

Preface

Nash uchitel', nash drug i otets (our teacher, our friend, and father), Paul Bushkovitch, turned 60 in May 2008. A few years earlier, Cathy Potter had suggested to Paul's cortège of students that we could not let this landmark date pass unobserved. As a result, on 4–5 April 2008, Yale University hosted a conference/workshop in honor of Paul Bushkovitch with presentations by his students. This volume brings together the revised articles in a festschrift celebrating Paul's scholarship, mentoring, and friendship.

Titled "Sources First! Religion, Politics, and Culture in Pre-Modern and Modern Russia," the conference covered a broad swath of Russian history, reflecting Paul's wide-ranging academic interests. Centering on the use of primary sources as its main theme, the conference highlighted three areas of research in our field: a) new or rarely utilized sources; b) new analytical approaches to well-known sources; and c) paradigm shifts in Russian history.

As the author of *Religion and Society in Russia: The Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries*, and as a specialist in pre-Petrine and Petrine Russian history,¹ Bushkovitch has *ipso facto* been an authority on the history of the Russian Orthodox Church. He has been instrumental in shifting scholarly attention from the institutional to the cultural history of the church. Consequently, he has pioneered the investigation of the evolution of Russian Orthodoxy in the 16th and 17th centuries from a socio-cultural standpoint. Many of his students have accordingly followed this interest and extended it chronologically into the modern period. Many of the chapters in this volume address Russian Orthodoxy's energetic adaptation to Russia's changing domestic and international conditions in the early modern and modern periods. Covering the 17th through the early 20th centuries, they range from Muscovite prophetic works and the impact of the Protestant Reformation on Orthodoxy to changes in ritual and devotional practices in the late Imperial era.

During the early modern period, being Russian meant first and foremost being Orthodox. By examining Orthodoxy's evolution, Bushkovitch anticipated the current wave of interest in Russian identity. A number of his students accordingly provide chapters on the way in which Russians viewed themselves and were viewed by others. These essays cover, among other subjects, Muscovite perceptions of genealogical links, interaction with foreign traders, missions to non-Orthodox populations in the empire, a foreign travel-

¹ See the article in this volume by Nancy S. Kollmann on Paul Bushkovitch's scholarship.

ler's account of Soviet Russia, and a tongue-in-cheek look at identity on the imperial periphery.

Religion and identity provide two strands uniting the essays in this volume, including the manner in which Finland developed its religious identity between Eastern and Western Europe before its incorporation into the Russian Empire. A third, no less important uniting factor, is the use of primary sources. Indeed, the majority of the articles are firmly grounded on the use of hitherto unexploited primary sources and the reinterpretation of known ones, thus reflecting Bushkovitch's insistence on going to the sources first. We hope that the volume will be of particular interest to scholars of pre-Petrine and Petrine Russia. In addition, given its wider chronological scope, we hope that it will find an audience among scholars of Imperial Russian and Soviet history. As such, this volume has the potential to bridge the gap between early-modernists and modernists in the field of Russian history.

The workshop and the resulting volume could not have materialized without the help provided by a number of individuals. We are grateful to the following organizations for sponsoring the workshop activities: the Council on European Studies, the Edward J. and Dorothy Clarke Kempf Fund, the Whitney and Betty MacMillan Center for International and Area Studies, and the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscripts Library, all at Yale University. A number of individuals provided much needed support and assistance with various aspects of this effort. Prof. Laura Engelstein immediately agreed with the idea of the workshop and helped secure a Kempf Fund grant from Yale University. The late Professor Frank Turner, at the time Director of the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, secured funds for the reception. Marianne Lyden of the Council on European Studies mastered all organizational aspects of the conference with resourcefulness, ease, and an eye for the detail. We are grateful to all of them for helping us make this a successful gathering. We also wish to extend our sincere thanks to Prof. Nancy Shields Kollmann, Dr. Charles Halperin, Prof. Alexandra Korros, Prof. Robert Crumme, and Prof. Dominic Lieven for kindly agreeing to participate as chairs and commentators of the panels. Finally, we owe a debt of gratitude to our editor, Vicki Polansky, for her patience, good cheer, and hard work throughout the process of preparing this volume.

Last but not least, we owe a special thanks to Dr. Maija Jansson, Paul's companion in life, for her innumerable services throughout this effort. Early on, Maija became a partner in the conspiracy to organize the workshop and keep it a secret from Paul until the plan had been finalized. She generously hosted the dinner that crowned the end of the workshop at their house. Additionally, she was a sounding board for members of the workshop's Orgkomitet on any number of practical issues. But above all, on behalf of all Paul's students, we would like to thank Maija for being there for each and every one of us during our studies at Yale. She nurtured our nature in many different ways, both academically and socially.

When the Orgkomitet had everything in place and we were ready to announce the plan to Paul, there was a bit of hesitation among us. Frankly, none of us wanted to be the one to do it simply because we knew very well that Paul did not like public praises. The lot, justifiably so, fell to his “first-born” student, Cathy Potter, Paul’s first Ph.D., who contacted him by telephone and announced the plan to him. Although we will not divulge his reaction, we are grateful to him for allowing us to proceed. Each and every one of Paul’s students has one (or many) “Paul stories” to tell. The workshop’s favorite, it turns out, was Paul’s dogged insistence that one ought to learn German if he or she were to work on Russian history; even better, after German, one ought to learn a new language pretty much every summer while in graduate school and even beyond that. Although this preface is not written in German, we offer this volume to Paul as a token of our gratitude for his mentoring, scholarship, unstinting friendship, and generous support throughout the years. And we wish him *mnogaia leta*.

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David Schimmelpenninck van der Oye
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NOTE: Source citations adhere to authorial preference at the expense of uniformity. Accordingly, *fond* (abbreviated f.) stands for “collection”; *opis’* (abbreviated op.) stands for “register”; *delo* (abbreviated d.) and *number* (abbreviated no.) stand for “unit/number” within a particular register; *list/listy* (abbreviated l./ll., for the singular/plural respectively) stand for “folio/folios”; and *ob* indicates a folio’s verso.