

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Acknowledgement	7
Preface	9
Introduction: The Background of Early Cubo-Futurism in Brief Historical Perspective	15
I. Velimir Xlebnikov	
1. Xlebnikov's Path to Futurism	19
2. Xlebnikov's Linguistic, Poetic, Mathematical and His- torical Interests in Relation to Russian Symbolism . . .	23
3. Xlebnikov's "Žuravl" and Some Features of His Poetic Practice	29
4. Conclusion	34
II. Vladimir Majakovskij	
1. Majakovskij's Path to Futurism	38
2. Majakovskij's Prerevolutionary Esthetics and Poetry . .	42
3. Some Aspects of Majakovskij's Poetry	56
III. David Burljuk	
1. Burljuk and the Organization of Futurism.	67
2. The Esthetics and Poetry of Burljuk	70
3. Conclusion	76
IV. Aleksej Kručënyx	
1. Kručënyx's Path to Futurism	79
2. Kručënyx: Theory and Practice of Trans-sense 1913-1928	82
3. The Critics of Kručënyx's Trans-sense	91
4. Conclusion	96

V.	Vasilij Kamenskij	
1.	Kamenskij and the Formation of Futurism	98
2.	Kamenskij's Poetry: Theory and Practice	100
3.	Conclusion	105
VI.	Early Russian Futurism in Perspective.	108
VII.	Futurism in the Postrevolutionary Period	
1.	The Futurists and the Artistic Avant-Garde	114
2.	The Creation of <i>Lef</i> and Futurist Theories.	126
3.	Criticism of the Futurists	131
4.	The Crisis and Dissolution of <i>Lef</i>	133
5.	<i>New Lef</i> and the 'Literature of Fact'	134
6.	Conclusion	142
VIII.	Russian and Italian Futurism	
1.	Some Similarities and the Problem of 'Influence'	145
IX.	French Surrealism and Russian Futurism	
1.	Some Comparisons and Differences.	153
2.	The Surrealist Political Commitment and 'Proletarian' Literature.	155
3.	Conclusion	162
	Bibliography	164
	Index	172

INDEX

- Academy of Verse, 22
 Acmeism, 15, 16, 36, 90
 Anderson, Sherwood, 159 n
 Andreev, Leonid, 36, 40
 Annenskij, Innokentyj, 22
 Antokol'skij, Mark, 148
Apollo (Apollon, Acmeist journal), 15, 22
 Arcybašev, Mixail, 36
Art (Tvorčestvo, Futurist journal), 77
 Aragon, Louis, 109, 154, 155, 159 n, 160, 160 n
Art of the Commune (Iskusstvo kommuny, Futurist newspaper), 123
 Aseev, Nikolaj, 77, 90, 112
 Asmus, V., 31 n
 Avant-garde (avant-gardism), 9, 145, 154, 163; in Majakovskij's poetry, 56, 68, 72; characteristics of, 109
 Avant-garde, Russian artistic, chapter on, 114-126; composition of, 116; theories and programs of, 117-122, opposition to, 118, 122-123; deposition of, 124; historical significance of, 125
 Averbax, Leopold, 142
 Axmatova, Anna, 15

 Bal'mont, Konstantin, 20, 40, 101
 Babel', Isaak, 90
 Barbusse, Henri, 157, 157 n, 158
 Baudelaire, Charles, 56, 73
 Bazalgette, L., 157 n
 Bebel, A., 79
 Belyj, Andrej (Boris Bugaev), 29, 30, 31, 37 n, 40, 41, 42, 44, 55 n, 101, 109; relationship of, to Russian Futurism, 31 n
 Benois, A., 68
 Berdjaev, Nikolaj, 53 n
 Bergson, Henri, 150
 Beskin, E., 102
 Blok, Aleksandr, 17, 22, 30, 40, 44, 56, 84
 Boccioni, Umberto, 149
 Bolshevism (Bolsheviks), 124, 125, 128, 143, 153, 154, 155, 156, 162, 163; Futurist commitment to, 116, 143, 154, 155-156; Surrealist commitment to, 154, 155-156
 Breton, André, 109, 153 n, 154, 155, 156, 156 n, 157, 158, 160, 160 n, 161
 Brik, Lilja, 76
 Brik, Osip, 10, 76, 116, 118, 119, 120, 124, 126, 128, 129, 135, 136, 137, 138, 146, 159 n
 Brjusov, Valerij, 17, 30, 36, 40, 56, 66 n, 70, 74, 83, 83 n, 108 n, 111
 Browder, C., 162 n
 Brown, Edward J., 139 n
 Bunin, Ivan, 40
 Burljuk, David, 10, 17, 17 n, 18, 22, 34, 35, 35 n, 36, 41, 80, 99, 105, 106, 108, 111, 112; chapter on, 67-78; early life and artistic activities of, 67-68; role of, in organizing Futurism, 69; esthetics of, 70-72; poetry of, 72-75, poetic devices of, 73; poetic influences on, 73; poetic themes of, 73; influence of, on Majakovskij's early poetry, 75-76; departure of, from Russia, 77; activities of, during 1920's, 77-78
 Burljuk, Nikolaj, 17, 17 n, 35
 Burljuk, Vladimir, 17, 17 n, 151

 Cauté, David, 156
 Centrifuge (Futurist group), 23
 Chagall, Marc, 116
Clarté (French journal), 157
 Colucci, Michele, 146, 146 n, 147 n
 Comintern, 156
 Communist Party, French, 156, 157
 Communist Party, Russian, 37, 79, 141,

- 143, 156, 159, 161
 Company of 41 Degrees (Futurist group), 86
 Corbière, Tristan, 17, 74
 Cubism, 32 n, 33, 36, 43, 68, 71, 80, 111, 116, 142, 153
 Čexov, Anton, 137, 138
 Čukovskij, Kornej, 94, 95, 101, 109
 Čužak, Nikolaj (Nasimovič), 77, 129, 130, 130 n, 132, 133, 134 n, 140
- Delacroix, F., 151
 Dell, Floyd, 159 n
 Denike, A., 21
 Deržavin, Gavril, 33
 Dostoevskij, F., 43, 82, 108
 Dreiser, Theodore, 159 n
 Drozda, M., 143
- Efremjmin, L., 100 n
 Egbert, Donald, 144 n
 Ego-Futurists, 23 n
 Eluard, Paul, 109, 154
 Einstein, Albert, 157 n
 Engels, F., 79
 Erlich, Victor, 129 n, 144
 Evgen'ev-Maksimov, V., 112
 Evreinov, N., 45
 Ėfros, Avram, 114
 Ėjxenbaum, Boris, 92, 111, 127 n, 135 n
- Fadeev, Aleksandr, 137-138, 142
 Fëdorov, Nikolaj, 43, 49, 49 n, 52, 53, 53 n
 Fellow-travellers (literary group), 126
 Florovskij, Georg, 53 n
 Folejewski, Zbigniew, 10, 31 n, 66
 Formalism (Formalists), Russian, 112, 113, 127, 127 n, 139, 139 n, 140, 141, 143, 158; literary theories of, in 1920's, 129-131; alliance of, with Russian Futurism, 135
 Futurism, Italian, 42; relationship of, to Russian Futurism, 145-152
 Futurism (Futurists), Russian: formation of, 16-18; early period of, in historical perspective, 108-113; as a unified movement, 108; links of, with modern avant-garde, 108-109; anarchist strain in, 109; social revolt of, 110; alliance of, with Russian artistic avant-garde, 116, 117; postrevolutionary activities of, 114-144; continuity in, 142; relationship of, to Italian Futurism, 145-152; relationship of, to French Surrealism, 153-163; *see also* chapters on Xlebnikov, Majakovskij, Burljuk, Kručënyx, Kamenskij
- Gabo, Naum, 121
 Gippius, 109 n
 Gold, Michael, 157 n, 159 n
 Gollerbax, E., 72
 Gončarova, Natalja, 67
 Gor'kij, Maksim, 19, 40, 76, 157 n
 Gorlov, N., 95
 Gorodeckij, Sergej, 15, 16, 21, 86 n
 Gumilëv, Nikolaj, 15, 16, 21, 22, 29, 61
 Guro, Elena, 17, 17 n, 68
 Gusman, B., 100
- Hokusai, K., 150
- Ivanov, Vjačeslav, 20, 21, 22, 29, 31, 71, 86 n, 109
 Ivanov, Vsevolod, 90
 Ivanov-Razumnik, R., 110
- Jack of Diamonds (*Bubnovyj valet*; art group), 18, 71
 Jakobson, Roman, 24, 30, 60, 61
 Jakulov, Georgij, 151
 Jolas, Eugene, 159 n
- Kamenskij, Vasilij, 10, 16, 17, 21, 22, 68, 90, 108, 111, 112; chapter on, 98-107; early life and activities of, 98-100; poetic theory and practice of, 100-105; notion of the poetic word, 100-101; orientation of poetry, 101-102; major poetic theme of, 102; orientation of, to folklore, 104; post-revolutionary activity of, 106-107
Sten'ka Razin, 99
Heart of the People is Sten'ka Razin, The (*Serdze narodnoe - Sten'ka Razin*), 102, 104
This Also is a Biography (*Èto i est' biografija*), 107
Career of an Enthusiast, The (*Put' èntuziasta*), 107
 Kandinskij, Vasilij, 68, 114, 116
 Karamzin, Nikolaj, 130
 Katanjan, Vasilij, 160
 Keep, John, 103 n
 Kirsanov, S., 134
 Kručënyx, Aleksej, 10, 18, 34, 35, 42, 100,

- 101, 108, 112, 146; chapter on, 79-97; early life and activities of, 79-90; relationship of, with Xlebnikov, 80; notion of trans-sense language, 81-82; theory and practice of trans-sense language, 82-91; critical reaction to the use of trans-sense language in poetry, 91-96; role of, in Russian Futurism, 96-97
- Declaration of Trans-sense Language* (*Deklaracija zaumnogo jazyka*), 86, 91
- Declaration of the Word as Such* (*Deklaracija slova kak takovogo*), 35
- Game in Hell, A* (*Igra v adu*), 80, 81
- "dyr bul ščyl," 93, 96
- Word as Such, The* (*Slovo kak takovoe*), 3
- Kul'bin, Nikolaj, 21, 68, 148, 149, 150
- Kušner, Boris, 117, 141, 160
- Kuz'min, Mixail, 15, 22, 22 n
- Larionov, Mixail, 67
- Lef* (*The Left Front of Art*, Futurist journal), 77, 90, 106; formation of, 126-127; Futurist theories in, 127-129; criticized by Trotsky, 131-133; crisis in, 133; dissolution of, 134; reorganization of, into *New Lef*, 135; opposition in, to RAPP, 135-139
- Lenin, Vladimir, 103 n, 123, 124, 125, 155, 156
- Leonov, Leonid, 90
- Lermontov, Mixail, 82, 83, 98
- "Literature of fact," 107, 159; discussion of, 139-141, 143-144
- Litfront (literary group), 139 n
- Livšic, Benedikt, 31 n, 34, 36, 96, 108, 147; discussion with Marinetti, 148-152
- Lomonosov, Mixail, 33, 101
- Lozanova, A., 103
- Lunačarskij, Anatolij, 115, 116, 117, 117 n, 123, 124, 154, 155, 156, 156 n
- Maguire, Robert, 126
- Majakovskij, Vladimir, 10, 17, 18, 35 n, 36, 69, 71, 74, 75, 76, 77, 79, 80, 96, 101, 105, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 116, 119, 124, 126, 128, 129, 133, 139 n, 140, 141, 146, 147, 159, 159 n, 160, 160 n, 161, 163 n; chapter on, 38-66; early life and activities of, 38-40; esthetics of, 42-43; early poetry of, 43-55; influence on early poetry, 43; development and maturity of major poetic theme, 43-54; view of the Bolshevik revolution, 55; poetic devices of, 56-66; grotesque depiction of city, 56-58; neologisms of, 58; declamatory nature of poetry, 59-60; poetic meters of, 60-61; stress and intonational character of poetry, 61-63; poetic rhymes of, 63-66; suicide of, 160-161
- About This* (*Pro èto*), 129
- Cloud in Pants* (*Oblaka v štanax*), 43
- From Street to Street* (*Iz ulicy v ulicu*), 64
- How to Write Poetry* (*Kak sdelat' stixi*), 59
- Morning* (*Utro*), 63
- Open Letter to Workers* (*Otkrytoe pis'mo rabočim*), 54
- Vladimir Majakovskij: *A Tragedy* (*Vladimir Majakovskij: Tragedija*), 43, 45
- War and the Universe* (*Vojna i mir*), 44, 48, 50, 51, 53
- "Making it strange," (*ostranenie*), 32, 111
- Makovskij, Sergej, 22 n
- Malevič, Kazimir, 105, 116, 118 n
- Mallarmé, Stephane, 74
- Mandel'stam, Osip, 15, 21, 130 n
- Marc, F., 68
- Marinetti, Filippo, 145, 146, 147; discussion with Livšic, 148-152
- Markov, Vladimir, 9 n, 26, 31 n, 32, 33, 34, 35, 81, 102 n, 112, 145, 146
- Marx, Karl, 79, 120 n, 125, 144 n
- Marxism, 39, 39 n, 41, 125
- Matjušin, Mixail, 17 n, 20, 21, 68
- Men'sutin, A., 102, 103 n
- Merežkovskij, D., 36
- Mezzanine of Poetry (poetic group), 23
- Michelangelo, 148
- Monas, Sidney, 155 n
- Monde* (French journal), 157
- Monet, Claude, 150
- Moore, Harriet, 159 n
- Morhardt, M., 157 n
- Nekrasov, Nikolaj, 98
- Neologism, poetic, 24, 31; in Xlebnikov's poetry, 23-24; in Majakovskij's poetry, 58
- Newspaper of the Futurists* (*Gazeta futuristov*), 77

- Neznamov, P., 77, 160
- Octobrists (proletarian literary group), 126, 127
- Opekušin, A., 148
- OPOJAZ (Society for the Study of Poetic Language), 129
- Pasternak, Boris, 39, 96
- Percov, Viktor, 138
- Péret, Benjamin, 158
- Piksanov, N., 104
- Plexanov, G., 79
- Poggioli, Renato, 108
- Polonskij, Vjačeslav, 57, 116, 134
- Pomorska, Krystyna, 143 n
- Pound, Ezra, 109
- Punin, Nikolaj, 116, 118, 124, 125
- Puškin, Aleksandr, 78, 82, 83, 84, 86, 89, 94, 98, 103, 108, 148
- Rahv, Philip, 161
- RAPP (Russian Association of Proletarian Writers), 135-136, 139 n, 141, 142, 143, 159; literary notions of, 136 n, 137; Futurist criticism of, 137-139
- Razin, Stepan, historical account of revolt, 102-103; folklore on, 103-104; role in Kamenskij's poetry, 104-105
- Red Virgin Soil (Krasnaja nov')*, 126
- Reed, John, 141
- Remizov, Aleksej, 20
- Renoir, Jean, 150
- Revolution, Bolshevik, 10, 54, 55 n, 77, 78, 86, 102 n, 103, 103 n, 104, 112, 126, 155, 155 n, 160
- Rhyme, poetic, in Majakovskij's poetry, 63-66
- Rimbaud, A., 17, 73, 74
- Rolland, M., 17
- Sablé, Lucien, 158-159
- Sadok sudej (A Trap for Judges)*, 17, 23, 98, 146
- Saint-Simon, 125
- Scales, The (Vesy, Russian Symbolist journal)*, 19
- Schmeman, Alexander, 110 n
- Sejfullina, Lidija, 90, 91
- "Self-sufficient word," 18
- "Shift," poetic, 32, 33, 111
- Sinclair, U., 157 n
- Sinjavskij, Andrej, 102, 103 n
- Slap in the Face of Public Taste, A (Pošččina občestvennomu vkusu)*, 18, 34, 73, 96
- "Social command," 129, 129 n
- "Socialist Realism," 161
- Sokolov, B., 104
- Sologub, F. (Teternikov), 36, 40
- Spasskij, Sergej, 36, 76
- Stepanov, Nikolaj, 17, 27, 30
- Studio of Impressionists (Studija impressionistov)*, 23
- Surrealism (Surrealists), French, 11, 147; relationship of, to Russian Futurism, 153-163; defined by Breton, 154; reaction of, against bourgeois culture, 154-155; commitment of, to Bolshevism, 155-157; reaction of, against proletarian literature, 157-161
- Symbolism (Symbolists), Russian, 15, 16, 17, 28, 29, 30, 32, 33, 36, 43, 44, 68, 70, 73, 74, 83, 84, 90, 92, 101, 102, 104, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 142, 154
- Šklovskij, Viktor, 34, 76, 92, 93, 111, 116, 130, 136, 140, 141, 141 n
- Šterenburg, David, 116, 117, 117 n, 123 n, 125
- Ščerba, L., 62
- Tatlin Vladimir, 105, 116
- Tolstoj, Lev, 78, 82, 136, 137, 138, 139
- "Trans-sense language" (*zaimnyj jazyk*), 82, 86, 88, 90, 91, 106, 111; Xlebnikov's theory of, 23, 29, 81; Kručenyx's theory of, 81, 83, 85, 85 n; Kručenyx's poetic use of, 86-88; critical discussion of, 91-96
- Trenin, Vladimir, 61, 74, 138 n
- Tret'jakov, Sergej, 77, 92, 139
- Triolet, Elsa, 159 n
- Trotsky, Leon, 94, 117, 155, 156, 158; view of Futurism in 1920's, 131-133
- Tugendxol'd, Jakov, 114, 121
- Trubeckoj, Pavel, 148
- Turgenev, A., 130
- Tynjanov, Jurij, 35 n, 111, 130, 141
- Ugarte, M., 157 n
- Unamuno, M. de, 157 n
- Utamaro, K., 150
- Vailland, Roger, 162
- Vinokur, G., 61, 93, 94
- Vjazemskij, P., 130

- Voronskij, Aleksandr, 126, 126 n, 127, 127 n, 136 n, 138
- Werth, Leon, 157 n
- Xardžiev, Nikolaj, 22, 34, 74
- Xlebnikov, Velimir, 10, 17, 18, 42, 68, 69, 80, 81, 86 n, 94, 99, 99 n, 101, 102, 108, 109, 110, 112, 148, 151; chapter on, 19-37; early life and activities of, 19-20; syncretism of, 21; influences on early poetry, 22; linguistic theories of, 23-24, 28-29; neologisms of, 23-24; historical theories of, 25; poetic devices of, 30-32; poetic orientation of, 29; relationship of, to Futurism, 34; concept of Futurism, 36; relationship of, to Symbolism, 37-38
- Crane, The* (*Žuravl'*), 23, 29-34
- Czar's Bride, The* (*Carskaja nevesta*), 23
- Forest Maiden, The* (*Lesnaja deva*), 27
- Game in Hell* (*Igra v adu*), 80-81
- I and È* (*I i È*), 27
- Incantation by Laughter* (*Zakljatie smexom*), 23
- Marie Vetsera* (*Maria Večora*), 27
- Numbers* (*Čisla*), 28
- Otter's Children, The* (*Deti vydry*), 27, 34
- Scratch on the Sky, A* (*Carapina po nebu*), 34
- Sinner's Temptation* (*Iskušenie grešnika*), 21
- Things Were Much Too Blue* (*Byli vešči sliškom sini*), 20
- War in a Mousetrap, The* (*Vojna v myšellovke*), 34
- World Harmony* (*Ladomir*), 28
- "Zangezi," 34
- "Zoo," (*Zverinec*), 23
- Yeats, William Butler, 109
- Young, Stark, 159 n
- Zakrčevskij, V., 92
- Zavališin, V., 49 n
- Zelinskij, F., 22, 134
- Zetkin, Clara, 125
- Žirmunskij, Viktor, 61, 93, 97, 111