

in focus



Tunnel Visions

By Anna Malpas
As the Moscow metro turns 70, city residents celebrate by publishing slick photo albums, opening a historical exhibition and even holding a Miss Metro beauty contest.

on the page



Rooms of Their Own

By Josephine Woll
Smart, stubborn and sexually active, the women of Ludmila Ulitskaya's fiction have done their fair share to redefine Russian literature in feminine terms.

on view

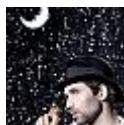


Do It Yourself

By Matthew Duncan
With no one to publish their creations, young comic book authors fall back on a time-

honored Russian solution: creating samizdat editions of their works.

in concert



Avant-Garde

By Anastasiya Lebedev
One of the highlights of the AVANT 2005 indie music festival is an electronic score to

a classic Eisenstein film.

on the town



Last Chance

By Tom Birchenough
International film critics launch a last-ditch appeal to save Moscow's Cinema

Museum, which is threatened with closure this summer.

in review



Real-Life Hero

By Raymond Stults
An assortment of patriotic music by Sergei Prokofiev is creatively staged in a new production at Helikon Opera.

Above the Law

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columns

Global Eye

Miami Vice

By Chris Floyd
Published: May 13, 2005



The next president of the United States was on the road last week, throwing red meat about "moral issues" to a baying crowd of Bushist Party faithful while simultaneously trying to cut off medical support for a 6-year-old girl his agents had previously tried to kill.

Yes, it was Jeb Bush, governor of the ruling family's Florida dominions, pounding the pulpit -- podium -- at a Republican conclave in Georgia. Jeb told the flock that the party must stand "absolute truth" (something previously associated with religious cults) if they want to maintain their "ascendancy" over the nation, The Associated Press reports. "There is such a thing as right and wrong," he declared. Whipped into a frenzy by this blazing revelation, the crowd responded with cheers for Bush to ascend to his brother's throne in 2008.

But even as Jeb basked in the bootlicking adulation, his peculiar sense of "right and wrong" was on vivid display in a Florida courtroom. There, his minions are fighting to stop state aid for young Marissa Amora -- four years after they sought a court order to let her die following a savage beating, The Palm Beach Post reports. What's more, these same minions -- the Department of Children and Families -- could have prevented the beating, which left Marissa permanently disabled.

In late 2000, as Jeb was ensuring the "ascendancy" of his brother by -- among many other tricks -- deliberately slashing thousands of eligible African-American voters from the rolls, Marissa was hospitalized for a month. Doctors and nurses saw telltale signs of past beatings -- and witnessed her neglectful mother abusing her in hospital. They pleaded for DCF to intervene. But the agency, perhaps mindful of Jeb's fierce public championing of "family values," declined to step in.

Then came the inevitable: A few weeks later, Marissa was back in the hospital, beaten nearly to death with severe injuries to her brain and liver and several broken bones. Now the DCF took an interest. They rushed to court to obtain a "Do Not Resuscitate" order for the mangled 2-year-old. For God's sake, don't let her live, the DCF told Marissa's doctors, because she might "potentially" be left in a vegetative state.

But the doctors disagreed with the Bushists' expert diagnosis. And so Marissa is still alive today brain-damaged, crippled, fed through a stomach tube, but alert, talkative, happy, with a new foster mother. Indeed, she would seem to be a shining example of the "culture of life" that we hear so much about these days from certain pulpit-pounding politicians. But to Jeb and the DCF, she's just a "useless eater," a budgetary burden, a mistake to be flushed away. Without state aid, her new family will suffer beneath the staggering cost of Marissa's treatment -- and the decent life that she's clawed back from the hellhole Jeb left her in years ago will wither on the vine.

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By John Freedman
A grim 19th-century farce about police brutality is eerily reminiscent of events in contemporary Russia.



War Stories

By Tom Birchenough
A mother evacuated from Stalingrad, a fiendish fireman and a disturbed captain are among the characters in Valery Ogorodnikov's second film.

columns



Image

By Alexander Osipovich
Five large canvases by the trendy painting duo of Vladimir Dubosarsky and

Alexander Vinogradov went on display in Moscow last week.

Wanted

By Kevin O'Flynn
When Alexander returned to Moscow some years later, the girl came back to him -

- if not in a dream, then at least whenever he went to buy sweatbands and other sporty items at his old workplace.



Salon

By Victor Sonkin
In Russia, the translator's profession has turned from a distinguished, well-

paid occupation into an almost mechanical job.



Global Eye

By Chris Floyd
Even as Jeb Bush basked in the bootlicking adulation of his Republican

audience, his peculiar sense of "right and wrong" was on vivid display in a Florida courtroom.

in brief



Calendar of Events

Concerts Opera Dance Theater Gigs Exhibits

'Tis passing strange. After all, this is the same agency -- and the same governor -- that just fought the way to the Supreme Court to keep the long-brain-dead Terri Schiavo existing in a very r "vegetative state." Jeb even found himself lauded on the front page of The New York Times "cementing his political stature" in the case, with his maneuvers "rooted" in a "deep" religious fa "rather than in political posturing." Yet he was perfectly willing -- even eager -- to pull the plug Marissa Amora, and is still trying to destroy her life.

How can this be? For one who lives solely by the "absolute truth," what could possibly be the differer between a crippled, abused, neglected little black girl with no money or connections, and a nice wh woman whose case was promoted worldwide by the maniacal, filthy-rich extremist factions that fo the base of his brother's "ascendancy"? Since we know from the highest authority that Jeb would ne stoop to mere "political posturing," the apparent hideous hypocrisy in his behavior must forever rem an ineffable mystery, like the Trinity, or the 2000 Florida election results.

But then, Jeb has always been the most mysterious of the Kennebunkport Klan. Like the two Georg he trawled murky waters indeed to make his fortune. One of his business partners, Camilo Padre was indicted for drug-dealing, gun-running and embezzlement; but the charges were dropped when i Bush family firm -- the CIA -- told the FBI that Padreda was their man, fronting covert ops. Padre then worked Jeb's Washington contacts to steal millions of federal dollars intended to provide hous for the poor. He was convicted of fraud in 1989.

Jeb then hooked up with Miguel Recarey, an associate of Miami mob boss Santo Trafficante Jr., Mother Jones reports. Federal investigators called Recarey's company, IMC, "a criminal enterprise interlaced with intelligence operations." It was in fact yet another front, this time for the Reagan-Bush gang's illegal terrorist war in Nicaragua. Recarey also milked Jeb's Washington connections, diverting millions of Medicare dollars intended for needy patients into the IMF-CIA slush fund. Recarey later fled the country to avoid fraud charges.

In yet another scam, Jeb and a partner used a frontman to wangle a \$4.5 million federal loan to buy an office building. When their shill went belly-up, Daddy's federal government obligingly revalued the prime Miami real estate at \$500,000. Jeb and his pal coughed up that chump change -- and kept the building for themselves, receiving \$4 million of pure gravy.

Now with just one more step, this mobbed-up, money-grubbing absolutist will have the whole world in his hands. "Right and wrong" mean nothing to such big-ti operators; power is their only truth, their only god.

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ANNOTATIONS

[DCF Sought to Let Abused Girl Die](#)
Palm Beach Post, May 8, 2005

[Jeb Bush Strikes Moral Tone at Georgia Republican Convention](#)
Associated Press, May 7, 2005

[Bush Family Values](#)
Mother Jones, Sept/Oct 1992

[In a Polarizing Case, Jeb Bush Cements His Political Stature](#)
New York Times, March 24, 2005

[How Jeb Bush Stole the 2000 Election for His Brother](#)
Harpers, March 2002

[Fear for Sale](#)
In These Times, May 12, 2004

[1 Million Black Votes Didn't Count in 2000 Election](#)
San Francisco Chronicle, June 20, 2004

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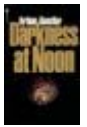
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