


**From:** Marina Forbes [marina@anylanguage.org](mailto:marina@anylanguage.org)   
**Subject:** Re: Russian Arts, History and Culture with Marina Forbes in CT in April 2016!  
**Date:** April 1, 2016 at 1:51 AM  
**To:** undisclosed-recipients: ;

MF

Hello from Marina Forbes,

I am writing to let you know about my Russian Arts, History and Culture programs ("History Through the Arts") and my *Russian Nested Doll painting, Faberge Imperial Easter Eggs and my Icon Painting hands-on studio workshop "The Art of Icon painting"* in CT (please see below). It might be a wonderful way to expend one's cultural horizons and learn about Russian history, culture, religion and tradition hands-on.

**I will really appreciate all your help to spread the word! I would be happy to offer my programs for your community as well!**

I am sending you an image of my icon *Mother of God of Vladimir* ( wood, gesso, egg tempera, 23-k gold) (please see below), my *interactive and beautifully Illustrated presentations "Russian Iconography: 1,000 Years of Tradition" at the Otis Library in Norwich, CT , "Faberge Imperial Easter Eggs" at the Wethersfield Library in Wethersfield, CT, (the presentations are free and open to the public)* and the description on my studio hands-on icon painting workshop and my *Russian nested doll painting workshop at the Andover Public Library in Andover, CT (please see below).*

My name is Marina Forbes and I am a Master Iconographer (2013, 2014 and 2015 Awards for the *Artistic Excellence* by *The National Endowment for the Arts* and *The New Hampshire State Council on the Arts*) with 25 years of experience teaching icon painting in the US, Europe and Russia. I am listed on the *New Hampshire Humanities Council Roster* as a speaker on Russian Arts, History and Culture as well as on the *New Hampshire State Council on the Arts' Rosters for Traditional Arts, Arts in Education, Arts in Healthcare* and I offer between 75 and 100 presentations and workshops each year on Russian art, Russian daily life, history, iconography and culture throughout the New England area. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ITfJj8NOpvY>

My award-winning icons are on display in art galleries, museums, churches and private collections in Russia, Europe and the US.

*I lead my Cultural Tour to Russia every year.*

## **Russian Nested Doll Painting**

*Storytelling and Hands-on Workshop*

*offered on **Friday, April 22** from **5:30pm to 8:30pm** at the **Andover Public Library** in **Andover, CT***



This unique illustrated and interactive presentation/workshop provides a wonderful opportunity for families with children (age 6 and up), teens and adults to learn about the rich folk tradition of Russian Matryoshka (wooden nesting doll) making and to create a finished piece of authentic Russian folk art on wood. It is a great opportunity for children and families to work together and learn about Russian crafts and culture. Participants will hear the story of the Matryoshka doll and will learn about her traditional Russian dress and customs. Traditional Russian painting techniques and floral and berry designs are also introduced. Throughout the workshop, students will be listening to traditional Russian music, and there will be a demonstration of a few steps from a traditional Russian "matryoshka dance." The slide-show presentation will include a quick visit to a doll-making factory in rural Russia to see the stages in the doll making process, and some beautiful examples of the finest Matryoshka artwork available in Russia to stimulate creativity and imagination. After the storytelling presentation, there will be an optional "hands-on" component where

anyone who chooses to participate can paint an authentic Russian wooden doll. (There is a materials fee for anyone participating in the hands-on component of the program. This fee (from \$10 to \$55) covers the cost of the wooden doll and the use of paints for painting on wood and brushes for the workshop.)

The image titled "*Matryoshka Nested Doll*" is by Marina Forbes.





# The Art of Icon Painting

NORWICH, CT: Russian Master Iconographer, teacher and lecturer, Marina Forbes, will offer "***The Art of Icon Painting***" workshop on two Saturdays and two Sundays: Saturday, April 9 from 3:30pm to 7:30pm, Sunday, April 10 from 3:30pm to 7:30pm, on Saturday, April 16 from 3:30pm to 7:30pm, and Sunday, April 17 from 3:30pm to 7:30pm at the ***Christ Episcopal Church*** in Norwich, CT (78 Washington Street, Norwich, CT, 06360). It is a hands-on studio course for students interested in learning how to create traditional Russian icons, one of the world's oldest and most respected forms of religious art. The program will include a detailed discussion and demonstration of traditional materials and methods of icon making. Then, under the direction of the instructor, students will create their own icons using a combination of traditional and contemporary materials and methods. Students will learn about board and painting surface preparation, gessoing, image rendering, pigments, brush strokes techniques.



detailing, highlighting, gilding, Old Slavonic lettering, and varnishing.

*I normally have between 3 and 7 students in my class.*

No painting experience is required for my Icon Painting class. Experienced artists will also feel very comfortable in my workshop.

*The Russian Icon "Mother Of God of Vladimir" (wood, egg tempera, 23-k gold) is by Marina Forbes.*

For more information or pre-register please contact Marina Forbes directly at (603) 332-2255, by e-mail at [marina@marinaforbes.com](mailto:marina@marinaforbes.com) or please visit [MarinaForbes.com](http://MarinaForbes.com)

### ***Russian Iconography: 1,000 Years of Tradition***

#### ***Interactive and Beautifully Illustrated Presentation***

*offered on Saturday, April 23 at 1pm at the Otis Library in Norwich, CT (this presentation is free and open to the public)*







Traditional Russian icon painting is truly one of the great artistic movements in the history of the world and has been a living and evolving art form for more than 1,000 years. This illustrated presentation by Marina Forbes deals with the spiritual and secular significance of Russian religious art from the 10th century to the present day. Icon making involves the painting of specifically stylized religious images on wood using traditional natural materials and techniques which are determined by longstanding conventions which serve to shape the art form. Russian icons reveal a deep inner spirituality, incomparably matched by an intrinsic rhythm of line and harmony of coloring. Using a slide show and numerous exhibits, including examples of her own work, Forbes will examine the history of icon painting in Russia and will discuss the unique multiple nature of the icon as a sacred object, a product of an artistic tradition, a work of art with its own inherent aesthetic value, and a major example of our world cultural heritage. Anyone who has personal icons may bring them for examination and comment.

### ***Imperial Russian Faberge Eggs***

#### ***Interactive and Beautifully Illustrated Presentation***

*offered on Thursday, April 21 at 7pm at the Wethersfield Library in Wethersfield, CT (this presentation is free and open to the public)*







This unique and beautifully illustrated presentation will focus on the life and remarkable work of Russian master jeweler and artist, Peter Carl Fabergé. The program will feature a spectacular photo-tour of Fabergé collections at the Constantine Palace in St. Petersburg and from major museums and private collectors around the world. Emphasis is on the important role of egg painting in Russian culture and on the unique development of this major Russian art form from a traditional craft to the level of exquisite fine art under the patronage of the tsars. The fascinating history of these eggs and their role in the dramatic events of the last decades of Romanov rule in Russia and in the years following the Bolshevik Revolution will also be discussed.



## ***The Art of Painting Icons: St. George Slaying the Dragon***

***one-day studio hands-on workshop***

***offered on Saturday, May 21 from 10am to 4pm and on Sunday, May 22 from 1pm to 5pm in Norwich,***

***CT***



***Russian Master Iconographer and an***

***award-winning artist, Marina Forbes, will offer one-day studio hands-on workshop "The Art of Icon Painting: St. George Slaying the Dragon" .***

It is a two-day hands-on studio workshop for students who would like to *start and finish* their icon of ***St. George Slaying the Dragon*** in two sessions. It is a hands-on experience for students interested in exploring the basics of traditional icon painting, one of the world's oldest and most respected forms of religious art. The program will include a demonstration of traditional materials and methods of icon making. Then, under the direction of the instructor, students will create their own icons using a combination of traditional and contemporary materials and methods. Students will learn about board and painting surface preparation, gessoing, image rendering, pigments, brush strokes techniques, detailing, highlighting, gilding, Old Slavonic lettering, and varnishing.

*No painting experience is required for this Icon Painting class. Experienced artists will also feel very comfortable in the class.*

I normally have between 3 and 7 students in my class.

***The cost is \$349 and it includes all the materials\*.***

***\* If you would like to apply 23-k gold to the halo *using garlic glue*, 23-k gold can be purchased at the workshop from the instructor and the cost is \$10.***

There will be some time for lunch. Please bring your own lunch, *Russian Samovar Tea* will be provided

provided.

For more information, please contact Marina Forbes directly at (603) 332-2255, by e-mail at [marina@anylanguage.org](mailto:marina@anylanguage.org) or please visit [MarinaForbes.com](http://MarinaForbes.com)

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you so much again and I look forward to hearing from you.

Marina

Marina Forbes

[MarinaForbes.com](http://MarinaForbes.com)

(603) 332-2255

[marina@anylanguage.org](mailto:marina@anylanguage.org)

***PS. Please ask me about our Russia Tour 2017!***

*I lead my Cultural Tour to Russia every year and I always participate in the icon restoration efforts at the ancient Russian monasteries and churches (please see some of my pictures from Solovki monastery below).*



