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## INFORMATION

### RESULTS OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE: CREATIVITY AND THE CREATOR AS AN ANTHROPOLOGICAL PHENOMENON

The International Conference, “Creativity in the Archaeological and Ethnographic Dimension” was held on 17–19 October, 2013 in Omsk. The conference was a wonderful and, unfortunately, rare example of fruitful cooperation between science and business in Russia. The conference was held on the initiative and with the support of the Omsk Production Association “A.S. Popov Omsk Radio Factory”, one of the most prosperous companies in the region. The famous Omskaya multicomponent archaeological site is located on the grounds of the factory. The factory management sponsors research and preservation work. The conference was dedicated to the 95th anniversary marking the beginning of research into the site. The participants of the conference were able to make a study tour to the site itself.

In addition to the conference, the Exhibition, “The Parade of Peoples” (from the collection of the Russian Ethnographic Museum in St. Petersburg) and “Hidden Siberia: Treasures of a Great Land (95 Years Since the Discovery of the Omskaya Site)” (mainly based on materials from the collections of the State Historical Museum in Moscow, Museum of History and Culture of the Peoples of Siberia in Novosibirsk, and Omsk State Museum of Regional Studies) was timed to the anniversary. The Exhibition attracted great interest and became a significant event in the cultural life of Omsk. In addition, a magnificent album, *The Omskaya Site* (Omsk, 2013, in Russian) was published, which represents the rich materials of the archaeological complex in the most complete manner to date. In the preface, V.I. Molodin writes, “This important site entered the world of science thanks to the remarkable materials of various archaeological periods starting with the Neolithic and ending with the Middle Ages. Omskaya has a complex destiny, since today it has ended up within the boundaries of the megapolis with all its consequences. <...> The Administration of “A.S. Popov Omsk Radio Factory” shows the example of a genuine statesmanlike approach to this object of Russian cultural and

historical heritage. I am convinced that the album will be in demand not only on the part of the scholarly community but also of those Siberians who care about the history and culture of our Motherland.”

The conference was organized by Russian scholarly organizations, such as the Omsk State Museum of Regional Studies, the Mikhail Vrubel Omsk Regional Museum of Fine Arts, the Institute of Archaeology and Ethnography of SB RAS, the Omsk Division of the Institute of Archaeology and Ethnography of SB RAS, the Siberian Branch of the Russian Institute for Cultural Studies, F.M. Dostoevsky Omsk State University, as well as international partners, including the Autonomous University of the State of Mexico (Toluca, Mexico), L.N. Gumilev Eurasian National University (Astana, Kazakhstan), and Nicolaus Copernicus University (Torun, Poland). The Chairman of the Committee was A.P. Derevianko, the Co-Chairmen were N.A. Tomilov and B.A. Konikov.

The fact that the organizers of the conference were free to choose any topic, contributed to the success of the conference. Thus, the innovative subject was adopted, “Creativity in an Archaeological and Ethnographic Dimension,” rare for archaeological and anthropological conferences. The following sets of research problems were identified: creativity and the creator as anthropological phenomena; chronology and interpretation of the monuments of ancient and contemporary traditional art produced by the peoples of Siberia; the contribution of Russian and international scholars to the study of the ancient and contemporary art of the peoples of Siberia; the preservation of monuments of ancient and traditional art heritage, and their revitalization in modern society, and images and archetypes in ancient and contemporary art. However, the novelty of the topic had its downside: during preliminary consultations it became clear that not all scholars showed complete agreement with the original formulation. It is hoped nonetheless that the conference and its results will serve as an incentive to



Participants of the Conference

expand the scope of contemporary research. A voluminous collection of materials, *Tvorchestvo v arkheologicheskom i etnograficheskom izmerenii* [Creativity in Archaeological and Ethnographic Dimension] (Omsk: Izd. dom “Nauka”, 2013) was published prior to the conference.

At the plenary session, the following papers of the Russian scholars were presented: B.A. Konikov, “Omskaya Site: History of Gains and Losses”; A.V. Zhuk, “Omskaya Site: Discovery, First Collections and First Impressions”; E.M. Danchenko and M.A. Grachev, “Omskaya Site: Results of Research in 2012–2013”; V.V. Bobrov, “Reflecting on the Prehistoric Art of Siberia”; N.I. Novikova, “Works of Yuri Vello as a Model of Multiculturalism”; as well as papers of international guests of the conference K. Altynbekov (Kazakhstan), “Creative Work of Art Conservators as Revitalizing of the Ancient Art” and T. Masumoto (Japan), “Silver Cup Found near the Village of Bateni, and Its Place in the History of the Applied Arts of Eastern Asia.”

Theoretical and methodological problems in the study of creative activities, viewed through the lens of archaeology and ethnography, were addressed to at the subsequent sessions in the papers by L. Yu. Kitova, E.A. Miklashevich, S.S. Tikhonov, N.A. Tomilov, O.M. Ryndina (her paper was polemically sharpened against the plenary speech by V.V. Bobrov), V.M. Kulemzin, Yu.I. Ozheredov (Russia), S.V. Koch, and A.A. Prigarin (Ukraine).

Specific manifestations of creativity and the results of their study were presented in the papers of international participants R. de la Peña Vinchez (Mexico), A.I. Ganchev (Finland), G.N. Stoyanova (Ukraine; her paper on toasting as a form of intercultural communication was richly spiced with Odessa flavor and caused a strong reaction in the audience),

M.I. Tkacheva (Belarus), and Russian scholars A.G. Seleznev, I.A. Selezneva, Yu.V. Gerasimov, M.A. Korussenko, S.N. Korussenko, D.A. Myagkov, N.A. Levochkina, M.N. Tikhomirova, A.A. Ilyina, R.A. Smirnykh, M.A. Zhigunova, V.I. Gutyra, A.N. Blinova, A.F. Nazarova, I.V. Shmidt, Y.S. Hudiakov, Zh. Orozbekova, I. Yu. Ponkratova, S.F. Tataurov, L.V. Tataurovova, V.V. Mikhalev, K.N. Tikhomirov, I.V. Tolpeko, G.G. Guryanova, S.V. Kalugina, E.M. Danchenko, E.R. Akhunova, L.E. Malyakutova, Sh.K. Akhmetova, I.V. Chernova, E. Yu. Smirnova, M.L. Berezhnova, and a joint paper by A.K. Akmatov, A.Y. Borisenko, K.Sh. Tabaldiev, and Y.S. Hudiakov.

In the Resolution following the conference, the participants thanked the organizers and especially noted the role of the Administration of the A.S. Popov Omsk Radio Factory and the museums which organized the Exhibition, and have expressed the desire to hold the Second International Conference, “Creativity in the Archaeological and Ethnographic Dimension” to mark the 100th anniversary of the beginning of the studies into the Omskaya site in 2018.

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