

**OLGA S. PARTAN**  
**CURRICULUM VITAE**

Department of Modern Languages and Literature  
Stein Hall 461  
College of the Holy Cross  
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**Education**

**Ph.D., Department of Slavic Languages**, Brown University, 2004

**Ph.D. Dissertation:** "Recurring Masks: The Impact of the Italian *Commedia dell'Arte* on the Russian Artistic Imagination"

**CACT Teaching Certificate**, Center for the Advancement of College Teaching at Brown University, 1997.

**M.A. Foreign Literature**, Harvard University Extension School, 1995

**M.A. Dissertation:** "The Changing Masks of Phaedra: A Story Through History."

**B.A. Dramatic Arts**, Moscow Shchukin Theater College, 1983.

**Professional Experience**

**Lecturer**, College of the Holy Cross, 2005-present

Russian 101, 102, 301

"Tales of Desire" (Studies of World Literature Program),

"Russian Drama and the West" (RUSS 299-02)

"Madness in Russian Literature and Culture" (299-02)

"Russian Cinema" (299-02)

"Firing the Canons: Russian Revolution and the Arts."

**Visiting Assistant Professor**, Wellesley College, 2004-2005

"Madness in Russian Literature and Culture" (RUSS 257)

"Russian Drama and the West" (RUSS 253)

"Nineteenth Century Russian Literature" (RUSS 251)

"Tales of Desire" (CPLT 285)

"Elementary Russian I" (RUSS 101 – First Year Russian)

"Elementary Russian II" (RUSS 102 – First Year Russian)

"Intermediate Russian II" (RUSS 202 – Second Year Russian)

"Wintersession Russian" (Intensive First Semester Russian )

**Visiting Instructor**, Boston College, 2002-2003

"Literatures of the World: Desire and Death" (SL 084.10)

"Classics of Russian Literature" (SL 222.01)  
"Seminar: Russkaya Literatura XX veka" (SL 523.01),  
"Literature and Revolution" (SL 288.01)

**Teaching Fellow**, Brown University, 1996-2002

"Advanced Topics in Russian Culture I" (RU 111)  
"Advanced Russian Language" (RU 50)  
"Russian Literature and Other Arts" (RU 112)  
"Advanced Russian Language" (RU 60)  
Second Year Russian Language

**Teaching Assistant**, Brown University, 1995-1996

First Year Russian Language

**Employment in Russia:**

Actress at the Moscow Art Theater (MKhAT), 1983-1990.

**Professional Activities**

**Publications:**

"Alla: The Jester-Queen of Russian Pop Culture," *The Russian Review*, July 2007.

Entries on Soviet Drama, Liudmila Ulitskaja, Memoirs, Popular Music, Alla Pugacheva, Russian Circus, and the Moscow Art Theater, in *Encyclopedia of Contemporary Russian Culture*, edited by K. Evans-Romaine, H. Goscilo, and T. Smorodinskaya, Routledge, Great Britain, 2006.

"Shinel' - Polichinelle - Pulcinella: The Italian Ancestry of Akaky Bashmachkin," *Slavic and East European Journal*, Volume 49, Number 4 Winter 2005.

"Aleksandr Vertinsky," *Russian Emigré Writers in the Dictionary of Literary Biography*, edited by Maria Rubins, 2005.

Book review of John E. Malmstad and Nikolay Bogomolov's *Mikhail Kuzmin: A Life in Art*, in *Slavic and East European Journal*, Fall 2000 issue.

Book review of Edyth Haber's *Mikhail Bulgakov: The Early Years*, in *Slavic and East European Journal*, Winter 1999 issue.

**Works in Progress:**

"Feminism a la Russe? Pugacheva-Orbakaite's Celebrity Construction via Family Bounding" in *Glamour and Celebrity in Post-Soviet Russian Culture*, ed. by Helena Goscilo and Vlad Strukov summer 2007

"A Marriage My Parents' Style" creative writing – summer 2007- present

“Anna Ioanovna’s Italian Decade and its Impact on Russian Eighteenth-Century Culture and Beyond,” an article, based on a dissertation chapter.

"Recurring Masks: The Impact of the Italian *Commedia dell'Arte* on the Russian Artistic Imagination" (book-length manuscript)

### **Selected Conference Papers and Lectures:**

“Alla: The Jester-Queen of Russian Pop Culture,” BASEES, Cambridge, UK April 2007.

“Valentin Gneushev’s Elite *Balagan*: Nostalgia for the Silver Age in the Post-Soviet Circus”  
AAASS Annual Conference, Washington DC, November, 2006

“Evgenij Vakhtangov’s Fantastic Realism: Between Stanislavsky and Meyerhold.” AAASS  
Annual Conference, Salt Lake City, Utah, November 2005.

“Anna Ioanovna’s Italian Decade and its Impact on Russian Eighteenth-Century Culture and Beyond.” Annual AATSEEL Conference, Philadelphia, December 2004.

“Post-Soviet Estrada: Infatuation with the West and Nostalgia for the Past.” AAASS Annual  
Conference, Boston, December 2004.

"The *Commedia dell'Arte* Reinterpreted: The Italian Harlequinade in the work of Alla Pugacheva  
and Liudmilla Petrushevskaja." AAASS Annual Conference, Toronto, Canada,  
November 2003.

“Nations and Genres in Nineteenth-Century Russian and Polish Literatures,” Chair of Panel,  
AAASS Annual Conference, Toronto, Canada, November 2003.

"Shinel' - Polichinelle - Pulcinella: The Italian Ancestry of Akaky Bashmachkin." Annual  
AATSEEL Conference, New York, December 2002.

"Recent Autobiographies of Russian Celebrities." Third Annual Conference of the Northeastern  
Slavic Graduate Student Association, Brown University, Providence, RI, March 2002.

"Public Confessions: Best Selling Memoirs and Diaries of the Russian Cultural Elite."  
AAASS Annual Conference, Washington DC, November 2001.

"Yurij Polyakov's Travelogue *Sky of the Fallen*: Byt and Bytie of the New Russians"  
AAASS Annual Conference, Denver, Colorado, November, 2000.

"The Impact of the Italian *Commedia dell'arte* on Nabokov's Last Novel *Look at the  
Harlequins*." Annual AATSEEL Conference, Chicago, December 1999.

"Modern Russian Theater," lectures given for an undergraduate course on Russian Modernism,  
Brown University, Fall 1997.

"The Harlequinade of the Silver Age: The *Commedia dell'arte* in the dramatic works of Russian Symbolists." Annual AATSEEL Conference, Washington DC, December 1996.

"Mikhail Bulgakov: Life and Art," lecture given for an undergraduate class on Soviet Literature 1917-1953, Brown University, November 1996.

"Tolstoy's *The Living Corpse*: Oxymoron as Dramatic Structure." NESAS Annual Conference, College of the Holy Cross, April 1996.

"The Russian *Phaedra*: A Poetic Union of Russian Folklore and Greek Myth." Annual AATSEEL Conference, Chicago, December 1995.

### **Awards**

Sveikauskas Award for Outstanding Dissertation, Brown University, 2004.

Brown University Dissertation Writing Fellowship Award for 2000-2001 academic year.

Nomination for 2000 Brown University Presidential Award for Excellence in Teaching.

Nomination for 1999 Brown University Presidential Award for Excellence in Teaching.

Award for Academic Achievement, Harvard University Extension School, June 1995.

### **Language Skills**

Russian – native

English – fluent

French – fluent

Italian – reading and working knowledge

German - reading knowledge

Polish - reading knowledge

### **Memberships in Professional Organizations**

American Association of Teachers of Slavic and East European Languages (AATSEEL)

American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies (AAASS)