

ART CHANGING LIFE

Gregory Pototsky is an artist who has created over 60 monuments in 25 countries.
He has very special views on the true value of art
and its miraculous virtues that can change people's lives.

A FEATURE LENGTH DOCUMENTARY

62 minutes

Directed by

Natalya Bronzova

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Best Link Films

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Summary

Gregory Pototsky is a world renowned contemporary artist and humanist who has created over 60 monuments in 25 countries. His countless paintings and busts of our contemporaries bring us new vision & insight about his dreams for peace and his simple and lustful love of life.

As we roamed the city with him the story captures his every thought and ideas on **art, love** and **life**. Gregory tells us about his childhood and extreme poverty in Siberia after the great Stalin repressions, his growing popularity and his links with world art, religious and political personalities and how he installed the Nelligan & Pushkin monuments he installed in Quebec City.

He concludes with the miraculous nature of art and how, as a source of inspiration and connection to the divine, it can literally change your life.

Synopsis



Gregory Pototsky is a world renowned contemporary artist and humanist who created over 60 monuments in 25 countries. His work includes countless paintings and bronze busts of historical and contemporary leaders, artists and personalities.

The story we show here is not just one of a simple artist and his work, but rather that of a humanist for whom art is an important part of life; where creation is important in understanding its true nature. Each art piece is a universe to be discovered by the individual; a chance for him to understand the meaning of his hopes and dreams and realise them through kindness and gratitude.

His understanding of art came from his childhood when he was paralyzed for years; a time when his family endured misery in Stalin's Gulag. Following a very painful operations, he discovered that *"to feel pain IS to be alive"* and that there is nothing more precious than life itself...!

The one hour documentary takes us along a monologue by the artist as he talks about his early studies in Moldavia, the loneliness of creation and the true value of art. In amusing anecdotes, he tells us how, during hard and penniless years, his first *Pushkin* monument arrived in Moscow. He goes on telling us about the inspiring twin busts of *E. Nelligan* and *A. Pushkin* that he set in the lovely and protected jewel, Quebec City, Canada.

With the grand, Montreal based, *J.P. Riopelle* fountain he admires so much, set in the background, Gregory talks about his personal experience with contemporary actors, Gerard Depardieu, Pierre Richard, Charles Aznavour and Edith Piaf. All have been immortalized by his bronze busts. He goes on to talk about a few others of his preferred monuments: the strange premonitory twin column marble monument to *"Peace"* erected in Turkey, 3 months before the terrible 9/11 events in the US; the *"Bob Marley"* monument dedicated the singer's views about slavery, and the monument *"Islam is Peace"*, that he hopes one day will be a guiding symbol for the world.

During most of the documentary, we witness the artist hard at work on several new creations; a painting captured in the director's studio, another created during the Montreal art show, complete with live model and assisting public and finally a very lovely clay figurine that will later be cast in bronze. These creations are the background to still more amusing anecdotes on the necessity of art, our relation to it in our lives and more specifically about Maria and her pregnancy; here he offers us very intriguing thoughts on the special link tying an artist to his model, and the miraculous nature of an art piece created between them.

The documentary will please spectators worldwide that want to learn about contemporary artists. It offer challenging thoughts that will help anyone put in perspective a furious world led by empty hearted bureaucracies, greedy economic systems and totally absent guiding values that all of us need to cope with everyday living.

Format

Source video format : DVC PRO HD /1080i 24p

Ratio : 16:9

Running time: 62 minutes (including opening & credits)

Available : BETACAM, DVD5, BLUE RAY Disk and F4V for Web in H264

Produced : 2010

Producers

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Distributor

Seeking distribution worldwide
Documentary could be dubbed in any language

Credits

Texts

Narrator original Russian: **Gregory Pototsky**, in Montreal in 2007
Voice over: **Natalya Bronzova**
English translation for subtitles: **Andre Bériault & Natalya Bronzova**

Musical score

Études by Mozart, *Nocturnes number XX* by Chopin **Claire Beaudry-Bériault**
Liszt, *Au cyprès de la Villa d'Este* & *La lugubre gondola*
Rachmaninov, *Melody op.3* & *Sonata op.36* **Alexei Gulenco**
Tchaikovsky, April from "The Seasons" **Larisa Gulenco**
Excerpt from Verdi's opera, Rigoletto **Franco Tenelli**

Actors

Artist, narrator: Gregory Pototsky
Friend & voice over: Natalya Bronzova

Creative

Director: Natalya Bronzova
DoP, camera: Andre Bériault
Editing, motion and sound: Natalya Bronzova

Director's bio



Natalya Bronzova was brought up in Russia's age old traditions of self development, during the difficult social changes that followed the breaking up of the USSR. She graduated as a philologist in Russian history and language. This mixture of old and new has given her a unique view of the world and the place art should take in our everyday lives. On a more personal level, she is also an accomplished expert in art and European/Russian history.

As art director for the world renowned Russian painter and philosopher Gregory Pototsky, Natalya Bronzova developed a cunning talent to place art in perspective and more precisely how we should consider our private relation to its presence or absence around us. Art should be everywhere our main source of inspiration and motivation, as only through it can we connect to our inner self and discover our true relations to each other.

Madame Bronzova is co-owner of a documentary production house, Best Link Films, dedicated mainly to Russian art and history documentary films. Her most recent project is the production of a feature length documentary on artist Gregory Pototsky, with her husband and collaborator, DP Andre Beriault. Other long term projects include a fiction docu-drama on 1000 years of Russian history and a dramatic opera style feature movie.