



DEPARTMENT OF COMPARATIVE LITERATURE
350 HUMANITIES BUILDING
BOX 951536
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90095-1536

TEL: (310) 825-7650
FAX: (310) 794-5997

www.complit.ucla.edu

Dear Anton ~

The last film ended at 11:15PM last night and today's first order of business is to say *thank you*. Your kindness was perfect. No festival can grow without that first vote of confidence. Ilya and I put six months' work into the event, and we can already see the results. It is only 11AM here in Los Angeles and the Russian is reacting very positively: *Hello!* magazine writes a few hours ago:

В рамках фестиваля в течение трех дней на территории университета UCLA проходили концерты классической и современной музыки, показы лучших российских фильмов этого года, кулинарные шоу от российских шеф-поваров и арт-выставки комиксов.

Kommersant then adds this morning:

Координатор премии Grammy Джефф Гринберг вообще заключил, что Россия давно влияет на мировую культуру, музыку и кухню, а уикенд Far From Moscow Festival он характеризовал не иначе как «действительно волшебное мероприятие».

In other words, the Festival now *exists*. It has now been recognized by the Russian Consulate, voting members of Grammys, UCLA itself, and the Los Angeles cultural elite. This first festival makes the second one possible. We are now recognized and celebrated by the Russian government, Moscow's fashionable and financial newspapers plus – of course - America's finest public university. Your generosity made this possible. *Thank you*.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "David".

David (for Ilya, also)