



## **BSEC MONTH OF CULTURE 2017**

### **PRESS RELEASE**

**Tuesday 13 June 2017**

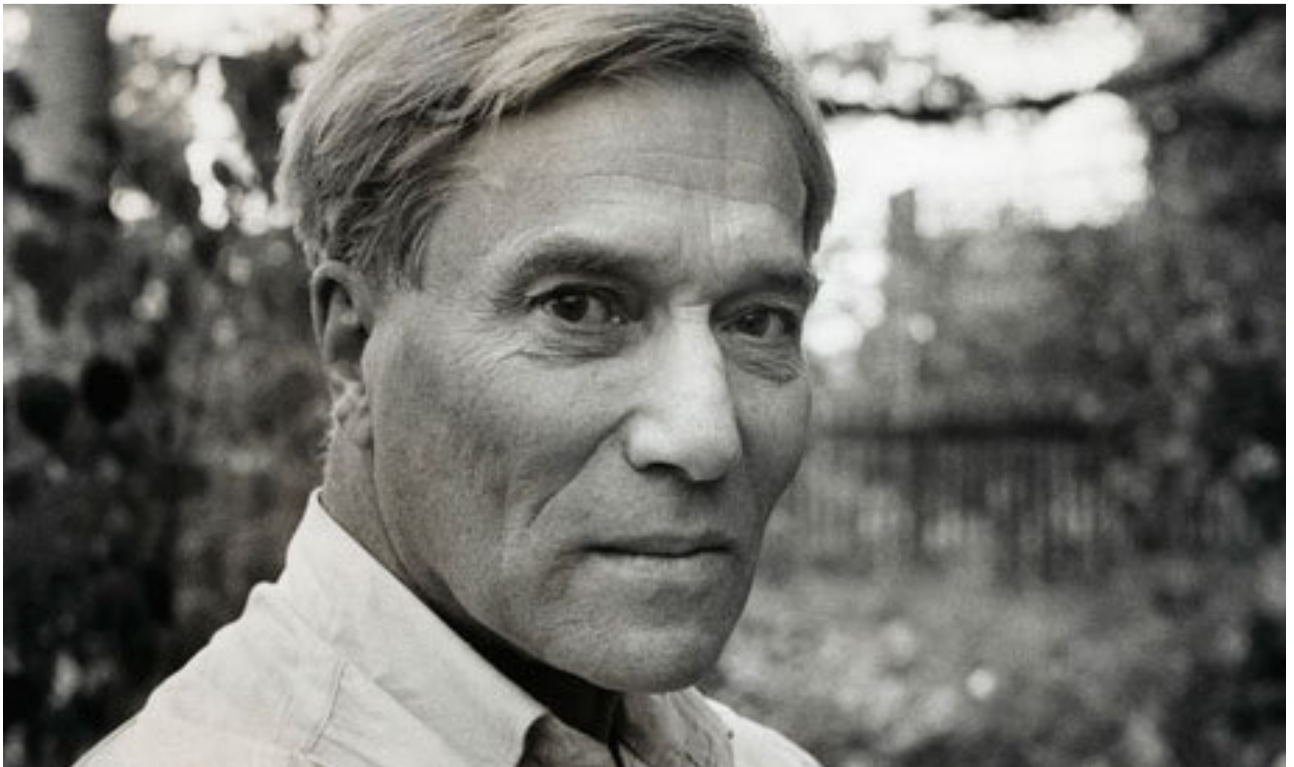
## Russia

Who is the author of *Doctor Zhivago*?

**Boris Pasternak**

Boris Pasternak, born in 1890 and died in 1960, was a Soviet Russian poet, novelist, and literary translator. In his native Russian, Pasternak's first book of poems, *My Sister, Life* (1917), is one of the most influential collections ever published in the Russian language. Worldwide, Pasternak is famous as the author of *Doctor Zhivago* (1957). Pasternak was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1958.

**#BSEC25 #CultureBSEC #Literature #Russia**



## Serbia

### How do they celebrate trumpet art in Serbia?

#### Guča Trumpet Festival

The Guča Trumpet Festival is an annual brass band festival held in the town of Guča, in the Dragačevo region of western Serbia. It lasts continuously since 1961, when Guča festival was established with the aim to preserve and further develop art of trumpet as a form of traditional folk art - posted as a national competition of Serbian brass bands. All the bands that take part in the contest will be honourably called – the trumpeters of Dragačevo. Together with the increasing number of participants and trumpet players, the program of the festival became richer and better. In addition to events present from the first festival like the all round tournament and selection of the most beautiful national costumes, art exhibitions have been organized since 1970. This year the festival is held 9 – 13 August.

#BSEC25 #CultureBSEC #Music #Serbia



## Turkey

### Göreme National Park and the Rock Sites of Cappadocia

In a spectacular landscape, entirely sculpted by erosion, the Göreme valley and its surroundings contain rock-hewn sanctuaries that provide unique evidence of Byzantine art in the post-Iconoclastic period. Dwellings, troglodyte villages and underground towns – the remains of a traditional human habitat dating back to the 4th century – can also be seen there.

**#BSEC25 #CultureBSEC #Monuments #Turkey**



## Ukraine

### How is Ukrainian borscht made?

#### Borscht

Borscht is a sour soup popular in Ukraine and other eastern countries. Typical Ukrainian borscht is traditionally made from meat or bone stock, sautéed vegetables, and beet sour (i.e., fermented beetroot juice). Depending on the recipe, some of these components may be omitted or substituted for. Beef, pork or a combination of both are most commonly used. The vegetables most commonly added to borscht are beetroots, white cabbage, carrots, parsley root, potatoes, onions and tomatoes. Ukraine boasts great diversity of the soup's regional variants, with virtually every province having its own recipe.

**#BSEC25 #CultureBSEC #Gastronomy #Ukraine**



*Interested in learning more about the fascinating culture of the BSEC Member States?*

Join the BSEC Month of Culture, organised by the ICBSS from 1-30 June 2017 and learn about the remarkable and rich cultural heritage of the BSEC region.

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*About the BSEC Month of Culture:*

On the occasion of the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the BSEC Organisation, the ICBSS is launching a new initiative, the “BSEC Month of Culture”, a month long programme of cultural highlights from the **12 BSEC Member States** (Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Georgia, Greece, Moldova, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Turkey, Ukraine).

Being aware of the rich, diverse cultural heritage of the BSEC region, the ICBSS will launch the “BSEC Month of Culture”, from 1<sup>st</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2017, with the aim to promote the cultural identity of the region and enhance its visibility to the wider public.

The programme will feature online tributes on **literature, music, cinema, archaeological sites and gastronomy**, including short videos and photos.

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**About the ICBSS:** The International Centre for Black Sea Studies (ICBSS) was founded in 1998 as a non-profit organisation. It has since fulfilled a dual function. On the one hand, it is an independent research and training institution focusing on the wider Black Sea region. On the other hand, it is a related body of the Organisation of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC) and serves as its acknowledged think-tank. Thus, the ICBSS pursues applied, policy-oriented research, promotes knowledge on the Black Sea region both within and outside its boundaries, and offers policy advice with the aim to foster multilateral cooperation among the BSEC member states as well as with their international partners.

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