Windows into Heaven: Russian Icons of the Brown Collection

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Abstract

In North America, Russian icons are not often seen as distinct from other religious artefacts. Yet, while the art of the Byzantine Empire and its affiliation with the Orthodox Church did influence the look of Russian icons, and Russian artists initially followed Byzantine icon guidelines in their production, they focused on optimistic rather than tragic images. By examining the crucifixion scene on three Russian icons from the Brown Collection at the University of Victoria Art Collections, this article explores the distinct use and importance of icons to the Russian people.

Keywords

icons; Russian icons; Byzantine Empire; Old Believers; Eastern Orthodox Church; Hodegetria; Brown Collection; crucifixion; twelve festival scenes; Christ; Virgin Mary; veneration

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while the art of the Byzantine Empire and its affiliation with the Orthodox Church did influence the look of Russian icons, and Russian artists initially followed Byzantine... scene on three Russian icons from the Brown Collection at the. University of Victoria Art Collections, this article explores the. distinct use and importance of icons to the Russian people. Key Terms: Icons, Russian icons, Byzantine Empire, Old Believers, Eastern. Orthodox Church, Hodegetria, Brown Collection, crucifixion, twelve festival scenes, Christ, Virgin Mary, veneration. Introduction. In 1990, Bruce and Dorothy Brown donated a set of fourteen Russian icons to the. University of Victoria”s Maltwood Gallery. , Windows from Heaven - About Russian Iconography. The Pushkin Museum has put together a rare collection of 130 religious icons dating from the 14th to 16th centuries, known as a golden age of religious art in More like this , Windows to Heaven - Icons by Sr. You can see some of the interesting icons form Russia. Usually icons have a very important role in Orthodox Christianity. An icon can be understood as a Simply put, the appeal of Russian icons is international, extending beyond religious or ethnic background. With this in mind, the museum at Knights of Columbus International Headquarters in New Haven CT (where the organisation was founded) is presenting Windows into Heaven: Russian Icons and Treasures, which will run for more than a year... through 27 April 2014. The exhibition opened in time for Orthodox Easter on Sunday, 5 May. A few pieces are from the museum’s permanent collection. One of the great traditions of Eastern Christianity, icons are less-well-known here, and we’re pleased that this exhibit will enable residents of the Northeast to grow in their understanding of the history and religious significance of these windows into heaven".