 19.



Pictured at right –  
From the reading of *The Seagull* by Wijadi Jodi.

# Donors

## Individual up to \$100

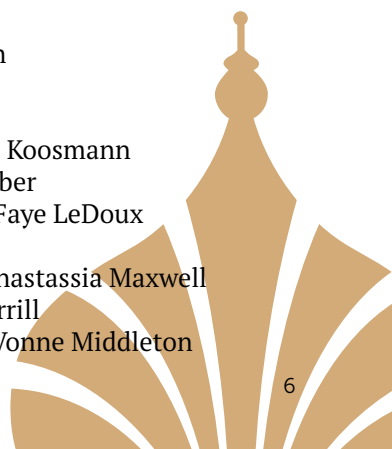
The Museum of Russian Art is grateful for the generosity of over 1,200 individuals who supported the museum with a contributions of up to \$100 in 2016. This grassroots support help ensure the museum continues to provide aesthetically-stunning exhibitions and thought provoking programming for all to enjoy. Thank you!

## Individual \$100 - \$249

Michael and Dominique Allinder	Alice Frisbee	Theodore and Judy Nagel
Sara Alt	Mohrghaine Gaia	Kyle and Dawn Nelson
Nancy Anderson	Chad Gehrman	Diane Nemece Ignashev
Mary Bang	Ann Giombetti	James and Yvonne Nobles
Ellen and Michael Bendel-Stenzel	Rosemary and David Good	Steve and Lee Anne Northway
Ruth Ann and Jim Benson	Kristin Grage and Kevin Hay	James Nylund and Vera Trent
Lynne Benz	William Haertzen and Helen Chang	Alan and Diane Page
Pamela Berkwitz	Nancy Harris	David and Mary Parker
Sherry and George Biltz	Dorothy Horns and James Richardson	Alicia Phillips and Jason Blumenthal
Igor Blokhintsev	Coral Houle	Raymond Piper
Angela Bohmann and Jonathan Riehle	Marilyn Hurler	Tony Przybyla and Raymond Pajak
Kevin Bostrom and	Mary and Thomas Johnson	Gary and Gail Rhodes
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Alexander Braginsky and	Ed and Martha Karels	Ruth and David Rinker
Tanya Remenikova	Kathryn Keefer	Chuck and Sharon Ritchie
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David Fettig		

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Kirstin Anderson	Paul and Mary Cederberg	Linda Johnson
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Diana Bayoff	Jim and Carole Dodds Hynes	Chuck and Jill Koosmann
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Eric Carlson	Lee and Bev Gehrke	David and LaVonne Middleton



# Donors

## Individual \$250 - \$499 (continued)

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Mona and Ron Pobiel  
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Ruth Rose

Pat and Duane Rosenberg  
Donald and Mary Anne Ryks  
Carol Sandstrom  
Brian and Paula Schulte  
Lawrence Sheets  
Mark Tierney

Vladimir and Anna von Tsurikov  
Leslie Wilcox

## Individual \$500 - \$999

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Elizabeth and Van Hawn  
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Glenn and Darlene Puncocar  
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Kimberly Wick  
Judith Winsor  
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## Individual \$1,000 - 2,499

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Drew Baese  
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Niki Stavrou  
Theofanis and Freda Stavrou  
Douglas and Suzanne Tacheny Kubach  
Carolyn Taylor  
William and Kathleen Wanner  
Frederick and Eleanor Winston

## Individual \$2,500 - \$4,999

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Ludmila Borisnova Eklund and  
John Eklund  
Ronald and Janet Christenson  
Mary Crosby Dolan  
E. Duane and Marlene Engstrom  
Barb and James Halverson  
Rochelle Hoffman

John and Ruth Huss  
Victoria and Thomas Keller  
Glenn Miller and Jocey Hale  
Alex Raytburg  
Richard Rose and Sarah Rydberg  
Brad and Adaline Shinkle  
Warren and Mary Lynn Staley  
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Olga Klimov  
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Firouzeh Mostashari and Robert Saeid Farivar  
Karim Sawabini  
David Washburn and Meg Anderson  
R.D. Zimmerman and Lars Peterssen



## Donors

### Individual \$10,000 - \$24,999

Douglas and Julie Baker  
Russell Cowles  
Nick and Annie Jordan  
Whitney and Betty MacMillan  
William and Martha McLaughlin

### Individual \$25,000 - \$49,999

Gayle and Tim DeVries  
Gwenn and Eivind Djupedal  
Raymond and Susan Johnson  
Whitney MacMillan Jr.  
Douglas Smith and Stephanie Ellis-Smith

### Individual \$50,000 and above

Anonymous  
Pam and Jack Safar

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### Institutions Up to \$2,499

Anonymous  
BMC Imports  
The Dr. Harold C. Deutsch World War II History Round Table  
Trehus Builders  
University of Minnesota - Slavic Languages and Literature  
US Bank Foundation  
Wells Fargo Foundation

### Institutions \$2,500 - \$9,999

Hedberg Family Foundation  
Minnesota Historical Society  
Russian Nobility Association in America  
Tangletown Gardens  
The Cove Foundation  
Toscano Advisors, LCC

### Institutions \$10,000 - \$24,999

Gretchen Amis  
Caroline's Kids Foundation  
Target Foundation  
Wally Findley Galleries

### Institutions \$25,000 and above

Minnesota State Arts Board

## Legacy & Recurring Gift Planning

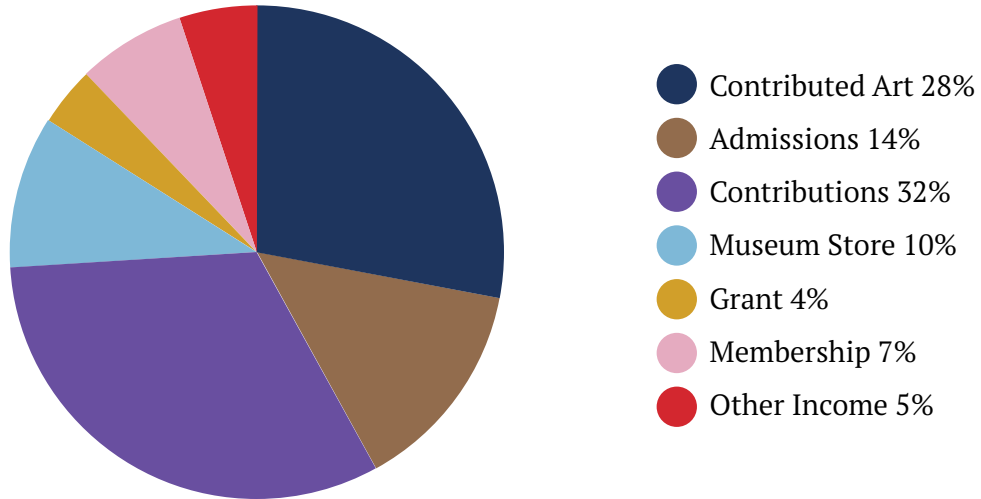
With more than 10 years operating as a non-profit organization, TMORA has gathered the support and recognition of pillar arts organizations, major donors, and institutional funders. Underscore this legacy by committing to multi-year giving, and consider making TMORA part of your estate planning. The tax advantages are high, and getting started is simple. Gifts of stock are welcome.

To begin the conversation, contact Director Vladimir von Tsurikov at 612-821- 9045 ext. 22.

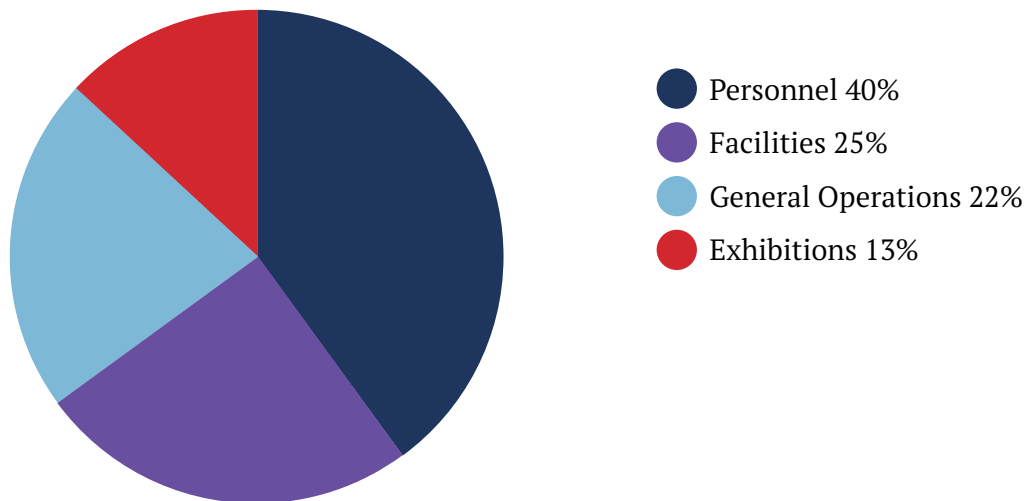


# 2016 Unaudited Financials

Total Revenue: \$1,516,000.00



Total Expenses: \$1,336,000.00



# Staff and Board of Trustees

## Staff

Vladimir von Tsurikov, Ph.D.  
*Director & President*

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Colton Butler  
*Custodian*

Andrea Champaloux  
*Volunteer Manager*

Elena Cooperman  
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Cory Mahaffey  
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*Event Manager*

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*Accountant*

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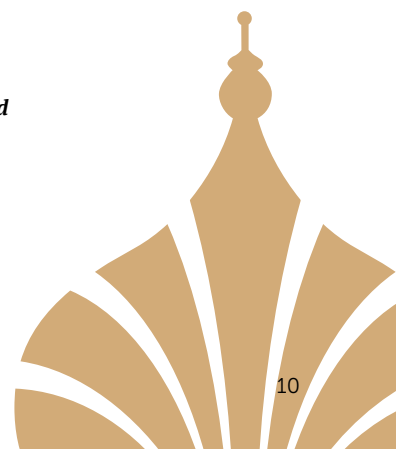
Stephen B. Young

R.D. Zimmerman

Pictured on the back cover from the top –  
Nikolai N. Baskakov. *Milkmaids, Novella*, 1962  
Oil on canvas 47 x 90 ¼  
Collection of The Museum of Russian Art  
Gift of Jack and Pam Safar, 2015

Vladimir Nemukhin. *Composition with Cards II*, 1982  
Oil on canvas, mixed media 27 ¼ x 29 ½  
Collection of The Museum of Russian Art  
Gift of Yuri and Nelly Traisman and the Kohler Foundation, Inc.

Pictured on the front cover –  
Taken at the *Gifts and Prayers: The Romanovs and  
Their Subjects* opening exhibition as part of the  
Days of Russian Culture.





## The Museum of Russian Art

a member supported, nonprofit organization

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[www.tmora.org](http://www.tmora.org)