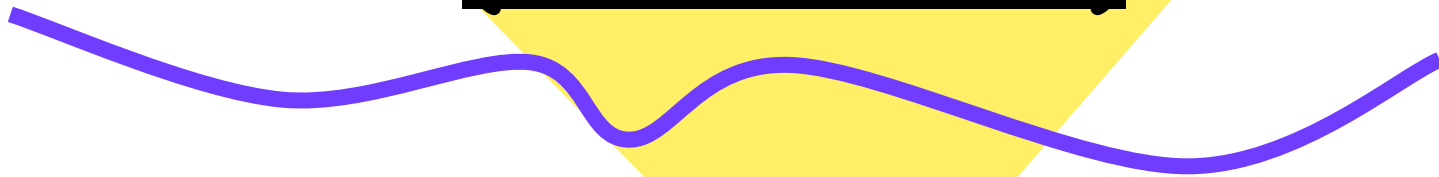


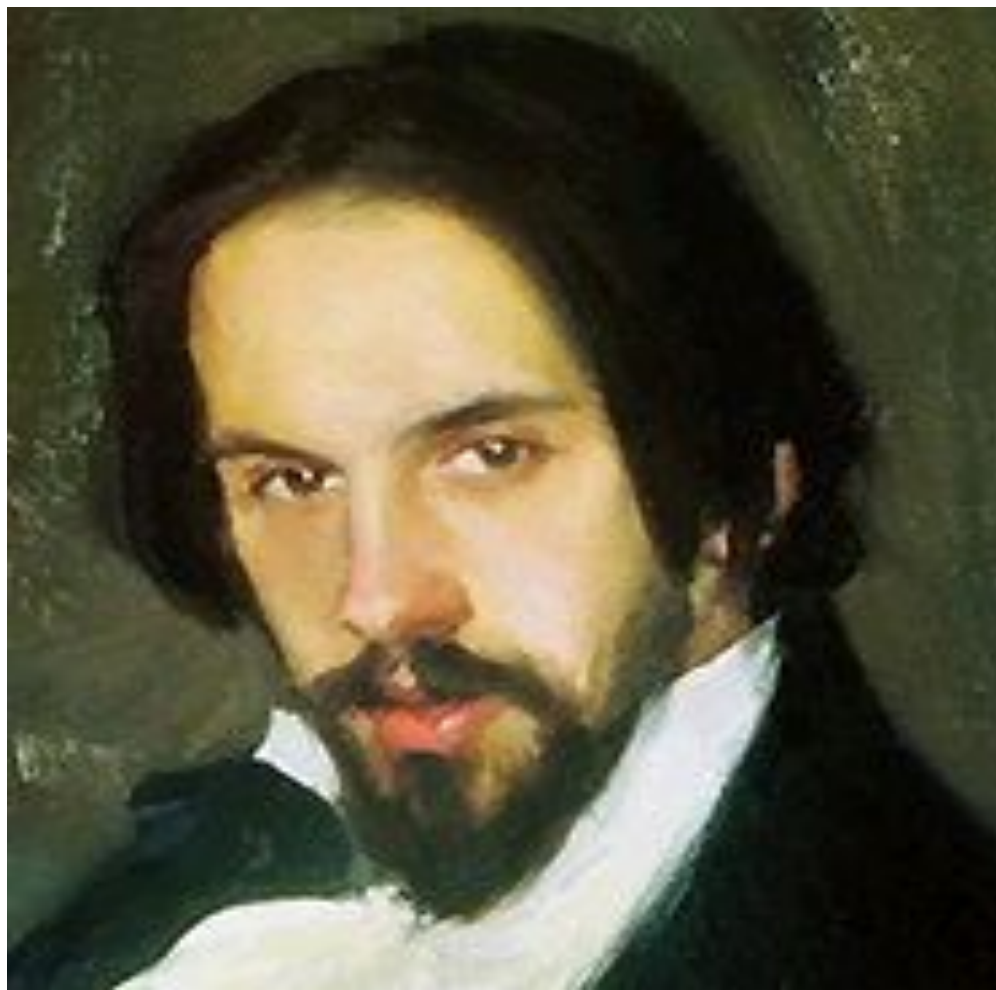


Kustodiev

Boris Mihailovich

(1878-1927)





B.M. Kustodiev. «I. Bilibin`s
portrait», 1901. Canvas. Russian Museum.



Kustodiev B. M. was born on the 23rd of February 1878, died on the 26th of May 1927. A Russian painter and sculptor. He was famous for his national - romantic works of art thanks to which he become one of the most popular masters of the Russian Modern Style. He was born in a family of a teacher in a clergy seminary. I. E. Repin's lessons in the St. Petersburg Art Academy played an important part in his life, where he had been studying from 1806-1903. He was a member of the unions «The world of art» and «The union of Russian artists». Repin made the young master one of the co-authors of his pictures «The meeting of the State Union» (1901-1903. The Russian Museum).





The Russian Tsar, Nickolay II, 1915;

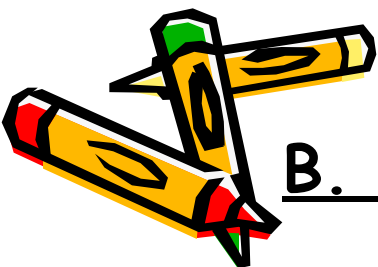
B. M. Kustodiev.





Their collaboration, turned out to be a real rivalry so as Kustodiev being a young but talented artist created wonderful life like impressionistic portrait sketches which you can't distinguish from Repin's ones. His early interest to a national mode of life and history was depicted in his works of art. In his political ideas he was a liberal, having sympathy to revolutions, that was especially brightly and maliciously depicted in his antigovernment caricatures 1905-1906. He lived usually in St. Petersburg or in Moscow, but very often he visited the picturesque places of Russian provinces.





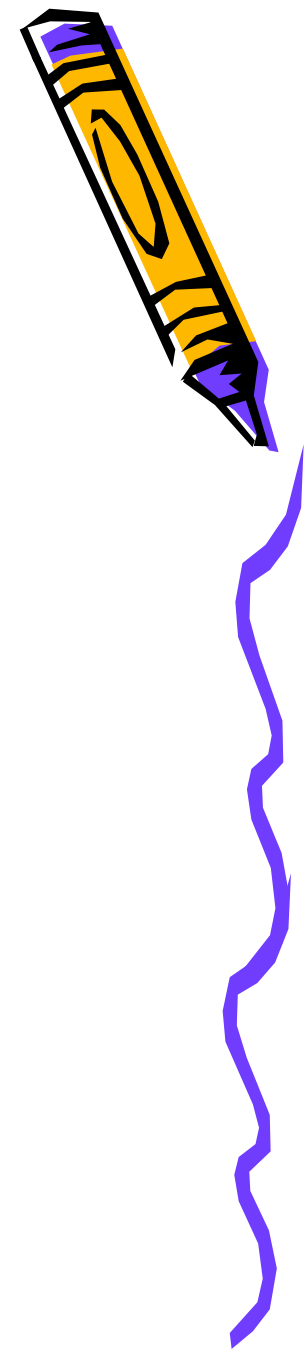
B. M. Kustodiev. «M. A. Voloshin» 1924

B. M. Kustodiev. «The Shrovetide». 1919



The towns and village of the Upper Volga - Kostroma, Kineshma, Nizhniy Novgorod a... A special impression on him. It was here were the well-known images of peasant, vulgar, merchant mode of life were born. Kustodiev painted his pictures in oil, gouache and watercolor, where the artist used colorful, mixed, vivid art effect so close to usual people. He also painted well-known people, portraits of people in Russian province such as: «A merchant's wife», «A merchant's wife at a tea - break». For his work «The country fair» - he got a business trip abroad. «All my pictures are - sheer illusion» - he said about his works of art. Later we can notice an ironical and theatrical beginning in his works of art.

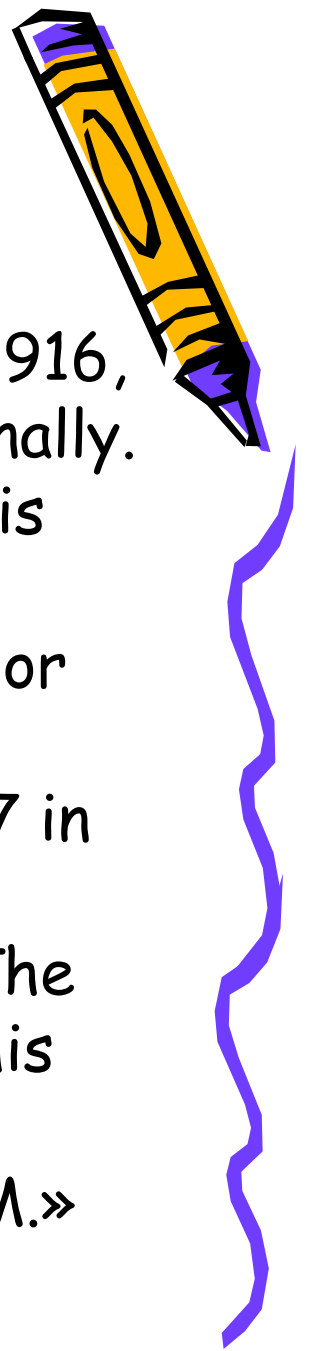




B.M. Kustodiev. «A fair», 1906. The
Tretiyakov Gallery.

B.M. Kustodiev «The Shrovetide». 1916





His serious illness made him unable to move in 1916, but he continued working very actively and originally.

After this period he changed the theme of his painting. It was revolutionary.

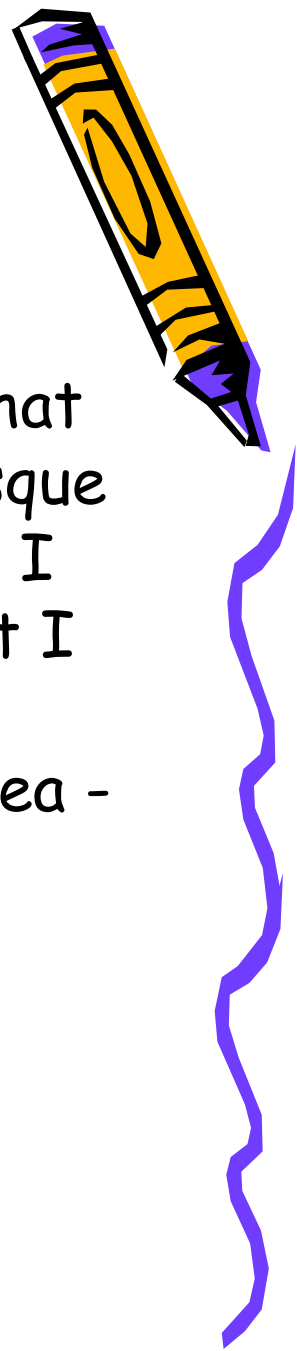
Then he worked as a sculptor making models for china statuettes (1923).

He is still well - known abroad. He died in 1927 in Leningrad, but he was and still is one of the interesting people in our country and region. The reason I have chosen this person is not only his interesting life, but the fact there is «The Astrakhan State Art Gallery of Kustodiev B. M.»



B.M. Kustodiev. His famous portrait of «F. I. Shalyapin» 1912





Having studied his works of art I understood that his paintings were very colorful, bright, picturesque and attractive, with deep feeling and emotions. I haven't visited his gallery in Astrakhan yet, but I am sure it is worth seeing.

His famous works are: «A merchant's wife at a tea - break» (1918) Russian Museum.



B.M. Kustodiev. «A merchant's wife at a tea - break». Russian Museum.

