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# The Soviet Novel History As Ritual

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A Soviet Journey  
The Soviet Myth of World War II  
Authenticity and Fiction in the Russian Literary Journey, 1790-1840  
Historical Dictionary of the Russian Federation  
The Shortest History of the Soviet Union  
Spirit of the Totem  
Russian and Soviet Film Adaptations of Literature, 1900-2001  
New Soviet Man  
Secondhand Time  
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The Cambridge Companion to Twentieth-Century Russian Literature  
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The Cambridge Companion to the Classic Russian Novel  
The Russian Hero in Modern Chinese Fiction  
Young Heroes of the Soviet Union  
Russian Experimental Fiction  
An Anthology of Russian Literature from Earliest Writings to Modern Fiction  
Russian Nationalism and the Politics of Soviet Literature  
Soviet Fiction since Stalin  
The Soviet Novel, Third Edition  
The Cambridge History of Russian Literature  
The Future is History  
Reference Guide to Russian Literature  
Shostakovich in Dialogue  
Rethinking the Soviet Experience  
Encyclopedia of the Novel  
Urban Semiotics: the City as a Cultural-Historical Phenomenon  
Music in Action Film  
Narration in the Fiction Film  
Myth Making in the Soviet Union and Modern Russia  
Moscow, the Fourth Rome  
Soviet Milk  
The Soviet Novel  
Socialist Realism Without Shores  
Translation in Russian Contexts  
The Soviet Novel

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## KAISER ROLAND

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*A Soviet Journey* Routledge

"In its sure grasp of a huge subject and in its speculative boldness, Professor Clark's study represents a major breakthrough. It sends one back to the original texts with a whole host of new questions.... And it also helps us to understand the place of the 'official' writer in that peculiar mixture of ideology, collective pressure, and inspiration which is the Soviet literary process." --Times Literary Supplement

"The Soviet Novel has had an enormous impact on the way Stalinist culture is studied in a range of disciplines (literature scholarship, history, cultural studies, even anthropology and political science)." --Slavic Review

"Those readers who have come to realize that history is a branch of mythology will find Clark's book a stimulating and rewarding account of Soviet mythopoesis." --American Historical Review

A dynamic account of the socialist realist novel's evolution as seen in the context of Soviet culture. A new Afterword brings the history of Socialist Realism to its end at the close of the 20th century.

*The Soviet Myth of World War II*  
Routledge

Many Russian novels of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries have made a huge impact, not only inside the boundaries of their own country but across the western world. The Cambridge Companion to the Classic Russian Novel offers a thematic account of these novels, in fourteen newly-commissioned essays by prominent European and North American scholars. There are chapters on the city, the countryside, politics, satire, religion, psychology, philosophy; the romantic, realist and modernist traditions; and

technique, gender and theory. In this context the work of Pushkin, Dostoevsky, Tolstoy, Turgenev, Bulgakov, Nabokov, Pasternak and Solzhenitsyn, among others, is described and discussed.

There is a chronology and guide to further reading; all quotations are in English. This volume will be invaluable not only for students and scholars but for anyone interested in the Russian novel.

### **Authenticity and Fiction in the Russian Literary Journey, 1790-1840**

Manchester University Press

The Encyclopedia of the Novel is the first reference book that focuses on the development of the novel throughout the world. Entries on individual writers assess the place of that writer within the development of the novel form, explaining why and in exactly what ways that writer is important. Similarly, an entry on an individual novel discusses the importance of that novel not only form, analyzing the particular innovations that novel has introduced and the ways in which it has influenced the subsequent course of the genre. A wide range of topic entries explore the history, criticism, theory, production, dissemination and reception of the novel. A very important component of the Encyclopedia of the Novel is its long surveys of development of the novel in various regions of the world.

### **Historical Dictionary of the Russian Federation**

Harvard University Press

"In its sure grasp of a huge subject and in its speculative boldness, Professor Clark's study represents a major breakthrough. It sends one back to the original texts with a whole host of new questions.... And it also helps us to understand the place of the 'official' writer in that peculiar mixture of ideology, collective pressure, and inspiration which is the Soviet literary

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*The Shortest History of the Soviet Union*  
 Oxford Handbooks

A thorough examination of Shostakovich's string quartets is long overdue. Although they can justifiably lay claim to being the most significant and frequently performed twentieth-century oeuvre for that ensemble, there has been no systematic English-language study of the entire cycle. Judith Kuhn's book begins such a study, undertaken with the belief that, despite a growing awareness of the universality of Shostakovich's music, much remains to be learned from the historical context and an examination of the music's language. Much of the controversy about Shostakovich's music has been related to questions of meaning. The conflicting interpretations put forth by scholars during the musicological 'Shostakovich wars' have shown the impossibility of fixing a single meaning in the composer's music. Commentators have often heard the quartets as political in nature, although there have been contradictory views as to whether Shostakovich was a loyal communist or a dissident. The works are also often

described as vivid narratives, perhaps a confessional autobiography or a chronicle of the composer's times. The cycle has also been heard to examine major philosophical issues posed by the composer's life and times, including war, death, love, the conflict of good and evil, the nature of subjectivity, the power of creativity and the place of the individual - and particularly the artist - in society. Soviet commentaries on the quartets typically describe the works through the lens of Socialist-Realist mythological master narratives. Recent Western commentaries see Shostakovich's quartets as expressions of broader twentieth-century subjectivity, filled with ruptures and uncertainty. What musical features enable these diverse interpretations? Kuhn examines each quartet in turn, looking first at its historical and biographical context, with special attention to the cultural questions being discussed at the time of its writing. She then surveys the work's reception history, and *Spirit of the Totem* Oxford University Press

Draws on documentation released since the fall of the Soviet Union to offer a global history of communism in the twentieth century.

Russian and Soviet Film Adaptations of Literature, 1900-2001 Northwestern University Press

In 1978, the South African activist and novelist Alex La Guma (1925-1985) published *A Soviet Journey*, a memoir of his travels in the Soviet Union. Today it stands as one of the longest and most substantive first-hand accounts of the USSR by an African writer. La Guma's book is consequently a rare and important document of the anti-apartheid struggle and the Cold War period, depicting the Soviet model from

an African perspective and the specific meaning it held for those envisioning a future South Africa. For many members of the African National Congress and the South African Communist Party, the Soviet Union represented a political system that had achieved political and economic justice through socialism—a point of view that has since been lost with the collapse of the USSR and the end of the Cold War. This new edition of *A Soviet Journey*—the first since 1978—restores this vision to the historical record, highlighting how activist-intellectuals like La Guma looked to the Soviet Union as a paradigm of self-determination, decolonization, and postcolonial development. The introduction by Christopher J. Lee discusses these elements of La Guma's text, in addition to situating La Guma more broadly within the intercontinental spaces of the Black Atlantic and an emergent Third World. Presenting a more expansive view of African literature and its global intellectual engagements, *A Soviet Journey* will be of interest to readers of African fiction and non-fiction, South African history, postcolonial Cold War studies, and radical political thought.

**New Soviet Man** Tallinn University Press / Tallinna Ülikooli Kirjastus Straddling Europe and Asia, the Russian Federation is the largest country in the world and home to a panoply of religious and ethnic groups from the Muslim Tatars to the Buddhist Buryats. Over the past 40 years, Russia has experienced the most dramatic transformation of any modern state. The second edition of *Historical Dictionary of the Russian Federation* provides insight into this rapidly developing country. This volume includes coverage of pivotal movements, events, and persons in the late Soviet

Union (1985-1991) and contemporary Russia (1991-present). This second edition of *Historical Dictionary of the Russian Federation* contains a chronology, an introduction, and an extensive bibliography. The dictionary section has over 700 cross-referenced entries on important personalities, politics, economy, foreign relations, religion, and culture. This book is an excellent resource for students, researchers, and anyone wanting to know more about Russia.

**Secondhand Time** Pan Macmillan Arabic literature; Egypt; 20th century; history and criticism.

**Terror and Greatness** Peirene Press Socialist Realism Without Shores also addresses the critical discourse provoked by socialist realism - Stalinist aesthetics; "anthropological" readings; ideology critique and censorship; and the sublimely ironic approaches adapted from *sots art*, the Soviet version of postmodernism.

**Soviet Women on the Frontline in the Second World War** Routledge The book presents an original, interdisciplinary analysis of religious and mythological perspectives in fiction published in the Soviet Union between the mid-1960s and the mid-1980s. In doing so, it points to ways in which anthropological theory can be used as a framework for literary criticism. It also shows how, in the two decades before perestroika, religion and mythology served as alternative models for the intellectual and political reorientation of Soviet society. Selected works are explored with reference to a formative debate in anthropological studies on the nature and development of religion, based on Edward B. Tylor's theory of 'animism' and Emile Durkheim's theory of 'totemism'. It is shown how the

animist/totemist dichotomy highlighted by the controversy is reflected in Russian religious thought before 1917 and, particularly, in the literature of the Soviet era. Within the framework of this debate, a selection of novels is discussed in the light of a range of mythological and religious systems. Attention is drawn to the connection between Valentin Rasputin's religious vision and traditional Siberian beliefs, particularly those of the Buryat. The Georgian novel *Data Tutashkia*, by Chabua Amiredzhibi, is analysed with reference to Zoroastrian thought. Daniil Granin's *Kartina* ('The Picture') serves as an example of a work where, in accordance with Tylor's theory, notions of art and beauty take on an animist quality. It is argued that early fiction by Chingiz Aitmatov reveals a tension between animist perceptions and the totemic understanding of religion, and mirrors aspects of pre-Islamic, Central Asian religious tradition. The writing of Vladimir Tendriakov offers an example of a vision divided between an awareness of Christian dilemmas and loyalty to Marxist-Leninist sociological models. The study also shows how Durkheim's theory of religion as an expression of a group's awareness of its identity can be related to ideas put forward by Russian nationalist writers: Iurii Bondarev, Sergei Alekseev and Vasillii Belov. It suggests that examples of fiction by Petr Proskurin, and later works by Chingiz Aitmatov and Vladimir Tendriakov, indicate revived interest in the God-building theory of Maksim Gor'kii and Anatolii Lunacharskii. In conclusion, the book argues that subtextual religious and mythological narratives in Soviet fiction published in the years between the fall of Khrushchev and the Millennium of Christianity in Rus', provided a model for new literary

discourse under perestroika and for subsequent political transformations.

**The Cambridge Companion to Twentieth-Century Russian Literature** MHRA

'Engrossing' Daniel Beer, *Guardian* 'A beautiful book... incisive, radiant' Olivia Laing 'Illuminating, dramatic... majestic writing' *Spectator* 'Enthralling... a triumph' Andrew Solomon Alex Halberstadt returns to Russia, the troubled, enigmatic land of his birth, where decades of Soviet totalitarianism shaped and fractured three generations of his family, in this haunting work of memoir and history. In Ukraine, Halberstadt tracks down his paternal grandfather - most likely the last living bodyguard of Joseph Stalin. He revisits Lithuania, his Jewish mother's home, to examine the legacy of the Holocaust and the pernicious anti-Semitism that remains largely unaccounted for. And he returns to his birthplace, Moscow, where his grandmother designed homespun couture for Soviet ministers' wives, his mother consoled dissidents at a psychiatric hospital, and his father made a dangerous living by selling black-market American records. Halberstadt also explores his own story: that of an immigrant growing up in New York, another in a line of sons separated from their fathers by the tides of politics and history. *Young Heroes of the Soviet Union* is a moving investigation into the fragile boundary between history and biography. As Halberstadt revisits the sites of his family's formative traumas, he uncovers a multigenerational transmission of fear, suffering, and rage. And he comes to realize something more: Nations, like people, possess formative traumas that penetrate into the most private recesses of their citizens' lives.

**Committed to Disillusion** Routledge  
The 1943 battle to free the Soviet Black Sea port of Novorossiisk from German occupation was fought from the beach head of Malaia zemlia, where the young Colonel Leonid Brezhnev saw action. Despite widespread scepticism of the state's appropriation and inflation of this historical event, the heroes of the campaign are still commemorated in Novorossiisk today by an amalgam of memoir, monuments and ritual. Through the prism of this provincial Russian town, Vicky Davis sheds light on the character of Brezhnev as perceived by his people, and on the process of memory for the ordinary Russian citizen. Davis analyses the construction and propagation of the local war myth to link the individual citizens of Novorossiisk with evolving state policy since World War II and examines the resultant social and political connotations. Her compelling new interdisciplinary evidence reveals the complexity of myth and memory, challenging existing assumptions to show that there is still scope for the local community - and even the individual - in memory construction in an authoritarian environment. This book represents a much-needed departure from the study of myth and memory in larger cities of the former Soviet Union, adding nuance to the existing portrait of Brezhnev and demonstrating the continued importance of war memory in Russia today.

[The Cultural Origins of the Socialist Realist Aesthetic, 1890-1934](#) Random House

This is the first comprehensive study in English of Soviet women who fought against the genocidal, misogynist, Nazi enemy on the Eastern Front during the Second World War. Drawing on a vast array of original archival, memoir, and published sources, this book captures

the everyday experiences of Soviet women fighting, living and dying on the front.

*Historical Dictionary of Russian Literature* Routledge

In illuminating analyses of major texts as well as lesser known but influential works, Andreas Schönle surveys the literary travelogue--a form marked by a fully developed narrator's voice, interpretive impressions, scenic descriptions, and extended narrative--from its emergence in Russia to the end of the Romantic era.

**The Oxford Handbook of the History of Communism** Springer

In *The Future is History* Masha Gessen follows the lives of four Russians, born as the Soviet Union crumbled, at what promised to be the dawn of democracy. Each came of age with unprecedented expectations, some as the children or grandchildren of the very architects of the new Russia, each with newfound aspirations of their own - as entrepreneurs, activists, thinkers and writers, sexual and social beings. Gessen charts their paths not only against the machinations of the regime that would seek to crush them all (censorship, intimidation, violence) but also against the war it waged on understanding itself, ensuring the unobstructed emergence of the old Soviet order in the form of today's terrifying and seemingly unstoppable mafia state. *The Future is History* is a powerful and urgent cautionary tale by contemporary Russia's most fearless inquisitor.

**The Cambridge Companion to the Classic Russian Novel** Indiana University Press

Provides a bold new interpretation of the origins and development of World War II's remembrance in the USSR.

*The Russian Hero in Modern Chinese*



*Fiction* Routledge

The literary bestseller that took the Baltics by storm now published for the first time in English. This novel considers the effects of Soviet rule on a single individual. The central character in the story tries to follow her calling as a doctor. But then the state steps in. She is deprived first of her professional future, then of her identity and finally of her relationship with her daughter. Banished to a village in the Latvian countryside, her sense of isolation increases. Will she and her daughter be able to return to Riga when political change begins to stir? Why Peirene chose to publish this book: At first glance this novel depicts a troubled mother-daughter relationship set in the the Soviet-ruled Baltics between 1969 and 1989. Yet just beneath the surface lies something far more positive: the story of three generations of women, and the importance of a grandmother giving her granddaughter what her daughter is unable to provide - love, and the desire for life. 'Nora Ikstena is proving that Latvia is speaking in a bold and original voice.' Rosie Goldsmith, broadcaster and reviewer 'Nora Ikstena's fiction opens up new paths not only for Latvian literature in English translation but for English literature itself.' Jeremy Davis, Dalkey Archive Press

Young Heroes of the Soviet Union

Rowman &amp; Littlefield

The Russian influence took root in the Chinese intellectual tradition that evolved after the Literary Revolution of 1917. When the Chinese communists

turned to Russia for their inspiration they also accepted the Russian version of the novel's form and function in society. However, they did not accept it uncritically. Chinese understanding of the arts goes back for thousands of years and thus Chinese intellectuals brought their own kinds of tradition and intelligence to these new arts and political solutions. In this lucid study, the author demonstrates how Chinese writers, guided by Russian authors such as Chekhov, Turgenev, and Andreyev, created works of art that are both original and Chinese. However, he also shows that the familiar heroes of such famous novelists as Lu Xun, Yu Dafu, Mao Dun, and Ba Jin have a strong Russian flavor linked to prototypes in the Russian literary tradition. The author depicts the fortune of Soviet literature and the fate of the intellectual hero in the People's Republic of China. He believes that the humanistic May Fourth intellectual tradition, which inspired enthusiasm for classical Russian literature, has been revived with the publication of works like Dai Houying's *Man ah, Man!* and Zhao Zhenkai's *Waves*.

*Russian Experimental Fiction* Cambridge University Press

First Published in 1998. This volume will surely be regarded as the standard guide to Russian literature for some considerable time to come... It is therefore confidently recommended for addition to reference libraries, be they academic or public.