

# All things Russian for Festival St. Petersburg

## Lectures, music, theatre, chess challenge as well as a symposium March 28-29

Miami's Havighurst Center for Russian and Post-Soviet Studies has scheduled a variety of free events as part of a Festival St. Petersburg in March. The Russian city is celebrating its 300th anniversary this year.

Highlights include:

- Talk by Karen Kettering of the Hillwood Museum in Washington, D.C., from noon-1:30 p.m. March 24 in 209 Harrison Hall on "The Russian Style in Petersburg Decorative Arts."

- Return of chess Grandmaster Gregory Kaidanov for events March 25. The No. 1 ranked player in the United States, Kaidanov is a Russian native who now lives in Lexington, Ky. He will speak on "St. Petersburg Chess Legacy: Past, Present and Future" at 2 p.m. in the King Library Special Collections area on the third floor and at 6 p.m. will play a 25-board simultaneous chess match and exhibition in the Shriver Center multipurpose room. His visit is co-sponsored by Miami's Chess Club.

- Performance of "The Crocodile" by Dostoyevsky at noon March 27 at the Miami University Art Museum. The play was translated and will be



America's No. 1 ranked chess player Gregory Kaidanov drew an audience of 200 spectators in 2001.

presented by Miami theatre students.

- Third annual Havighurst Lecture at 8 p.m. March 28 at the art museum. Constantin Orbelian, music director of the Moscow Chamber Orchestra will

speak on "The Genius of Russian Music: A Lecture from the Piano." Orbelian grew up in San Francisco, graduated from the Juilliard School in New York in 1980 and enjoyed a career

as a concert pianist before becoming a conductor. In 1991 he was the first American ever to be named music director of a Russian ensemble with his appointment to the Moscow Chamber Orchestra. He was named permanent guest conductor of the Moscow Philharmonic in 2000.

- "Imagining St. Petersburg Humanities Symposium" March 28 and 29 in the Shriver Center Bystrom Room and art museum. Participants include Julie Buckler of Harvard; Oleg Kharkhordin from the European University of St. Petersburg; Vladimir Khazan of Hebrew University in Jerusalem; Miami's Stephen Norris; Nina Perlina from Indiana University; Anatole Senkevitch of the University of Michigan; Cynthia Simmons from Boston College; Elizabeth Valkenier and Richard Wortman, both from Columbia; and Orbelian.

- Recital featuring Russian chamber music from 3:30-5 p.m. March 29 at the art museum.

Events are free and open to the public. For more information, call the Havighurst Center, 9-3303.