

Rassegna stampa da S. Pietroburgo

Inaugurazione lapide a Levashovo dedicata alle vittime italiane dello stalinismo, 29 giugno 2007

http://sptimes.ru/index.php?action_id=2&story_id=22173&highlight=levashovo

Italy's Gulag Victims Get Memorial

By Galina Stolyarova

Staff Writer

Luciana De Marchi was 13 when her father — Italian filmmaker Gino, a communist living in Moscow — was arrested by the Soviet secret police and disappeared without a trace. That was in 1937. The daughter, who has since invested determination, courage and resilience into finding the truth, traveled to St. Petersburg on Friday with Italian politicians and other descendants of Italian victims of Stalin's purges to open a monument commemorating relatives and compatriots who perished in the Gulag. The monument was unveiled Friday at the **Levashovo Memorial Cemetery** northwest of the city.



Alexander Belenky / The St. Petersburg Times

The Italian Gulag victims' memorial was dedicated at a ceremony on Friday.

When De Marchi finished a speech delivered in Italian at the opening ceremony, Russians in the audience gestured to an interpreter that her words needed no translation.

“This land holds people of many nationalities; like my father, they were innocent victims,” she said. “It exudes one message, a call to confront terror and embrace love — not in the egoistic but the humane sense of the word.”

The abstract monument — a chunk of dark granite engraved with dedications and an olive branch — was installed with support of the Italian Culture Institute in St. Petersburg and the Italian non-governmental organization Garden of the Righteous.

Levashovo, formerly a secret burial site for victims of political repressions of the Stalin's era, was discovered by activists from local human rights group “Memorial” in 1989 and later became a memorial cemetery. It takes up over eleven hectares and is believed to contain over 20,000 bodies.

“The first trucks containing victims arrived here in the summer of 1937, and for nearly fifty years nobody — not even residents of nearby villages — knew what was happening behind its high fences,” said Anatoly Razumov, head of St. Petersburg-based Center for the Recovered Names. “Sometimes up to 800 people were shot in a single night.”

Photographs of victims of the Gulag are attached to trees around the cemetery.

Nobody knows the exact location of the bodies of their relatives — when the pictures are placed or a monument is installed, people are guided by intuition.

“Some of these people were prosecuted purely on the grounds of their non-Russian nationality, others were killed because they dared to disagree with the ruling regime, believed in other ideals than Communism, or challenged the terror that had engulfed the country,” Razumov said.

In the first half of the 20th Century the Italian community in Russia numbered 4,000 people. Between 1919 and 1951 more than 1,020 of them perished in purges.

Among those shot by the regime were amateur theater director Robert Barbetti, electrician Anton Lonzar, legal advisor Jan Maletti and Victor Marchesetti, a researcher with the Russian National Library.

The fate of many victims still remains obscure even to their closest relatives.

“There were many decades of lies: we were told that Gino was sent into exile, then that he died of peritonitis,” De Marchi said. “It was not until several years ago that I discovered he was shot by the NKVD [1930s-era secret police].”

Italian politician and national secretary of Italy’s Left Democrats Piero Fassino compared the opening ceremony with the lifting of a thick cloud of hypocrisy which for many decades covered shameful parts of Russian history.

“Stalin’s repressions were the most brutal manifestation of the Communist regime, with its deeply flawed dictatorial philosophy of creating a just and equal society without liberty,” he said. “Equality and justice can exist only in a free society. No state that oppresses freedoms and liberties has the slightest chance of building a system of social justice.”

Fassino’s words echoes criticism that today’s Kremlin draws from liberal politicians and human rights advocates.

No officials representing City Hall spoke at the ceremony. Vice-governor Lyudmila Kostkina, who had been scheduled to attend the event, did not turn up but sent a wreath.

Fassino said that among those persecuted in Russia were 300 Italian Communists who fled their native land deluded by their belief in Soviet Communism, only to swap Italian fascism for another tragedy.

“What was especially tragic is that the Italian communists suffered much more from their own comrades who betrayed them or did not have enough courage to fight for them than from the Soviet secret police. Gino De Marchi was arrested after a report — containing false accusations — by someone he once regarded as his close ally. We are here to say we will remember the bitter lesson.”

Is modern Russia really willing to learn from its history?

For the people to develop an immunity against a totalitarian regime, they have to understand it. This understanding is lacking in the country.

Despite Russia’s bloody history and the Bolshevik legacy, there is still no museum of the Gulag in the country. The nation’s only Gulag museum is a remote, former prison camp in the Perm region. Several controversial paragraphs in a history textbook is all that tell the country’s schoolchildren about Gulags. As Russia’s human rights advocates put it, “it is very often in Russia that what is supposed to be a book of remembrance turns out as a KGB achievements report.”

Many exhibitions on Stalin’s rule tend to touch on the mechanisms of the death machine and totalitarian regime, rather than on human stories. But only a human story can give you an understanding of what was going on, said Irina Flige of the historical branch of the St. Petersburg human rights group Memorial.

“The stories have to be as personal and human as possible,” she said. “It is all for the people to sense the connection, and it is all for them to develop a desire to stand up against terror in their own lives.”

“Acknowledging crimes of the regime is not a humiliation for a nation but a sign of commitment to democracy and political maturity,” said Vittorio Claudio Surdo, the Italian ambassador to Russia. “We have done it in Italy when we condemned the hostilities of the Mussolini regime. Every year, on 27 January, on the Holocaust Memorial Day, in all Italian schools we hold lectures about the persecutions of the regime.”

Stalin’s era still causes a mixed reaction in many Russians.

Russia’s head of state, Vladimir Putin, a former KGB officer himself, once publicly likened Stalin to the Central Asian despot Tamerlane. Conceding that Stalin was a dictator, Putin often repeats that Stalin’s role in defeating Nazi Germany was instrumental and should not be ignored.

This year's poll by the All-Russian Center for Public Opinion Research shows that every third St. Petersburg resident believes that Stalin played a positive role in history. Almost as many said his role was negative.

Italian essayist Gabriele Nissim, the founder of the nongovernmental Garden of the Righteous in Milan, feels reminding the people is essential.

“Every reminder about the purges of totalitarian regimes — be it a written, oral or visual story — helps building an immunity against totalitarianism and boosts democratic developments in Europe, where Russia is an integral part,” Nissim said at the opening ceremony. “Those rushing to hush these memories up very fast, are in most cases driven not by the desire to reconcile with the past or create a new political movement but by an ambition to completely untie their hands without devoting much thought to human rights.”

1. <http://www.fontanka.ru/2007/06/26/107/>

Сегодня вспоминают итальянских жертв ГУЛАГа

29/06/2007 08:30

Сегодня состоятся мероприятия городов-побратимов Санкт-Петербурга и Милана по увековечению памяти итальянских жертв ГУЛАГа.

Как сообщает «Фонтанке» пресс-служба РНБ, в 13 часов откроется памятник на Левашовском мемориальном кладбище. Авторы памятника – архитектор Российской национальной библиотеки Александр Бакусов и скульптор Борис Петров.

В церемонии примут участие чрезвычайный и полномочный посол Италии Витторио Клаудио Сурдо, вице-мэр Милана Андреа Маскаретти, представители администрации Санкт-Петербурга, родственники репрессированных. На площади у музея на кладбище будут подняты флаги России, Италии, Санкт-Петербурга, Милана. Возле памятника произойдет символическая посадка двух деревьев.

В 19 часов в Шереметьевском дворце будет дан русско-итальянский концерт «Памяти жертв тоталитаризма».

Giornale internat FONTANKA

Oggi ricordano le vittime italiane di GULAG

Oggi avranno luogo gli eventi tenuti dalle città gemellate Milano e San Pietroburgo per commemorare le vittime italiane del Gulag.

Alle ore 13 avrà luogo l'inaugurazione del monumento al cimitero Levashovskoe. Gli autori del monumento: architetto della Biblioteca Nazionale Aleksandr Bakusov e scultore Boris Petrov.

Alla cerimonia partecipano l'ambasciatore straordinario plenipotenziario Vittorio Claudio Surdo, vice sindaco di Milano Andrea Mascaretti, rappresentanti dell'Amministrazione di San Pietroburgo, i parenti dei repressi. Nel piazzale vicino al museo saranno alzati le bandiere di Russia, Italia, San Pietroburgo, Milano. Vicino al monumento saranno piantati due alberi.

Alle 19 nel palazzo Sheremetievskij avrà luogo il concerto russo-italiano "Alla memoria delle vittime di totalitarismo".

2. http://www.nlr.ru/news/vid_news.php?id=697

Notizie della biblioteca Nazionale Russa

28.06.2007

Памяти итальянских жертв ГУЛАГа

29 июня 2007 года пройдут мероприятия по увековечению памяти итальянских жертв ГУЛАГа, в которых примут участие города-побратимы Санкт-Петербург и Милан.

В 13:00 на Левашовском мемориальном кладбище состоится открытие памятника итальянским жертвам ГУЛАГа. Авторы монумента – архитектор Российской национальной библиотеки Александр Бакусов и скульптор Борис Петров.

В церемонии примут участие чрезвычайный и полномочный посол Италии Витторио Клаудио Сурдо, известный политический деятель Пьеро Фассино, вице-мэр Милана Андреа Маскаретти, представители Администрации Санкт-Петербурга, родственники репрессированных. На площади у музея на кладбище будут подняты флаги России, Италии, Санкт-Петербурга, Милана. Возле памятника произойдет символическая посадка двух деревьев.

В 19:00 в Шереметьевском дворце (Зеркальный зал) будет дан русско-итальянский концерт «Памяти жертв тоталитаризма». В концерте примут участие итальянские примы Кьяра Таиджи (сопрано), Анна Мария Киури (меццо-сопрано), народный артист Армении Барсег Туманян (бас), заслуженная артистка России Мария Сафарьянц.

Организаторами мероприятий выступают Администрация Санкт-Петербурга, Мэрия Милана, Генеральное консульство Италии в Санкт-Петербурге, комитет Милана «Сад праведников» и центр «Возвращенные имена» при Российской национальной библиотеке.

Контактные телефоны:

(812)718-80-57 Франческо Бигацци – атташе по культуре и прессе Генерального консульства Италии.

(812)718-86-18 Анатолий Разумов - руководитель центра «Возвращенные имена» при Российской национальной библиотеке.

29 giugno 2007 avrà luogo la cerimonia delle città gemellate Milano e San Pietroburgo per commemorare le vittime italiane del Gulag.

Alle ore 13 avra' luogo l'inaugurazione del monumento al cimitero Levashovskoe. Gli autori del monumento: architetto della Biblioteca Nazionale Aleksandr Bakusov e scultore Boris Petrov.

Alla cerimonia partecipano l'ambasciatore straordinario plenipotenziario Vittorio Claudio Surdo, vice sindaco di Milano Andrea Mascaretti, rappresentanti dell'Amministrazione di San Pietroburgo, i parenti dei repressi. Nel piazzale vicino al museo saranno alzati le bandiere di Russia, Italia, San Pietroburgo, Milano. Vicino al monumento saranno piantati due alberi.

Alle 19 nel palazzo Sheremetievskij (Sala degli Specchi) avra' luogo il concerto russo-italiano "Alla memoria delle vittime di totalitarismo". Al concerto partecipano Chiara Taigi (soprano), Anna Maria Chiuri (mezzo-soprano), artista benemerito popolare di Armenia Barseg Tumanyan (basso), artista benemerita di Russia Maria Safariants.

Gli organizzatori degli eventi: Amministrazione di San Pietroburgo, Consolato Generale d'Italia a San Pietroburgo, Comitato di Milano "Foresta dei giusti", centro "Nomi ritrovati" presso la biblioteca Nazionale

Contatti:

812)718-80-57 Francesco Bigazzi – addetto di cultura e stampa del Consolato Generale d'Italia

(812)718-86-18 Anatolij Razumov

3. <http://www.kvs.spb.ru/ru/news/news/2007/07/03/gulag/>

Notizie del Comitato per le relazioni esterne del Governo di San Pietroburgo

Церемония открытия памятника итальянским жертвам ГУЛАГа

03 Июля 2007



29 июня 2007 года на Левашовском мемориальном кладбище состоялась церемония открытия памятника итальянским жертвам ГУЛАГа. Авторы памятника – архитектор А. Бакусов и скульптор Б. Петров.

В церемонии приняли участие, в частности с итальянской стороны: Посол Италии в РФ В.К. Сурдо, вице-мэр г. Милана А. Маскаретти, депутат парламента Итальянской Республики (национальный секретарь партии «Левые демократы») П. Фассино, основатель комитета «Сад праведников» (Милан) Г. Ниссим, дочь расстрелянного в Москве политэмигранта Джино Де Марки Лучана Де Марки; с российской стороны: председатель Комитета по труду и социальной защите А.Н. Ржаненков, председатель СПб Ассоциации жертв необоснованных репрессий Л. Барташевич, председатель Международного общества «Мемориал», член Комиссии по реабилитации жертв политических репрессий при Президенте РФ А. Рогинский, руководитель Центра «Возвращенные имена» при Российской национальной библиотеке (Санкт-Петербург) А. Разумов, представители общественности и СМИ.

Церемония сопровождалась пением хора «Благовест». После открытия памятника состоялось возложение венков и символическая посадка деревьев возле памятника.

Вечером в Шереметьевском дворце был дан русско-итальянский концерт «Памяти жертв тоталитаризма».

архив за [03.07.2007](#).

архив за [07.2007](#).

архив за [2007 год](#).

Cerimonia dell'inaugurazione del monumento alle vittime italiane del GULAG 03 luglio 2007

29 giugno 2007 ha avuto luogo la cerimonia dell'inaugurazione del monumento alle vittime italiane del GULAG sul cimitero di Levashovo. Gli autori del monumento: architetto della Biblioteca Nazionale Aleksandr Bakusov e scultore Boris Petrov. Alla cerimonia hanno partecipato dalla parte italiana: partecipano l'ambasciatore straordinario plenipotenziario Vittorio Claudio Surdo, vice sindaco di Milano Andrea Mascaretti, On. Fassino (segretario nazionale del partito "Democratici della sinistra"), fondatore del Comitato "Foresta dei Giusti" Gabriele Nissim, la figlia del fucilato a Mosca emigrante politico Gino De Marchi Luciana De Marchi; dalla parte russa: presidente del Comitato per il lavoro e protezione sociale A.N. Rzanenkov, presidente dell'Associazione delle vittime delle repressioni ingiustificate di San Pietroburgo L. Bartashevic, presidente dell'Associazione Memorial, membro della Commissione per la riabilitazione delle vittime delle repressioni presso il Presidente della Federazione Russa A. Roghinskij, direttore del centro "Nomi ritrovati" presso la Biblioteca nazionale russa (San Pietroburgo) A. Razumov, rappresentanti di mass media, pubblico.

Durante la cerimonia cantava il coro "Blagovest". Dopo dell'inaugurazione ha avuto luogo la deposizione delle corone di fiori e sono stati piantati due alberi.

Di sera a Palazzo Sheremetyev ha avuto luogo il concerto italiano-russo "Alla memoria delle vittime di totalitarismo".