



IVAN LIMBAKH PUBLISHERS

Plans for the first half of 2023

V.V. Bibikhin. The Diaries of Leo Tolstoy

Reissue of the course of lectures delivered by V. V. Bibikhin at the Faculty of Philosophy of Moscow State University in the autumn semester of 2000 and in the spring semester of 2001.

"Tolstoy's diaries and notebooks are flashes of insight, and as a person to quickly write something down grabs a pencil, a nail, so Tolstoy the first words that turn up. A conceptual analysis of these records will give zero, the only chance is to see a spark, always one that lit up the darkness for him and immediately went out... At the base of everything, in the mind of being, alive and he is sure that anything too, he sees love and poetry. These two things are crazy, reckless, sacrificial, unforeseen. Life comes from them."

The book was awarded the Alexander Pyatigorsky Special Prize for the best philosophical essay (2014). Foreword by Olga Sedakova.

Dominique Fortier. Cities on paper. The life of Emily Dickinson. Reissue

Translated by Alla Smirnova

The American poet Emily Dickinson still remains a mystery. She was born in 1830 and died 55 years later in the same house; never married and had no children; wrote more than a thousand poems, of which she published less than a dozen during her lifetime; almost never left her hometown of Amherst.

"Cities on Paper" is a vivid literary portrait of a writer who was able to create entire worlds without leaving her own garden. Weaving biographical information with her own fantasies, Dominique Fortier has created a deep and subtle narrative about the freedom of imagination and the nature of creativity, about the places in which we live and which live inside us.

Dominique Fortier is a writer and translator, born in Quebec in 1972, defended her thesis on French literature at McGill University, worked in various publishing houses; author of five novels. Winner of the French Gens de mer Prize (Sailors' Prize) and the Governor General's Award, Canada's highest literary prize. The book "Cities on Paper" was awarded the prestigious Renaudot Prize for essays (2020).

Simone Weil. Articles and letters 1934 -1943

Compiled and translated by Peter Epifanov

The collection of selected articles and letters by Simone Weil continues the series of publications of the legacy of the French thinker, started by her "Notebooks" in four volumes (Ivan Limbakh Publishing House, 2015-2022).

The book covers the most significant and fruitful period of Weil's work, when her original worldview was formed, fusing philosophical, religious mystical, ethical, political and aesthetic ideas into one indivisible whole. From the second half of the 1930s until her untimely death, Weil became increasingly excited about the idea of a comprehensive spiritual revolution, which she calls "the true embodiment of Christianity." We are talking about a kind of "restart" of Christian civilization, without which Simone does not agree to consider the spiritual mission of the Church realized and does not see an opportunity for Europe to get rid of the deadly disease of the century — totalitarianism.

Stig Dagerman. German Autumn

Translated by Natalia Press

At the end of 1946, the Swedish newspaper Expressen commissioned writer and journalist Stig Dagerman (1923-1954) to report on life in Germany after the fall of the Third Reich. First published in Sweden in 1947, the collection of articles written for this publication was unlike any other reportage of that time. Dagerman did not succumb to hatred and told about the fate of ordinary men and women whose lives were destroyed by the war — about their guilt, but also suffering. His essays are filled with sympathy and attention to the daily hardships experienced by residents of dilapidated German cities undergoing denazification. The book has gained international recognition.

This edition includes other essays of the war and post-war period, including the essay "Our Need for Consolation Is Insatiable" - a kind of manifesto of the writer, one of his most widely read texts.

Sebastian Haffner. Defying Hitler: A Memoir

Translated by Nikita Eliseev

The memoirs of the German journalist and historian Sebastian Hafner (1907-1999), written in exile in 1939, covering the period from 1914 to 1933. The author tries to answer the question of how the events of this decade prepared the Germans to accept the Nazis government, how the multilayered socio-political soil on which the Third Reich was built was created and fertilized.

Sebastian Haffner. The Meaning of Hitler

Translated by Nikita Eliseev

"Anmerkungen zu Hitler" by the German historian Sebastian Hafner (1907-1999) is an analytical commentary on his fiction bestseller "Defying Hitler: A Memoir" (1939), written forty years later (1978). And today — forty years later-this clear and profound study of the phenomenon of the political monster has all the qualities of an absolute "must read". No wonder the historian and political scientist Golo Mann (son of Thomas Mann) called for studying "Anmerkungen zu Hitler" in high school. Understanding how and why "someone", one of the crowd, can become a popular politician and lead the crowd to crime, is of particular value in our time, which gives unlimited technological possibilities for turning personal psychosis into mass psychosis.

Simone Trider. Our Russian years (2018)

Translated by Elizaveta Golubeva

Two and a half thousand families were awakened by the Soviet military as a result of a secret operation carried out on October 22, 1946 in the Soviet zone of occupation of Germany. Just a few hours later, they boarded a train with an unknown destination. These are engineers and technicians of the aviation and machine-building industries sent to the USSR as "living reparations".

But 22-year-old student Ida is not ashamed to leave war-torn Germany for Russia, it seems rather exciting adventure.

The novel is based on the diary of the author's mother, which is complemented by the voices of other witnesses, forming a kaleidoscopic picture of the life in Russia of the children of the exported German specialists. For each of them, this experience was different, but a turning point in their biography became common to all, leaving a mark for the rest of their lives.

Werner Herzog. The Twilight world

Translated by Egor Zaitsev

The first novel (published in 2021) by German director Werner Herzog tells the amazing story of Hiroo Onoda, a Japanese soldier who defended a small island in the Philippines for twenty-nine years after the end of World War II.

In 1997, Werner Herzog worked in Tokyo on the production of the Japanese opera "Chushingura" (stories about 47 ronin). That's when he met Onoda. They met many times and talked for hours.

At the end of 1944, on Lubang Island in the Philippines, when Japanese troops were about to retreat, Lieutenant Hiroo Onoda received an order: to hold the island until the return of the imperial army. Thus began Onoda's long campaign, during which he mastered the secret language of the jungle. Weeks turned into months, months into years, and years into decades. All this time, Onoda continued to wage a fictional war, at the same time surreal and tragic, first together with other soldiers, and then alone, becoming a character in a novel of his own composition.

Herzog tells about the years of Onoda's absurd but epic struggle in an inimitable hypnotic style — documentary, poetic and partly dreamlike — that will be instantly recognized by fans of his films.bii

Maurice Blanchot. "The Most High"

Translated by Victor Lapitsky

Maurice Blanchot (1907-2003) is one of the main French writers and thinkers of the XX century. Blanchot's prose, in which, as he puts it, "thought reaches what it has not yet achieved by other means," remains (unlike his critical works) not fully clarified and requires careful reading — so, in the last five years alone, at least three full-fledged monographic studies have been published in France, entirely dedicated to his early texts and, in particular, to "The Most High".

The novel "The Most High" (1948) is the most ambitious and mysterious work of the writer. In this last of his novels, Blanchot (later he will abandon the big form for the sake of more concise speculative novels, recits) critics tend to see a variety of themes (the final victory of Absolute knowledge, the death of God, his descent into the underworld and incarnation in "no" man, the average man as the embodiment of the supreme law, the triumph of totalitarianism, dialectics absolute freedom and absolute slavery, Dasein's existential preoccupation, death as a guarantor of the literary word...) and literary paradigms (dystopia, Kafkaesque inparable, hallucinatory parabola, unreliable, or even an incapable narrator, the myth of Antigone, the reincarnation of Prince Myshkin ...), but all their reconstructions that continue to this day obviously turn out to be only reductions of a multidimensional text that is fundamentally indecomposable into speculative constructs, like life itself.

Demidov G. G. Collected works in six volumes. Volume 6. Correspondence of Varlam Shalamov and Georgy Demidov. Letters to his wife and daughter

Georgy Georgievich Demidov (1908-1987) was a physicist, a student of Landau, a prisoner of the Kolyma camps, an outstanding Russian writer, author of short stories and stories about the life of GULAG prisoners. The publishing program of the GULAG History Museum and the Memory Foundation together with the Ivan Limbakh Publishing House, with the participation of the V. I. Dahl Museum of the History of Russian Literature and the "Return" publishing house publishes a collection of works by Georgy Demidov in 6 volumes.

Hanka Grupinska. Running in a circle. Conversations with soldiers of the Warsaw ghetto. Reading names. The fate of the participants of the Uprising in the Warsaw ghetto

Translated by Svetlana Panich

The publication includes two books by the Polish Holocaust researcher Hanka Grupinska. "Running in a Circle" (1992) is a record of conversations about life and the uprising in the Warsaw ghetto in April 1943, which Hanka Grupinska had with the participants of the uprising from 1985 to 2000. This is a unique documentary material containing the oral history of the Holocaust, evidence of living memory and the fate of its witnesses.

The book opens with a conversation with Dr. Mark Edelman, the last surviving commander of the uprising, which took place in 1985 and was published in the underground Poznan magazine "Time". Conversations with other interlocutors were recorded in different cities of Poland, Israel and Canada. The author keeps the language of the characters alive, does not correct or translate, because "language sometimes, as an image, can show, not explain."

Conversations with soldiers of the Jewish Combat Organization are accompanied by voluminous illustrative material: these are archival and modern photographs of the heroes of the book, photos from the ghetto, many of which are published for the first time.

"Reading Names" (2002) is an organic addition and continuation of the first book. A collection of more than 300 biographies-epitaphs of soldiers of the Jewish Combat Organization, based on a list sent to London by the leaders of the organization in 1943. Mark Edelman, in a short and heartbreaking preface, writes: "The Warsaw ghetto has no cemetery. The bones of Jewish soldiers lie mixed with the bricks of the destroyed city. The ashes of the burned bodies mixed with the ground. There are no graves, no stone tablets. And there is no longer a person with a first and last name, with a story about who he was and how he lived." Hanka Grupinska recreates such a place of memory from words. She collects stories, or rather their crumbs, from which she reconstructs fragments of life.

Luciano Mecacci. Besprizornyye

Translated by Irina Bochenkova

Among the horrors of the twentieth century, there are not too many things to compare with the phenomenon of the "besprizornyye", as children and adolescents orphaned after the First World War and the Civil War were called in post-revolutionary Russia. In 1922, there were from six to seven million of them. Dirty, dressed in rags, they wandered alone or in groups through cities and rural areas in search of food, moved around the country, clinging to train cars, finding shelter from the cold in the basements of stations or inside garbage cans, driven by hunger to acts of aggression and violence.

The alternative to this life was state orphanages: institutions that in many ways resemble places of detention, where children lived in inhumane conditions. In the 1930s, this topic would be censored by the state, which could not allow the existence of homeless children in the "paradise" of Soviet society. In recent decades, street children have become the subject of analysis and thorough historical research. But only Luciano Mecacci managed, thanks to direct testimonies and documents of that time, many of which were studied for the first time, to present a complete reconstruction of the phenomenon from within the destinies of the main characters, the realities of whose lives today sometimes seem to be fiction.

Sorj Chalandon. Son of a rat

Translated by Natalia Mavlievich

The misadventures of an 18-year-old guy without education and convictions, a liar, a forger and a manipulator who went through the life playing. In four years he has put on five uniforms. He deserted four times from four different armies. Today he wore a swastika armband, and tomorrow he was a patriot. In December 1944, wanted by both sides, he continued to cheat. Not only former enemies, but also his own son, who became a journalist.

For a long time, his father lulled his son with stories about his exploits in the Resistance, until one day his grandfather dropped to his grandson: "Your father wore a German uniform. You are the son of a rat!"

In May 1987, when the trial of the Nazi criminal Klaus Barbie began in Lyon, the son learned that his father's court case was kept in an archive in the north of France, and gained access to police protocols and court documents.

Not one, but two trials begin at once. Barbie will have to answer for her crimes, her father for his lies. The writer questions the history of the Vichy regime, as well as the nature of the incomprehensible evil that during the war forced people to be sent to death camps dispassionately. The special sharpness of the narrative is given by the fact that this is an autobiographical novel that also affects the collective memory.

Sorj Chalandon (b. 1952) is a modern French writer and journalist, author of 10 novels. "Son of a rat" was shortlisted for the Goncourt Prize in 2021.

Eric Saden. The Age of the Tyrant Individual

Translated by Anastasia Zakharevich

Protests, demonstrations, riots, strikes; unrest, disobedience, condemnation — protest activity has never been so intense. How did we come to this? What circumstances caused such rage in life and social networks?

The reasons for the revolt are connected with deviations from liberalism, chosen as the only political model (aggravation of inequality, deterioration of working conditions, reduction of public services, political scandals...). But the violence with which humanity manifests itself now is unprecedented, because it is expressed in a new subject: the individual tyrant. Familiar from birth with the latest technological advances, having access to the Internet, smartphones and shocked by the digital revolution (applications that give the feeling that the world is at our feet, social networks in which my word is worth everything), this new person believes that he can influence the course of things. It's "I" in iPhone, it's "You" in YouTube. The world has never seen such an explosive combination: economic crises reinforce the impression of deprivation, and technology gives a sense of omnipotence. The consequences are pernicious: the destruction of social ties, trust, politics; the risk of conspiracy, violence, the threat of "totalitarianism of the crowd."

In his brilliant essay, Eric Sadin provides a tragically fair analysis of the collapse of our common world through a unique historical, political, social, economic and technical perspective. He does this to rethink the terms of the social contract that can keep us together.

Eric Sadin (b. 1973) is a French writer and philosopher, one of the leading interpreters of digital civilization. He lectures all over the world, Saden's books have been translated into several languages.

Friedrich Reck-Mallecheven. Diary of a man in despair

Translated by Albina Boyarkina

Recognized as one of the most important books about the Hitler period, it is an "amazing, compelling and frightening" (The New Yorker) portrait of life in Nazi Germany between 1936 and 1944 — authored by the man who almost shot Hitler.

Friedrich Reck-Mallecheven may seem an unlikely rebel against Nazism. An inveterate reactionary, he played the role of a landowner, condemned democracy and openly rejected the modern world. To him, the Nazis were ruthless revolutionaries, and, unable to break the spell they had cast on the German people, he felt obliged to describe the depravity of their rule.

The result is not so much a diary as a sequence of vivid and striking pictures of life in Germany in the period from 1936 to 1944. We see the Nazis at the peak of their power and the murderous panic with which they react to the approaching defeat. This fascinating book is "one of the most important documents of the Hitler period" (Hannah Arendt).

Friedrich Reck-Mallecheven (1884-1945) was a German writer and journalist. In 1944, he was arrested and placed in Dachau camp, where he died in 1945.

Peter Nadas. Golden Adele

Compiled by Vyacheslav Sereida

Peter Nadas (born 1942) is a prominent representative of modern Hungarian literature, recognized abroad, winner of numerous Hungarian and foreign prizes. His books have been translated into almost all European and many other languages.

In Russia, it became known about him relatively late. His book "The End of a Family Romance" (published in Russian in 2002), a short novel "The Bible", "The Way of Freedom" (2004) and "My Own Death" (2011) did not become events. However, the situation has changed with the publication "Books of Memories" (2014). The success was marked not only by a large number of laudatory reviews, but also by the fact that in 2015 the translator was awarded the "Master" award for the best prose translation. In the same year, Yekaterinburg University nominated the Hungarian writer for the Nobel Prize, and in 2018 the author and translator of the Book of Memories were nominated for the prestigious Yasnaya Polyana Award in the nomination "The best foreign Book published in the last ten years".

In 2022, the collection of the writer's short prose "Journey around the Wild Pear" was included in the short list of this award in the nomination "Foreign Literature".

The book contains texts by Peter Nadash about literature and art. It includes reflections on the importance of writing, essays about the theater (an exceptional analysis of the performance of the Taganka Theater "Hamlet" or the dance theater of Pina Bausch), about photography and fine art, as well as texts about writers (Gogol, Camus, Nabokov, Solzhenitsyn, Kertek).

Lutz Bassman. Black Village (2021)

Translated by Victor Lapitsky

Two men and a woman in rags, who barely know each other, travel in the darkness that has come after their death. The road is endless and monotonous. They must learn to coexist in this hopeless world, where they face not only darkness — time here is stretched, then compressed, but, above all, interrupted. To map out the landmarks in traveling, they tell each other stories. But whatever the content of these stories — thrilling adventures, violence, revenge, dreams, criminal missions, fantastic research — they are interrupted in the middle of the action. Images are born, plots flare up, but suddenly a mysterious force intervenes and ruthlessly destroys the narrative. Darkness falls again.

The heroes continue their long journey, not knowing if they will ever die, whether their death will happen in the blink of an eye or will last a thousand years.

Lutz Bassman, who was born in 1952 in Eglav (Latvia) and has been serving a life sentence since 1990, is one of the post-exotic alter egos of the French writer Antoine Volodine. Mentioned at first as the hero of one of the works (the author of the texts attributed to him), he soon became an independent writer, publishing a number of works of different genres — from novels to spells and fairy tales.

Lea Singer. The Piano Learner (2019)

The novel tells about the relationship between Vladimir Horowitz and his student Niko Kaufman. The novel is based on their correspondence, which fell into the hands of a researcher in the early 2010s. Scrupulously reconstructing the events of two Parisian years (1937-1939), Singer shows that being a piano student is much more difficult than being a magician's student.

The frame of the narrative is formed by a detective plot that confronts an elderly Kaufman, who has long fallen into obscurity, and an ideal stranger, a fictitious suicide. The stars of the Mann family, Jean Cocteau, actors Gustaf Grundgens and Ramon Novarro, choreographer Harald Kratzberg, cellist Francesco von Mendelssohn, Sergei spreukle and set Rachmaninoff and many others, forming a sparkling background of Europe feasting in anticipation of the plague.

Lea Singer is the pseudonym of literary critic and musicologist, candidate of cultural Studies Eva Gesina Baur (b. 1960), under which she publishes works of fiction, the plots of which are mainly related to the history of music.

