Boris Uspenskij in English: Bibliography

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Abstract: The bibliography provides a list of Boris Uspenskij's publications in English, including works written in co-authorship and various reprints/reissues. For the most part, Uspenskij's publications in English are translations of his books and articles originally written in Russian and previously published in the Soviet Union/Russia. The first English-language publication of his work, the monograph *Principles of Structural Typology* appeared in 1968; the current bibliography consists of 65 entries from a period spanning from 1968 till today.

Keywords: Tartu–Moscow School; Russian history; Russian culture; Soviet semiotics; semiotics of history; semiotics of culture

It was not easy or in any way ordinary for a Soviet (humanities) scholar to publish his or her academic work abroad either in Russian or in translation, especially when it came to the so-called “Western” journals and publishing houses. Nevertheless this Soviet-era quest related to publishing one's academic work abroad – and eventually being recognized, was accomplished by many prominent Soviet scholars. The case of Boris Uspenskij is a vivid example.

From the very start of his academic career Boris Uspenskij was “on the front line” of the new trends in Soviet humanities in general and semiotics (of Russian culture) in particular, e.g. actively participating in the famous 1962 Symposium on the Structural Study of Sign Systems in Moscow, establishing the so-called Tartu-Moscow School of Semiotics along with Juri Lotman and other colleagues, etc. So it is not surprising that the Moscow professor's academic interests and scholarly contributions often corresponded to the problems and discussions which were of interest to Western

1 With the publications appearing in the so-called “Socialist bloc” countries (i.e. Poland, Hungary, East Germany, Czechoslovakia, etc.) the situation was slightly different and it can perhaps best be addressed in a separate article.

https://doi.org/10.12697/SSS.2017.45.3-4.11
scholars(hip) around the same time. As a result of these common research agendas and the overall interest in the new wave of “Russian Theory”, works of Uspenskij were translated into a number of European languages (Italian, English and French) and published in the West already in the 1960s. Although translations into Italian lead in terms of number of publications in this early decade, the first major work of Uspenskij's that appeared in the West was actually an English translation of his 1962 *Principles of Structural Typology* [1], which was published by Mouton in the Janua Linguarum series in 1968.2

Translations of other important works followed. Only in the 1970s alone almost three dozen of Uspenskij's books and articles were translated into English and published by major international journals (e.g. *Semiotica, Linguistics, Poetics, etc.*) and in thematic anthologies (mostly in relation to the Tartu-Moscow School). The majority of those publications are related to three pivotal research areas: (Russian) linguistics; semiotics/history of Russian culture and literature; and general (theoretical) semiotics (e.g. collective *Theses on the Semiotic Study of Cultures*).

As concerns the overall context and forms of the English translations of Uspenskij's scholarly works, it is possible to distinguish eight groups of publications:3

(a) *Theses on the Semiotic Study of Cultures (As Applied to Slavic Texts)* as the most (re)published piece in the entire bibliography. *Theses*, a collective work written in co-authorship with four other members of the Tartu-Moscow School of Semiotics, is often referred to as the Tartu-Moscow School's manifesto of cultural semiotics (1973, 1975, 1998, 2003, 2013) [6, 13, 14, 51, 52, 59, 60], so it is an item which definitely stands out in the list of Uspenskij's publications.


(c) Five volumes that have been compiled to publish collections of translated articles by the members of the Tartu-Moscow School: *Semiotics and Structuralism: Readings from the Soviet Union* (Baran, Henryk, ed., 1976) [A]; *Soviet Semiotics: An Anthology* (Lucid, Daniel B., ed., 1977; new edition in 1988) [B & 46]; *The Semiotics of Russian Culture

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2 Interestingly enough this series was actually started by Roman Jakobson's *Fundamentals of Language* (1956).
(Shukman, Ann, ed., 1984) [C]; The Semiotics of Russian Cultural History (Nakhimovsky, Alexander; Nakhimovsky, Alice, eds., 1985) [43]; “Tsar and God” and Other Essays in Russian Cultural Semiotics (Levitt, Marcus, ed., 2012) [D].

(d) Many articles were published in international humanities journals: Semiotica (five articles, 1974–1978) [8, 9, 10, 19, 28], Linguistics (two articles, 1974, 1977) [3, 26], Poetics (1972) [2], Dispositio (1976) [20], New Literary History (1978) [29], PTL. A Journal for Descriptive Poetics and Theory of Literature (1978) [30].


(g) Abstracts/proceedings and presentations related to conferences: Bologna (1973) [7], Thessaloniki (1988) [48], Groningen (1990) [47].

(h) Three of Uspenskij’s monographs have been published in English: Principles of Structural Typology (1968) [1]; A Poetics of Composition: The Structure of the Artistic Text and Typology of a Compositional Form (1973) [4] and a new edition in 1983 [32]; The Semiotics of the Russian Icon (1976) [18].

The bibliography below provides the list of all known English-language publications by Boris Uspenskij in chronological order. Altogether it comprises 65 entries from the period 1968–2017.

Bibliography


38. Uspenskij, B. A. 1984. Samozvanchestvo or royal imposture in Russia as a cultural-historical phenomenon. (Budgen, D., trans.) In: [C], 259–292. [Translation into English of Tsar’ i samozvanets: samozvanchestvo v Rossii kak kul’turo-istoricheskij fenomen, 1982.]


version of Yazykovaya situatsiya i yazykovoe soznanie v Moskovskoj Rusi: vospriyatie tserkovnoslavianskogo i russkogo yazyka, 1989.]


58. Uspenskij, B. A. 2012. Europe as metaphor and metonymy (in relation to the history of Russia). In: [D], 175–190. [Translation into English of Evropa kak metafora i kak metonimiya (primenitel’no k istoriiRossii, 2004.)]


Данная академическая библиография содержит список англоязычных публикаций Бориса Андреевича Успенского, в том числе его работы, написанные в соавторстве и различные репринты/переиздания. Большинство публикаций Б.А. Успенского на английском языке являются переводами его книг и статей, которые первоначально были написаны на русском языке и опубликованы в Советском Союзе/России. Первая англоязычная работа автора (монография «Принципы структурной типологии») вышла в 1968 году. Текущая библиография состоит из 65 публикаций охватывающих период с 1968 по 2017 год.

Boris Uspenski inglise keeles: bibliograafia