

Creativity & NeuroPsychoEd Committee

Please join us:

The Jewish Museum

Sunday November 25 @ 10:45am

1109 5th Ave at 92nd St, NYC 10128 * 212.423.3200 * info@thejm.org

Chagall, Lissitzky, Malevich: The Russian Avant-Garde in Vitebsk, 1918-1922

The Russian Revolution of 1917 had an enormous effect on **Marc Chagall**. The passage of a law abolishing all discrimination on the basis of religion or nationality gave him, as a Jewish artist, full Russian citizenship for the first time. This inspired a series of monumental masterpieces, such as *Double Portrait with Wine Glass* (1917), celebrating the happiness of the newly married Chagall and his wife Bella. As the months went by, Chagall felt the need to help young residents of his native city of Vitebsk (in present day [Belarus](#)) lacking an artistic education, and to support other Jews from humble backgrounds.

The year 2018 marks the 100th anniversary of Chagall's appointment as Fine Arts Commissioner for the Vitebsk region, a position that enabled him to carry out his idea of creating a revolutionary art school in his city, open to everyone, free of charge, and with no age restrictions. The People's Art School, founded by Chagall in 1918, was the perfect embodiment of Bolshevik values. **El Lissitzky** and **Kazimir Malevich**, leading exponents of the Russian avant-garde, were two of the artists invited to teach at the school. Lissitzky took charge of the printing, graphic design, and architecture workshops, while Malevich, leader of the abstract movement and founder of Suprematism, was a charismatic theorist who galvanized the young students. A period of feverish artistic activity followed, turning the school into a revolutionary laboratory. Each of these three major figures sought, in his own distinctive fashion, to develop a "Leftist Art" in tune with the revolutionary emphasis on collectivism, education, and innovation.

We meet at 10:45 am on the line outside the museum. Limited passes available to members. Please RSVP by E-mail.

Put your contact info in the body even if I have it. You must include your cell number in case of changes.

**To RSVP, please email:
Sandra Indig, LCSW-R/LP, ATR-BC, Chair
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