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## New book on *iurodivye*

by Daniel Waugh

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*Iurodivye v russkoi kul'ture*. Otvetstvennyi redaktor i sostavitel' E. M. Iukhimenko. Trudy Gosudarstvennogo istoricheskogo muzeia, Vyp. 197. Moskva, 2013. 184 pp. ISBN 978-5-89076-235-1

About the same size as (and weighing less than) my new tablet, this fine little collection of essays by accomplished scholars will be ideal to take to the beach or read in your rowboat while waiting for the fish to bite this summer. It is the materials of a scholarly conference held in 2007 in the State Historical Museum on the occasion of the 450th anniversary of the death of Vasiliï Blazhennyi. Some essays are specific to that saint; others contextualize him among the other Muscovite Holy Fools. There is new material here on architecture, iconography, illuminated manuscripts, regional traditions and the veneration of *iurodivye* among the Old Believers. The book is nicely illustrated, for the most part in color. One can but wish that it did not take more than half a decade for conference materials to appear in print. The contents:

- L. Batalov, "Pridel Vasiliia Blazhennogo v sobore Pokrova na rvu i osobennosti pochitaniia sviatogo v kontse XVI v." [inter alia, discusses date of Vasiliï's death (1557, not 1552)].
- T. P. Rudi, "Ob odnom siuzhete iz 'apokrificheskogo' Zhitiiia Vasiliia Blazhennogo" [episode about Vasiliï's prediction that a merchant would never live to wear boots he ordered, in a distinct late redaction of Vita, sheds light on possible connections between literary and folk traditions]
- E. A. Ryzhova, "Motiv 'khozhedenie po vode' v zhitiiakh iurodivykh i ustnykh predaniakh" [iconographic as well as textual evidence; an appendix publishes a copy of the Vita of Nikolai Kochanov, a Novgorod iurodivyi.]
- S. Preobrazhenskii, "Ikonografiia Vasiliia Blazhennogo: nekotorye aspekty izucheniia" [illustrates a broad range of comparative examples]
- V. V. Gorshkova, "Vnov' vyivlennaia ikona Vasiliia Blazhennogo XVII v. iz chastnogo sobraniia v Iaroslavle" [evidence for continued popularity of cult in Russian North, even as it faded in Moscow during the 17th century]
- Iu. A. Gribov, "O maloizvestnom litsevom spiske Zhitiiia Vasiliia Blazhennogo iz sobranii GIM" [lavishly illustrated from the manuscript]
- A. N. Vlasov, "Iurodivye Prokopii i Ioann Ustiuzhskie: problema preodoleniia individual'nogo nachala"
- A. G. Mel'nik, "'Gorod iurodivykh'" [on Rostov cults]
- S. A. Ivanov, "Iurodstvo i staroobriadchestvo: k postanovke problem"

- E. M. Iukhimenko, “Iurodivye v pokhval’nykh slovakh i sluzhbakh russkim sviatym” [interesting comments on coverage in and sources for the most important compendia of pokhval’nye slova to Muscovite saints]
- Arkhimandrit Makarii (Veretennikov), “Dukhovnaia družba dvukh podvizhnikov-sovremennikov: Mitropolit Makarii i prepodobnyi Aleksandr Svirskii”