



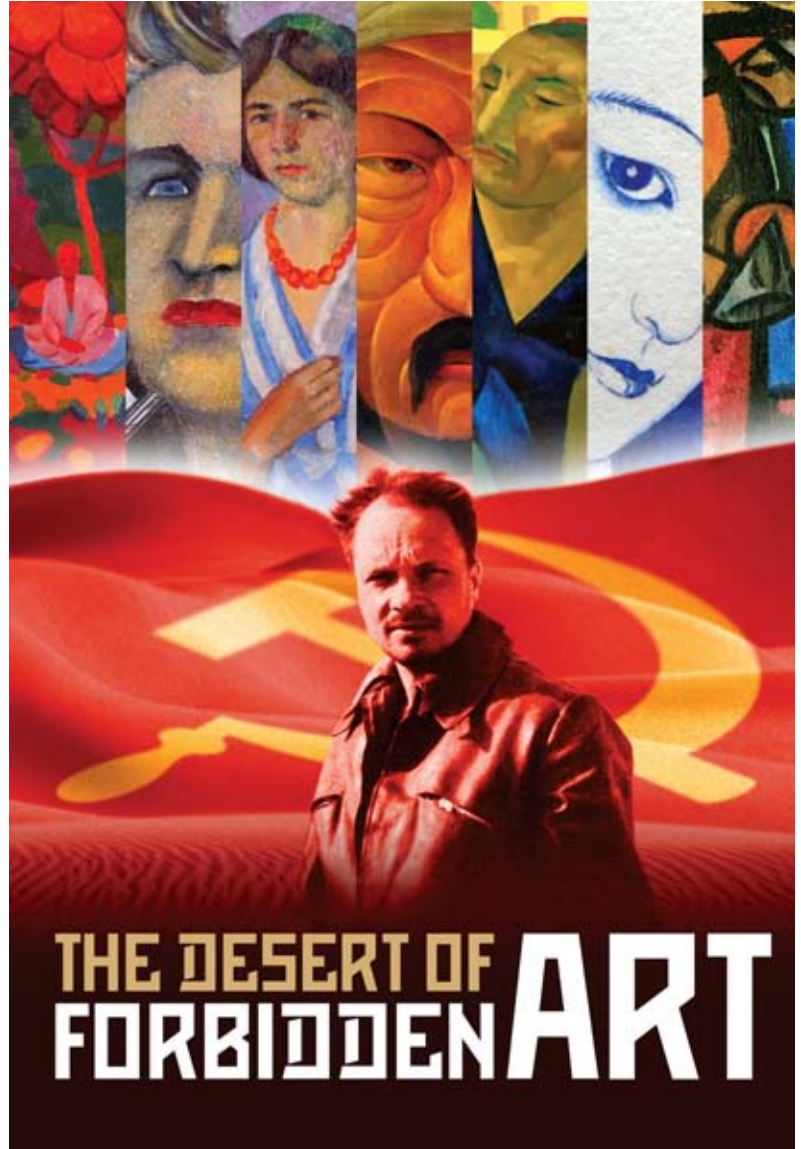
Oberlin College Holds Free Screening of 2010 Award- Winning Documentary

OBERLIN, OH—On Monday, October 18, a public screening of the 2010 award-winning documentary *Desert of Forbidden Art* with directors Amanda Pope and Tchavdar Georgiev will be held in West Auditorium in the Oberlin College Science Center from 7:00-9:00 pm. The screening is sponsored by the Allen Memorial Art Museum and the Oberlin Center for Russian, East European, and Central Asian Studies.

The film highlights the life and achievements of Igor Savitsky (1915-1984), who rescued 44,000 works of unsanctioned Soviet art and founded a museum to house it far from the eyes of the Kremlin. Today, the Nukus Art Museum, located in Karakalpakstan, Uzbekistan, holds the second largest collection of Soviet avant-garde art in the world. This collection of artwork, suppressed during Stalinism and the following decades, offers fresh perspectives on the art and history of the USSR.

The remarkable story of the man and the museum he created is captured in this fascinating documentary that explores how Savitsky secured state funding for a museum featuring art deemed anti-soviet. The Oberlin College screening presents a rare opportunity to meet the filmmakers and hear them discuss their experiences making the documentary and researching the life of the man who created this extraordinary museum.

On the following evening, October 19, 7:00-9:00 pm, the directors of *Desert of Forbidden Art* will take part in a round-table discussion in the King Building, Room 106, on the Oberlin College campus.



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In conjunction with the film, a series of lectures—“**Contraband Canvases: How Modern Soviet Art Found a Home in the Desert**”—will explore the history, politics, and culture of the area.

October 12—Oberlin College Visiting Assistant Professor of History Marko Dumancic will give an overview of Central Asian history.

October 13—Oberlin College Professor of Russian and Comparative Literature Tim Scholl and Associate Professor of Russian Arlene Forman will present an introduction to Russian Modernist and Socialist Realist art.

October 14—Oberlin College Associate Professor of Politics Stephen Crowley will explore the politics of the region today.

October 20—Duke University Russian and Soviet art specialist Pamela Kachurin will conclude the lecture series.

All lectures will be held in the King Building, Room 106, and are free and open to the public.

For more information, please visit:
<http://www.oberlin.edu/amam/lectures.html>



Filmmakers Amanda Pope and Tchavdar Georgiev on location in Uzbekistan, photograph by Ernest Kurtveliev