

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS' WORKSHOP:

“A Dictionary
without Boundaries.
Florence in the works of
World Famous People.
Project of a Dictionary
for Guides and Tourists”.

Florence, 2011

HERE WE ARE



Team 1

WHAT WE'VE DONE?

- ⦿ **The macrostructure:** we submit to make the form of the dictionary **on the blog platform**, according to the cognitive type of the dictionary.
- ⦿ **The microstructure:** we offer to include a new informative subsection **“Touristic hints”**.

THE PROFIT OF THE BLOG PLATFORM USE

- ⦿ Communication between users and compilers for upgrading the articles!
- ⦿ It is possible to leave comments on the article, being registered in the blog.
- ⦿ Only the participants of the workshops can correct and enlarge articles.

Yevsey Bazhenov,
(1757-1799)

Biography



Yevsey, Evseyevich Bazhenov, was a Russian neoclassical architect, graphic artist, architectural theorist and educator. **Bazhenov's** name proved to be one of the brightest in the history of Russian architecture, closely associated with the development and triumph of Classicism in Russia. In 1755 **Bazhenov** joined the first class of the newly opened Moscow State University. As one of the most gifted students he was transferred in 1758 to the St. Petersburg Academy of Arts. At the Imperial Academy of Arts he had the good fortune to become one of the first students to be awarded a scholarship outside Russia. **Bazhenov** continued his studies in Paris and Italy. (1760-1764) He "triumphantly concluded" the scholarship, being elected to the Roman Academy of Saint Luke, Academy of Fine Arts of Florence and Academy of Fine Arts of Bologna.

Creative Works

In 1767 **Bazhenov** was appointed as architect to the Department of Ammunition in Moscow to maintain the damaged buildings of the Kremlin. Exceeding the terms of his contract, he drew up a grandiose plan (1768-71) for rebuilding the whole Kremlin and the adjoining land. The Empress approved the plan, and foundations were laid in 1773. In 1776 **Bazhenov** began the construction of a palace, outbuildings and various follies at **Tsaritsyno**, near Moscow, to a commission from the Empress. In contrast to the classical style he had used hitherto, the **Cyrcyno**, ensemble was planned as Gothic Revival. **Bazhenov** is also famous for the creation of one of the most perfect works of Russian Neo-classicism, the **Bazhenov House** (1784-1786, now the old building of the Russian Library).



Florentine Influence

Being a travel scholarship **Bazhenov** spent two years in Italy (1762-1764). In 1764, he became a professor of the Academy of St. Lucas (Rome) and a member of its academies in Bologna and Florence. Having been to Florence, Tuscany and Venice **Bazhenov** set himself the task of unusual and impossible designs for Russian architecture.

He brought back to Russia amazing scale models of famous buildings, including the Louvre and St. Peter's Cathedral and the collected works by Roman architect Vitruvius (which he later translated into Russian and published). Being captivated by the original antiquity of the native land of the Etruscans **Bazhenov** brought the most advanced ideas on architecture and urban planning as well. **Bazhenov's** first schemes after his return to Russia in 1764 included a design for a central hall was flanked symmetrically by two massive columns, which were also proposed as an alternative to articulate the composition. The order to secure the title of professor of the Academy of Arts, **Bazhenov** produced a design for a pleasure house system of buildings subordinate to the main building with the coats of arms of Russian towns.

Blog platform helps to communicate with the potential users

Comments



Julia

I would like to add the information that in 1799 Bazhenov was appointed as the vice-president of the Imperial Academy of Arts, for the reorganization of which he produced a plan that demonstrated his progressive views.



Ann

Add, please, more photos into the article.

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NEW SUBSECTION

“TOURISTIC HINTS”

Nikolay Gumilev (1899 – 1921) Biography



Nikolay was born in 1899 in Krasnodar in the family of Stepan Gumilev and Anna Lyova. He studied in Tarkovsk School near St. Petersburg where he was influenced by Evgeny Anninsky and decided to become a poet. After finishing the gymnasium, he went to France to study in Bordeaux. In 1907, Nikolay Gumilev began to travel around Europe but the countries that inspired him most were Italy and France. He was also fascinated with Africa and regularly travelled there. The poet was also known as a famous subject of Africa. In 1910, Nikolay married Anna Akhmatova, the poetess, who had made a debut in Gumilev's magazine. The poet took part in World War I. After the Russian revolution he divorced Akhmatova and married Anna Engelgardt but his second marriage was also unhappy. While living in the Soviet Union, he was unable to arrange for official government ideology and eventually a religious magazine. On 2 April 1921, he was arrested for

participating in a conspiracy and soon executed by a firing squad. The different date of death is still unknown.

Creative works



Nikolay Gumilev was a representative of *Серебряный век* in Tarkovsk School was Anninsky, he considered Evgeny his mentor. Gumilev is credited with starting the Akhmatov movement. His first published work was a poem titled "From the dark into the forest" (September 2, 1917). *Серебряный век* is a collection of collections of poems. The most notable are "The way of Constantinople" (the 1st collection of the poet), "Romantic forms", "Slogans", "Allen sky" and "The Golden". While living in France, Gumilev published the *Silver* magazine.

Florence influence



Nikolay Gumilev was influenced by the works of Dante Alighieri so much so that when before he was led to Florence he had written a few poems, united into a cycle titled *Stanzas*. *Stanzas* is a figure through which the reader can discern the personality of his wife Anna Akhmatova. Nikolay wrote 2 poems about Florence or the time spent in Florence: "Stanzas", "The dream" and "The Dawn, Legation", "Stanzas" is a poem illustrating the impression Gumilev got while being in Florence. The poem shows contradictory findings of the

poet and describes the city without naming it. Another well-known poem "The Dream" illustrates the relationship between Anninsky and Nikolay and shows the reason for the guard duty he had while in Florence. It says that Anna lives not Nikolay himself but another personality, she was silent. The *Stanzas* and "Legation" characterize not only the poet himself but his intellectual and his contemporaries.

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[Touristic hints](#) →

“TOURISTIC HINTS”

- ⦿ Real information about the house, where the person lived, was born, or other close connections with the places.
- ⦿ The information, that can be helpful for the tourist, interested in some specific fields of knowledge: art, music, painting, etc.
- ⦿ The information about the places or artifacts, that became the sources of inspiration for the discovered personality. **It is the first attempt to understand why Florence attracts so many talented people!**

Percy Bysshe Shelley
(1792-1822)



Biography

Percy Bysshe Shelley is one of the most prominent English romantic poets. The novelist Mary Shelley was his second wife. He was the eldest son of a country gentleman, Sir Timothy Shelley, the father of seven children. P.B. Shelley was educated at Eton College and at Oxford University, but was expelled in 1811 after refusing to confess that he was the author of the pamphlet, *The Necessity of Atheism*. Because of this he quarreled with his father and eloped with a group mate Harriet Westbrook and they married on 28 August 1811 in Scotland. In 1812 Shelley first met the philosopher William Godwin, whom he admired and in general was influenced. Also he fell in love with Godwin's daughter Mary. On 28 July 1814, Shelley abandoned his pregnant wife and child when he ran away with Mary, whom he married after the death of his first wife. They travelled a lot around Europe, but the most

fruitful for the development of their creativity was living in Italy. On 8 July 1822 Shelley drowned in a sudden storm while sailing back from Livorno to Leghorn in his schooner "Don Juan". Shelley was eventually memorialized at the Poets' Corner at Westminster Abbey, along with his old friends, Lord Byron and John Keats.

Creative works

He is most famous for such classic anthology verse works as "Ozymandias", "Ode to the West Wind", "To a Skylark", and "The Mask of Anarchy", which are among the most popular and critically acclaimed poems in the English language. His major works, however, are long visionary poems which included "Queen Mab", "Satanstoe", "The Revolt of Islam", "The Cenci", and the unfinished work "The Triumph of Life". "The Cenci" (1819) and "Prometheus Unbound" (1820) were dramatic plays in five and four acts respectively. Although he has typically been figured as a "reluctant dramatist" he was passionate about the theatre, and his plays continue to be performed today. He wrote the Gothic novels "Zastrozzi" (1810) and "St. Irvyn" (1811) and the short prose works "The Assassins" (1814), "The Coleridge" (1817) and "The Revolt" (1819). It's interesting, but Shelley also wrote several essays on the subject of vegetarianism, the most prominent of which were "A Vindication of Natural Diet" (1813) and "On the Vegetable System of Diet".

Florentine influence



In October 1819, Shelley rented an apartment in Madame de ~~Florence~~ house, the Palazzo Marini at 4395 Via ~~Vallombrosa~~ in Florence. The Palazzo Marini faces what is now the Santa Maria Novella railway station, midway between Piazza ~~Sanza~~ and Via ~~Nazionale~~. It features an interior courtyard and several charming fountains. In the early days here Shelley refers to their solitary

life. "We see no one as usual," he writes to Mrs. ~~Godwin~~ on the 11th of October. Reading and study were now as ever the great resource of ~~apportion~~.... Here, he produced "Ode to the West Wind", "Prometheus Unbound", and gave birth to their son Percy Florence Shelley. But it was not a totally happy time: in April 1819, Shelley came upon a devastating Quarterly Review article by John Taylor Coleridge purporting to review *The Revolt of Islam*, but actually mounting a personal attack on its author—Coleridge damned Shelley as a plagiarist/heroic with an unhealthy interest in incest. The winter cold of Florence resulted in a persistent rheumatic pain in his side which forced him to cancel travel plans to Livorno. Yet the birth of Percy Florence brought Mary out of the depression she had endured since the death of their first son William in Rome, and Shelley wandered happily through the Uffizi gallery.



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“TOURISTIC HINTS” 1

Factual information:

apartments in Madame du Plantis’s house, the Palazzo Marini at Via Valfonda.



Actual information: The Plaza Marini faces what is now the Santa Maria Novella railway station, midway between Plaza Adua and Via Nazionale.

THE PHOTOS OF THE HOUSE PLACE



Inside the courtyard



As it is turned out, now the part of this house is an office center.

Moreover, the facade is no more decorated with the sculptures, which were the part of the fountains.



Florence Nightingale (1820-1910)

Biography

Florence Nightingale became famous for her work in the military hospitals of the Crimea establishing nursing as a respectable profession for women.

She was born on 12 May 1820 into a wealthy and well-connected British family. Inspired by what she understood to be a divine calling (first experienced in 1837 at the age of 17 at ~~Hyde Park~~), Nightingale made a commitment to nursing, a career with a poor reputation and filled mostly by poorer women. A brilliant and strong-willed woman, Florence rebelled against the expected role for a woman of her status, which was to become an obedient wife.

Nightingale's parents had eventually to relent and in 1851 she went to ~~Germany~~ in Germany for three months nursing training. This enabled her to become superintendent of a hospital for gentlewomen in Harley Street, in 1853. The following year, the Crimean War began, and Sidney Herbert, the war minister, asked her to oversee a team of nurses in the military hospitals in Turkey. With her nurses, she greatly improved the conditions and substantially reduced the mortality rate. She returned to England in 1856. In 1860, she established the Nightingale Training School for nurses at St Thomas' Hospital in London. Once the nurses were trained, they were sent to hospitals all over Britain, where they introduced the ideas they had learned, and established nursing training on the Nightingale model. Nightingale's theories, published in 'Notes on Nursing' (1860), were hugely influential and her concerns for sanitation, military health and hospital planning established practices which are still in existence today. She died on 13 August 1910.

Creative works

Nightingale's work inspired massive public support throughout England, where she was celebrated and admired as "The Lady with the Lamp" after the Greek lamp she always carried in her tiaras evening and night-time visits to injured soldiers. Nightingale's lamp also allowed her to work late every night, maintaining meticulous medical records for the hospital, and writing personal letters to the family of every soldier who died in the hospital.

Florence Nightingale wrote Notes on Nursing which was published in 1860 and served as the cornerstone of the curriculum at the Nightingale School and other nursing schools established. Nightingale spent the rest of her life promoting the establishment and development of the nursing profession and organizing it into its modern form.

After the outbreak of the American Civil War in 1861, Nightingale's work served as an inspiration for nurses in the war, and Union government approached her for advice to organize field medicine. Although her ideas met official resistance they inspired the volunteer body of United States Sanitary Commission and US volunteers like Dorothea Dix, Clara Barton and Cornelia Hancock.

Florence's influence

In 1818 24-year old William Nightingale, a wealthy graduate of Cambridge University, married Frances Smith and decided to spend their honey moon abroad. The honey moon lasted for three years, mostly in Italy, where the happy couple gave birth to two pretty daughters. Born at the Villa ~~Colonna~~ in Florence, the second girl was named after the city of her birth, as was her elder sister (named ~~Perthmore~~ for the old city that is now Naples). ~~As unusual thing to do in a conventional time.~~ This little girl was to bear no children of her own but to become perhaps the most famous woman of all time and give birth to the profession of nursing as we know it today.



In 1851 she rejected the marriage proposal of politician and poet Richard Monckton ~~Murray~~, 1st Baron Broughton, convinced that marriage would interfere with her ability to follow her calling to nursing. When in Rome in 1847, recovering from her broken relationship with ~~Murray~~, Nightingale met Sidney Herbert, a brilliant politician who had been Secretary at War (1845 - 46) a position he would hold again (1852 - 1854) during the Crimean War. Herbert was already married but he and Nightingale were immediately attracted to each other and they became life-long close friends. Herbert was instrumental in facilitating Nightingale's pioneering work in Crimea and in the field of nursing, and Nightingale became a key advisor to Herbert in his political career.

[Learn more](#) ➡
[Touristic hints](#) ➡

“TOURISTIC HINTS” 1



The Villa Columbaia, located just on the outskirts of the heart of Florence, sits on a very steep hill. During World War I, it was converted into a hospital. In 1915, the Villa was confiscated by the state and, 12 years later, sold to Ernest Foster, whose daughter would eventually sell it to the Adorers of the Blood of Christ Sisters. In 1957 it was first converted into a residence for the nuns, and since 1964 it is a private Catholic school run by the Sisters.



Paul Klee
(1879-1940)

Biography



Paul Klee, considered both a Swiss and German artist, was born on December 18, 1879 in a Münchenbuchsee, Switzerland.

He graduated from the "Gymnasium" of Bern in 1897, where he qualified in the Humanities. Then, in 1898 he began studying art at the Academy of Fine Arts in Munich, where he excelled at drawing.

In 1906, Klee married the pianist Lily Stumpf and they settled in Munich.

In 1911 Klee joined the Munich Association "Blue Rider", which included Russian artists. This year he also had his first major exhibitions in the 3 cities of Switzerland.

During the First World War, he was called up for infantry training and in 1918 he returned to Munich.

In November 1920 Klee was invited to teach at the Bauhaus at Weimar. Then Klee also taught at the Düsseldorf Academy from 1931 to 1933. He held the post for only two years before the Nazi campaign against modern artists brought about his dismissal. In 1933, Klee left Germany to return to Switzerland.

He died on June 29, 1940.

Creative works

Paul Klee's highly individual style was influenced by movements in art that included expressionism, cubism, and surrealism. He has left a more than 3 000 drawings, oil paintings and watercolors. Klee was a natural draftsman who experimented with and eventually mastered color theory; his lectures Writings on Form and Design Theory (Schriften zur Form und Gestaltungslehre), published in English as the Paul Klee Notebooks, are considered so important for modern art that they are compared to the importance that Leonardo da Vinci's "A Treatise on Painting" had for Renaissance. (Herbert Read (1959) A concise history of modern painting, London, p.186).

Florentine Influence

Paul Klee's first visit to **Italy** took place in 1901-1902, after he left the Academy of Fine Arts in Munich. He and his friend Hermann Haller stayed in Rome, **Florence** and Naples, and studied the master painters of past centuries.

Inspired by the places he had seen, in 1926 he visited **Italy** for the second time and during this trip Klee created a picture "Florentine villas", masterfully combining scenic and graphic elements associated with common color harmonies.

[Learn more](#) ➡

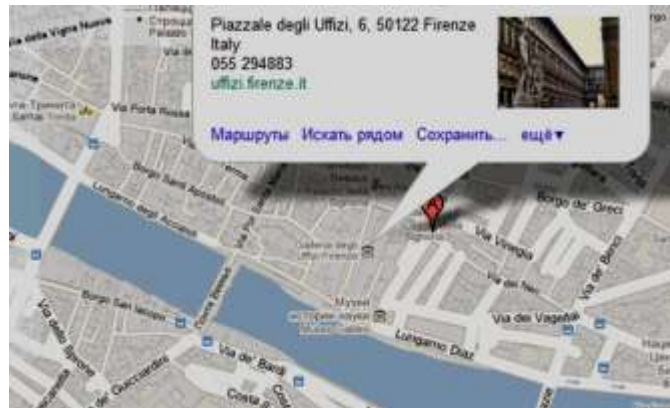
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“TOURISTIC HINTS” 2

Museo Uffizi Firenze

*Galleria degli Uffizi,
Piazzale degli Uffizi
6 - Firenze*

uffizi.firenze.it



Strozzi Palace

*Palazzo Strozzi,
Piazza Strozzi
1 - Firenze*

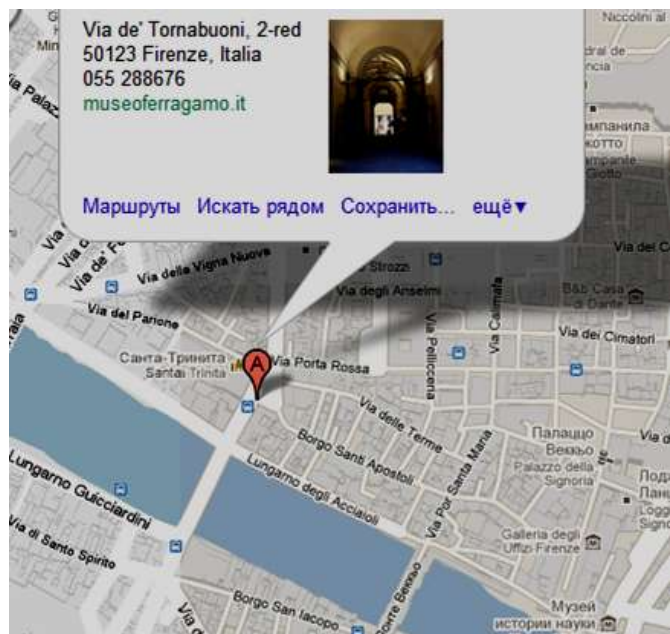
www.palazzo-strozzi.org



Salvatore Ferragamo Museum

*Palazzo Spini Feroni,
via Tornabuoni
2 - Firenze*

www.salvatoreferragamo.com





Sergei Vasilievich Rachmaninoff

(1873-1943)

Biography

Sergei Vasilievich Rachmaninoff, also commonly spelled in English as Rachmaninov, (1873-1943), a distinguished Russian composer, pianist, and conductor. He was born to a noble family, in Semyonovo, near Veliky Novgorod. He became interested in music as a child, as both his parents were amateur pianists. Sergei studied at the Saint Petersburg Conservatory, but he missed classes and was a poor student; then he moved to Moscow to study piano under Nikolai Zverev and Alexander Siloti. In Moscow he met the composer Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky, who became an important mentor for him. S.V. Rachmaninoff became famous as a composer, pianist and conductor quite early, but his career was interrupted by the poor reception of his First Symphony. This failure

led to a period of severe depression that lasted three years, during which he wrote virtually no music. In 1902 Rachmaninoff married his cousin N.A. Satina, who later gives birth to two daughters - Irina and Tatyana. After several successful appearances as a conductor, S.V. Rachmaninoff was offered a job as conductor at the Bolshoi Theatre in 1904, although political reasons led to his resignation in March 1906, after which he stayed in Italy until July. After travelling across Europe, Rachmaninoff together with his family came to the US, where he lived until the end of his life. Although the last years of his life were darkened by a fatal disease (lung cancer), he continued his concert activity. S.V. Rachmaninoff died on 28 March 1943, in Beverly Hills, California, just four days before his 70th birthday.

Creative works

S.V. Rachmaninoff, as a composer, is often defined as the most Russian composer. In his works he combined the creative principles of the Moscow and St. Petersburg schools into a united Russian style. Being a contemporary of the Russian revolution, Rachmaninoff considered the most significant topics of his works "Russia and its destiny" and Christian motifs. Sergei Rachmaninoff lived in the times of the Silver Age in Russian culture, and this period brought the elements of symbolism in his works. Rachmaninoff wrote five works for piano and orchestra—four concertos plus the *Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini*. Of the concertos, the Second and Third are the most popular. He also wrote three symphonies. The second and third symphonies are both considered among his greatest works. S.V. Rachmaninoff as a pianist merged with the greatest performers such as F. Liszt and A. Rubinstein. He gave a lot of concerts in Russia and abroad; his technique was phenomenal, his playing was brilliant, virtuosic, characterized by a great internal force. Rachmaninoff's contemporaries acknowledged him as the greatest pianist of the 20th century.



Florentine influence

Travelling across Italy, S.V. Rachmaninoff spent a couple of weeks in Florence, which was a great inspiration for him. In letters to his friend A.M. Koerin he wrote: "...we have already spent a week in Florence, where we arrived safely. There are so many visitors here now, so it's difficult to find an apartment. The weather is fine and warm. We are having a good time here and I like Florence very much...". Rachmaninoff with his friend Nikolai Medtner, also a composer and pianist, spent in Florence much time visiting its sights; they even took a picture standing on the Piazza della Signoria. Florence and Italy in general had a great influence on Rachmaninoff's works; during this trip he was composing *Franco da Rimini*, which was finished in 1906 and became one of his greatest works.

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TOURISTIC HINTS 3: SOURCE OF INSPIRATION

*The opera written by
S.V. Rachmaninoff in
1904 and completed
in Florence in 1906*



Francesca da Rimini



“...My dear friend I received your letter 5 days ago. Today I finished the correction of Francesca, and now I’m quite free. I haven’t seen any gallery yet. I visited only several cathedrals and all the parks and gardens. I was charmed mostly by **Boboli Gardens** and **Piazzale Michelangelo**...

My address is the same Pension Lucchesi, Lungarno della Zecca,16”



Pension Lucchesi, where
Rachmaninoff lived, is
now Plaza hotel Lucchesi



THANK YOU FOR
ATTENTION AND
POSSIBILITY TO TAKE PART
IN THIS AMAZING
PROJECT!