



everything in excess



August is the most euphoric month of Northern summer, the month when the Moscow revelry gets seriously pagan and excessive. As you well know, element's motto has always

been "everything in excess," which is why we are going on holiday the week after next. We're burning out. Largely thanks to places like Hemingway's (page 15), a new bar where no cocktail is over 200 rubles. And hearty Russian restaurant Barkhat (page 12), where no dish is under 200 calories. Still, there is some room for civilized pursuits in this week's issue. Saxophonist Kenny Garrett blows up a storm at Baget, while Benoit Fizez brings his left-of-center electro-pop to 16 Tons (page 11). But the main event of the week is the Russian Railway's Cup (page 7), a new soccer championship that brings AC Milan and Real Madrid to Moscow.

Francis Merson — Editor in Chief

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For addresses, see page 16.

7 days at a glance



2 Last year, the Professional Golf Association gave Russia a big present for being such a good country. They made the Russian Open Golf Championship an official tournament in the PGA European Tour. Which means that more than a hundred of the world's best golfers will descend on Le Meridien Moscow Country Club from August 2-5, where they will compete for a share of \$2 million in prize money. Guest at the event will be Don Johnson, the star of '80s cop drama "Miami Vice." Tickets are 1,000 rubles at the door. The championship starts putting at 8 a.m.

3 What is cooler — house or trance? This question has plagued mankind for generations. Tonight, Proyeckt Plyazh solves the dilemma once and for all. At Trance vs. House, top house and trance DJs representing do battle to defend the honor of their subgenre. Z-Machine from Israel is in the trance corner, while DJ Nevada from Italy is in the house corner. Loads of local DJs join in the fray. The rave will take place on the mysterious Plyazh Island, and buses start leaving Kuzminki metro station at 10 p.m. Tickets are 400 rubles at the door.

4 Sixty kilometers away from Kaluga lies the tiny village of Nikola-Lenivets. This unlikely location is the site of "Arkstoyaniye," an open-air festival of "land art," where the artistic object is the landscape itself. Artists and architects have built enormous constructions from locally available materials, transforming the entire village into a work of art. The festival proper lasts one day only. Buses leave from Prospekt Vernadskogo metro station at 10 a.m. and leave Nikola-Lenivets at 8 p.m. Tickets are 550 rubles.



5 Arkhangelskoye estate is not only one of Moscow's loveliest stately homes, it is also the site of the summer's best period music concerts. In the oval room of the former estate of the Yusupov family, The Pocket Symphony will accompany baroque clarinetist Nikolai Tarasov. The concert, which is part of the Roots and Crown festival, includes works by Telemann, Handel, Molter and Fasch. Tickets to the concert, which starts at 7 p.m., are 1,200 rubles at the door or through parter.ru. Rumor has it that the Yusupovs buried their jewels somewhere on the estate, so bring a spade.

6 Lovers of the werewolf-horror-action-thriller genre will be howling with delight this week, as "Skinwalkers" hits screens. The hero of the piece is Timothy (Matthew Knight) a boy approaching his 13th birthday, the time when the "transformation" from human to werewolf is supposed to occur. Evil werewolves want to take him away from his family and teach him their wicked ways. The film is directed by "Jason X" helmer James Isaacs. You can heed the bloodlust tonight at Pyat Zvyozd at 10:45 p.m. Tickets are 300 rubles.

7 Most generic of all genre movies is the body-swap film. In "It's a Boy-Girl Thing," teenage rivals Nell and Woody wake up the next morning in each other's bodies after arguing in front of an ancient Aztec statue. In middle America? Anyway, what do you know it, after a series of hijinks in which the pair explore each others bodies in intimate detail, they fall in love. Gender theorists can wax lyrical for hours about these kinds of movies. And so will you, after you see it tonight at Oktyabr at 8:35 p.m. Tickets range from 120-350 rubles.



8 Tim Amann is a jazz pianist, composer, history teacher and croquet champion. He brings his self-titled quartet, which has played at the Montreux Jazz Festival, to Soyuz Kompozitorov tonight. Amann's music is influenced by Scottish and Celtic melodies, but still lies comfortably within the mainstream of modern jazz. The Jazz Review described this British musician as "a very tasteful pianist who chooses his notes carefully and chooses them well." Cover charge for the gig, which kicks off at 8:30 p.m., is 500 rubles.

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cover notes

Audrey Tautou

- Audrey Tautou is a French film actress, best known to worldwide audiences for playing the title character in the award-winning French film *Amélie* (2001).
- She was born in 1976 in Beaumont, part of the Auvergne. Her looks are apparently typical of the region.
- Audrey has always been, and remains today, fascinated with monkeys. Her childhood hero was Dian Fossey, the primatologist.
- Tautou takes a picture of each reporter who interviews her and keeps it in a special scrapbook.
- Long Island-based band Brand New named a song "Tautou" after her on their latest album "Deja Entendu."
- She stars opposite Gad Elmaleh in "Hors de Prix" ("Priceless"), a romantic comedy directed by Pierre Salvadori which opens this Thursday. • *FM*

microscope

Rock the beefcake

The price for a year's membership at various gyms around town.



Planet Fitness, 25,000 rubles.



Marina Club, 44,300 rubles.



Gold's Gym, 56,000 rubles.



World Class, 100,000 rubles.



Vita Sport, 86,180 rubles.



Kimberlyland, 64,000 rubles.

dining details

- **Sirena** has already begun celebrating its annual Crabmeat Festival, which will last until Aug. 20. Chef Antonio Barrato has done his utmost to top last year's success. This time round expect a plethora of new exotic dishes in the festive menu, such as champagne granita with oysters and crab meat (1,100 rubles). Among the more hearty offerings are lasagna with crab meat ragout (800 rubles). Most of the dishes are based on Kamchatka crabmeat, but Chef Barrato is also not averse to Murmansk crab (380 rubles).
- "Better late than never" is the motto of **Cafe Pushkin's** dessert department this summer. Chef confectioner Emmanuel Rion has been preparing all summer to present his new ice-cream collection, which consists of 13 different flavors. Has his time been spent in



seven city strolls



1 Pushkinskaya — Forget Tverskaya Ulitsa — what are you, a tourist from Arkansas? Turn at Benetton, go past McDonalds and dive into the warren of streets in the almost-historically-intact Bronnaya area. You may come across Patriarshy Ponds, or you may find an antique bookstore, or a sandpit to play in. Who cares about the destination? It's all about the stroll.



2 Vorobyovy Gory — Did you know you could walk all along the river from Vorobyovy Gory to Gorky Park? Yeah, probably. Then why haven't you done it yet? The route passes through the virgin wilderness of the Gory, the romance of Neskuchny Sad and finishes with the brash vulgarity of Gorky Park. Story of your love life?



3 Kitai-Gorod — Take the Solyanka exit from the metro, find the offending street, then take the first left up towards Pokrovka. Why aren't there any cars? Where are all the people? This corner of Moscow between Taganskaya and Kitai-Gorod somehow got forgotten when the city was being transformed into a traffic jam. Enjoy it while you can.



4 Boulevard Ring — Yes, all those boulevards do link up together. They form a ring surrounding the Kremlin that was once the site of medieval fortifications. Start at Kropotkinskaya, pass through Pushkinskaya, Chistiye Prudy and end at Taganskaya. One ring to find them all, one ring ... oh all right, all right.



5 Yuzhnoye Butovo — No, don't laugh. This is actually one of the most charming neighborhoods around. Bordered by woods and speckled with parks, this area at the end of the grey metro line, is the most "ekologicheskyy chisty" in the city. Wander among the twenty-storey apartment blocks and gasp at your own insignificance.



STYLE BITE OF THE WEEK

New franchise stores keep on filling the gaps in the Moscow beauty market. This summer Giorgio Armani Cosmetics has opened its own store in GUM, stuffing it with Armani make-up, cosmetics and all types of Armani perfumes.



new openings

- Upscale Mediterranean restaurant **Villa** has not survived the pressure of competition and has recently been shut down. With a new Italian restaurant opening every week, such casualties are inevitable. element can not help wondering where the tons of gold tiles that used to cover Villa's opulent stairs have gone.
- Luxurious apartment building Kopernik, located behind the Globus Gourmet on Yakimanka, now has its own restaurant. The elitny eatery is called **Observatory** and is only open to VIP clientele so far. If you're feeling VIP, try sneaking in — it's definitely worth the effort when Chef Michel Logaut is in charge of the kitchen.

vain? Judge for yourself — an assortment of Chef Rion's home-made ice cream goes for 595 rubles.

- **Khodzha Nasreddin v Khive** is already welcoming the fall, as the new Bakhchevoye menu is full of autumnal flavors. Each dish in the new menu is based upon either melon or watermelon, like the mutton with pomegranate and watermelon sauce (370 rubles) or melon and watermelon shashlyk (290 rubles).

- Karaoke restaurant **Duety** (pictured), best known for its authentic Yakut dishes, has added a little piece of Neapolitan culture to their menu. Combining the Italian traditions of singing and cooking, Duety's chefs sing Italian arias while preparing one of the pizzas from the special "Pizza del Canto" menu (320-380 rubles).

news bites

- The second Meyerhold Meetings theater festival is scheduled to take the stage of the Meyerhold Center on Sept. 20, 21. It opens with Matthias Langhoff's "Quartett."
- British band Muse, known for synthesizing alt-rock with funk and electronica, is playing in Moscow on Oct. 15 at Luzhniki.
- An exhibition devoted to the house of Chanel will open its doors at the Pushkin



Museum of Fine Arts on Sept. 27. Chanel clothes, photos and memorabilia will be on display until Nov. 21.

- A rich crop of foreign artists is playing at Ikra this fall. Psychic TV is flying in on Sept. 18, Laibach plays on Sept. 22 and 23, and indie-pop band Frog Eyes takes center stage on Oct. 21.
- A festival of Korean cinema will run at 35 mm on Aug. 23-26. Six movies from acclaimed contemporary Korean directors will be shown.
- An exhibition entitled "Glamur i Antiglamur" ("Glamour and Antiglamour") will run at the Kino gallery from Aug. 21-31. The paintings of the notorious Andrei Bartenyev and Alexander Tyagny-Ryado will be on display.
- A highway from Moscow to St. Petersburg is expected open in 2008. The toll for the highway is expected to be as high as five rubles per kilometer.

how to follow the rules



TEXT IRINA ERMAN

You might think you've mastered the blank yet menacing don't-fuck-with-me Russian stare, but no, you're just deluding yourself — everyone can still tell you're a foreigner. Don't worry, my non-Slavic comrade, all is not lost. With a slight adjustments in behavior you can still lead a relatively fulfilling life in Moscow. In the end, it just boils down to simple arithmetic. For example, a Russian caught pissing in the street can get off with a 200-ruble "vzyatka," whereas you'll have to fork out at least two thousand to stay out of the drunk tank. Which brings me to ...

Rule 1. Don't piss in the street. If absolutely unavoidable, make sure you have a competent Russian look-out, who can negotiate a discount with the "menty" while you zip up.

Speaking of "menty," **rule 2** is to avoid slang like "menty" unless

completely certain of the correct context. For example, coming up to a group of militiónery late at night and saying: "Hey, menty! Gde tut možhno vypit'?" is not a good idea.

Rule 3. The slang rule also applies to all Russian cuss-words, mostly because you'd just sound ridiculous.

Rule 4. Believe it or not, it's actually illegal to consume alcoholic beverages in public areas. That is, it's illegal for you. Russians get a special exemption due to the principles of economics: because beer (especially Arsenalnoye) is cheaper than water, they are allowed to drink on those hot summer (slash cold winter) days. You, on the other hand, are a rich foreigner. So, you either pay for that overpriced Aqua Minerale, or pay up an even pricier "shtraf" for daring to crack open a sacrilegious Tuborg in front of the statue of Pushkin. Barbaric foreigner! "Pushkin — eto nashe vsyo!"

Rule 5. While everyone and their mother told you before you came to Moscow that smiling in public is a major no-no, they probably forgot to mention the no-less-important eye contact rule. Don't make it. Eye contact, that is. Groups to especially avoid as they see it as a direct challenge: angry babushkas, metro militsia and waitresses, that is if you ever want them to bring your food.



6 Zamoskvorechye — This is where the kuptsy (merchants) used to live before the revolution turned them into bureaucrats. The one-and-two-storey buildings, often made of wood, are a quaint, humane side of Moscow ignored in the guidebooks. Get off at Polyanka and walk to Novokuznetskaya, any route you take will be full of charm.



7 Vodootvodny Kanal — Moscow contains a very underadvertised island opposite the Kremlin, known colloquially as Baltschug Island. Its southern boundary is the Vodootvodny Kanal, a perfect spot for a romantic promenade, kissing in the middle of bridges and so forth. You can also easily drown your date here if the romance turns sour. • FM

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busted again

Lindsay Lohan has been arrested on suspicion of drunk driving. Again. The "Mean Girls" star was pulled over police while involved in a bizarre car chase. Lohan was apparently tailing Hollywood beautician Michelle Peck, the mother of her personal assistant, who had quit hours earlier. The terrified woman stopped in a car park to call the Santa Monica police, who promptly arrived on the scene. Police chief Alex Padilla said officers saw Lohan's SUV "following or trying to catch up to Peck's car."

Lindsay refused to submit to a breath test, but was unable to walk in a straight line after exiting the vehicle. The 21-year-old actress was also said to be carrying a white substance, which proved to be cocaine when tested. She was later released on \$20,000 bail and reportedly checked herself into a rehabilitation clinic for the third time this year. Lohan was already facing jail on almost identical charges for a misdemeanor earlier this year, and a hefty stint in jail now seems inevitable.

poor richie

It seems that the trend of reckless driving never goes out of fashion with the stars. Nicole Richie, Paris Hilton's co-star in the reality show, "The Simple Life," and adopted daughter of music legend Lionel Richie, was sentenced last week to four day's jail time for charges of driving under the influence of drugs. Richie was caught last December driving her Mercedes the wrong way down a highway in Burbank, California. The 25-year-old copped to having smoked marijuana and taken a Vicodin painkiller after she failed an on-field sobriety test. In court on Friday, Richie pleaded guilty to the charge. During the arraignment, the judge chided the actress, telling her that she put lives in danger and warning her that she could have faced murder charges had someone been killed. Richie was fined \$2,048, placed on three years probation, and ordered to complete a three-week alcohol education course. This is Richie's second such incident, having been convicted of a similar offense in 2003.



britney's funk

There are new developments in continuing custody battle between Spears and ex-husband Kevin Federline, who is fighting for sole custody of the couple's children. Sources say that Spears put her claim in jeopardy when she flew to Las Vegas on Wednesday with kids Sean Preston, 22 months, and Jayden James, 10 months, without notifying Federline or his attorney. Under California law, neither parent can leave the state with the children without a court order or written permission from the other. Spears flew to Vegas on a private jet after news spread of her strange behavior on a photoshoot for OK! Magazine. Close on the heels of that disastrous shoot, Spears fired assistant Shannon Funk, whom she hired earlier this month. US Life + Style reports that Spears blamed Funk for a lot of her recent troubles. Funk, for her part, insists she wasn't fired and is considering offers of over \$500,000 to spill the beans on working with Spears. Funk feels free to talk, claiming she never signed a confidentiality agreement.



around the world

bye-bye brad

Brad Pitt has announced plans to quit Hollywood and focus on family life with Angelina Jolie and a possible career in architecture. Worried about Jolie's drastic weight loss after the death of her mother, and the toll that Hollywood might take on the couple's kids, Pitt confided to a friend that he wants to "settle down somewhere out of the limelight. She's lost a lot of weight recently [...] We also don't want our kids to go to school in Hollywood." The couple plan to move to Germany, where they have already bought a house in



Berlin. Pitt, for his part, is ready to pursue his dream of becoming a full-time architect. He has already signed a contract with German partners to build a second house of his own design close to Potsdam.



army of spice

Having announced their plan to conquer the world with a reunion tour, The Spice Girls have begun raising an army to back them up. The five superstars have insisted on a personal team of helpers. They've hired a platoon of personal assis-

tants, hair stylists, make-up artists and nutritional experts, not to mention babysitters, managers and bodyguards. Insiders report that there's so much competition between the girls. They all want to look their best so each of them brought their own separate team. It's hilarious—and completely over the top." Spice Girl Geri Halliwell promised that the tour would be a family affair. "We are taking all seven children, one husband, a few boyfriends, five women and all of their stuff." Three million fans have already registered for tickets for the tour, which will open on December 2 in Vancouver.

sex tapes

Pete Doherty left London's Cygnets hospital last Friday, where he was fitted with yet another implant which neutralizes the effect of drugs, the Mirror reports. The Babyshambles frontman proudly flashed the patch at paparazzi waiting for him outside the clinic. Doherty's rehab bill has been reportedly footed by ex-girlfriend Kate Moss. Rumor has it that Kate's generosity is spawned by fears that Doherty might sell their sex tapes if left des-

perate and drugless. A friend of the face of Burberry revealed last week that the couple made seven sex videos, two of which went missing when Pete was kicked out.



prince stripped

Zsa Zsa Gabor's husband Prince Frederic Von Anhalt was the victim of a bizarre robbery last week, the Associated Press reports. While driv-



ing his Rolls Royce in Bel Air, he was stopped by three women in a white convertible, who claimed they had seen him on TV and asked for his autograph. Flattered that someone in Hollywood had actually recognized him, the German-born aristocrat willingly obliged, whereupon one of the assailants pulled out a gun. The two accomplices stripped Von Anhalt of all his cash, jewelry and clothes before handcuffing him to the steering wheel. Nasty, but could this possibly be a publicity stunt staged by a fame-hungry B-lister? The last time Von Anhalt made headlines was when he randomly claimed to be the father of Anna Nicole Smith's baby daughter.



the paper cup

As the "Railway Cup" hits Moscow, bringing top international teams AC Milan, Real Madrid and PSV Eindhoven, football fans won't be the only ones celebrating. After all, football is no mere popular recreation, it's big business.

TEXT **GERGELY STEWART**

On August 3, the good and the great of the football world will descend on Moscow to take part in an historic event. The "Railways Cup," hosted by Lokomotiv Moscow, will attract three giants of European football — Real Madrid, AC Milan and PSV Eindhoven. In its official billing, it is being organized to celebrate 170 years of the unique travel experience that is the Russian Railway system — the world's second largest. Although all three teams politely declined the Russian Railway's offer to transport them platzkart-style to and from the tournament, the organizers have promised a friendly football bonanza. The event will culminate in the winning team raising a victory cup that, in a stroke of organizational genius, as yet exists only in sketch form. But it seems that for all those football-crazy Moscovite fans who've been starved of top-quality live action, it is an event that, cup or no cup, is not to be missed.

Although fans of Valencia, Atletico Madrid and Boavista, all previous visitors, may wish to disagree, it will be the first time that truly world-class teams have strutted their stuff in a Russian pre-season tournament. Furthermore, Sergei Lipatov, the representative from Lokomotiv who's overseeing the event, has stated that the tournament promises to be the beginning of a long-term relationship between top Russian and European clubs, with



balling names, the tournament should, says Lipatov, raise the profile in Europe of both Lokomotiv and Russian football in general. In response, Predrag Mijatovic, Real Madrid's sporting director, has stated that Eastern

hike the price of the tickets, apart from, that is, the VIP section, for which, he assures us, the club intends to charge extortionately, friendly (weapons and glass bottles have been banned from this particular event), and exciting (all three teams are due to field full-strength teams in what should be packed-out stadiums). What's more, there will be no prize money, leaving the winning team to revel in the pure untainted honor of holding aloft the paper cup. Surely, this can only be seen as a gift to Russian football from our more illustrious footballing neighbors.

Well, not exactly. All the football aside, it won't be just the fans who will go home singing. Lokomotiv's owners, as well as those of the guest teams, will be hoping to do the same — all the way to the bank. To give Lipatov credit, he has been brutally honest about the reality of both this and future tournaments. As he has stated in the build-up, unless

the event makes a profit, or at least breaks even, we can wave goodbye to future Railway Cups. After all, attracting teams of this stature doesn't come cheap — Milan are purported to receive one million euros just for showing up to their two matches. Lokomotiv will also receive no financial support from the Russian railway system, leaving them alone to pick up any potential loss in revenue. Lipatov, however, remains optimistic. He has stated that a combination of advertising, selling of TV rights, ticket and souvenir sales should make the event a success. For Lokomotiv and their guests, it seems, footballing success is measured in euros, not results.

Which, in itself, does not bode well for the footballing spectacle. Stan Volks, PSV's director, has stated that the event will be a good chance for his players to stretch their legs after their summer vacations, hardly a comment to send a surge of excite-

ment through the expectant spectators' veins. Meanwhile, a bragging Predrag Mijatovic has pointed out that Moscow is to be the venue for next season's Champions League final, suggesting that these matches will give his players a chance to prepare for their, in his view at least, inevitable visit in May of next year. Despite all the doubts of this correspondent, the fans may indeed be treated to a delightful footballing tournament, but as with most big-team tournaments these days, it'll be the money-men of football who'll be singing loudest at the final whistle.

The Russian Railway Cup runs Aug. 3-5 at the Lokomotiv Stadium. Tickets for the final range from 500 rubles. To book and for a full schedule of the cup, go to www.railwayscup.ru or call 500-3061.

ADDRESSES

Lokomotiv Stadium, 125a Bol. Cherkizovskaya Ul., Metro: Cherkizovskaya, Tel. 161-4283/9704

The Railways Cup is a chance to spice up the bland diet of the local league with some "haute football."

the organizers intending to run the event yearly. In other words, a welcome chance to spice up the bland diet of the unexceptional Russian league with some "haute football."

There seems to be a great deal of good will surrounding the tournament. For example, all three clubs have kindly offered to teach young Russian footballers a thing or two, with master classes to be organized for future stars of the Russian game. In managing to attract such illustrious foot-

European football is becoming stronger and stronger, with Russia leading the way.

Given all this bonhomie, the tournament seems a smack in the face for all those who bemoan the growing influence of money in the modern game. Here, after all, are three illustrious teams that, despite ever-more hectic schedules, have taken time out to come and show off their skills to the deprived Russian fan. It is a tournament that will be affordable (Lipatov has promised not to

remont on the cheap

Does your flower-print wallpaper make you shudder? Are you woken by the sound of falling plaster? Help is at hand, with element's guide to cheap renovation.

TEXT **POLINA PUSHKINA**



A frequently used Russian proverb declares that you only know your real friends in times of trouble. The summer months are the best time to test your friends and acquaintances by initiating a little renovation in your apartment. You'll be pleasantly surprised not only with the new look of your home, but by the hidden qualities of your friends who suddenly recommend themselves as talented amateur plumbers and painters.

Before you delve into the intriguing world of wallpaper and glue, there are a few things to consider. First, the most evil creature on earth, your landlord. Obviously, improving your living conditions is a tempting thought, but make sure that your hard work will not make your landlord submit to the even more tempting idea of raising your rent. Be

tough and negotiate. If the enemy does not acquiesce, don't give up hope. Give up your apartment instead, and find a less avaricious khozain. Secondly, and more pleasantly, since you do not own the place there is no need to splurge out on a full-scale yevroremont. Just a few touches will dramatically change the appearance of your dwelling without burning a hole in your pocket.

And finally, no matter what you are doing and how many helpers you have, the remont will take longer than you expect. Soviet-style apartments are full of surprises, and even if your intentions are limited to wallpaper replacement, it may take two weeks to complete the job. Now that you are mentally prepared to face the magnitude of the renovation, it is time to shop for materials. Don't listen to fairy tales about low prices at the "stroitelny rynek"

essential elements



• **Keep the receipt** — The good thing about Obi that you can return unused stuff up to two weeks after it has been purchased. This is especially useful for wallpaper, since no matter how good your calculations are, you'll

always end up with couple of unopened rolls on your hands.

• **Wash and dry your instruments** — I know how tired you'll be by the end of the day, but take a few minutes to wash all the instruments or the next day it will take hours to get dry paint off the brush.

• **Gloves** — a ten-pair set of fabric gloves is only 39 rubles and they really do protect your hands.

Calculations for a basic Krushchyovka apartment (20 sq. m room, corridor and 7 sq. m kitchen): All equipment — about 700 rubles. Wallpaper — 800 rubles.

Glue — 300 rubles.
All paint — 1,800 rubles.
Tiles and glue for it — 840 rubles.
Linoleum — 500 rubles.
Kitchen furniture — A set of the cheapest IKEA shelves are 4,950 rubles.
Total: 9,890 rubles.
Add here the cost of beer and pizza to keep your renovation gang motivated.



— with your modest needs you are very unlikely to save any cash, although the story of the trip could be used to make a particularly horrific "How To" for element.

Shop smart and head straight to Obi, a place where thousands of home-improvement items are gathered under one roof. It is very unlikely that the walls of your Khrushchyovka apartment are painted — I am guessing you have hideous flower print wallpaper that has been hanging there since the '70s. The easiest way to fight the gladioli is to buy plain white wallpaper that can be painted over. A roll of 33,5 meters is only 199 rubles. And don't forget to add wallpaper glue to your basket — Quelyd mixture is 89 rubles per pack. Its adhesive qualities are second to none, but the instructions are not to be trusted — buy about 30 percent more than the pack description advises. The next thing you need to grab here is a special wide wallpaper-glue brush, available for 299 rubles. My experience of peeling old wallpaper off comes with the unpleasant side effect of old spackle falling off along with it. To fill the newly found cracks and holes you'll need fresh spackle, which goes for 799 rubles for 10 kilos. At first I was scared by the large quantity too, but don't make my mistake of buying a smaller container (which can be found at

Since you do not own the place there is no need to splurge for a full-scale yevroremont.

1000 Melochey for 299 for 2,5 kilograms) — my walls made me go back for more three times. To apply the spackle you need to be armed with a spatula, which come in various shapes and sizes and start from 65 rubles.

Now that your walls are impeccably smooth, you can move on to the paint section. You'll probably need something for the ceiling — this is usually the worst part of any rented flat. Don't fight windmills, just go for paint that will basically stick to anything, and remember if it actually falls off in few years, you won't be around to see it. The best value for money is Russian-made Kraska dlya Potolka for 399 rubles for 14 kg — a pot three times smaller will be only 100 rubles cheaper — so go for the big one. You can paint the ceiling of the podyezd with what's left over. For painting the walls, I recommend Alpina Premium Latex (don't you love the name?) paint for 899 rubles for 10 liters, which should be enough to cover about 25-30 square meters twice. Choose your own color for an extra 100 rubles: the Obi color station offers hundreds of shades. For doors, door frames and windows you'll need about 2 liters of alkyd enamel (235 rubles) and a set of brushes that start from 59 rubles. If you plan to repaint the radiators make sure to get one of these 49 rubles brushes with a narrow head and long handle. For the walls you will need a roll-on brush (don't go for the hairy ones — they take too much paint and will start to leave whiskers on your walls) and a special flat container for it (179 rubles).

With all this on your hands you'll have no problem remounting rooms and corridors, though if you are determined to improve your kitchen you may need something more advanced. Start with tiles: for a humble 199 rubles per square meter you'll get simple white tiles with white matt floral prints. Tile glue (149 rubles) and a special mixture to fill in the seams (89 rubles) are essential too. One last thing that can completely reincarnate a kitchen is linoleum. This is not as cheap as you might expect a piece of plastic to be: the cheapest sort is 79 rubles per square meter, but there is a trick that can save you a few rubles. Ask the shop assistant what types are almost sold out. They usually have a couple of left-over pieces that are available with a big discount. So, kids, when you are finished with that job, I'll teach you the secret of revamping your bathroom.

ADDRESSES

1000 Melochey, 39/1 Leninsky Pr., Metro: Leninsky Prospekt, Tel. 135-7889; **Obi**, 21 km of Kaluzhskoye Shosse, Metro: Yasenevo, Tel. 775-7733; **IKEA**, 21 km of Kaluzhskoye Shosse, Metro: Yasenevo, Tel. 737-3007



fermented fun

One man's fetid is another man's fermented. element delves into the grimy bacterial underworld of Russia's national dairy products.

TEXT BY FRANCIS MERSON



Russia, as a culture, is eminently marketable. Matryoshki, borscht, vodka, pretty girls with high cheekbones and low expectations — it's a product range with palpable international consumer appeal. But outside the souvenir shops and airport boutiques lies a hidden underclass of Russian products, a gulag archipelago of foodstuffs too politically dangerous to be released abroad. These products are milky, fermented and deeply, shamelessly Russian. They are so vehemently local that they even

and leaving it overnight. Of the brands of kefir commercially available, the most satisfyingly funky is Kremlyovskiye Produkty 3.2 percent (around 38 rubles). The cheap plastic bottle is also a suitable carcass for a kefir bomb. If you leave kefir out of the fridge, the bacteria keep fermenting and causing oxidation i.e. expansion of matter within bottle. It also helps if you shake the kefir occasionally. When the bottle becomes completely engorged, drop it from the top of your building. The kefir explosion should cover a satisfyingly large radius. Few

their home-made smetana for a lactic acid double date.

The other Russian fermented milk products lure us deep into the backwoods of Russian peasant culture. Varenets is made by heating milk for several hours over a low flame, until it thickens, browns and sweetens. Bacteria is often added to extend shelf-life and add tang to the palate, like in the case of Ostantino Varenets 2.5 percent (19.19 rubles for 450 g at Sedmoi Kontinent), which comes in a convenient, ready-to-drink plastic cup. Ryazhenka is the same thing, but made with a benign version of Streptococcus, the same hooligan bacterium responsible for fun diseases like meningitis and the flesh-eating necrotizing fasciitis.

Last on the list is the esoteric prostokvasha, which has a slightly higher whey content than the rest, making it, in theory, thinner than kefir. Matsoni prostokvasha 3.8 percent (59 rubles at Globus Gourmet) is served in a Soviet-chic glass jar and tastes, well, just like kefir. In fact, if you can blindfold yourself and actually tell the difference between prostokvasha and kefir, it's a sign you've been in Russia way too long.

ADDRESSES

Sedmoi Kontinent (multiple locations), 63 Bol. Gruzinskaya Ul., Metro: Belorusskaya, Tel. 721-3874; **Ramstore** (multiple locations), 60a Sheremet'yevskaya Ul., Metro: Rizhskaya, Tel. 937-2600; **Globus Gourmet**, 22 Bol. Yakimanka Ul., Metro: Polyanka, 955-2170, 995-2172

When the bottle of kefir becomes sufficiently engorged, drop it from the top floor of your building.

baffle translation — how do you say “kefir” in English? Or prostokvasha? Varenets? Ryazhenka?

All these fermented dairy products are the work of the same organic agents, a squadron of lactic acid bacteria with names like obscure Byzantine saints — Teraganococcus, Enterococcus and Pediococcus. What happens is this: the bacteria attack and devour the milk sugar (lactose), excreting lactic acid as they go, which is what makes the milk turn sour, lumpy or solid, depending on the method of preparation.

Kefir, the most popular of the fermented family, is made by adding kefir grains (a gelatinous mass of yeast and bacteria) to milk

people know this, but the catalyst of the first Soviet atomic bomb, tested in Kazakhstan in 1949, was actually made from supercharged neutrons of kefir.

Tvorog follows the same simple formula as kefir — milk plus bacteria — only the liquid is periodically siphoned off, leaving a solid, white mass of curds. Real Russian tvorog should be lumpy and dry, which is why it is often softened with smetana. Tvorog iz Vologdy 9 percent (48 rubles from Ramstore) is as authentic as anything wrapped in plastic can ever be. If your tvorog budget is unlimited, Globus Gourmet has melt-in-your-mouth home-made tvorog for 182 rubles a kilo. Mix it with

feis kontrol



DJ Sasha Vibe

Where do you hang out in Moscow?

In my friend's apartment. And on Saturdays in “Golden State” — it's the cafe where I play at night.

What is your most prized possession?

My home studio, where I work and compose music.

What's the wildest thing you've ever done?

Sex on the beach with two girls simultaneously.

If you weren't a DJ, what job would you do?

Maybe I would be a lawyer or designer.

If you wanted to change the world, what would you do first?

First I would smile to all the people around me and try to make them smile.

If you could change one thing about you, what would it be?

It would be my character. I would add more persistence.

What is the most played song on your iPod?

I don't have an iPod. But if I had one, the most played song would be “Step By Step” by Koxo.

What is your favorite love song?

“Brazilian Love Song” by Love Unlimited Orchestra.

What is your spirit animal?

Maybe a wolf.

Least favorite sexual position?

I don't know how to call it in English. It's when the boy is behind.

Do you have what it takes to get through element feis kontrol? There's only one way to find out: if you send a blank email to the address feiskontrol@elementmoscow.ru, we'll forward you next week's questions.



PRODUCT OF THE WEEK

Danish jewelry and eyewear label Pilgrim has recently added a new, moderately priced watch to its range of accessories, and also added Liv Tyler as the new face of the brand. A ladies watch with white strap and golden frame can be found at the Pilgrim shop at Yevropeyskiy mall for 5,600 rubles.

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must see

aug. 2-8



• Alyona Bondarchuk is Blanche in "A Streetcar Named Desire" on Aug. 2.



• The Russian National Show blends pop and folk at Hotel Cosmos all week long.



• The Konstertino ensemble plays at the Durova estate on Aug. 4.

theater

• The Chekhov Festival has finished, and it's time for Russian plays to return to Moscow stages. Among this month's premieres is "Hot Dog," based upon the story "Sobachye Serdtse" ("Heart of a Dog") by Mikhail Bulgakov. Alexander Golubkov plays the dog-man Sharikov.

Malaya Bronnaya Theater, Aug. 8, 7 p.m.

• "Blithe Spirit" is Noel Coward's frothiest and funniest comedy. It tells the story of a man haunted by the ghost of his ex-wife, who plots to steal him back from his new wife. Olga Sirina and Ivan Shabaltas play the leads.

Malaya Bronnaya Theater, Aug. 4, 7 p.m.

• Tennessee Williams' "A Streetcar Named Desire" hits the Sovremennik after a long holiday. The star cast remains unchanged: Alyona Bondarchuk still stars as Blanche, while Pavel Novikov plays Stanley. The director is Alexander Marin.

Sovremennik Theater, Aug. 2, 7 p.m.

opera and dance

• The Kostroma National Ballet and Composer Vladimir Korneyev present the "Natsionalnoye Shou Rossii" ("The National Russian Show") a technologized rhapsody on Russian folk and dance music, where tradition meets the conceits of pop culture.

Cosmos Hotel, Aug. 1-4, 6-8, 7:30 p.m.

• The Summer Ballet Festival and Summer Ballet Seasons really ought to join forces and stop confusing spectators by performing the same classical ballets on

the same nights on different stages. This time both festivals present "Sleeping Beauty," with the choreography by Natalya Kasatkina and Marius Petipa.

Summer Ballet Festival, Novaya Opera, Aug. 3-4, 7 p.m.;

Summer Ballet Seasons, Russian Academic Youth Theater, Aug. 4-5, 7 p.m.

• "Scheherazade" by Rimsky-Korsakov (pictured) and the "Walpurgis Night" section from Charles Gounod's "Faust" have been adapted by Vyacheslav Gordeyev into one-act ballets, performed as part of the Summer Ballet Festival.

Novaya Opera, Aug. 7-8, 7 p.m.

classical music

• The "Korni i Krona" ("Roots and Crown") classical music festival continues with "Dante Vstrechayet Zhannu D'Ark i Ukhana Rumena" ("Dante Meets Joan of Arc and Johan Helmich Ro-

man"), a composition by Ivan Shumilov. The Ingela Karlsson Theater from Sweden performs.

Arkhangelskoye Estate, Aug. 4, 7 p.m.

• As a part of the "Bravissimo" program the Kontsertino ensemble will accompany Yaroslav Krasnikov and Sofiya Krasnikova on violin, Olga Zhmayeva on viola and Viktor Kozodov on cello. They render the best of Vivaldi, Brahms and Mozart.

Durasova Estate, Aug. 4, 7 p.m.

exhibitions

• Installation have a reputation for being intellectually abstruse, but the new exhibition "Avstriyskaya Istoriya" (Austrian History) by Georgy Ostretsov and Georgy Litvichevsky, also known as George&George, is both accessible and fun. Devoted to love and politics, this collection of works takes its inspiration from political cartoons and dreams of romance.

Moscow Museum of Modern Art, to Aug. 26.

• The Guggenheim Museum has sent a traveling show "Art in America: Three Hundred Years of Innovation" to the Pushkin Museum of Fine Arts.

This massive exhibition covers the entire history of American art, with painters like John Sargent and Jackson Pollock, right through to the works of Andy Warhol.

Pushkin Museum of Fine Arts, to Sept. 9.

• Photographer Steve Bloom's colorful shots of wild beasts from the "Diky Mir" ("Wild World") series, made in Africa and Asia, are displayed on Strastnoi Bulvar.

Strastnoi Bul., to Aug. 31.

• Famous Russian photographers Nikolai Gnisuk, Valery Plotnikov and Igor Gnevashev have joined forces to present a fascinating exhibition of Soviet celebrity portraiture. Over 60 portraits are on display at "Oblozhki Zhurnala 'Sovetsky Yekran': 1960-1980" ("Covers of Soviet Screen Magazine: 1960-1980"), among which are shots of director Sergei Bondarchuk, and actor Andrei Mironov.

Pobeda Gallery, to Aug. 20.

• The 17th-century Kremlin icon-painters finally get a decent showing at the exhibition "Ikonomistsy Tsarya Mikhaila Romanova" ("The Icon-Painters of Tsar Mikhail Romanov"). Most of the icons have undergone comprehensive restoration, so visitors can see the icons of Istoma Savin and Yakov Kazanets in all their glory.

Kremlin Palace, to Oct. 29.

• One of the greatest-ever collections of Russian 20th-century art is assembled in halls 15-38 of the Tretyakov Gallery. The "Art of the 20th Century" exhibition includes works by Robert Falk,

Konstantin Istomin and Alexander Vinogradov and Vladimir Dubossarsky.

New Tretyakov Gallery, to Dec. 31.

• German expressionist painter Andre Butzer is having a solo exhibition in Moscow at the Gary Tatitsian Gallery. His canvases are like a nightmare dreamt by Walt Disney, with surreal cartoon-like figures painted in bright primary colors.

Gary Tatitsian Gallery, to Aug. 6.

• A student of Ilya Repin, Zinaida Serebryakova is widely regarded as the greatest female painter in the history of Russian art. Works from her so-called "happy years" are being exhibited at the Dom Nashchokina Gallery. The 50 watercolors and drawings displayed have been taken from the private collection of the artist's family, and consist mainly of portraits of her own four children.

Dom Nashchokina Gallery, to Sept. 1.

• Igor Markin is the owner of one of the country's best collections of contemporary Russian art, and includes the works of Ilya Kabakov, Konstantin Zvezdochetov and the artistic tag team of Alexandr Vinogradov and Vladimir Dubossarsky. See this wealth of paintings and installations on display at the Art4.ru Museum of Contemporary Art, where visitors can relish the works from the comfort of a bean bag and enjoy the delights of wireless Internet.

Art4.ru Museum of Contemporary Art, to Aug. 31.

ADDRESSES

Kremlin Palace, 1 Krasnaya Pl., Metro: Alexandrovsky Sad, Tel. 917-2336; **Dom Nashchokina Gallery**, 12 Vorotnikovskiy Per., Metro: Mayakovskaya, Tel. 699-1178; **Gary Tatitsian Gallery**, 3/8 Ilyinka Ul., Metro: Kitai-Gorod, Tel. 101-2102; **New Tretyakov Gallery**, 10/14 Krymskiy Val Ul., Metro: Oktyabrskaya, Tel. 238-1378; **Art4.ru**, 4 Khlynovskiy Tupik, Metro: Arbatskaya, Tel. 660-1156; **Pobeda**, 4-th 1 Syromyatnicheskoy Per., Bldg. 6, Metro: Kurskaya, Tel. 727-0238; **Arkhangelskoye Estate Museum**, Ilinskoye Shosse, Metro: Tushinskaya, Tel. 584-5533; **Hotel Cosmos**, 150 Prospekt Mira Ul., Metro: VDNKh, Tel. 234-1000; **Pushkin Museum of Fine Arts**, 12 Volkhonka Ul., Metro: Kropotkinskaya, Tel. 203-7998; **Russian Academic Youth Theater**, 2 Teatralnaya Pl., Metro: Teatralnaya, Tel. 292-0069; **Novaya Opera**, 3 Karetny Ryad Ul., Metro: Tverskaya, Tel. 200-0868; **Durasova Estate**, 1 Letnyaya Ul., Metro: Volzhskaya, Tel. 350-1553; **Malaya Bronnaya Theater**, 4 Malaya Bronnaya Ul., Metro: Pushkinskaya, Tel. 690-4093; **Sovremennik Theater**, 19a Chistoprudnyy Bul., Metro: Chistiye Prudy, Tel. 921-6473; **Museum of Modern Art**, 17 Yermolayevskiy Per., Metro: Mayakovskaya, Tel. 200-6695





kenny g

Kenny Garrett is regarded by many as the best saxophonist around. What more reason could you need to hear him and his quartet at Baget this Friday?

TEXT LEAH SULLIVAN



Detroit-born Kenny Garrett is worth more than just a few lines of bad prose. Chances are, if you've heard of him before then you probably don't even need me to convince you that he's worth the 900-ruble cover charge. And if you haven't heard of him, then I can tell you that he plays the sort of jazz that starts and ends sounding like a really good intro to something that never quite gets to the chorus. It's kind of spunky, but ultimately a little anticlimactic.

Garrett performs with a quartet who non-lovers of jazz could be forgiven for thinking are unaware of one another's presence, or even actively trying to drown each other out by playing as many notes as possible in the shortest possible time. The resulting sound swings between electric and compelling, chaotic and tuneless, but then I guess it's this flavor of tuneless chaos that gets jazz buffs hot and sweaty

Garrett's CV includes collaborations with Herbie Hancock, Woody Shaw and Miles Davis.

under the beret. He has a particular interest in Asian music, and has devoted his recent album "Beyond the Wall" — nominated for a Grammy last year — to fusing elements of Chinese and African music through the medium of jazz. Garrett is renowned for his improvisation, and boasts an impressive CV, which includes collaborations with the likes of Herbie Hancock, Woody Shaw and Miles Davis. The Kenny Garrett quartet plays at Baget Club at 8 p.m. from August 2 to 4. Tickets start at 900 rubles, rising to a dramatic crescendo of 10,000, and are available on parter.ru.

ADDRESSES

Baget Club, 9 Prospekt 60 Let Oktyabrya Ul., Metro: Leninsky Prospekt, Tel. 941-9990; **16 Tons**, 6 Presnensky Val Ul., Bldg. 1, Metro: Ulitsa 1905 Goda, Tel. 253-5300

Kenny Garrett came out smoking, almost to the excess of tolerance." What? Yeah, exactly. This is the kind of crap that anyone looking for a review of jazz saxophonist Kenny Garrett is going to have to put up with if they consult our dear friends at Google. It's incredible the bull people write about jazz — just because it doesn't have mass appeal, music journalists feel they have a carte blanche to wax lyrical in unintelligible waffle and flowery phrases that have very little to do with music.

concerts this week

thursday, aug. 26

Iva Nova hits Ikra at 9 p.m.
Zerkalo liven up FM Club at 9 p.m.
Rock veterans Serga bring a truckload of guitar noise to the stage of Music Town at 10 p.m.
Red Elvises take the stage of B2 at 9 p.m.

friday, aug. 3

Lyapis Trubetskoy delights fans at Ikra at 9 p.m.
Check out Splin's latest repertoire at B2 on Aug. 3, 4 at 11 p.m.
Masha i Medvedy grace the fairytale stage of 16 Tons at 11 p.m.
Kukryniksy tear down the walls of tyranny at X.O. at 8:30 p.m.
Va Bank awaits you at Grafit at 9 p.m.
Compatriotes play modern ethnic at Zhest at 10 p.m.

saturday, aug. 4

Tekhnologiya brings the noise to Ikra at 9 p.m.
Russian rockers Kvartal play their greatest hits at 16Tons at 11 p.m.
French Whore Named Babette, Blast and Milana all play at Krizis Zhanra at 11 p.m.

sunday, aug. 5

16%Shchastya ooze into PodMoskovye at 9 p.m.
Lavanda explodes into Vermel at 9 p.m.

monday, aug. 6

Jazz Fabrique pays a visit to Music Town at 10 p.m.

tuesday, aug. 7

Stokgolm, Renorm and Tsvetayeva play Tabula Rasa at 7 p.m.
Zombie Children rock Bilingua at 9 p.m.

wednesday, aug. 8

Anenerba and Kenguru do Projekt O.G.I. at 11 p.m.

ADDRESSES

Ikra, 8 Kazakova Ul., Metro: Kurskaya, Tel. 505-53-51, 262-4482; **B2**, 8 Bol. Sadovaya Ul., Metro: Mayakovskaya, Tel. 650-9904; **PodMoskovye**, 6 Mal. Kislovsky Per., Metro: Arbatskaya, Tel. 291-9132; **X.O.**, 65 Vavilova Ul., Metro: Profsoyuznaya, Universitet, Tel. 125-5349; **Zhest**, 13/16 Bol. Lubyanka Ul., Metro: Lubyanka, Tel. 928-4883; **Krizis Zhanra**, 16/16 Pokrovka Ul., Bldg. 1., Metro: Chistiye Prudy, Tel. 623-2594; **16 Tons**, 6 Presnensky Val Ul., Bldg. 1, Metro: Ulitsa 1905 Goda, Tel. 253-5300; **FM Club**, 60/28 Zemlyanoi Val Ul., Metro: Taganskaya, Tel. 502-9921; **Music Town**, 11 Bol. Dmitrovka Ul., Metro: Okhotny Ryad, Tel. 510-0917; **Grafit**, 33/12 Kalanchevskaya Ul., Metro: Komsomolskaya, Tel. 680-0230; **Vermel**, 4/5 Raushskaya Nab., Metro: Tretyakovskaya, Tel. 959-3303; **Tabula Rasa**, 28 Komsomolsky Pr., Metro: Frunzenskaya, Tel. 248-6688; **Bilingua**, 10 Krivokolenny Per., Bldg. 5, Metro: Chistiye Prudy, Tel. 623-9660; **Projekt O.G.I.**, 8/12 Potapovsky Per., Bldg. 2, Metro: Chistiye Prudy, Tel. 927-5776



trash or genius?

Benoit Fiset wears a sweater at 16 Tons.

TEXT LEAH SULLIVAN

French Canada has been pulling a fast one on us. They have been sneakily convincing their weirdest musicians to jump ship and spread their "talent" to the rest of the world. While Las Vegas bears the brunt of French Canada's musical discharge in the form of cheese-queen Celine Dion, Moscow has got off rather lightly in comparison. We have been assigned Montreal-born Benoit Fiset, a singer-songwriter who has made his nest here for almost 10 years now.

Fiset's eccentric brand of electro-pop is praised for its innovative use of sound and emotive vocals. Much of his music has a nice Beck-inspired lackadaisical quality and he comes up with a few funky little rhythms that one could easily imagine accompanying colorful Michel Gondryesque visuals. Benoit, however, has taken on that task upon himself, and his video for "Don't Confuse" looks like an unsuccessful audition for a TV talent show. Benoit prances about in a woollen sweater conveying his message through interpretive dance and oddly strangled vocals. This is either trash or genius, but certainly not anything in between. In any case, element is not about to condemn an expat who has chosen Moscow as a springboard for his art. Head down to Benoit's show at 16 Tons at 10 p.m. on August 2. Cover charge is 300 rubles.

new cd



Dolores O'Riordan 'Are You Listening?'

Back in the '90s, The Cranberries were the hottest Irish music export after U2, largely thanks to hottie frontgirl Dolores O'Riordan. Unfortunately, back in 2001 they produced their swan song and vanished from the musical horizon, leaving fans wondering what ever happened to the woman with the voice that sent shivers down your spine. After recovering from eating disorders and other stardom-induced diseases, Dolores has returned to what she does best and put together a solo debut which leaves an incredibly positive impression even after a first listen. None of the 12 songs is bad or even just OK, and all the material proves that the singer's fabulous voice with its trade-mark fricative "r" can make anything listenable. Dolores is equally good toying with voice filters on the mysterious "Black Widow" and "Human Spirit," rocking on "When We Were Young" or battling with heavy guitar riffs on the zombie-like "In the Garden." But what you probably want to know is how different O'Riordan's new stuff is from the original Cranberries albums. Frankly, not much, but who cares when you've got your hands on such a truly worthwhile piece of music. • PP

velvet underground

Like so many things in Russia, local cuisine gets a bad rap all too often. A new Russian restaurant, Barkhat, located in the catacombs of Gostiny Dvor, proves to the world that you can have pelmeni without pomp, but still eat in style.

PHOTO ALEXEI VIKTOROV/ TEXT STAS SHECTMAN



Russian is not a cuisine of subtlety. Its flavors are bold and hearty, its dishes calorific and filled with contrast. When it is not the homey fare of village and countryside (never mind the Far-Eastern traditions, which are almost completely lost in Moscow's contemporary repertoire), it tends toward the grandiosity of imperial feast. But all too often in Moscow's Russian restaurants it seems that the food loses its elusive Russian soul to the trappings of more earthly delights.

Although Cafe Pushkin has long been the place of choice for locals and resident expats entertaining visitors from abroad, new Russian restaurant Barkhat (Velvet) has emerged to challenge Cafe Pushkin's pole position. Shedding all signs of village kitsch and imperial splendor, Barkhat attempts a more restrained elegance that nonetheless screams "Russian." Like Yar, Barkhat boasts a historic location that it incorporates into its design, albeit with more subtlety than its pre-revolutionary cousin. The restaurant's main hall is divided into

four rooms that are set into a basement corner of the southern wing of Gostiny Dvor, the 17th-century indoor market just a stone's throw from the Kremlin. The squares of exposed plaster in certain corners of the restaurant showcase part of the building's original appearance. Rounded ceilings padded in red faux-velvet envelop the dining rooms and bar lounge. The latter's ceiling is studded with rows of naked light

The sophistication and taste of Barkhat's interior comes laced with a heavy Russian accent.

bulbs, remains from the restaurant's former life as a casino that give the lounge an unnerving tackiness. Pate-colored vinyl chairs and dark-blue carpeting; burgundy walls and hand-painted boyar motifs; dark, lacquered wood moldings and panels — this is sophistication and taste with a heavy Russian accent.

Eschewing the overt signs of "Russianness" that define so many of the capital's other restaurants, Barkhat chooses to

communicate nationality through food. The medium-sized menu offers all the familiar dishes of the cuisine with dashes of creativity that suggest that perhaps Russian culinary traditions stand a chance against the flood of foreign tastes sweeping the country. Although the prices seem high for food that sells for only a few dollars per kilo even in some of the city's higher-end produkty stores, the taste of

and minced rabbit and cloaked in a cheese sauce. Another ceramic pot, this one bearing borsch (250 rubles), steamed with the sweat musk of beets and pork stock, which, along with strips of bacon, made the soup much more interesting than most of the beefy versions I have ever tasted.

Since it is still waiting for its liquor license, we absolved Barkhat of the deadly sin of being a Russian restaurant without wine or vodka. Instead, we ordered glasses of an invigorating, homemade cranberry mors (70 rubles) and homemade kisel (70 rubles), a traditional Russian fruit drink with a jelly-like consistency. Closer to fall, Barkhat will offer other traditional Russian drinks, such as kvas and mead, all made in-house, and plans on creating its own nastoikas (infused liqueurs) when the alcohol arrives. The violinist and guitarist that accompanied our dinner with the soft sounds of jazz standards are a great touch, warm and inviting. For now, only Thursday and Friday nights have live music, but the management promises to expand it throughout the week.

While the restaurant attempts fine dining with its embroidered white tablecloths and table settings, the service was too awkward to maintain the illusion. Our entrees of Moscow-style baked trout (750 rubles) and duck with lingonberry sauce (650 rubles) arrived just as we were finishing our starters. The tender, flavorful rainbow trout, served whole, was splayed down the spine and stuffed with earthy mushrooms and potatoes in a cheese sauce framed by slices of strawberry. The slender slices of duck were enriched by a jammy lingonberry sauce and accompanied by slices of pineapple and poached pear.

Our waiter disappeared after clearing our dinner plates, perhaps hoping to avoid having to explain that a week of banquets had devoured most of the restaurant's desserts, leaving them with only muffins to offer. Given the chance, we would have tried the baked apple with raisins and honey (200 rubles), the Bailey's mousse (250 rubles), or the tvorozhnik (a sweet fruit-flavored cottage cheese cake, 350 rubles).

The management seem to have a whole bag of plans for the restaurant, including an art gallery and bar. But with Barkhat, all of that will be gravy. The real proof is in the pelmeni.

ADDRESSES

Barkhat, 3 Varvarka Ul., Metro: Ploshchad Revolutsii, Kitai-Gorod, Tel. 234-3322

price

Barkhat

- Aspic, 200 rubles.
- Okroshka, 200 rubles.
- Seld "Pod Shuboi" (Salted Herring "In a Fur Coat"), 280 rubles.
- Suvorov-Style Mushrooms, 220 rubles.
- Tsar-Style Baked Sturgeon, 1,350 rubles.
- Rack of Lamb, 980 rubles.

taste test

When he's not busy singing karaoke at Duety, Chef Sergei Lebedev is a proponent of the unique national cuisine of far-flung Yakutia.

PHOTOS ALEXEI VIKTOROV / TEXT YEKATERINA KLADOVA



Duety is one of those rare venues in Moscow which offers two pleasures at the same time. Besides being one of the best karaoke joints in Moscow, it's cuisine is worth trying on its own merits. Chef Sergei Lebedev presents Italian, Japanese and even exotic Yakut cuisine, which can be found in only a few places in Moscow.

Tell us about the Yakut dishes you prepare here. Whose idea was to introduce such exotic cuisine into the menu?

It was a mutual decision, and practice has shown that it was a good one. Muscovites are hungry for exotic food, because they have already tried so many things and it's so hard to surprise them now. But we managed it, by introducing six Yakut dishes into our menu.

Where did you learn how to make Yakut food?

I spend some time in Yakutia, where I helped to open a new Yakut restaurant. I was looking for something new, and I longed to somehow vary my cooking style. So I decided to go and work there. Yakut cuisine has nothing to do with professional gastronomy and its recipes are passed down from generations to generation. Duety's Yakut cuisine page has only six dishes, which are presented in unadapted form. The basic ingredient in most of these dishes is frozen fish, such as sheefish and broad whitefish.

Is Yakut cuisine subject to seasonal change?

Yes, it is. Sheefish, for instance, is fished in winter only, when the first ice appears on the water. But here at Duety, we manage to serve sheefish all year round. We keep it in stock, saving it in ice glaze in the fridge. It does not affect the taste.

Are the other dishes you prepare here in Duety similarly exotic?

We also have Italian and Japanese dishes, but there is nothing particularly exotic about them. Most of the dishes are based upon classical recipes. We will definitely expand our menu soon, as we are currently thinking of increasing our working hours and switching to a day shift and night shift. But we're not going to change our whole concept. Duety is, first and foremost, a karaoke venue, so we don't want the food to dominate. Our dishes shouldn't distract our customers from singing, but at the same time they should be a worthy accompaniment to the fun.

What about the sweet section of the menu — do you make desserts here?

Our dessert page has several classical desserts, like tiramisu and cheesecake. But the jewel in the dessert crown is definitely the traditional Yakut dessert, made from classical Yakut cream, which is high in fat and extremely tasty, and the delicious blueberries which grow in the remote forests of the taiga.

ingredients

Chef Sergei Lebedev thinks that each season has its own ingredients, and avoids using non-seasonal ones. This summer he is putting an accent on seafood and salads, while leaving grilled and other meat dishes till autumn.

Seafood Salad

Scallops 30 g
Squid, octopus 20 g each

Mussels 25 g
Shrimp 50 g
Mixed salad 25 g
Asparagus 25 g
Cherry tomatoes 40 g
Sweet pepper 15 g
Green peas 5 g
Sauce 50 g
For sauce:
Olive oil 40 g
Garlic 5 g
Basil 4 g
Lemon juice 2 g

procedure

- 1 Peel all the seafood, and then fry it in olive oil for 5 min.
- 2 Peel the asparagus and boil until al dente.
- 3 Cut asparagus, sweet pepper and tomatoes.
- 4 To prepare sauce, blend all ingredients listed in blender.
- 5 Take vegetables and mixed salad, toss them and add sauce. Put on a plate and place seafood on top.



tonight's toast



A light meal requires light wine, so Chef Lebedev recommends the La Leyenda de La Doncella, Blanco Macabeo 2006.



breakfast chez tiffany

TEXT FRANCIS MERSON

One of the most positive reviews I've ever written was of "La Doublure," a Francis Veber film starring Gad Elmaleh as a parking valet who ends up in bed with a supermodel. This Moroccan-born actor's new film, "Hors de Prix" ("Priceless"), may deserve even higher accolades, as now Elmaleh has found a talent equal to his own — Audrey Tautou. Yes, I know you had your artistic sensibilities savaged by the nauseating "Amelie," but I want you to take that pain, roll it up into a ball and throw it down the deepest mineshaft of your subconscious. Tautou is no longer a pouting Parisian cupie doll, she is a real, carnal woman. In "Priceless," she plays Irene, a high-class concubine whose love for men increases in direct proportion to their Forbes rating. A bizarre set of circumstances leads her to mistake barman Jean (Elmaleh) for a millionaire playboy. This is a fairly obvious rom-com premise, but it is

the performance, not the plot, that makes the film a winner. Elmaleh delivers a thousand shades of deadpan as the everyman out of his depth, while Audrey gives what could be a career-altering performance. Looking at her in "Priceless" you realize why it was the French who coined the expression "femme fatale." Sexy, devastating, sporting a series of gorgeous dresses that makes "The Devil Wears Prada" look like a GAP commercial, Audrey gives off more than just a soupcon of her famous namesake, and that's saying something. In fact, the story of a love affair between star-crossed concubines will be familiar to any Hepburn fan, another reason why this "Breakfast chez Tiffany" is not, despite its virtues, a very original work. But to hell with originality. When a film contains a scene of Audrey Tautou instructing a besotted Gad Elmaleh how to seduce women, critical acumen is forgotten — all you can see is charm. "Priceless" opens on August 2. Catch it at Rolan.



moliere

Young Moliere is up to his wig in debts, and is bailed out of debtor's prison by wealthy aristocrat Jourdain (Fabrice Luchini). This grandee then expects Moliere to teach him to perform a self-penned one-act play destined to impress the delectable Celimene (Ludivine Sagnier). Moliere poses as a priest — Monsieur Tartuffe — to deflect suspicion while he's in residence chez Jourdain, and the resulting blancmange of a film looks just like the kind of farce that the actual Moliere might have enjoyed.



penelope

Penelope (Christina Ricci) was born with a pig's snout, after having been cursed by an evil witch. The curse can only be lifted if a man of Penelope's "own kind" takes her hand in marriage. But every man who lays eyes on the girl takes flight at first sight, never to return — until the arrival of Max (James McAvoy), an unrepentant gambler with a nefarious ulterior motive. But peppy delivery girl Annie (Reese Witherspoon) saves the day, leading Penelope on a journey of self-discovery.



zodiac

Based on the non-fiction book by Robert Graysmith, "Zodiac" is the story of a serial killer in the San Francisco Bay Area who taunts police with his letters and cryptic messages. Jake Gyllenhaal plays Graysmith, who becomes obsessed with the serial killer, infecting columnist Paul Avery (Robert Downey Jr.) with his passion. Meanwhile, lead investigator David Toschi (Mark Ruffalo) has his hands full with the investigation, as the killer strikes again, and again.

Dome Cinema (films in English) Transformers Aug. 2 — 7 p.m., 9:30 p.m. Aug. 3 — 7 p.m. Aug. 4-5 — 2:30 p.m., 5 p.m. Evan Almighty Aug. 3 — 9:30 p.m. Aug. 4-5 — 7:30 p.m., 9 p.m. Shrek the Third Aug. 4-5 — 1 p.m. 35mm (films with Russian subtitles) Kaze no Tani no Nausicaa (Nausicaa of the Valley of the Winds) Aug. 2-8 — 2 p.m., 6 p.m., 8 p.m. Bronzes 3: Les Amis Pour la Vie (Friends Forever) Aug. 2-8 — 11 p.m.	Requiem Aug. 2-8 — 1 p.m., 9 p.m. Je Crois que Je l'Aime? (Could This Be Love?) Aug. 2-8 — 4 p.m., 10 p.m. Mein Fuhrer — Die wirklich wahrste Wahrheit uber Adolf Hitler (The Truly Truest Truth About Adolf Hitler) Aug. 2-8 — 11 a.m., 3 p.m., 5 p.m., 7 p.m. Pioneer (films in Russian) Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix Aug. 2 — 9:20 a.m., 12 p.m., 2:40 p.m., 5:20 p.m., 8 p.m., 10:40 p.m.	Pyat Zvyozd (films in Russian) Ratatouille Aug. 2-8 — 11:10 a.m., 1:15 p.m. La Mome (Edith Piaf) Aug. 2-8 — 5:45 p.m. Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix Aug. 2-8 — 10 a.m., 11:20 a.m., 12:40 p.m., 2 p.m., 4:40 p.m., 7:30 p.m., 10:20 p.m. Moliere Aug. 2-8 — 3:25 p.m., 8:30 p.m., 10:50 p.m. Bronzes 3: Les Amis Pour la Vie (Friends Forever) Aug. 2-8 — 5:25 p.m., 10:15 p.m. Hostel: Part II Aug. 2-8 — 2:35 p.m., 8:45 p.m., 12:35 a.m.	Skinwalkers Aug. 2-8 — 10:20 a.m., 4:35 p.m., 10:45 p.m. Kaze no Tani no Nausicaa (Nausicaa of the Valley of the Winds) Aug. 2-8 — 10:05 a.m., 12:15 p.m. Penelope Aug. 2-8 — 3:20 p.m., 5:20 p.m., 7:20 p.m., 9:25 p.m., 11:30 p.m. Zodiac Aug. 2-8 — 2:30 p.m., 7:25 p.m., 12:10 a.m. Polnoye Dykhanie (Full Breath) Aug. 2-8 — 12:20 p.m., 6:35 p.m. Rolan (films in Russian) Penelope Aug. 2-8 — 11 a.m., 3:25 p.m.,	7:50 p.m., 12:15 a.m. Hors de Prix (Priceless) Aug. 2-8 — 2:50 p.m., 7:40 p.m., 12:30 a.m. Zodiac Aug. 2-8 — 12 p.m., 4:50 p.m., 9:40 p.m. Moliere Aug. 2-8 — 1 p.m., 5:25 p.m., 9:55 p.m.
ADDRESSES				
Dome Cinema , 18/1 Olympiysky Pr., Metro: Prospekt Mira, Tel. 931-9873; 35mm , 47/27 Pokrovka Ul., Metro: Krasniye Vorota, Tel. 917-5492; Rolan , 12a Chistoprudny Bul., Metro: Chistiye Prudy, Tel. 916-9412; Pioneer , 24 Kutuzovskiy Pr., Metro: Kutuzovskaya, Tel. 240-5240 Pyat Zvyozd , 25 Bakhrushina Ul., Metro: Pavletskaya, Tel. 916-9169				



weekend at ernie's

"A man does not exist until he is drunk," observed legendary writer and alcoholic Ernest Hemingway. Fathom your own mortality at Hemingway's, which delivers the goods to the mid-living, enlarged liver-ing expat community.

PHOTO **ALEXEI VIKTOROV** / TEXT **SONYA RINKUS**

SCENE: Russia is scary, and verbs of motion are hard. Sometimes you just want to go somewhere where everybody knows your name ("It's Dzosh, not Dzhordzh!"). Of course, Moscow is not without its share of expat haunts. But Starlite Diner, while expertly serving the needs of the hungry, miserably fails the thirsty and Silver's can only accommodate around 20 homesick British Commonwealthers and one retardedly hot South African. Luckily Hemingway's has risen from the ashes of Mexican restaurant La Hacienda, one of the victims of a shareholder fracas dramatically played out on the forums of redtape.ru. Its aim is simple — to provide succor to those who have been battered by tiny portions, exorbitant prices and controlling of faces, but who still have enough vital spirit left in them for a good time. Send Hemingway's your huddled masses yearning to be free, especially of the inhibitions that stop them dancing on tables.



LAYOUT: What to do with the old La Hacienda? Someone spent a lot of money making the place look like a real adobe hacienda, and it would have been a shame to gut the place and start over. Hemingway's, however, forwent Mexican purism in favor of the more popular Tex-Mex. This means dripping nachos, bountiful

burritos and frizzling fajitas, which have approximately nothing to do with literature's favorite depressive misogynist (who holidayed in Cuba) but still taste damn good. Since it's summer, everyone's hanging out on the

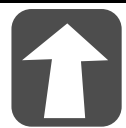
massive outdoor terrace, which has a cabana resort feel. There's more than enough table room for all your friends and their child brides to swig pitchers of Sangria (600 rubles) and complain about the service. So, con-

grats to Hemingway's for a patio well done, because element really cares about these things.

GROOVE: While the good weather holds, enjoy live music and DJing on the terrace from the stars of the expat music scene, such as DJ Biscuits, who is not just the president, but a

done toddler. The menu is 50 percent off noon to 4 p.m. on weekdays. Portions are big enough to ensure that next time you're home, people will talk behind your back about how you really let yourself go in Russia.

BATHROOM: Follow the make-shift signs away the terrace, down



best parties

friday, aug. 3

Well-known DJ, musician and producer AlexCosmo won't be working this Friday, although he will be at Neo, where he has been the resident DJ for several years. And seeing as tonight is his 30th birthday, he is celebrating in style at the club he loves best. The party starts at 11 p.m., and AlexCosmo can be caught playing a celebratory set from 2-5 a.m. The only present he requires are you dancing shoes. Or possibly your first-born daughter. Entry is 400 rubles.

saturday, aug. 4

Ladies night has never been so sweet! Saturday's *vecherinka* at Sakhar Electro Boutique is the latest in a series of parties on the theme "Worship Women." And there will be plenty of them around to worship at Sakhar starting at 11 p.m. this Saturday. Especially if you're there, darling. A team of female DJs (Tanya Charles, Viya and Nastasya) will keep the party rocking until the last stiletto falls. Entry is free pending feis kontrol.

saturday, aug. 4

Ever wonder where all the cute guys in Moscow were? Well, on Saturdays they're all at Ikra, they're all single and they're all totally, totally gay. The monthly "Zvezda" night is the most happeningest party on the gay scene right now, especially since that statue at Kitai-Gorod got blockaded by neo-Nazis. Rock on down at 11:59 p.m. Dancefloor is 400 rubles, VIP is 1,000 and entry is free for boys between the age of 18 and 23. Prizes and surprises are guaranteed.

Hemingway's aim is to provide succor to those who have been battered by tiny portions and exorbitant prices.

member. The party never gets too loud or rowdy, though, due to the killjoys down at the municipal authority.

PRICES: "No cocktail over 200 rubles" is the promise, and if you get there during the ruinous Happy Hour (6 p.m. to 8 p.m. nightly), they're even cheaper. Hemingway drank nearly everything, but is most strongly associated with the mojito (200 rubles), a drink that, as fate would have, Moscow cocktail culture has recently latched onto like a street mutt onto an aban-

done toddler. The menu is 50 percent off noon to 4 p.m. on weekdays. Portions are big enough to ensure that next time you're home, people will talk behind your back about how you really let yourself go in Russia.

HOURS: Drinking is a slow death. Who's in a hurry?

ADDRESSES

Hemingway's, 13 Komsomolsky Pr., Metro: Park Kultury, Frunzenskaya, Tel. 246-5726; **Neo**, 27 Varshavskoye Shosse, Metro: Tul'skaya, Tel. 725-6691; **Sakhar**, 23/25 Sretenka Ul., Metro: Sukharevskaya, Tel: 207-2838/208-7064; **Ikra**, 8 Kazakova Ul., Metro: Kurskaya, Tel. 505-53-51, 262-4482

BARS

☞ = summer patio

1171, 21 Savvinskaya Nab., Metro: Frunzenskaya, Tel. 740-5583
Apple Bar, 11 Mal. Dmitrovka Ul., Metro: Pushkinskaya, Tel. 980-9630
Bar 7, 10 Novaya Pl., Bldg. 2, Metro: Lubyanka, Tel. 730-5547
Bar 30/7, 30/7 Petrovka Ul., Metro: Chekhovskaya, Tel. 650-5951
Booze Bub, 5 Potapovsky Per. Metro: Chistiye Prudy, Tel. 621-4717
☞ **Chivas Bar**, 15 Plotnikov Per., Metro: Smolenskaya, Tel. 244-7979
☞ **City Space**, 52 Kosmodamianskaya Nab., Bldg. 6, Metro: Paveletskaya, Tel. 787-9800
Denis Simachyov Bar, 12/2 Stoleshnikov Per., Metro: Teatralnaya, Tel. 629-8085
☞ **Dissident**, 25 Nikolskaya Ul., Metro: Lubyanka, Tel. 230-5848
GQ Bar, 5 Baltshug Ul., Metro: Novokuznetskaya, Tel. 956-7775
Help (pictured), 27 1st Tverskaya-Yamskaya Ul., Bldg. 1, Metro: Belorusskaya, Tel. 973-8000
Lubyanski, 7 Mal. Lubyanka Ul., Metro: Lubyanka, Tel. 621-1378
Open Cafe, 13 Myasnitskaya Ul., Bldg. 1, Metro: Chistiye Prudy, Tel. 627-2292
Suzy Wong Bar, 11 Timura Frunze Ul., Bldg. 34, Metro: Park Kultury, Tel. 245-4849
Tema, 5 Potapovsky Per., Bldg. 2, Metro: Chistiye Prudy, Tel. 624-2720

Tundra, 30/7 Petrovka Ul., Metro: Chekhovskaya, Tel. 500-8025
Versiya 1.0, 3 Varvarka Ul., Metro: Kitai-Gorod, Tel. 647-1303
Vinosyr, 6 Mal. Palashevsky Per., Metro: Pushkinskaya, Tel. 739-1045
Vision (multiple locations), 11 Novy Arbat Ul., Bldg. 1, Metro: Arbatskaya, Tel. 727-3230
Vodka Bar, 18b Lva Tolstogo Ul., Metro: Park Kultury, Tel. 246-9669

live music clubs

16 Tons, 6 Presnensky Val Ul., Bldg. 1, Metro: Ulitsa 1905 Goda, Tel. 253-5300
Aktovy Zal, 18 Perevedenovskiy Per., Metro: Baumanskaya, Tel. 265-3935
B1 Maximum, 11 Ordzhonikidze Ul., Metro: Shabolovskaya, Tel. 648-6777
☞ **B2**, 8 Bol. Sadovaya Ul., Metro: Mayakovskaya, Tel. 650-9909
Bunker, 12 Tverskaya Ul., Bldg. 2, Metro: Tverskaya, Tel. 694-1506
Ikra, 8a Kazakova Ul., Metro: Kurskaya, Tel. 262-4482
☞ **Kitaisky Lyotchik Jao Da**, 25 Lubyansky Proyezd, Metro: Kitai-Gorod, Tel. 624-5611
Klub Na Brestskoi, 6 2nd Brestskaya Ul., Metro: Mayakovskaya, Tel. 694-0936
Music Town, 11 Bol. Dmitrovka

Ul., Metro: Teatralnaya, Tel. 937-5419
Tabula Rasa, MDM, 28 Komsomolsky Pr., Metro: Frunzenskaya, Tel. 248-6688
Tochka, 6 Leninsky Pr., Bldg. 7, Metro: Oktyabrskaya, Tel. 737-7666
Vermel, 4 Rauzhskaya Nab., Metro: Novokuznetskaya, Tel. 959-3303

dance clubs

Apelsin, 15 Mal. Gruzinskaya Ul., Metro: Krasnopresnenskaya, Tel. 253-0253
Black October, 24 Novy Arbat Ul., Metro: Arbatskaya, Tel. 203-0547
Cabana, 4 Rauzhskaya Nab., Metro: Novokuznetskaya, Tel. 238-5006
Circus, 13 Tsvetnoi Bul., Metro: Tsvetnoi Bulvar, Tel. 380-1688
Che, 10/2 Nikolskaya Ul., Metro: Lubyanka, Tel. 621-7477
Club XIII, 13 Myasnitskaya Ul., Metro: Chistiye Prudy, Tel. 625-3550
Depeche Mode Bar, 20/2 Sadovaya-Karetnaya Ul., Metro: Mayakovskaya, Tel. 230-6150
Dirty Dancing, 31 Gruzinsky Val Ul., Metro: Belorusskaya, Tel. 220-3099
Duma, 11 Mokhovaya Ul., Bldg. 3v, Metro: Okhotny Ryad, Tel. 692-1119
Dyagilev, 3 Karetny Ryad, Hermitage Garden, Metro: Chekhovskaya, Tel. 790-7400
☞ **Fabrique**, 2 Kosmodamianskaya Nab., Metro: Paveletskaya, Tel. 953-6576
Gaudi Arena, 1 Skladochnaya Ul., Bldg. 6, Metro: Savyolovskaya, Tel. 508-8060
Gazgolder, 5 Nizhny Susalny Per., Metro: Kurskaya, Tel. 8 (905) 785-1056



Hippo, 5/1 Mantulinskaya Ul., Bldg. 6, Metro: Ulitsa 1905 Goda, Tel. 256-2346
☞ **Infiniti**, 15 Druzhinnikovskaya Ul., Metro: Krasno-presnenskaya, Tel. 255-9055
☞ **Karma Bar**, 3 Pushechnaya Ul., Metro: Kuznetsky Most, Tel. 624-5633
Krizis Zhanra, 16 Pokrovka Ul., Metro: Chistiye Prudy, Tel. 623-2594
Kult, 5 Yauzskaya Ul., Metro: Kitai-Gorod, Taganskaya, Tel. 917-5706
☞ **Mio**, 1 Kaluzhskaya Pl., Metro: Oktyabrskaya, Tel. 238-5848
☞ **PodMoskovye**, 6 Mal. Kislovsky Per., Metro: Arbatskaya, Tel. 291-9132
Propaganda, 7 Bol. Zlatous-

tinsky Per., Metro: Kitai-Gorod, Tel. 624-5732
Rai, 9a Bolotnaya Nab., Metro: Polyanka, Tel. 767-1474
Sakhar, 23/25 Sretenka Ul., Metro: Sukharevskaya, Tel. 207-2838, 208-7064
Sorry, Babushka, 2 Slavyanskaya Pl., Metro: Kitai-Gorod, Tel. 788-0615
The Real McCoy, 1 Kudrinskaya Pl., Metro: Barrikadnaya, Tel. 255-4144
☞ **Voodoo Lounge**, 5/7 Sredny Tishinsky Per., Metro: Belorusskaya, Tel. 253-2323
Zhara, 8a Strastnoi Bul., Metro: Chekhovskaya, Tel. 694-4639
☞ **Zona**, 19 Leninskaya Sloboda Ul., Bldg. 4, Metro: Avtozavodskaya, Tel. 675-1925

ADDRESSES FROM PAGE 3

Le Meridien Moscow Country Club, Nakhabino, Krasnogorsk District, Tel. 926-5294; **Plyazh Island**, Tel. 545-1771, www.letomusic.ru; Nikola-Lenivets, Tel. +7 (926) 221-5397 (to reserve seats on bus), www.arch.stoyanie.ru; **Arkhangelskoye Estate Museum**, Ilinskoye Shosse, Metro: Tushinskaya (take a bus from the metro), Tel. 584-5533; **Pyat Zvyozd**, 25 Ul. Bakhrushina, Metro: Paveletskaya, Tel. 781-0101, 953-4206; Oktyabr, 24 Novy Arbat, Metro: Arbatskaya, Tel. 545-0505; **Soyuz Kompozitorov**, 8/10 Brusov Per., Bldg. 2, Metro: Okhotny Ryad, Tel. 629-6563

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- 8 (903) 960-8589
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ЧАЙХОНА 1
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Address: 3 Pushechnaya Ul.
Metro: Kuznetsky Most
Tel. 624-5633, 789-6901
www.karma-bar.ru



Mayaki

Japanese restaurant Mayaki boasts one of the city's most imaginative design schemes: glass sculptures like power modules from a spaceship crowd around comfy sofas in shades of hot pink and green.

The place may look like a sushi restaurant from Star Trek, but the space-age decor does not mean cosmic prices: the Japanese fusion cuisine is reasonably priced and of top-notch quality.

Or you can just drop in for a cocktail in your space boots. The location is a cinch — right behind the new entrance to Mayakovskaya metro.

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Metro: Mayakovskaya
Tel. 251-1962

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Address: 13 Zubovsky Bul., Bldg. 2
Metro: Park Kultury, Tel. 247-0912
www.parizhsk.ru



leo (july 23-aug. 22)

One of the standard "panic" rumors that throw some African villages into turmoil is the report that a couple (usually unmarried and therefore deserving of bad fortune) has become stuck together during sex and cannot be unstuck without medical attention. A reporter for Kenya's East African Standard happened to be in the middle of a frenzied mob in front of the Naselica Hotel in downtown Kisumu, brought together by rumors that an ambulance had been called for a stuck couple. The reporter was convinced that most in the crowd were true believers, but the hotel manager said one of his competitors probably had planted the rumor, hoping to tie up traffic for the day and to create the impression that the Naselica is unlucky. Leo, you're being duped by a very stupid rumor right now.

CHARLIZE THERONE, AUGUST 7 (1975)

virgo (aug. 23-sept. 22)

Virgos are great defenders of the domestic domain, which is why it's so great to have them on your side. Well, faced with falling prices for domestic wine, a group of French vintners has made terroristic threats against the government and retailers who carry imports. The guerrilla gang, wearing black ski masks, released a video in May reminding officials about recent incidents in which small explosives were detonated in supermarkets that carry imported wines and in which a tractor-trailer carrying imported wine had been shot at. Don't be scared to fiercely defend your "home-turf" this week. People will admire you and join you in your cause.

libra (sept. 23-oct. 23)

There are people who have way too much money — we all know that. Although you don't qualify as an oligarch (probably), you will be tempted to spend like one this week. For example, did you know that backyard play sets can range in price from less than \$100 to high-end outfits of \$12,000, that would typically include fancy combinations of rock walls, rope ladders, sandboxes and tunnel slides, and maybe even a tower with roofs and rotating plastic guns mounted on the walls. Libra, the person you're thinking of buying that expensive present for will be embarrassed and overwhelmed by how much you're spending on them. And quite frankly, you don't have the money right now to do it. Better rethink that gift.

scorpio (oct. 24-nov. 22)

For the fourth year, professor Paul Worsley of the University of Missouri-Rolla conducted his Summer Explosives Camp, with 20 high-school-age kids learning the techniques of blowing things up. Worsley's main goal is to recruit mine-engineering majors to his school, but another benefit, he told National Public Radio, is that the school "attracts the kids that might otherwise get into a little bit of trouble." Scorpio, you will experience a the rage of one desperate to blow something up this week. Find a benign outlet for your fury rather than actually destroying what's irking you.

ELEMENT STAR GAZER SHAWNA LUCEY

sagittarius (nov. 23-dec. 21)

Sagittarians are famous for being good with animals — you understand their needs and communicate with them well. Did you hear that a town council in England turned down Timothy Fry's request to be allowed to exercise his two snakes, Rose and Buddy, in the town's park. He said he'd been letting them roam, leash-less, for the past year, but admitted that the two (a corn snake and a rat snake) were getting stressed from all the attention they have been receiving. An animal you know needs your attention and, in fact, you need that time, too. This week, spend as much time as possible with the animals important to you and keep them from the public eye as much as possible.

capricorn (dec. 22-jan. 20)

A London judge sentenced a man to a mental health facility in June after he admitted that he had smeared his feces inside at least six trains over a period of several months last year. The man said the voices in his head had, on at least five occasions, instructed him to go kill someone and that, somehow, he was able to overcome the voices by doing what he did on the trains. Cap, you're barely keeping yourself from some boldly destructive behavior. This week, take time off work to relax and have a break from the stress you're under.

aquarius (jan. 21-feb. 18)

I recently read about veteran big-rig operator Gilberto Cantu, who drove his 18-wheeler all the way through the Lincoln Tunnel (1.5 miles, from New Jersey to New York City) even though the load was six inches too high for the tunnel, so that the truck's roof continuously ripped and peeled off, slowing the truck and making a screeching noise the whole way. When stopped by officers at the other end, he appeared not even to understand why they had pulled him over. Cantu was not alcohol-impaired and, until then, had a "spotless" safety record. Aquarius, are you distracted these days? Can't you see the flashing lights and screeching all around you? You need to work out the funk you're in before you get into serious trouble.

pisces (feb. 19-march 20)

You've been pretty argumentative lately and people are starting to wonder why. If you don't calm down and change your attitude, things could go much worse for you this week. For example, Pablo Castro of Alabama was sent to the hospital twice on June 24, once after being stabbed in an argument and, after his release later that day, being stabbed again while arguing with a different person. You may not think you're being rude, but I regret to inform you that most people interpret your tone of voice and your attitude as such and it's going to really get in the way of things this week.

aries (march 21-april 20)

You're being a little unrealistic in your finances these days, Aries. Living beyond your means is certainly something you've done before, but right now is a particularly bad moment. Take for example Liver Love, Carob Crunch, Honey Hearts and other dog treats that are marketed as snacks that owners can enjoy along with their dogs (from Britain's Alldog Bakery), but with the principal drawback that they are more expensive per gram than lumpfish caviar. Do dogs really need something so fancy? Do you?

taurus (april 21-may 20)

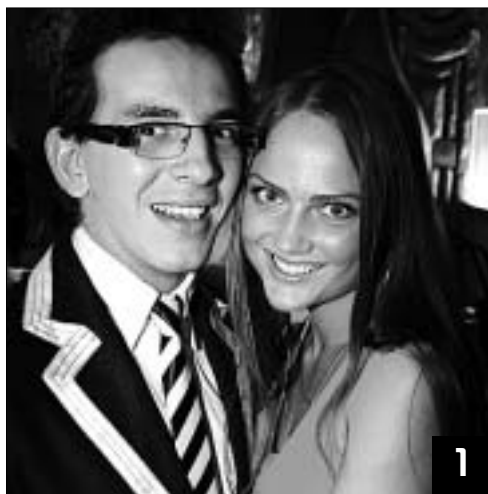
Just because something is detested by everyone doesn't mean it is without merit. For example, a Tohoku University (Sendai, Japan) researcher reported in June that his work reveals that cockroaches have memories and the ability to learn, in that they can be taught to salivate (upon exposure to a specific odor), just as Pavlov showed that dogs could be taught to salivate (upon hearing a bell). Just because you see no value in something, doesn't mean someone else isn't dedicating their life to researching it. Taurus, it's time for you to open up your mind and stop being so set in your opinions.

gemini (may 21-june 21)

It is increasingly difficult these days for a girl to go through the stage of being a "plain old kid," according to a June Arizona Republic story, because clothing fashions seem to move from "toddler" directly to some form of "teen" (including "tween" and now "pre-tween"). In fact, reported the newspaper, GAP Kids recently offered a "white, crocheted string bikini you'd likely see Anna Kournikova wearing on the cover of the Sports Illustrated swimsuit issue (except that it) was for a 12-month-old." Gemini, you're feeling very pressured at work about your wardrobe. Stop letting that affect your sense of self-worth. It's meaningless and I think you dress beautifully.

cancer (june 22-july 22)

Karl Wallenda wrote that "Being on the tightrope is living; everything else is waiting." Cancer, you feel like you're on a tightrope this week; you're so on-edge, everything makes you nervous. I think all the tension is due to a secret desire that you're keeping bottled up inside. But you feel like if you speak up, you'll fall off the tightrope. Let me assure you that you won't. People suspect what you are hoping for and are merely waiting for you to make the first move.



on the town

Moscow, like life itself, is a periodicity of ebb and flow, joy and sorrow, drunkenness and recovery. Let's start with the drunkenness. Rai turned six months last week, and celebrated with an extravagant circus party. Needless to say, element was there lapping up every droplet of glamour. Anton and Vika (1) had been waiting for eight hours for the party to start: "We came straight after school," explained Anton. Despite his look of complete composure, Zhenya (2) was actually riding a monocycle in this shot, and juggling three pineapples. Nastya (3) came to the circus because she hasn't smiled since 1993. Olga and Vika (4) showed her the way. The rest is a bit of a blur, to be honest. The next thing I remember is being woken up in a ditch in Kolomenskoye by golden youths Felix and Anastasia (5), who had come for the Afisha Picnic. After accepting Katya's (8) generous offer, I headed to Yu Cafe, where birthday girl Masha (6) plied us with champagne and jugs of mojito. Tom and Mary (7) were there to stop me making a fool of myself. Unfortunately, they didn't. Photos Evgeni Kogan / Text Editor



coming next issue

- Sinead O'Connor turns up at B1Maximum.
- Fall Out Boy get tragically emo on us.
- Super summer three-week bumper issue.

LOOK FOR IT AUG. 9