

RUSSIAN WRITERS AND THE POWER OF THE PEN

Russian autocrats from towering Tsar Peter I to terrifying Stalin to sclerotic Brezhnev to postmodern tough-guy Putin have ruled their nation through fear, brutality, disregard for basic human rights, and the suppression of individual liberties. Yet there have always been writers in Russia who were bold enough to wield the power of free thought and free speech in the face of absolute political might, and their work remains after the tyrants are gone to reframe the past for future generations. Ultimately, it is not the Putins of the world, but the Poets who have the last word.

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TUESDAY, APRIL 1 5 P.M.

**A Footnote to Vladimir Nabokov's *Invitation to a Beheading*:
The Reichstag Fire and the Execution of Marinus van der Lubbe**

208 DeBartolo Hall

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2 12:30 P.M.

**The Pushkin Summer Institute at UW-Madison: How to
Reach and Recruit Underserved High School Students**

A Brownbag Discussion

114 O'Shaughnessy Hall

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2 5 P.M.

**Charles Darwin and Vladimir Solov'ev:
Where Sophia Meets Survival of the Fittest**

217 DeBartolo Hall

THURSDAY, APRIL 3 5 P.M.

**The Cod, the Hawk, and 1975:
Joseph Brodsky's Point of No Return**

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