

A Day in the Museum

Warm up with Moscow's hot art

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Kardashov Anton / Moskva News Agency

No matter how cold it is outside, it's always warm in Moscow's grand museums — the perfect places for long afternoons of exploration followed by a fortifying cup of tea in the cafe.

El Lissitzky

This joint project of the Jewish Museum and Tolerance Center and the Tretyakov Gallery is the first large-scale El Lissitzky retrospective. El Lissitzky's avant-garde art revolved around “prouns” — an art form that combines painting and architecture. The New Tretyakov Gallery's part of the retrospective focuses on prouns from its own and foreign collections, while the Jewish Museum and Tolerance Center will show some of Lissitzky's “pre-avant-garde” works. Don't miss this rare opportunity. The show runs until February 18.

Jewish Museum and Tolerance Center. 11 Ulitsa Obrastsova, Bldg. 1A. Metro Marina

Roshcha. ☒ +7 (495) 645 0550. jewish-museum.ru

New Tretyakov Gallery. 10 ☒ Krymsky Val. Metro Oktyabrskaya.

Chaim Soutine

Born near Minsk, Chaim Soutine ☒ fled the 1917 Revolution in ☒ France and became a leading ☒ representative of the School of Paris ☒ in the 1920s and 1930s. Friends ☒ with Amedeo Modigliani, Soutine ☒ became one of the finest abstract ☒ expressionists of the era. The retrospective ☒ at the Pushkin Museum is a ☒ joint project with the Musée d'Orsay ☒ and includes over 60 works: ☒ paintings by Soutine divided into ☒ the genres he was most prolific in ☒ (landscapes, still lifes and portraits), ☒ as well as works by contemporary ☒ artists inspired by Soutine. The ☒ show runs until January 21.

12 Ulitsa Volkhonka. ☒ Metro Kropotkinskaya. ☒ +7 (495) 609 9520. arts-museum.ru ☒ +7 (495) 957 0727. tretyakovgallery.ru

Kazimir Malevich

The discussion about whether ☒ “Black Square” is art has ☒ been over for a long time, ☒ but Malevich’s painting is still considered ☒ controversial by many in ☒ Russia. The exhibition at Rabochy i ☒ Kolkhoznitsa (Worker and a Collective ☒ Farm Girl), itself an extraordinary ☒ monument by sculptor Vera ☒ Mukhina, aims to show different ☒ facets of Malevich’s oeuvre, not ☒ just his abstract painting. Come ☒ to be surprised and delighted. ☒ The show runs till February 25.

Rabochiy i Kolkhoznitsa Pavillion, ☒ VDNKh. Metro VDNKh. ☒ +7 (495) 544 3400. vdmh.ru

Takashi ☒ Murakami

This season the Garage Museum ☒ of Contemporary Art has ☒ organized the first Russian ☒ retrospective of Takashi Murakami, ☒ one of the best-known Japanese ☒ contemporary artists. Often called ☒ “the Japanese Andy Warhol,” ☒ his own brand of pop art and ☒ trademark smiley faces are easily ☒ recognizable. The show puts his ☒ work into the context of Japanese ☒ culture and the artist’s exploration ☒ of Eastern and Western traditions. ☒ One of the main attractions of ☒ the Moscow exhibit is a replica of ☒ his studio in Tokyo. The show runs ☒ until February 4.

9 Krymsky Val. Metro ☒ Oktyabrskaya. +7 (495) 645 0520. ☒ garagemca.org

Someone 1917

Someone 1917 is a comprehensive ☒ survey of various art ☒ tendencies at the time of the ☒ 1917 Revolution and in the turbulent ☒ years that followed. There ☒ are 120 paintings and sculptures ☒ on view, many influenced by revolutionary ☒ events, including those ☒ by Kuzma Petrov-Vodkin, Boris ☒ Kustodiev, Kazimir Malevich, Olga ☒ Rozanova, Lyubov Popova, and ☒ Vassily Kandinsky. Many other works ignored the events entirely. A snapshot of art at a time when no one knew how the events of 1917 would end. The show runs ☒ until January 14.

10 Krymsky Val. Metro ☒ Oktyabrskaya. +7 (495) 957 0727. ☒ tretyakovgallery.ru

Gustav Klimt/Egon Schiele

The Pushkin Museum has an exhibit of about a hundred drawings from the Albertina Museum in Vienna of arguably the two most important Austrian painters from the turn of the 20th century: Gustav Klimt and Egon Schiele. The show — the first major exhibition of their graphic works in Russia — allows visitors to compare the Art Nouveau style of Klimt with post-expressionist manner of Schiele, who was much influenced by his older compatriot. The show runs until January 14.

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