

Mark Sutcliffe
publisher, editor, translator

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My career has been primarily in publishing, providing editorial and translation expertise to several publishers as well as establishing my own publishing partnership to work with cultural institutions in Russia. We have published many of the books on contemporary art that formed the core of the Hermitage 20/21 project – the museum’s initiative to bring contemporary artists, from Antony Gormley to Zhang Huan, to St Petersburg. We received a British Academy grant for an oral-history project at the Hermitage, as well as a fellowship from the Likhachev Foundation to encourage cultural links between Russia and the UK. I have worked on projects in Iran, Egypt and Saudi Arabia, and spent a significant amount of time in Eastern Europe. Since moving back to the North East of England, I have continued to combine publishing projects with freelance work and translation.

Qualifications

PhD, School of Slavonic and East European Studies, SSEES, UCL (2007)
MA (Russian Studies; distinction), SSEES, UCL (2001)
BA (Russian and French Hons), Balliol College, Oxford (1990)

Languages

Russian, fluent
French, reading & written

Employment

2001–present
Partner, Fontanka Publications

Co-founding partner; commissioning, translating, editing and publishing books and art catalogues on Russian–British culture. My co-founder is based in London and also runs the Russian Language Centre where we have an office.

2002–2007
PhD (funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council) on Russian early 20th-century cultural history

This research was carried out to further my Russian-related work, given our close partnership with museums and cultural institutions.

1990–2001
Russian Projects Director, Booth-Clibborn Editions, London

Project-managing, editing, translating, interpreting, and overseeing production of Booth-Clibborn Editions’ Russian and other art-related list. This involved periods of work in Russia, as well as projects in Iran and other countries.

Translations

I have worked on over 30 publications involving translation from Russian to English, as well as several extended translations for other books and catalogues. These include:

Treasures of Ukraine: A Nation's Cultural Heritage (2022)
Cecil Beaton: Celebrating Celebrity (State Hermitage, 2021)
Style and Epoch by Moisei Ginzburg (2019)
Eyewitness 1917: The Russian Revolution as it Happened (2018)
The Hampton Court Albums of Catherine the Great (State Hermitage, 2016)
Zaha Hadid at the Hermitage (2015)
Why the Bear has no Tail and other Russian Folk Tales (2014, edited by Louise Hardiman)
Francis Bacon and the Masters (State Hermitage and Sainsbury Centre, 2014)
Medals of Dishonour (State Hermitage, 2012)
Antony Gormley: Still Standing (State Hermitage, 2011)
Amerika Segodnia (USA Today; from the Saatchi Collection) (2007)
France in Russia: Empress Josephine's Malmaison Collection (2007)
The Triumph of Eros: Art and Seduction in 18th-century France (2006)
The Road to Byzantium: Luxury Arts of Antiquity (2006)
Circling the Square: Avant-Garde Porcelain from Revolutionary Russia (2004)
Moscow Style (2004)
Petersburg Perspectives (2003; co-edited with Frank Althaus)
Bouguereau to Matisse: French Art from the Hermitage (1999)
New Art for a New Era (1999; Russian Museum and Barbican)
Nicholas & Alexandra: The Last Imperial Family of Tsarist Russia (1998)
Treasures of the Czars from the Moscow Kremlin Museums (1995)
The State Hermitage: Masterpieces from the Museum's Collections (1994/2001; 2-vols)
Catherine the Great: Treasures of Imperial Russia from the State Hermitage (1991)

Related activities

Lectures in Russia and UK on art history
Interpreting for BBC World Service programme in Volga region
Teaching English through the Russian Language Centre
Organising book launches and book-related exhibitions

Voluntary

I am a trustee of refugee charity Investing in People and Culture, based in Teesside and Newcastle/Gateshead. In 2020 I helped to set up a befriending partnership with HostNation, a scheme that introduces those seeking asylum and refugees to other local residents. Since 2022 I have been involved with IPC's Ukraine support, including a trip to Warsaw Central Station, and helping Ukrainians who have moved to our area to settle.

I am a trustee of two other charities: Together Middlesbrough & Cleveland, working with disadvantaged children and adults; and the Galitzine Fund which supports disadvantaged and vulnerable children in Russia.