



THE MUSEUM OF RUSSIAN ART
2023 ANNUAL REPORT

2023: YEAR IN REVIEW

A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

For The Museum of Russian Art (TMORA), 2023 was an exciting year of growth and transition.

As noted in last year's report, we purchased the Overland Gallery building in December to provide much needed storage space for our growing collection, along with gallery space for education programs and special events. The renovation design process began early in the year for the purposes of separating the Museum's space from that of its tenant, the Overland Gallery, and to make the Museum's space handicap accessible. This work also included a new roof for the building and, by the end of the year, all that was left to be done was the completion of the renovation of the restrooms. The expectation is that the building will begin to host programs in the fall of 2024.

A significant organizational financial goal was achieved in 2023, with the establishment of the Museum's endowment, which was initiated by a \$500,000 gift from the Robert J. Brokop Trust. Endowment was a missing piece in the Museum's plan for financial sustainability and, now that it is in place, its growth will help secure TMORA's future.

TMORA's goal to achieve accreditation from the American Alliance of Museums (AAM) moved forward in 2023 when the AAM approved our application to enter into the accreditation process. This entailed submitting a detailed self-study of our operations in September, to be followed by a site visit by an accreditation team in the spring of 2024. The decision from the AAM Accreditation Committee, which will review all of the Museum's application materials, could come as early as July of 2024.

As is the case with most art museums, attendance at TMORA is still recovering from the effects of the pandemic, as the year ended with visitation at 78% of that of 2019, the last pre-pandemic year. However, December attendance of 3,662 slightly exceeded that of December 2019 and was the first month since that time to go over 3,000. Ideally, this trend will continue in 2024 and bring us closer to our pre-pandemic norm.

December's outstanding attendance can be attributed to the excellent exhibitions on view and the programs that took place during the month. *The Art of Leon Hushcha: The Way*, an exhibition of works by this prominent Minneapolis-based Ukrainian-American artist, opened and included Hushcha's first anti-war artwork. This continued in the vein of the Museum's 2023 exhibitions reflecting the war in Ukraine, which included Ukrainian-American Elena Kalman's *Ukraine Defiant* show and the ongoing *Say No to War* exhibition of cartoons by Ukrainian and Russian artists. National attention came to the Museum in October, when a full-page article appeared in the *New York Times*, chronicling how the Museum has reacted to the war in Ukraine with these anti-war exhibitions.

The month also saw the completion of the series of six concerts commemorating the 150th anniversary of the birth of Sergei Rachmaninoff. These concerts of Rachmaninoff's works, which included the complete presentation of his pieces for two pianos, were the classical music highlights of the year. On the contemporary side of the music spectrum, the March Vysotsky+Dylan concert, sponsored by the Forum for Cultural Exchange, featured eight singer/musicians from Russia, New York, and the Twin Cities, backed by a 13-piece orchestra. It was an exuberant cross-cultural event, and a film of the performance is expected to appear in 2024.

Once again, my thanks go out to the staff, Trustees, volunteers, and members who make all of TMORA's service to the community possible.

Mark J. Meister
Executive Director & President

2023 KEY METRICS

- Total On-site Attendance: 22,748 (includes events)
 - On-site Event Attendance: 3,883
- Outreach Event Attendance: 3,249
 - Adult Outreach Program: 2,884
 - Education Department: 265
- Year-end Memberships: 1,441 units



2023 EXHIBITIONS

Say No to War: Political Cartoons by Ukrainian and Russian Artists

April 20, 2022 - end of war

TMORA: 20 Years

August 27, 2022 - February 20, 2023

Capturing the Pristine: Minnesota Artist Peter Ustimchuk

August 27, 2022 - January 16, 2023

Ephemeral and Eternal: Holiday Paper Ornaments from the Soviet Union

November 12, 2022 - January 16, 2023

A Man from the Balkans: Divine Art by Fr. Emilian Glocar

January 28 - April 30, 2023

Ukraine Defiant: Paintings by Elena Kalman

March 4 - July 15, 2023

Premonition of a Russian Dystopia

March 4 - July 9, 2023

Leningrad Underground: Unofficial Artists of the Soviet Era

July 22 - October 22, 2023

Icons of the Late Empire: Story and Art

July 22 - November 26, 2023

Shostakovich's Symphony No. 5: The Historical Backdrop

Orchestra Hall, Minneapolis: October 13 - 14, 2023

TMORA: October 21 - November 26, 2023

The Wintertime Carnival: Traditions of Old

November 4, 2023 - January 21, 2024

The Art of Leon Hushcha: The Way

December 2, 2023 - March 3, 2024

Nature's Saints: Icons by Olga Volchkova

December 2, 2023 - March 24, 2024

2023 EVENTS

*Denotes Virtual Program

January 21

Story Time in the Gallery

January 21

Helen Chang Haertzen and Denis Evstuhin in Concert

January 24

US Immigration Policy - Present and Future*

February 10

Food Traditions of the North: Darra Goldstein & Dara Moskowitz Grumdahl

February 18

Story Time in the Gallery

February 18

Interdisciplinary Student Research Symposium

February 23

*Russia and Ukraine: A Year of Crimes and Genocide**

March 3

Exhibition Preview Night - *Premonition of a Russian Dystopia* and *Ukraine Defiant*

March 4

Reimagining Vysotsky + Dylan: Live Concert

March 18

Story Time in the Gallery

April 14

Perpich Arts High Theater Department presents *TMORA*, *TMORA*, and *TMORA*

April 15

Story Time in the Gallery

April 20

*Political Cartoons from the Holocaust to Ukraine**

April 22

Rachmaninoff 150: Tanya Remenikova & Denis Evstuhin in Concert

April 29

EVOLVE: FashionweekMN Finale Show

May 3

Letter Writing to Russian Political Prisoners

May 4

How America Fed a Hungry Europe - 1914-1922*

May 5

Leo Tolstoy and the Inception of War and Peace and Anna Karenina -

Presentation by Dr. Anna Barker

May 18

Free Thursday Night featuring Bach Society of Minnesota

May 20

Story Time in the Gallery

June 9

Evren Ozel in Concert

June 15

Free Thursday Night

June 15

Russia's Economy Today*

June 17

Story Time in the Gallery

June 20

Statelessness and Refugees: Human Rights Crises Today*

June 23

White Nights Gala

July 15

Douglas Smith presents Konstantin Paustovsky's *A Story of a Life*

July 22

Opening Night - *Leningrad Underground* and *Icons from the Late Empire*

July 26

Letter Writing to Russian Political Prisoners

July 29

New Play Reading: *The Cleaner* by Theatre Novi Most

August 19

Rachmaninoff 150: Osip Nikiforov in Concert

September 9

Pianist with the Hair: Julian Gargiulo in Concert

September 28

Gallery Talk with the Collector: *Leningrad Underground* with Ruvim Braude

September 30

Underground Art After Dark Featuring Soul Trouvére

October 5

An Evening of Poetry by Cracked Walnut

October 6

Rachmaninoff 150: Complete Works for Two Pianos

October 7

Rachmaninoff 150: The Varshavski-Shapiro Piano Duo

October 18

Virtual Talk with the Collector: Ruvim Braude*

October 21

Story Time in the Gallery

November 4

Grand Opening: *The Wintertime Carnival*

November 12

Sergei and Tatyana Nikitiny Family Concert

November 16

Story Time in the Gallery

November 30

After-Hours Tour: *The Wintertime Carnival*

December 2

Opening Reception: Leon Hushcha and Olga Volchkova

December 3

Rachmaninoff 150: Helen Chang Haertzen, Richard Belcher, and Denis Evstuhin

December 8

The Seductive World of Anna Karenina: Tolstoy the Private Man and the Inception of a Masterpiece - Presentation by Dr. Anna Barker

December 13

After-Hours Tour: *The Wintertime Carnival*

December 16

Story Time in the Gallery

December 28

After-Hours Tour: *The Wintertime Carnival*

2023 EVENT HIGHLIGHTS



Helen Chang Haerten & Denis Evstuhin in Concert - 01.21.23



Reimagining Vysotsky + Dylan: Live Concert - 03.04.23



EVOLVE: FashionWeekMN Finale Show - 04.29.23



Food Traditions of the North: Darra Goldstein & Dara Moskowitz Grumdahl - 02.10.23



Exhibition Preview Night: Premonition of a Russian Dystopia and Ukraine Defiant - 03.03.23



Rachmaninoff 150: Tanya Remenikova and Denis Evstuhin in Concert - 04.22.23



Story Time in the Gallery



Letter Writing to Russian Political Prisoners - 05.03.23



TMORA
SHOP

WWW.SHOPTMORA.ORG

2023 NET PROFIT
\$167,622



2023 DONORS

TMORA's **Russian Arts and Culture Society (RACS)** celebrates the mission of the Museum and honors those who contribute \$1,000+ annually to support its growth and success. We are deeply grateful to the following RACS members:

\$25,000+

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Alex Muromcew
C. Ben and Donna Wright



*Ivan Konev, Denis Evstuhin, Ekaterina Knyazeva,
Anton Melnichenko, Rachmaninoff 150 - 10.06.23*



Tanya Remenikova, Rachmaninoff 150 - 06.25.23

2023 DONORS

Russian Arts and Culture Society (RACS) continued

\$1,000-\$2,499

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Curator of Classical Music Programs Denis Evstuhin

Continued

2023 DONORS

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\$1,000-\$2,499

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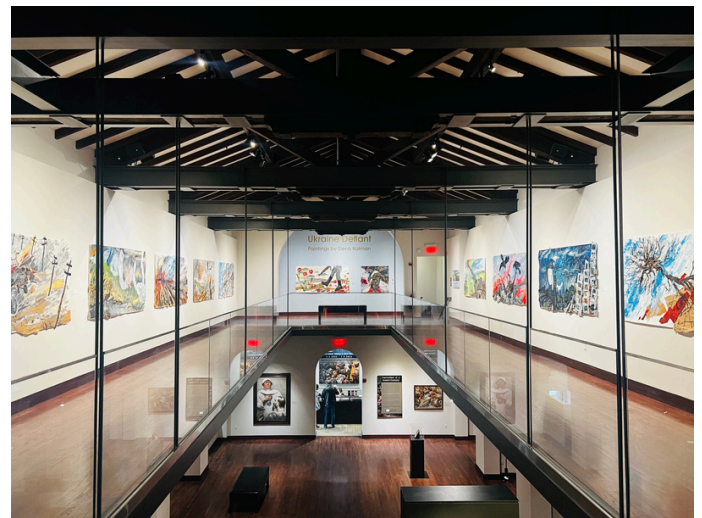
Stella and Brian Sick

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Josephine Trubek



A Man from the Balkans: Divine Art by Fr. Emilian Glocar



Ukraine Defiant: Paintings by Elena Salman



The Wintertime Carnival: Traditions of Old



Permanent Collection Gallery

2023 DONORS

Contributions

\$500-\$999

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Catherine Taylor

Robert and Carol Thompson

Candice and Peter Vogt



Historian Douglas Smith and TMORA Board Chair Chuck Ritchie discuss Konstantin Paustovsky's *A Story of a Life*



Nitka, TMORA's folk performance and research group



Actor Pierce Bunting in a staged reading of *The Cleaner* with Theatre Novi Most

Information about how to support TMORA through your donor-advised fund, with gifts of stock, an IRA distribution, or legacy gift planning can be found at www.tmora.org/giving or by contacting the Museum directly at 612-821-9045. You may also make a gift, renew your membership, and buy tickets for upcoming events.

2023 DONORS

Foundation and Grant Support

\$25,000+

Minnesota State Arts Board

Robert J. Brokop Revocable Trust

WEM Foundation

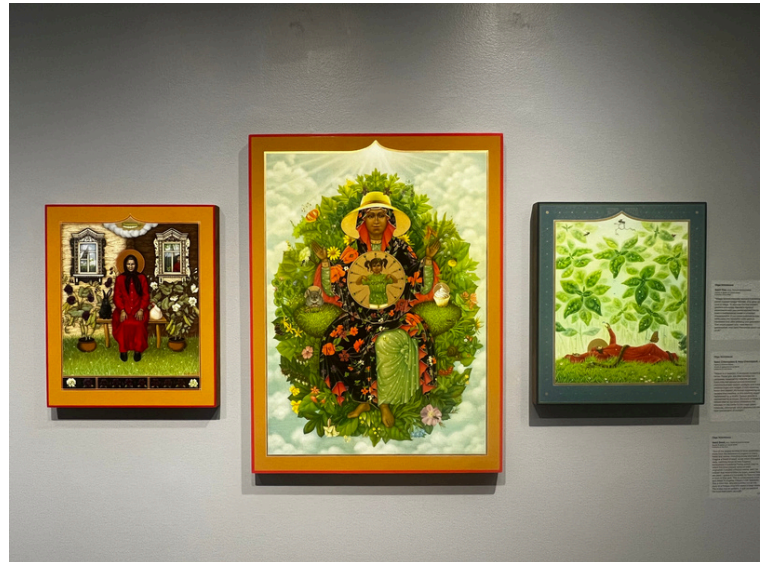
\$10,000-\$24,999

Saint Paul and Minnesota Foundation

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The Art of Leon Hushcha: The Way



Nature's Saints: Icons by Olga Volchkova

2023 STAFF

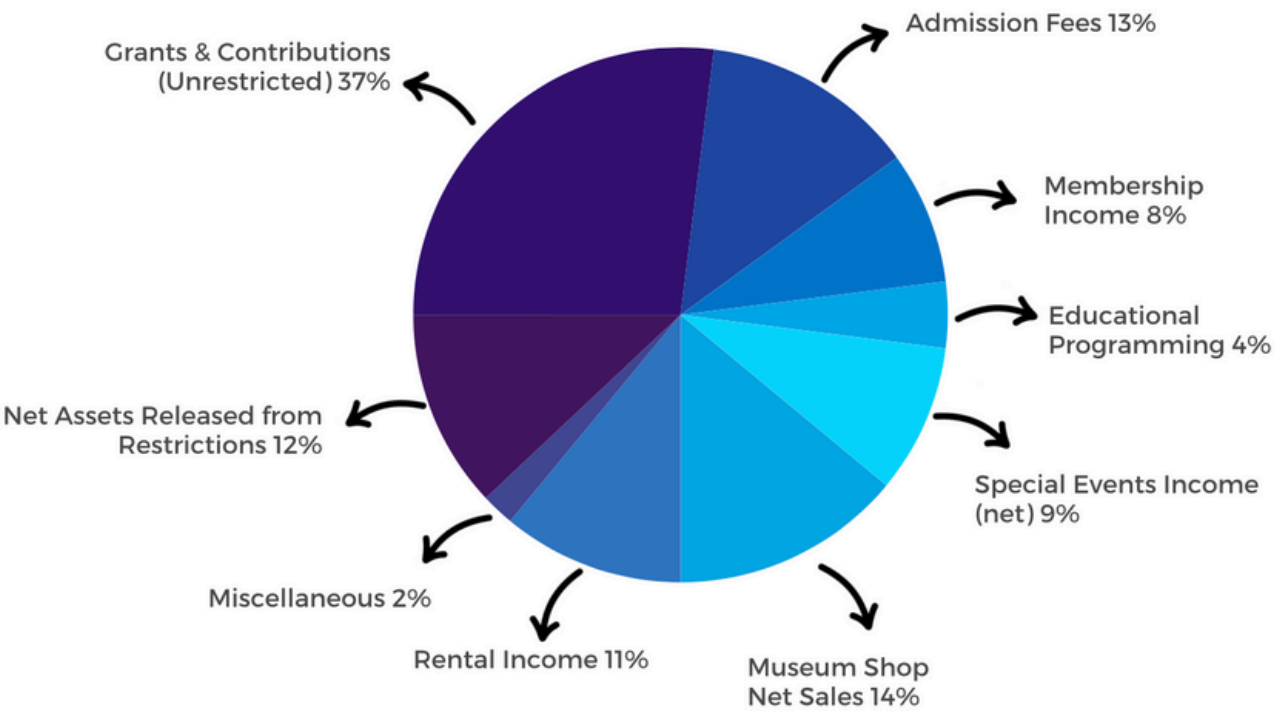
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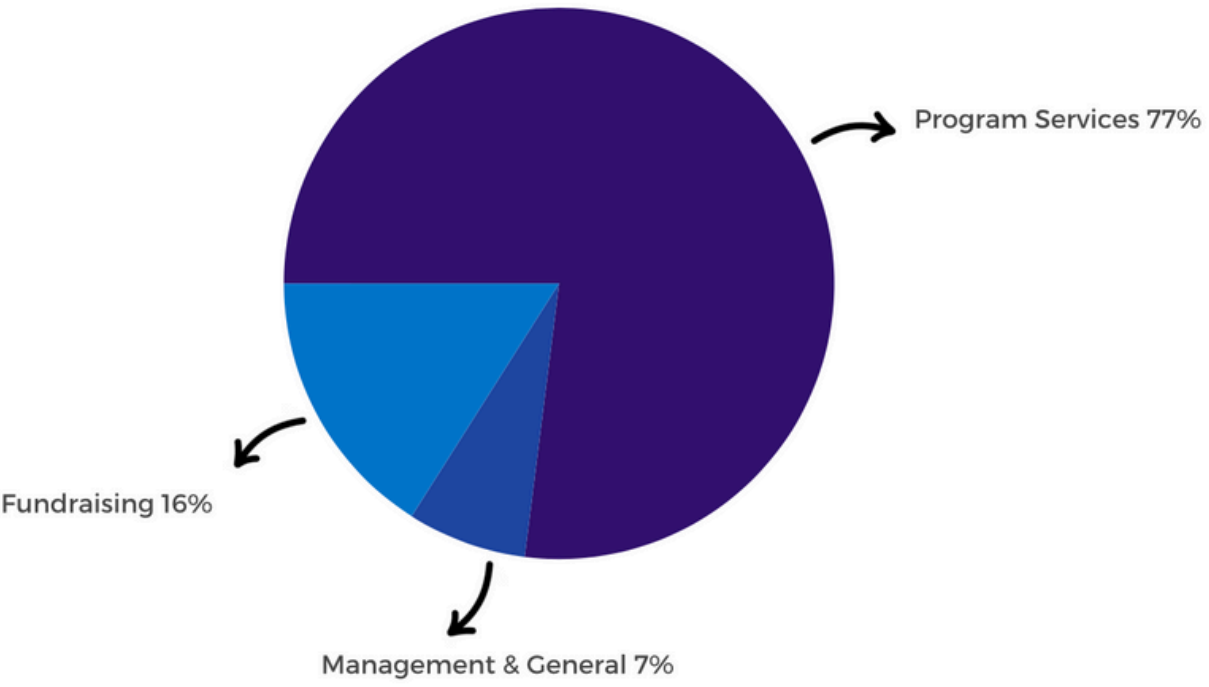
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2023 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

2023 REVENUE



2023 EXPENSE



The Museum of Russian Art's financial statements, excerpted for this presentation, are audited by Carpenter, Evert & Associates, Certified Public Accountants. These audited financial statements may be viewed upon request at The Museum of Russian Art's Administration Office, 5500 Stevens Avenue, Minneapolis, MN 55419.

2023 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

2023 Revenue (Unrestricted)

Grants and Contributions (unrestricted): 27%	\$322,494
Admission Fees: 13%	\$152,521
Membership Income: 8%	\$101,001
Educational Programming: 4%	\$44,077
Special Events Income (net): 9%	\$103,922
Museum Shop Net Sales: 14%	\$167,622
Rental Income: 11%	\$126,859
Miscellaneous Income: 2%	\$27,039
Net Assets Released from Restrictions: 12%	\$150,652
 Total Support and Revenue	 \$1,196,187

2023 Expense

Program Services: 77%	\$1,037,449
Management and General: 7%	\$95,413
Fundraising: 16%	<u>\$211,986</u>
 Total Expense Before Depreciation	 \$1,344,848
 Depreciation	 <u>\$282,198</u>
 Total Expense	 \$1,627,046
 Change in Net Assets	 (\$480,859)
 Net Assets - Beginning of Year	 <u>\$8,061,810</u>
Net Assets - End of Year	<u>\$7,630,951</u>

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2023 FUNDERS

Robert J. Brokop Revocable Trust



The exhibitions and programs at The Museum of Russian Art are made possible by the voters of Minnesota through Minnesota State Arts Board Operating Support and Creative Support for Organization grants, thanks to the a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.

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