

Sotheby's Auction Catalog, the Rastropovich-Vishnevskaya collection of Russian Art, 2007, auction cancelled.

Measures 10 ¾" x 8 ¼" x 1 ¼"; massive, 524 pp. Includes 450 lots featuring a wide variety of Russian objects d'art comprising the Rastropovich-Vishnevskaya collection. Porcelain, glassware, enamelware, ivory and, the most valuable of all, paintings. Excellently illustrated, with detailed descriptions and essays in English and Russian.

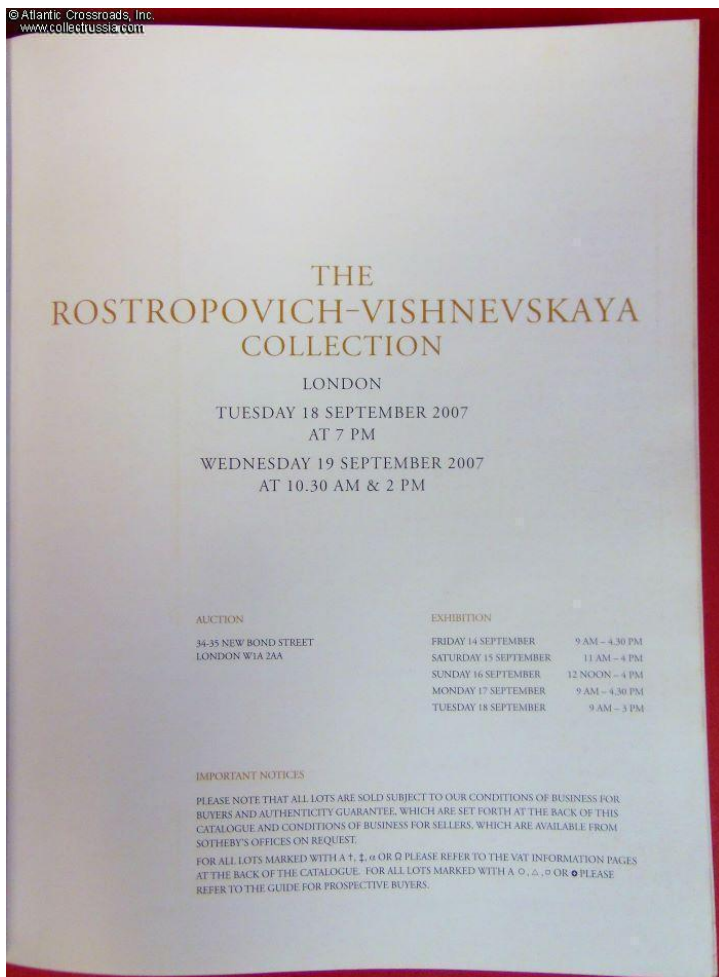
Near mint condition. Barely noticeable shelf wear to the cover is all that separates it from mint condition.

World-renowned cellist Mstislav Rostropovich and his wife, an equally world-renowned opera soprano Galina Vishnevskaya were forced to emigrate from the USSR in 1974 and assembled the collection for decades after, to create a "Russian home" away from home. It was supposed to be auctioned on September 18-19, 2007. On the eve of the auction Russian billionaire Alisher Usmanov made an offer Sotheby's could not refuse. He purchased the entire collection for \$72 million; the auction was cancelled. Usmanov presented the collection to Vladimir Putin, - arguably, a smart investment into his own financial future. Politically it was presented as returning Russian art to Russia. The collection was placed in the Konstantinovskiy Palace in St. Petersburg for permanent exhibition in May of 2008.

Please note that the pen in our photo is for size reference.

Item# 39009

\$200.00



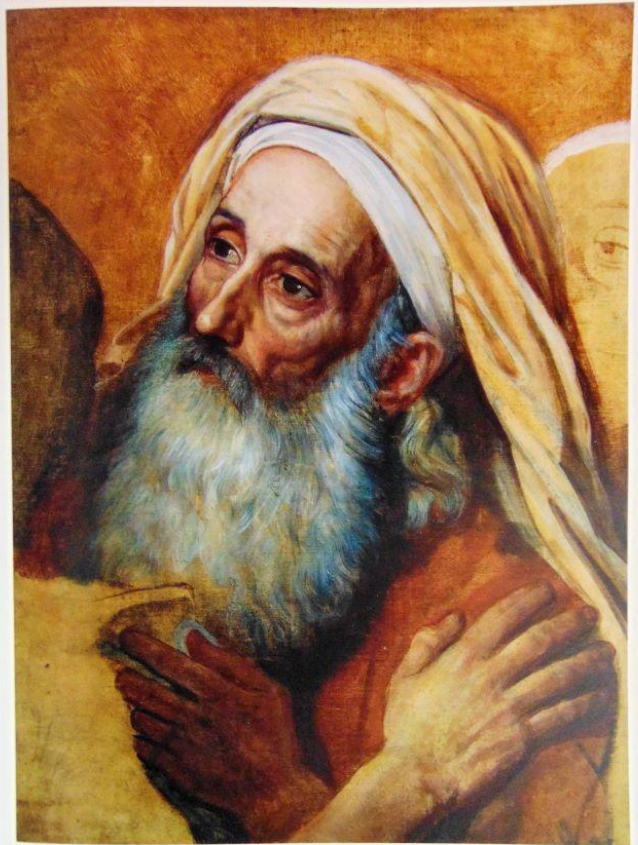


MSTISLAV ROSTROPOVICH & GALINA VISHNEVSKAYA
МСТИСЛАВ РОСТРОПОВИЧ И ГАЛИНА ВИШНЕВСКАЯ
BY ELIZABETH WILSON
ЭЛИЗАБЕТ УИЛСОН



The life stories of Mstislav (Slava) Rostropovich and Galina Vishnevskaya could be seen as an allegory illustrating the triumph of talent and strength of character over all manner of difficulties. Born in 1927 and 1926 respectively, they grew up in the repressive atmosphere of Stalinist society, and endured the hardships of the WWII years. Galina survived the harrowing conditions of Leningrad's siege, and as a 16 year old girl joined the city's "blue division", engaging in civic duties from mending sewage pipes to digging potatoes. Simultaneously she sang to entertain the

Историю жизни Мстислава (Славы) Ростроповича и Галины Вишневской можно изучать как урок, повествующий о триумфе таланта и силы характера над всевозможными трудностями. Их детство прошло в обстановке сталинского режима и тяжелых лет Второй мировой войны. Галина мужественно вынесла тяготы блокадного Ленинграда. 16-летней девушкой пришла добровольцем в ряды "голубой дивизии", где выполняла взрослые обязанности военного времени, включающие круглосуточные



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