Reference Books of 2012–2013: A Selection

Laurence H. Miller

Slavic and east European specialists at the University of Illinois Library at Urbana-Champaign have contributed to this annual column. This year's contributors are Jan Adamczyk, Urszula Biegaj Lechtenberg, Kit Condill, Sveta Stoytcheva, Helen Sullivan, Dmitry Tartakovsky, and Laurence Miller.

General

Leksikon iuzhnoslavianskikh literatur. Ed. G. Ia. Il'ina. Moscow: Indrik, 2012. 589 pp.

This volume contains medium-length signed articles by Russian literary scholars on notable writers from Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, and Slovenia, as well as longer articles on futurism, modernism (two articles), postmodernism, realism, and South Slavic national revivals. It covers the time period from the beginning of each national literature to the twentieth and early twenty-first centuries. Authors working mainly in non-Slavic languages (one exception being the Croatian Latinist Marko Marulič) do not seem to be included. The volume is arranged alphabetically by author, and a useful personal-name index is included. Each entry includes the author's dates and places of birth and death, as well as alternative forms of each name and brief bibliographical references. Finally, a glossary of relevant terms, abbreviations, and a short bibliography for further reading are included. The five-page bibliography is limited to works in Russian and South Slavic languages.—SS

Bulgaria

Ideografiski dialekten rechnik na bŭlgarskiia ezik. Chief ed. V. Radeva. Sofia: Bŭlgarski bestselur—Natsionalen muzei na bŭlgarskata kniga i poligrafiia, 2012. Vol. 1, *A–D.* 1,055 pp.

This major dialect dictionary, arranged alphabetically, contains an entry for each lexeme in the Bulgarian literary language for which at least one dialectal variant has been identified. Each entry includes the definition of the term and phonetic transcriptions of all known dialectal variants; the variants are arranged according to how much they differ from the literary lexeme, with the closest variant listed first. Each variant is followed by a list of geographical regions in which it is used; also noted are variants with a different grammatical gender than the main entry. Finally, this volume contains a detailed description of the structure of the dictionary, a list of sources, and an eight-page selective bibliography.—SS

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Croatia

Leksikon hrvatskih književnih kritičara. Project leader Krešimir Bagič. Ed. Marina Madarevič et al. Biblioteka vocabula. Zagreb: AGM, 2012. 155 pp.

Twenty-three advanced literature students at the University of Zagreb wrote (and four of them edited) the 101 bio-bibliographical articles for this compact paperback dictionary of Croatian literary critics of all periods. The work includes a separate five-page selective bibliography.—LM

Czech Republic

Biografický slovník poslanců moravského zemského sněmu v letech 1861–1918. By Jiří Malíř et al. Brno: Centrum pro studium demokracie a kultury, 2012. 887 pp.

In an attempt to define the political elite of Moravia as it existed before and influenced the subsequent government of the first Czechoslovak Republic, eight historians predominantly associated with Masaryk University produced this comprehensive biographical dictionary of the deputies of the Moravian Provincial Parliament from 1861 to 1918. Arranged alphabetically, the signed articles focus on each individual's activity as a deputy and include detailed archival and bibliographical references. Jiří Malíř contributes a 50-page historical introduction accompanied by tables and diagrams. The end matter includes lists of all archival and other primary sources and contemporary periodicals. Two pages of historical genealogical Internet sites are listed, and the bibliography of secondary works has 2,012 citations.—LM

Brněnští podnikatelé a jejich podniky, 1764–1948: Encyclopedie podnikatelů a jejich rodin. By Bohumír Smutný. Brno: Statutární město Brno; Archiv města Brna, 2012. 518 pp.

This exhaustive historical encyclopedia of Brno entrepreneurs and their businesses is illustrated with trademarks, logos, and advertisements reproduced mainly from city directories. Although the work focuses on the founders of businesses and their descendants, no portraits are included. Because many of the subjects were Jewish, extensive research was done in Holocaust sources in addition to the Brno archives. Indexes by type of industry, trademarks, and company names are part of the scholarly apparatus of this impressive reference work.—LM

Kazakhstan

Qazaqstannyng geografiialyq atlasy. Ed. Kūlzada Ysqaqova et al. Almaty: Atamūra, 2013. 103 pp.

Issued as part of the Kazakh government's "Strategy 2050" program for Kazakhstan's economic development, this Kazakh-language atlas is also being published in Russian-, English-, and Turkish-language editions. While neither as large nor as lavishly

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produced as its massive 2011 counterpart (Feoriia's *Bol'shoi atlas Kazakhstana*), many aspects of Kazakh geography, broadly defined, are covered. The quality of the maps and (especially) the illustrations is variable, but some are of a very high resolution. Double-page spreads are devoted to Kazakhstan's fourteen provinces, with four pages on the cities of Astana and Almaty (pp. 62–93). In contrast to some other atlases, the borders of the *audandar* (districts) within each of the above are clearly delineated. Information about the climate, economy, tourist attractions, famous residents, and similar facts about each province are included. Other double-page maps with text and illustrations are devoted to Kazakh prehistory, famous travelers and scientific expeditions in Kazakhstan, and native animal species, as well as the usual topics, such as climate, vegetation, land use, and distribution of ethnic groups. Some serious environmental issues in Kazakhstan, including the radiation-polluted Semei (Semipalatinsk) nuclear test site and the shrinkage of the Aral Sea, are treated directly (pp. 96–99). Presumably due to the atlas's "geographic" focus, little of Kazakhstan's political history (shifting borders, invading empires, and the like) is reflected here. The atlas is based on the work of the Kazakh state land survey and published under the auspices of the Kazakh Ministry of Education and Science.—KC

Poland

Bibliografia KL Auschwitz za lata 1981–2006. By Jadwiga Badowska-Buczak. Oświęcim: Państwowe Muzeum Auschwitz-Birkenau, 2012. 680 pp.

This work is a continuation of several previous bibliographic efforts on the history of the Auschwitz concentration camp, most prominently the five-volume work by Jerzy Lukowski published in 1968–70, *Bibliografia obozu koncentracyjnego Oświęcim-Brzezinka za lata 1945–1969*, and the bibliography by Anna Malcówna, published in 1991, *Bibliografia KL Auschwitz za lata 1942–1980*. The current work fills in an important gap in works published since 1981. Since the literature on Auschwitz is vast, the author narrows the work's scope to publications published in Poland (regardless of language) and works published abroad in Polish. The bibliography is divided into six thematic parts, each with several subparts. The first, most general part includes bibliographies, encyclopedias, dictionaries, and periodicals. The second part covers works on the Holocaust in general; works devoted exclusively to Auschwitz; and memoirs and biographies of prisoners, as well as those of the SS guards. This part also lists works of all genres of literature on the subject. The third part focuses on legal matters: pursuit and trials of the camp guards, as well as Holocaust denial literature. Part four focuses on the Auschwitz-Birkenau Memorial and State Museum and includes publications on the museum's activities, guides to the exhibits, and conservation issues. Part five focuses on Auschwitz controversies, such as the size of the buffer (protection) zone surrounding the site, the number of victims, and the symbolism of the site. The final chapter treats the broadly understood memory of the camp, including the work of various institutions, societies, and foundations; conference proceedings; works on Holocaust education; and theological and philosophical works. The materials for the bibliography were collected from the holdings of major Polish libraries, as well as a number of regional libraries, private collections, and national and regional bibliographies. Most of the items were examined de visu; those that are cited from secondary sources are marked with asterisks. The arrangement within each section is alphabetical by author. Entries are accompanied by subject headings, and cross-references are provided for works translated into other languages. The book includes

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an index of personal names. It is an important addition to the rich bibliographic literature on the Auschwitz concentration camps.—JA

Literatura Polska w Izraelu: Leksykon. By Karolina Famulska-Ciesielska and Sławomir Jacek Żurek. Kraków: Wydawnictwo Austeria, 2012. 194 pp.

As the compilers of this biographical dictionary discuss in their introduction, Polish Jews made up the majority of immigrants to the newly formed nation of Israel in the late 1940s and 1950s. Although they now lived in another country, many continued to write in and speak Polish. *Literatura Polska w Izraelu* highlights many of the writers who continued to publish their works in Polish. Above all, the compilers are interested in writers living in Israel who wrote, or still write, in the Polish language. This consists of authors of original literary and other, nonfiction works, including literary criticism and memoirs, as well as translators and publishers. The compilers included only authors for whom they could find enough information to write a substantial entry. The biographical dictionary is arranged alphabetically, and each entry ends with bibliographical references. There is an index of personal names. Some portraits are included and are separately indexed.—UL

Romania

Enciclopedia personalităţilor feminine din România. By George Marcu and Rodica Ilinca. Bucharest: Editura Meronia, 2012. 615 pp.

George Marcu, who previously edited an encyclopedia of men in Romanian history with historian Florin Constantiniu in 2011, has teamed up with Bucharest history professor Rodica Ilinca to compile this encyclopedia of women in Romanian history and culture. An introductory discussion of the evolution of women's status in Romanian society is followed by two main sections of alphabetically arranged entries for notable Romanian women. The first part is historical and the second deals with contemporary society, defined as women still living at the time of publication. Each section is followed by several color plates of photographs or paintings of many of the women described. All the entries are written and signed by the editors with no references to sources. The tone is quite academic, and some women from minority groups are included, such as Jewish communist Ana Pauker. Several supplements are appended, including women in the Romanian government, parliament, the Academy of Sciences, and the European Parliament. The last sections are a select eight-page bibliography and a table of contents. There is no index.—DT

Russia

Beringovo more: Entsiklopediia. By I. S. Zonn, A. G. Kostianoi, and M. I. Kumantsov. Moscow: Mezhdunarodnye otnosheniia, 2012. 258 pp.

For those familiar with the history of Russian encyclopedias, "Bering Sea" may recall the four-page insert, largely consisting of photographs of that sea, sent by the publisher to subscribers to the second edition of the *Large Soviet Encyclopedia* in 1954 to

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physically replace the article on the disgraced Lavrentii Beriia. The present work is one of a series of reference works with general articles about Russia's seas, including the Chukchi Sea (see below). Nineteen, mainly Russian, websites are listed following a 63-item bibliography that includes three titles in English. A chronology from 1562 to 2012 is included. A few portraits (including one of Jack London) accompany the biographical articles.—LM

Chukotskoe more: Entsiklopediia. By I. S. Zonn. Moscow: Mezhdunarodnye otnosheniia, 2013. 170 pp.

This brief encyclopedia covers the Chukchi Sea, part of the Arctic Ocean in the Russian north. The volume covers a wide range of topics: ethnographic, historical, geographic, international, economic, and hydrological. The 500 entries are organized alphabetically by topic. The entries are not signed and there is only a brief bibliography. Nor is there a detailed map of the region. However, there is a timeline, beginning in 1638, of the significant events in the development of the Chukchi lands. There are entries on various explorers and on the fauna and physical features of the region. The bibliography lists four websites—all western or of western origin and quite general (Wikimapia and Wikipedia being two of the four), which would indicate that the volume was intended to provide a compact overview of the area for general use.—HS

Filosofskoe soderzhanie zhurnalov russkogo zarubezh'ia (1918–1939 gg.). By A. A. Ermichev. St. Petersburg: Izdatel'stvo RKhGA, 2012. 350 pp.

This is an index of philosophical articles appearing in Russian émigré publications between 1918 and 1939. The volume complements other bibliographic publications sponsored by the Russkaia khristianskaia gumanitarnaia akademiia, such as *Filosofskoe soderzhanie russkikh zhurnalov nachala XX veka*, which indexes philosophical studies published in Russian journals in Russia. For this volume the compilers have surveyed scholarly Russian émigré publications, religious journals, and pedagogical and literary and social publications, as well as "Eurasian publications." There are also articles that appeared in bibliographic publications of the time such as *Russkaia kniga* and *Russkaia zarubezhnaia kniga*. There are more than 3,700 entries, all easily accessible via the subject and personal name indexes.—HS

Frants Kafka v russkoi kulture. By A. O. Filippov-Chekhov. Moscow: Tsentr knigi Rudomino, 2012. 542 pp.

The bibliographical section of this scholarly work has international coverage of 157 Russian translations of Franz Kafka, including six audiobooks as well as twenty-eight Russian monographs, collections, and dissertation abstracts about Kafka arranged by year from 1964 to 2010. The remaining 1,415 bibliographic entries refer to journal and newspaper articles and parts of books containing Kafka references or criticism in Russian. Indexes of translations, original titles, translators, personal names, and a list of items on Kafka in Russian cinema and theater are part of the auxiliary apparatus. About half of the book consists of supplements, including selections of texts reflecting "Russian motifs of Franz Kafka," unpublished Russian translations, Kafka in Russian poetry, Kafka in Russian diaries and correspondence, and Kafka in Russian artists' illustrations. There are twenty-three pages of plates and a separate index of personal names appearing in the supplements.—LM

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Izobrazitel'noe i prikladnoe iskusstvo: Ukazatel' bibliograficheskikh posobii 1789–2007 gg. By O. S. Ostroi and I. Kh. Saksonova. St. Petersburg: Rossiiskaia natsional'naia biblioteka, 2012. 790 pp.

This comprehensive bibliography of bibliographies by two senior art specialists at the National Library of Russia, Ol'ga Ostroi and Inna Saksonova, includes 4,085 carefully annotated entries for Russian-language bibliographies published as books or parts of books or articles. The book is a worthy complement to the authors' magisterial 900-page 2002 work of the same title, which covers nonbibliographic reference works on Russian art. It supersedes Ostroi's 1969 work, also of the same title, which has served for more than forty years as the standard guide to Russian bibliographies on Russian art. The entries are arranged by subject, and there is a personal-name index and an index by art museum.—LM

Literatura o M. Iu. Lermontove 2002–2006: Bibliograficheskii ukazatel'. Comp. N. S. Beliaev. St. Petersburg: BAN, 2012. 321 pp.

N. S. Beliaev has succeeded O. V. Miller as compiler of the series of standard scholarly bibliographies of Lermontov criticism produced by the Russian Academy of Sciences Library and the Institute of Russian Literature. Previous volumes covering 1825–2001 appeared in 1980, 1990, 2003, and 2007. The entries for books and periodical articles are arranged by year of publication, with complete bibliographic citations, contents notes, and brief annotations. There is a subject-thematic index, an index of personal names, and an index of individual works by Mikhail Lermontov. The print run is 100 copies.—LM

Materialy k "Russkomu provintsial'nomu nekropoliu" Velikogo Kniazia Nikolaia Mikhailovicha. By D. N. Shilov, St. Petersburg: "Dmitrii Bulanin," 2012. Vol. 1, *Gubernii Astrakhanskaia, Viatskaia Nizhegorodskaia, Samarskaia, Saratovskaia i Simbirskaia.* 1,032 pp.

Russkii provintsial'nyi nekropol' was originally a project of the grand duke Nikolai Mikhailovich between 1909 and 1912. Clergy of all religions described tens of thousands of gravestones in the territory of the Russian empire. It was only possible to publish a portion of the data in the original 1914 edition. This volume begins the publication of the long-awaited, unpublished data gathered for this project, with the materials for six of the provinces of the Volga region. All of the information in this volume was taken from the archives of the Russian State Historical Archive (RGIA) in St. Petersburg, the State Literary Museum (GLM) in Moscow, and the Russian State Archives of Ancient Acts (RGADA). The information is of interest to genealogists, biographers, historians, and many other scholars. Individuals from all levels of society are included here, from the nobility to the peasantry. The volume's arrangement follows the geographic and administrative organization of imperial Russia, with major sections for each province, subdivided by *uezd*—the lowest of the administrative regions. Researchers will find lists of those interred in the cemeteries of the smallest villages. All archival references are included. The entries by and large include full names and birth and death dates when available. Some information on profession and lineage is also available. Where lengthier inscriptions existed, they have been included. Entries for the Catholic and Armenian cemeteries of Astrakhan and the Muslim cemetery in Viatska gubernia are in this volume. For those researching a specific individual or family, there is an extensive index to the more than 11,600 names in this first volume. There are also indexes of place names and monastery names.—HS

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Nikolai Aleksandrovich Rubakin, 1862–1946: Biobibliograficheskii ukazatel'. Comp. T. Ia. Briskman. Moscow: Pashkov dom, 2012. 226 pp.

Published by the Russian State Library on the 150th anniversary of Nicholai Rubakin's birth and the opening of the Rumiantsev Museum, this bibliography covers Russian works by and about the noted bibliographer, bibliopsychologist, and librarian, as well as his famous Russian library in Switzerland. Some 1,256 entries are divided into two parts. Works by Rubakin are arranged chronologically, followed by Rubakin criticism arranged thematically. The book is indexed mainly by titles and personal names.—LM

Sovetskii khudozhestvennyi avangard: Inskripty knizhnogo sobraniia RGALI. By L. Ia. Dvornikova. Moscow: Tsentr knigi Rudomino, 2012. Vol. 1. 184 pp.

The Russian State Archive of Literature and Art (RGALI) has published many excellent guides to its vast collection. Most of those have taken the form of archival descriptions of the various *fondy* in the archives. This 184-page volume looks at a specific subset of materials in the collection: the signed published materials in the collections. While it is an interesting and valuable set of materials, the volume has received some scathing criticism, such as the review by P. A. Druzhinin published in *NLO* (no. 21 [2013], at magazines.russ.ru/nlo/2013/121/35d-pr.html [last accessed 9 May 2014]). Druzhinin found any number of errors in the volume, and his general conclusion is that it is not a careful assessment of the collection it sets out to describe. One of his most serious criticisms is that there are frequent errors in the transcriptions of the signatures and inscriptions being described, in some cases appearing alongside the images of those same inscriptions. This cannot help but lead one to wonder about the accuracy of the other, approximately 1,600 entries While Druzhinin also found fault with the arrangement of the volume (and even the title), there is an excellent index of the names and pseudonyms at the end of the volume. Many of the entries are inscriptions on materials given to Russia's most prominent writers and artists, such as Boris Pasternak, Vsevolod Meyerhold, and Sergei Eisenstein. The authors of the inscriptions and the signed works are often the *avangard* the title describes. The user will have to proceed with some care, as the volume clearly contains numerous errors.—HS

Trudy Instituta mirovoi literatury im. A. M. Gor'kogo RAN: Bibliograficheskii ukazatel' 2001–2010. Comp. E.D. Lebedeva. Moscow: IMLI RAN, 2012. 341 pp.

This work continues the basic 2002 bibliography of works issued by the Gor'kii Institute of World Literature from 1939 to 2000. Arranged chronologically are complete descriptions and contents listings for 468 volumes, along with citations to reviews of the books. A supplement includes additional book reviews of works listed in the earlier volume. There is a comprehensive index of personal names and titles of collections.—LM

VChK, 1917–1922: Entsiklopediia. By A. M. Plekhanov and A. A. Plekhanov. Moscow: Veche, 2013. 509 pp.

The authors compiled this encyclopedic volume for the Society for the Study of Fatherland Special Services, perhaps better translated into American English as "clandestine services." This volume deals with the VChK, the All-Russian Extraordinary Commission for Combating Counter-Revolution and Sabotage on behalf of the Russian

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Soviet Federative Socialist Republic which existed for more than four years during the course of the Russian Civil War, 1918–21. The authors begin the volume with a lengthy introduction that discusses the historical problems surrounding the founding and functioning of the agency. The encyclopedia's alphabetically arranged entries constitute the bulk of the text. They deal with the agency's members, its arrested victims, institutional organs, documents, historical events, and concepts. Entries for most people often include photos. Biographies for major personalities like Vladimir Lenin, Iosif Stalin, Lev Trotskii, and Feliks Dzerzhinskii focus on their contacts with VChK. None of the entries are referenced; however, there is a short bibliography at the end. This is followed by a glossary of abbreviations, general index of personal and place names, and a table of contents.—DT

Tajikistan

Entsiklopediia kino Tadzhikistana. By Galina Ėl′baum and Sa″dullo Rakhimov. Dushanbe: "ĖR-graf," 2012. 394 pp.

This Russian-language encyclopedia is an excellent reference resource for all aspects of Tajik cinema, beginning with the 1929 documentary films, *The Arrival of the First Train in Dushanbe* and *The Third Extraordinary Congress of Soviets of Tajikistan*, that marked its birth, and ending in 2012. The bulk of the encyclopedia (nearly 200 pages) is taken up by individual entries for people (actors, directors, producers, screenwriters, cinematographers, composers, and others) and, to a lesser extent, events and institutions (film festivals, film studios) that have a direct connection to Tajik cinema. While none of the entries include bibliographical notes, extensive filmographies are included in all entries for individual persons, along with a wealth of detail about their lives, careers, and awards. About 500 personalities whose connections to Tajik cinema were not as long-lasting (including a number of post-independence figures whose entries are slated for expansion in a hoped-for second edition) are listed in a separate section along with their filmographies. The volume begins with a lengthy essay on the history of Tajik cinema (pp. 6–34) and shorter essays on various cinematic categories (pp. 35–44), and it ends with 80 pages of entries for individual Tajik films, separated by studio. These entries include brief plot summaries and are arranged chronologically. The encyclopedia also includes essays on the influential cinematic history of neighboring Afghanistan and Iran, highlighting the collaborative post-1991 projects of Tajik and Iranian filmmakers (pp. 258–311). Sources used in the compilation of the encyclopedia include the personal archives of Tajik filmmakers, the film library and photo archives of Tajikfilm, previously published reference works on Tajik and Soviet cinema, and, somewhat unexpectedly, Wikipedia. The numerous illustrations are partly in color and unusually high in quality and number, consisting of portraits and production stills, as well as movie posters and advertisements. Prepared by the Tajik Cinematographers' Union with the direct assistance of Tajikfilm (the main Tajik studio) and the Tajik State Television and Radio Broadcasting Committee, this encyclopedia compares quite favorably with other recent film encyclopedias produced in the Commonwealth of Independent States.—KC

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