

The Moscow State Yiddis

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jeffrey veidlinger relates a fascinating and little known piece of history he distills a remarkable amount of research into a pithy well turned account that will interest readers of cultural and political history publishers weekly drawing from newly available archives jeffrey veidlinger uses the dramatic story of the moscow state yiddish theater the premiere secular jewish cultural institution of the soviet era to demonstrate how jewish writers and

artists were able to promote jewish national culture within the confines of soviet nationality policies published with the generous support of the lucius n littauer foundation

a vivid portrait of the moscow yiddish theater and its innovations and contributions to the art of the theater in the modern age the moscow yiddish theater later called goset was born in 1919 and almost immediately became one of the most remarkable avant garde theaters in europe it flourished in the 1920s but under bolshevik pressure soon lost much of the originality that had distinguished it in 1948 stalin s henchmen slaughtered goset s legendary actor and director solomon mikhoels and the theater was liquidated this book focuses not on how the theater was persecuted but on its ambitious beginnings as a revolutionary organization of passionate artistic exploration the book brings to english readers for the first time selected writings that reflect the aesthetics and politics of the yiddish revolutionary theater the book also incorporates miraculously salvaged images of marc chagall s famous theater murals as well as paintings of costumes and stage sets created by the best artists of the day these illustrations discovered only after the fall of the soviet union have never been published before with emphasis on the theater s early achievements and its centrality in moscow s burgeoning theater world the book makes a major contribution to the understanding of modern jewish culture and the art of theater

this is the first comprehensive study of yiddish in the former soviet union a chronicle of orthographic and other reforms from the state of the language in pre revolutionary russia through active language planning in the 1920s and 1930s repression and subsequent developments up to the 1980s is recreated from contemporary publications and archival materials later chapters draw on the author s own experience as a yiddish writer and lexicographer in moscow at a time when the bolshevik party s jewish sections held an influential position yiddish attained a functional diversity without precedent in its history but underlying contradictions between ideas expressed in the slogans proletarians of all countries unite and the right of nations to self determination led to extremes in language planning a golden mean was achieved after the 1934 yiddish language conference in kiev using contemporary literary works as a source of linguistic and sociolinguistic information gennady estraikh charts the development of the resultant variety of the language soviet yiddish the effects of severe repression in the late 1930s and 1940s and the subsequent decline in usage comparisons are drawn between soviet yiddish language planning and

concurrent reforms in russian ukrainian belorussian and german and the features and types of soviet yiddish word formation are analysed notably univerbation or compressing a phrase into one word

the guide a detailed one volume reference work with alphabetically ordered entries is a bio bibliography of yiddish culture in britain emphasising jewish life lived in yiddish and based largely on yiddish sources it views yiddish culture in britain as a small but vital segment of ashkenazic life showing its lifelines from the continent and to the new world it documents the multiple relations which this culture has had with its surroundings jewish and non jewish wholly in english it includes biographical bibliographical historical linguistic theatrical and other kinds of information much of it unavailable elsewhere

focuses on chagall s jewish roots this book includes 200 illustrations and also illustrates succinct interpretations of chagall s world and iconography and the nature of his art in the midst of modernism it includes works from the russian theater and those that were done during his early and late career in france

what was the first tv show to air in color where did the term vaudeville originate what exactly does a best boy do on a movie set these questions and many many more are answered in this compendium of mind boggling facts fascinating lore insider stories and illuminating statistics about the theater cinema and television journalist james inverne has unearthed page after page of information exorbitant production costs petulant star demands great successes dismal failures near misses sweet inspirations and infamous stunts throughout acting history the greatest entertainment trivia book ever is an irresistible collection of facts quotes and anecdotes for trivia buffs and pop culture fans

a photographic history based mainly on the new york yivo institute archives surveys jewish life in russia focusing on the pogroms of 1881 82 and 1905 and their effects e g the jewish revolutionary movements the bund and zionism and the beilis trial of 1911 pp 96 108 discuss the ambivalent jewish reaction to the bolshevik revolution although the bolsheviks were hostile to jewish concerns the new regime offered great opportunities to literate jews while the whites and the ukrainians were responsible for pogroms and exploited antisemitism to rally anti bolshevik support ch 4 pp 175 223 describes the fate of the jews of the ussr during the holocaust jewish resistance participation in the partisan movement and in the red army also surveys stalin s anti jewish campaign from 1948 on the doctor s plot soviet anti

zionism the emigration movement and prospects for jewish life in the ussr

review this four volume set features nearly 1 500 entries by experts on all aspects of russian history including important biographical figures geographical areas ethnographic groups cultural landmarks military campaigns and social issues the top 20 reference titles of the year american libraries may 2004

this book is a collection of papers examining some of the fruitful interactions between yiddish and the european literary tradition ranging from the early nineteenth century to the present from france to lithuania and from classic modernist writers such as kafka to imre kertesz

with emancipation in nineteenth century europe jewish artists at last had an opportunity to develop their new professional vocation at first only a few notable painters emerged but in berlin before world war i jewish artists and art professionals dominated the new progressive art world their successes quickly spread to other parts of the globe as jewish history came to encompass not only europe but also america and palestine later israel this book accompanying an exhibition of graphic works on display at the arthur ross gallery of the university of pennsylvania examines the vicissitudes of jewish art activity over the span of the twentieth century it focuses on a variety of key issues in the life and work of jewish artists including emigration and immigration dilemmas of women artists zionism and the land of israel the trauma of the holocaust the importance of new york as an artistic center and the relation to other jewish creative artists in theater in film in music in literature separate essays by the volume editor harry rand juliet bellow and freyda spira address in detail the issues of diaspora and universalism the new york school of abstract expressionism women artists and their spaces and the berlin world of graphic artists and their publishers contributors harry rand is curator of cultural history at the national museum of american history smithsonian institution he previously served as senior curator of painting and sculpture at the national museum of american art juliet bellow is a doctoral student in the history of art program at the university of pennsylvania freyda spira is a doctoral student in the history of art program at the university of pennsylvania

ranging from the earliest drama to the theater of the 1980 s this encyclopedia includes coverage of national drama and theater around the world theater companies and musical comedy arrangement of the 1 300 entries is alphabetically by name or subject with nearly 950 of these devoted to individual playwrights and their works

this comprehensive multicultural text presents the history of theater within a framework of cultural and social ideas

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