

...ГЛАВНЫМ  
ТВОРЧЕСКИМ НАЧАЛЬНИКЪМЪ, РАДЪИТЬСЯ И ОУПРАВЛЯТЬСЯ  
КАЛАНРАФНИЧЕСКИИ ПЕТРО ПЕТРОВИЧ!



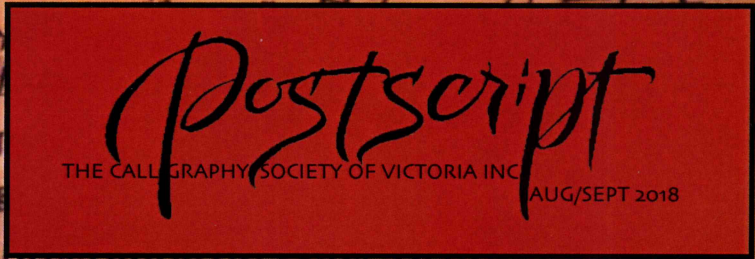
**В**сичь человек  
достопынного  
писма сморенный старатель, тежъ и  
предпечатно-компьютерного расписного  
дизайнероваго цеху работный человекъ  
Юрий Ивановъ сынъ Ковардаевъ, а о чемъ  
моё прошение - томъ слѣдуютъ пункты.

**С**правляю я си означенныя работныя должности  
каждодневно и многочасно, джель свѣтло изъ глазъ  
не сокрѣется, а плачь и того долбе, вольческия порученія да  
функции какія отвѣтственныя сморенно и ревностно  
исполняють со рвеніемъ и прилѣжаніемъ, къ коимъ  
неоужаотилды душевды и творческды потребности;  
тщательны и добросовѣстны о учителя. Приняла же задровны  
русей, безвозвратно внятды, неопстѣпно питаю, да не  
меркантильнаго интереса токмо ради, но болѣе  
за любовь лица, безоупречное качество да наивысшій  
идейно-нравственный создаемаго художественнаго продукта  
оуровень патриотически неустанно радѣючи.

**В**ъ оугоду неуемному оусердию въ беззавѣтномъ семъ  
радѣнии непримѣтно для себя самого оставила я  
другъ своихъ мирскихъ, да блага и оутѣхи да проучія  
разнообразія светныя и будалися въ келью, да въ полноту  
мды вдохновительной инаго общества и вѣдать не смель.

**Т**акъ черезъ оидю, стало бытъ, перспективу затворничества моего  
а пущь - о немѣнтя окликъ въ дѣльныхъ творнищехъ  
разумѣншихъ за отсѣтѣемъ оныхъ свѣло о овало невѣдомо  
какимъ образомъ безъ боли моеи накопилаь тоска поминательная,  
въ кобю сладъ не вѣдаю, да

**И** да въ впрядь въ непримѣ  
тоскѣ оисности, дабы  
креативды энергію свою въ  
крышею кда ни естъ не да  
стрѣтныя со вдохновеніемъ и добротю нареду мирскому въ радость



# SERENDIPITY - THE RUSSIAN EXPERIENCE

Margaret & Susan visit the Calligraphy Museum in Moscow

Well what can one say – here I was boarding the SS Kronshtadt in St Petersburg and I thought, “I know that figure”, from behind, mind you.

Guess who? Susan Bradshaw, another intrepid traveller and Calligrapher from Queensland. So far from home and here was another calligrapher and determined photographer.

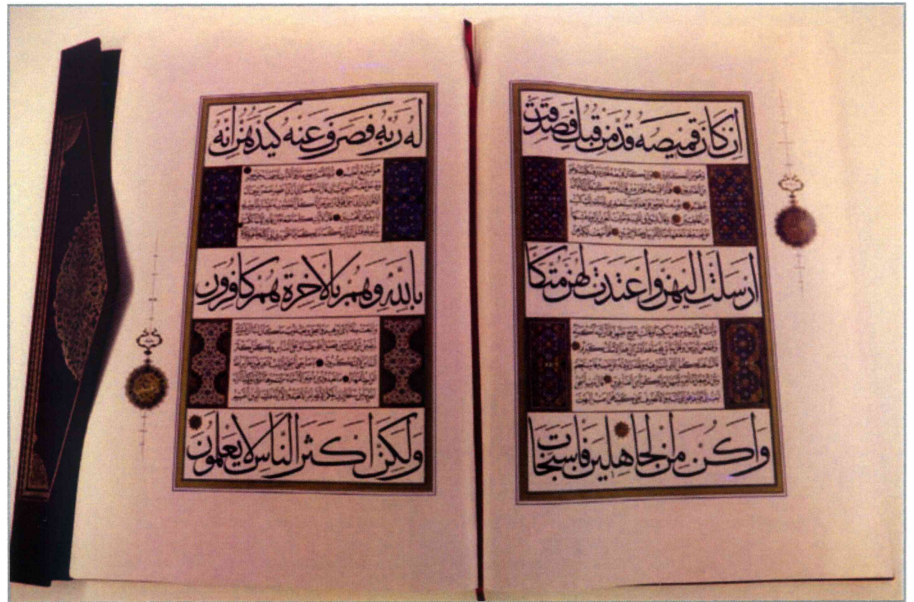
Of course the first question was “are you going to the Contemporary Museum of Calligraphy in Moscow?” The answer was, “if I can”. So we decided that in Moscow we would team up to find our way to the exhibition. We continued to see each other from time to time, but I was travelling with a companion and Susan was off doing her thing so we didn't really get together during other parts of the trip.

We arrived in Moscow ten days later, both staying extra days at the end of the trip, so that made it easier. One lucky thing was that the travel company took us from the boat to the hotel, but that was only to drop off our luggage. Our rooms would not be ready until early afternoon.

The travel group had decided to take us on a short tour, in addition to the itinerary. Although we had been into the metro the night before with another tour guide (looking at the wonderful decorations) this fitted into our plans, as the tour guide today said she would actually put us on the first train.

Although we had been told that it was easy to follow, and that everything had English translations, it was not always that easy. How do you decide which platform to get on, the right side or the left? How do I know it is going to stop at the right station? And so on and so on.

Anyway, the tour guide took us to the last but one stop on her tour and showed us which line to get on (we had to change trains too). She told us where to get off and what line to catch next - so quick onto the train, quick get off the train (they are really fast and run almost every five/ten minutes) at the right station - is





when it comes to money it is amazing how easily things are understood; it is the Universal Language. It was a paid exhibition, not very expensive, I think \$5, and we could take photos. Wonderful.

The current exhibition dedicated to the Great Patriotic War Victoria Day. What a wonderful sight - to see so many calligraphic pieces gathered together in one place - amazing. There were various standards of lettering. Although mainly Russian, there were also pieces from Mongolia, Europe and Asia. The Museum was well set out and well lit (not always to photographic advantage). We spent a lot of time here.

it the right station? What colour line was it? Oh yes, that's right, ok, up or down? Better ask. Find a young person (we had been told they would be most likely to speak English) and ask. We asked the lady sitting in the booth at the bottom of the escalator - yes this was the correct way. We asked the lady on the next level, with a lot of gestures, is it right or left, showing our map and the name of the station we were looking for. Again a walk underground - follow the crowd - laughing - are we going the right way? Who knows - we are on an adventure. Ha, ha, I thought "Lost in Russia". Get to the platform. Now then is this the right side? It is okay to be told if it is a man's voice it is coming into Moscow and if it's a woman's voice you are going out of Moscow, if you don't know which way the station is going from where you are? So we looked for another young person and showed them our map and asked if this was the correct platform. Again in broken English we were told yes this was the right platform. At last the stop to get to our destination. Big Sigh!

and although the people we were meeting might have been reluctant to speak English, they were doing very well directing us. It was lucky we did ask as we might have turned left instead of right at the gate. We walked on. First the park, now to find the pavilion.

The park was very busy, with a lot going on, lots of people out for the Saturday walking, playing, listening to music, eating etc. We then saw a sign - we are on the right track. Keep walking. Finally we found the building (pictured above). You can imagine we were very pleased with ourselves.

We were a bit disappointed that the people at the desk spoke very little English, so there was some difficulty in communication. We would have been over the moon to have been able to ask some questions. Mind you,

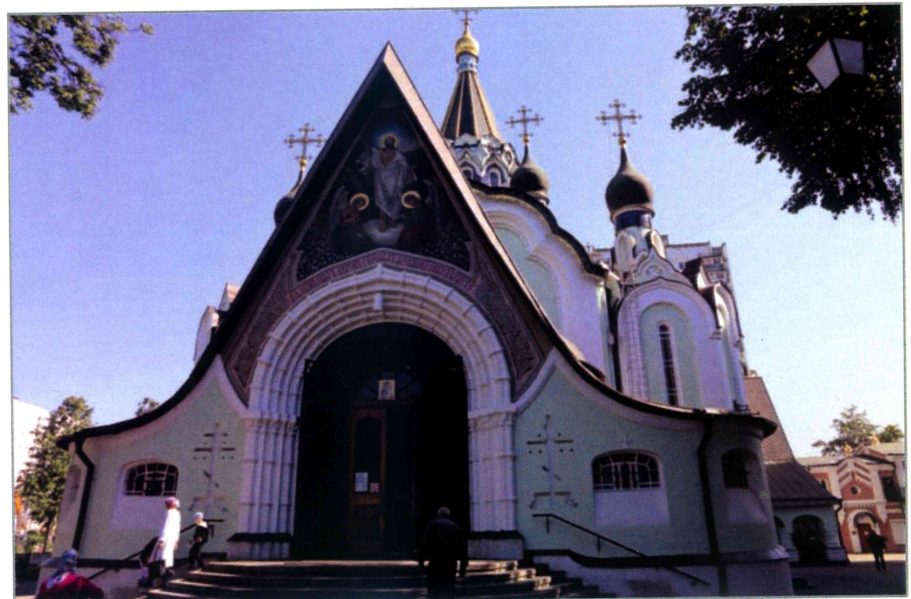
At the end of the Exhibition we looked at what was for sale at the reception. There was a catalogue. I checked the price - not expensive, so had to have one of course. Then there were postcards too. Another purchase. Susan bought items too.

We were hot, tired but exhilarated - now for the return journey - again a change of trains and we had to negotiate our way back to the station first. But we did it - we caught the train, we changed trains and finally our destination - we felt we really had passed the challenge of travelling in Russia.

So whilst seeing many wonderful icons visiting the Hermitage etc. we also managed to get to the Contemporary Museum of Calligraphy. What a wonderful experience, well worth a visit if you are in the area.

*Margaret Burgess/Susan Bradshaw*

At the station there was a lot of building work. We looked at Susan's larger map of Moscow and negotiated the uneven terrain. We found a church (pictured at right) and thought that looked like the right way. We walked through the churchyard and out the other gate. Mmmmm, we are looking for a Sokolniki Park, looks like lots of trees in that direction. Someone came out of the church, so again we asked, "Is this the right direction for this park?" We were doing quite well making ourselves understood





Handwritten calligraphy in a highly decorative, cursive style on a black background. The text is partially obscured but appears to be in Cyrillic script.

Handwritten calligraphy on a red background. The text includes:

литература  
сост  
тыня  
зилника  
а учий  
ням

рудишь  
каптя  
Лизбет  
де кунюштинце!

рутера



Handwritten calligraphy in a highly decorative, cursive style on a black background. The text is in Cyrillic script and includes:

воспрану против зл  
удовольствия и до

Микельанжело