

Diplomats Seek Answers in Death of Russian Artist in Bali

By [The Moscow Times](#)

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Russian diplomats are conducting a probe into the death of a Russian artist and actor who drowned while vacationing in Bali last week.

Vladislav Mamyshev-Monroe, 43, was found dead in a Bali hotel on Saturday, Dmitry Solodov, a Russian Embassy spokesman, told Interfax on Thursday.

The embassy is trying to determine the circumstances of the artist's death and is in close contact with Mamyshev-Monroe's relatives for preparations to transfer the artist's body to Russia, he said.

"According to preliminary information, he was found drowned in a swimming pool," Solodov said.

Mamyshev-Monroe is most renowned for his impersonations of Hollywood stars

and President Vladimir Putin.

Born in Leningrad, now St. Petersburg, he shot to fame for impersonating famous celebrities, including his favorite actress Marilyn Monroe.

Mamyshev-Monroe, who also portrayed Adolf Hitler and terrorist Osama bin Laden, called Bali his "motherland" in an interview with Moskovsky Komsomolets a week before his death.

"Just like in 'Avatar' you feel at home as an amputee lieutenant, and then suddenly you turn into a magical creature and find yourself in beautiful jungles," he said, referring to his last artistic work, which included a visual portrait of Polonium, a character in William Shakespeare's "Hamlet."

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