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Seeing Russian Winter in August

By The Moscow Times

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Sverchkov's winter-themed "Caught in a Storm" from the late 19th century.

Snow may seem like a distant dream to many Muscovites, but the Tsaritsyno Museum is showing an exhibit that throws you into a real Russian winter ahead of time.

The Russian Winter exhibit brings together a vast selection of art from the Russian Museum in St. Petersburg. The exhibit came to Moscow from a previous showing in New Delhi, India, and its choice of works on display is designed to appeal to the foreign visitor.

The art on show touches on all sides of winter: from Nikolai Sverchkov's swirling "Caught in a Storm" to Sergei Luchishkin's "Skiers" from 1926, a simple view of sportsmen, one of whom can even be seen with a cigarette in his mouth.

Many of the paintings naturally have St. Petersburg scenes such as a scene from the Siege of Leningrad by Vasily Kukhmakov and a view from the window of 28 Dvortsovaya Naberezhnaya by Vladimir Grinberg.

The exhibit has 145 works from the Russian Museum and 25 from private collections.

Apart from the huge selection of paintings on display, the exhibit also has winter-related Fedoskino lacquer miniatures, Gzhel china and wooden figurines.

Russian Winter runs to Sept. 19. Tsaritsyno Museum. Metro Tsaritsyno, Orekhovo. 1 Dolskaya Ulitsa. Tel. 321-1963, www.tsaritsyno-museum.ru.

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