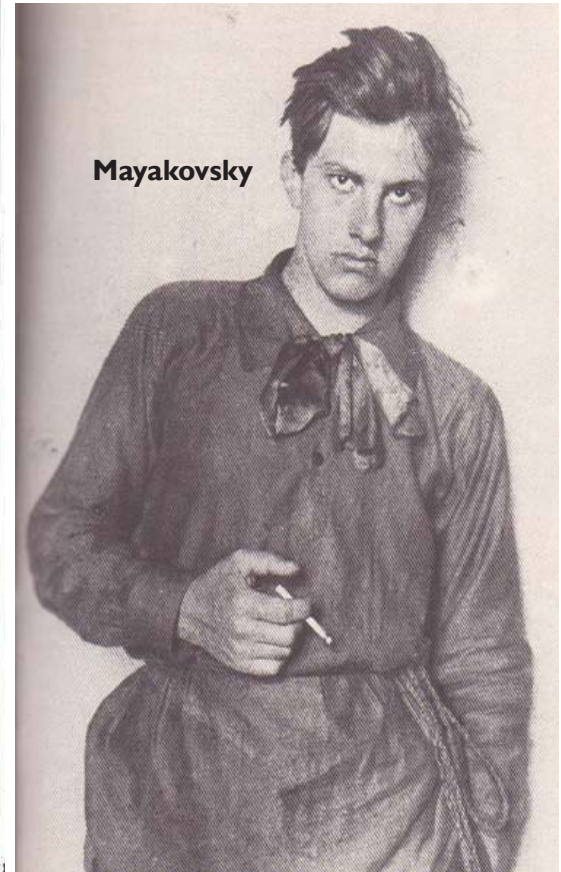


instances of revolution



"Art is not a mirror to reflect the



world, but a hammer with which to shape it."

Twentieth-Century Russian Literature and Culture in Translation

RUSS 52 - Fall 2006 - MWF 10:50-11:50am in HUM 212 - Professor Julia Bekman Chadaga

In the twentieth century, political and artistic revolutions in Russia had repercussions far beyond the nation's borders; we can still feel the effects to this day. How do artists respond to, interpret, and shape historical events? How did writers in twentieth-century Russia transmute fear, violence, and chaos into art? We will consider how provocateurs and innovators such as Mayakovsky, Akhmatova, Babel, Zoshchenko, Bulgakov, Solzhenitsyn, Brodsky, Pelevin, and Tolstaya ushered in new ways of seeing and explored the relationship between art and ideology, exile and creativity, laughter and subversion, memory and survival, individual psychology and historical cataclysm. All reading and discussion will be in English.