

ГИНС

July 2013

MODEST
MORITSOVICH-
EMILIEVICH GINS
ST. PETERSBURG
JUNE 1911

NEW PHOTOS:
NADIJA TKACHEVA
COLLECTION

MORITS-EMIL GINS
& MARIJA GOLUBEVA
MARRY IN 1856 IN
ST. PETERSBURG'S
ST. VLADIMIR
CATHEDRAL

PASSPORT DOCUMENTS
FROM 1855 AND 1898
REVEAL MORITS-EMIL'S
PHYSICAL APPEARANCE
AND TRAVEL PLANS





ГИНС

Gins/Guins FamilyHistory

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On the Cover: Modest Moritsovich-Emilievich
Gins. COURTESY NATALIJA TKACHEVA COLLECTION.

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Breaking News

With this issue, we share with you two exceptional finds -- the cache of Gins documents found by Eduard Gins in the St. Petersburg Spiritual Consistory archives, and the never-before-seen photos of Gins family members from the albums of Nadija Tkacheva. Those images, shown on the cover and throughout the 'magazine,' have helped us to clarify who is who among two male Gins siblings. Even before we met Eduard Gins, we have searched for photos of his great-grandfather, Modest, the third of four sons born to Morits-Emil and Marija Gins. And as luck would have it, one of the first photos that I encountered when looking through photo albums belonging to Nadija Tkacheva in April, was the photo, right, of Modest, clearly signed on the back by him. We now know that he is also in the photo below, both taken in the same studio in St. Petersburg in June 1911.



Modest Moritsovich-Emilievich Gins, 1911. COURTESY NATALIJA TKACHEVA COLLECTION



Modest Moritsovich-Emilievich Gins, 8 June 1911. GLAZUNOV COLLECTION



Photo card back, to Nadija from Modest, St. Petersburg, 11 June 1911.

MARRIAGE CERTIFICATE FOR MORITS-EMIL GINS AND MARIJA GOLUBEVA REVEALS DETAILS ABOUT FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Translation by Boris Drabynk

Fortunately for us, the marriage certificates in the Russian Empire in the mid-1800s included many more details about the bride and groom than contemporary wedding documents. The marriage certificate of Morits-Emil Gins and Marija Golubeva on this page not only contained the bride and groom's names and those of their witnesses, but also noted the couple's ages, Morits-Emil's occupation, and the status or occupation for five male witnesses. Morits-Emil was a 27-year-old typographer from Warsaw of the Reform faith (Evangelic), and 19-year-old Marija was the daughter of Staff Captain Konstantin Golubev. Witnesses for the groom were Warsaw resident Anton Valevskij (Polish: Antoni Walewskij), and an artist (painter) from the Imperial Academy of Sciences, Avgust Shvarts (Polish: August Swarc). Appearing on behalf of the bride were her father, Staff Captain Konstantin Petrovich Golubev, and an Oranienbaum burgher/petit bourgeois, I. Federov.



Relief of the Order of St. Vladimir



St. Vladimir Cathedral, St. Petersburg, Russia. WWW.SAINT-PETERSBURG.COM

The wedding, which took place January 22, 1856, was recorded on the certificate below on May 19, 1861. The rather grand location of the nuptials was the stately St. Vladimir Cathedral of St. Petersburg, a Russian Orthodox church near the Neva River on Blokhin Street, across from the tip of Vasilij Island. Begun in 1763 and completed in 1789, St. Vladimir still stands today, as seen in the photo above.

ВЫПИСЬ ИЗ МЕТРИЧЕСКОЙ КНИГИ, ЧАСТЬ ВТОРАЯ, О БРАКОСОЧЕТАВШИХСЯ, ЗА 1856 ГОДА.							
Число браков.	Место и день.	Звание, имя, отчество, фамилия и в婚前повѣданіе жениха, и по торжествам браков.	Звание, имя, отчество, фамилия и в婚前повѣданіе невесты, и по торжествам браков.	Кто совершил таинство.	Кто был поручителем.	Подпись свидетелей записи по желанию.	
11.	Генерал-Адмирала вѣнчано.	Михаилъ Городецкий Вацлавъ Емилъ Гинс, Реформистскаго Исповѣданія. Первымъ бракомъ.	Дочь Штаб-капитана Константина Голубева гробница Марія Констан-тиновна Голубева, Православнаго Исповѣданія.	Евangelическаго Николаи Ма-каровъ съ Директора Николаи Тердобовскаго и Директора Кири-и Петровъ сынъ Голубевъ и Захаріеи Содровскіи.	По имени-Антонъ Вацлавъ Гинс Императорской Академіи наукъ Лудзана Августъ Шварцъ; Константинъ Голубевъ сынъ Голубевъ и Ораніенбургскій мѣщанинъ И. Федоровъ.	Мессерсюрнети Корнуе Путьи Соудженія Францъ Францъ Кордъ	
Вънчано въ г. 1861 г. Мая 19. за № 84. Петербургскаго Казн-Владимирскаго Собора: Настоятель, Протоиерей Владиміръ Діаконъ Андрей Захарѣевъ. Діаконъ Николай Толстовъ. Монахъ Антонъ Соколовъ.							



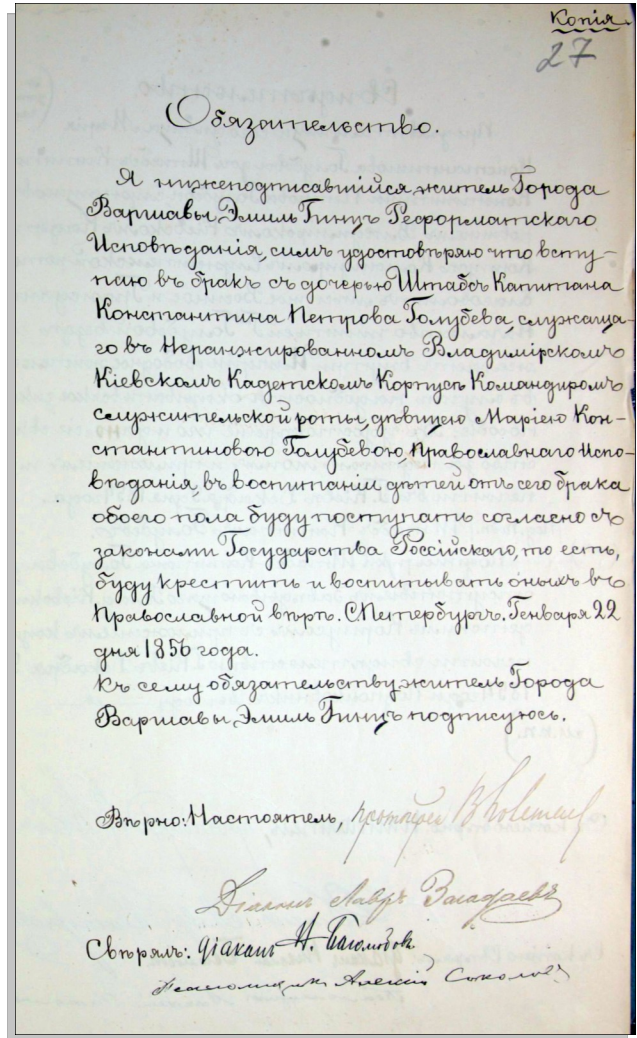
Interior of St. Vladimir Cathedral, St. Petersburg, Russia. WWW.SAINT-PETERSBURG.COM

Morits Emil Gins and bride, Marija, Agree to Raise their Children as Russian Orthodox

Translation by Irina Bass and Nataliya Purimova

While Marija's father, Staff Captain Konstantin Golubev, moved heaven and earth to see that his only child, Marija, was married in one of St. Petersburg's most beautiful cathedrals, the bride and groom had their own list of tasks to complete before the wedding could take place. From the documents discovered by Eduard Gins among the St. Petersburg Spiritual Consistory archives file on the Gins family, dated 4 May 1898, we learn that the couple not only had to post notice (banns) three times of their upcoming nuptials at Evangelic and Orthodox churches, but also had to produce up-to-date passport letters, and sign numerous notes of commitment that were co-signed by family, witnesses, and spiritual officials.

One such document that set the stage for the religious training of all children produced by their union appears on this page, and was translated for us by UCLA student Nataliya Purimova:



Commitment to raise children as Orthodox Christian. COURTESY E. GINS

Notice of Commitment.

I, the undersigned, resident of the City of Warsaw Emil Gins, of Reform Creed, hereby certify that I am entering into marriage with the daughter of Stabskapitän (Captain) Konstantin Petrov Golubev, serving in the Unranked Vladimir Kiev Cadet Corps as a Commander of a serving(?) company, the maiden Maria Konstantinovna Golubeva, of Orthodox Creed. With regard to the upbringing of children of both sexes from this marriage, I will act in accordance with the laws of the Russian State, that is, I will baptize them and raise them in the Orthodox faith. Saint Petersburg. The 22nd day of January of the year 1856.

I, resident of the City of Warsaw Emil Gins, sign this notice of commitment.

Faithfully: Pastor Archpriest V Povetaev(?)

Deacon Lavr Zagadaev

Verified by: Deacon Nikolai Bogoliubov.

Aleksandr Gins Images Clarify Mistaken Photo Identity

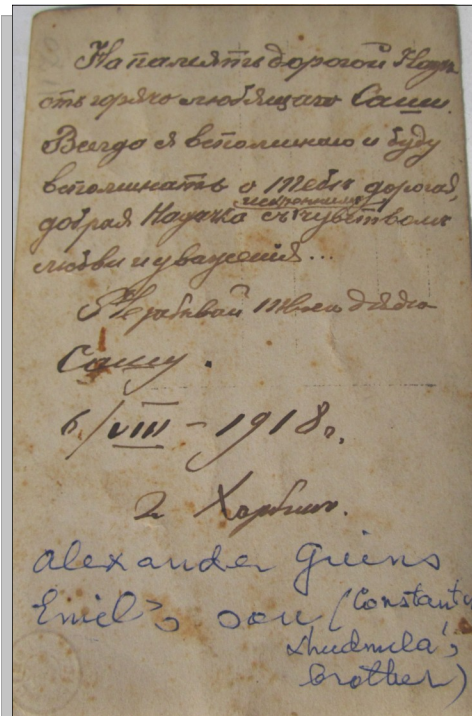
Translation by Eduard Gins

Among the treasures found in Nadija Tkacheva's photo albums were these images of Aleksandr Gins, youngest son of Morits-Emil and Marija. The family group photo taken in Kiev and signed Oct. 20, 1904, is of Aleksandr as a lieutenant, likely with his wife, Sofia, and his oldest son, Aleksandr (b. 1903 in Kiev), on his lap. Sofia may be holding a daughter whose name we do not know, and the young gentleman standing behind the couple is still a mystery. Perhaps he was Sofia's brother who was visiting the couple and they wanted a photo to commemorate the occasion.

The photo at the right shows Aleksandr as a Staff Captain in Harbin, 1918. This image of the older Aleksandr made it possible for Eduard to figure out that his great-grandfather, Modest Gins, was actually the one in the formal St. Petersburg studio portrait on page 1 of this issue, and not Aleksandr, as I had previously surmised.



Left: Aleksandr Gins family and unidentified male, Kiev, 1904; top: Aleksandr Gins, Harbin, 1918



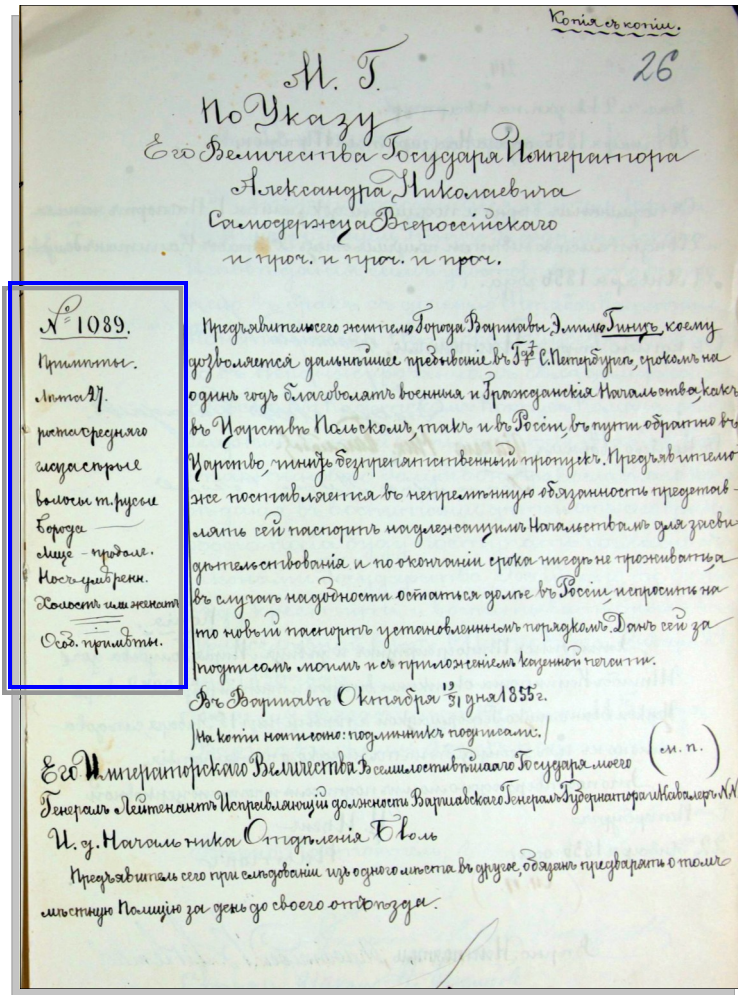
Aleksandr wrote to his niece, Nadija, on the back of the photo, above:

For remembrance to dear Nadija from your loving Sasha! Always I remember and I will remember you dear, kind Nadija, with sincere feeling of love and respect... Don't forget your Uncle Sasha!

6 August 1918

Harbin





Morits-Emil Gins passport letter from October 1855. COURTESY EDUARD GINS



Ludmila Gins, unidentified male & female, 1880s. COURTESY WARDEN COLLECTION

Gins Passport Letters Offer New Clues

Translations by Irina Bass, Nataliya Purimova and Eduard Gins

Two of the most extraordinary documents from this exceptional collection in St. Petersburg are Morits-Emil Gins' passport letters. These perfunctory letters give us our first glimpses of what his travel plans were before he was married in January 1856, and, what he looked like.

The letter above, under the titles of Russian Emperor Aleksandr Nikolaevich, reads as follows:

The bearer of this [document], resident of the City of Warsaw Emil Gins, who is granted an extended stay in the city of St. Petersburg, for the term of one year, is given the favor of the military and Civil Authorities, in the Kingdom of Poland and in Russia, with regard to his return trip to the Kingdom, is to be given unimpeded passage. The bearer is also charged with the duty of presenting this passport to the appropriate authorities for certification and at the end of the term must not live anywhere, and in the case of necessity must remain home in Russia and ask for a new passport in accordance with established procedures. Given here is my signature with the application of the official seal. In Warsaw, October 19/31 of the year 1855

His Imperial Highness My Most Gracious Sovereign (m.p.)

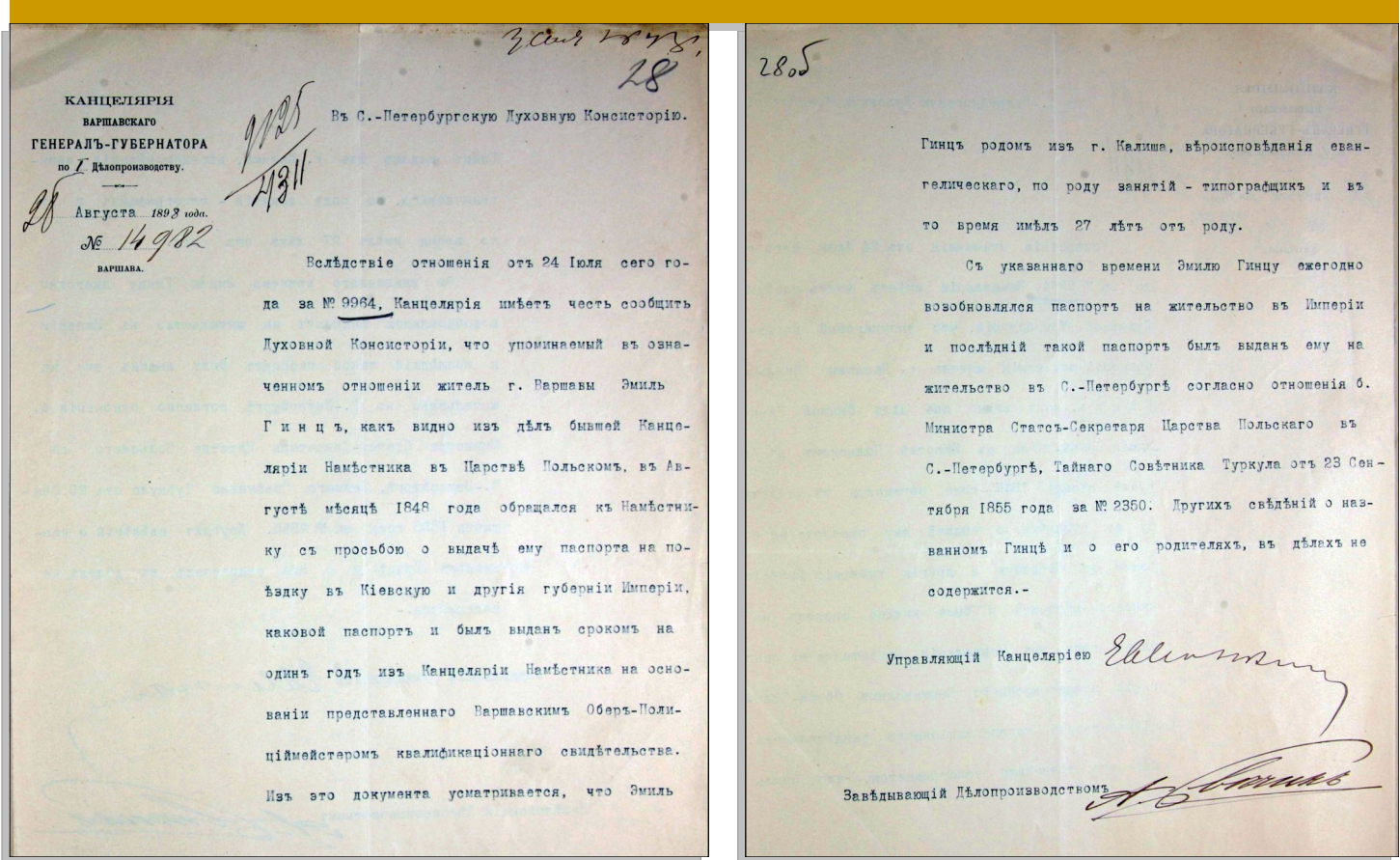
Lieutenant General Holding the office of the Warsaw Governor-General and Commander NN

I.d. of the Chief of the Department of [Brol']

The bearer of this [document] when moving from one place to another must warn the local police one day before departure.

The date on the letter is interesting -- October 19/31 of 1855. This is because Poland had adopted the Gregorian calendar system, while Russia continued to use the Julian calendar. The double date shows the 12 day difference between the Julian and Gregorian calendars in the 1800s..

In addition, on the left side of the letter (blue box), under No. 1089, are new details about Morits-Emil Gins' physical appearance: 27 years old, average height, grey eyes, brown hair, beard____, long face, average nose. After reading this description, it occurred to me that the man in the photo above with Ludmila Gins and a young woman, could be an older Morits-Emil Gins. The gentleman from Kiev in the late 1880s is of average height, has dark hair, and a long face (obscured by his beard). We certainly need more evidence to confidently claim that this is Morits-Emil Gins, however.



Letter dated 1898 from Warsaw Chancery office to St. Petersburg Spiritual Consistory discusses Morits-Emil Gins passport applications. COURTESY EDUARD GINS.

Gins Passport Letters Offer New Clues *(continued)*

On this page we have a later document, dated 1898, that chronicles the renewal of Morits-Emil Gins' Russian passports, beginning with his initial request in 1848, when he was 21 years old. Addressed to the St. Petersburg Spiritual Consistory -- the administrative branch of the Russian Orthodox Church through the early 20th century -- this correspondence from the Warsaw Chancery office gives us new details about Morits-Emil Gins' travel plans, mentioning that he wished to visit Kiev and other provinces of the Empire. As a single young man, perhaps Morits-Emil was looking for a bride and found Marija Golubeva in Kiev during one of his trips. Her father, Konstantin Golubev, was transferred to the command of the Vladimir of Kiev Cadet Corps about 1851, according to military records found by Eduard Gins. Although Konstantin Golubev maintained a home in St. Petersburg, he may have had his daughter, Marija, and second wife, Christina Wilhelmina, living with him in Kiev when he was stationed there.

This letter also confirms that Morits-Emil (referred to in these documents as Emil Gins) was born in Kalisz, Poland. There is no doubt that he is the same Morits Gins whose Polish birth record from Kalisz in 1827 clearly indicates that he was born to Jewish parents, Lipman (Ludvig) Gins and Fryderika (*nee* Holtz). We have a copy of his original Polish birth certificate, translated for us by Boris Dralyuk. And Boris found the Polish index of neophytes -- those who converted and were baptized as Christians -- listing Morits-Emil Gins of Kalisz, age 15 in 1842, son of Ludvig Gins and Fryderika Holtz, in *Neofici polscy; materyalnie historyczne* (Polish Neophytes; Historical Materials)

Following is the translation of the 1898 letter by Nataliya Purimova:

Chancery of the
Warsaw
Governor-General
By [G] Clerical Affairs

28th of August, 1898
No. 14982
Warsaw

To the St. Petersburg Spiritual Consistory

As of the 24th of July of this year with regard to No. 9964, the Chancery has the honor of informing the Spiritual Consistory that the individual referred to in this case, resident of the city of Warsaw Emil Gins, as noted in the affairs of the previous Chancery of the Lieutenant General of the Kingdom of Poland, in the month of August of the year 1848 applied to the Lieutenant General requesting to be issued a passport for a trip to Kiev and other provinces of the Empire, which was granted to him for the term of one year by the Chancery of the Lieutenant General on the basis of qualifying evidence presented by the Chief of Police. This document declares that Gins was born in Kalisz, is of evangelical faith, is in the way of profession a typographer and, at the time, was 27 years old.

From the aforementioned time, Emil Gins's passport for residing in the Empire was renewed every year and the last such passport was issued to him for residence in St. Petersburg, in agreement with the decision of the Minister Secretary of State of the Kingdom of Poland in St. Petersburg Privy Councilor Turkul from the 23rd of September of the year 1855, No. 2350. No additional information about the aforementioned Gins and his parents is given in the files.

Administrator of the Chancery [signature]
Director of Clerical Affairs [signature]



From left, seated - mystery man, Anna Gembitskaja (*nee* Gins), Vitaly Gins (or Leonid Gins), Zina Gergardt, Ludmila Gergardt (*nee* Gins); from left, standing - Modest Modestovich Gins (or Mikhail Gins), unidentified male, Marija Gergardt, Elena Gins (*nee* Pikel), Vladimir Gins (squatting), Modest Gins, Varvara Gins (*nee* Miroevskaja, Vladimir Gembitskij. COURTESY NADIJA TKACHEVA COLLECTION

Gins, Gergardt, and Gembitskij Family Photo From Nadija Tkacheva Collection Includes a Mystery Man

We have seen a Gins siblings family photo similar to the one above, from our cousins in Poland. But this one, discovered recently in the Nadija Tkacheva collection, has the family members in different positions and adds a new mystery to solve. There is a gentleman in a bowler hat seated on the far left, looking at the gathering. We do not know if he is a Gins relative or a friend, a photographer, or someone there to assist the group in some other capacity.

The gentleman in the hat shows up again in the poor-quality photo on the lower right. He is standing next to Modest Gins on the right side and is looking at the group. In both of these photos, he is not looking at the camera

and is at the edge of the photo. My guess is that he is not a family member, and positioned himself at either side of the group so that his image could be cropped out of the photo. But as to his name or occupation, we do not have a clue.



Gins family photo with mystery man at right. COURTESY NADIJA TKACHEVA COLLECTION



Photo of Nina Tkacheva wedding celebration. COURTESY NADIJA TKACHEVA COLLECTION



Partial identification of wedding celebration participants: From left, bottom row: second from left, Tanja Gins, Emilija Gins; from left, middle row: Georgij Gins, unknown male, Aleksandra Glazunova; middle row, far right: Zina Glazunova; top row, second from left: Sergei Glazunov. COURTESY NADIJA TKACHEVA COLLECTION

Nina Tkacheva Celebrates Wedding in Harbin

The very happy occasion in the photo above, and in a section of the photo, to the left, shows a festive feast to commemorate the wedding of Nina Pavlovna Tkacheva, b. 1911, eldest of three daughters born to Pavel Tkachev and wife, Nadija Gergardt. Nina married Nikolaj Arseniev, b. 1905, although we do not know the date. In the photo above, to the bride's right is likely to be Vera Tkacheva, b. 1915. Her twin sister, Ludmila (Lucy), may have already left with her husband, Vladimir Kravetskij, for the U.S. in May 1936.