

Project:

1. What English translations of Pushkin's poems can find? Prepare to recite them.
2. Study the text. What new facts did you learn from it? Either in Russian or in English prepare your own presentations dedicated to the lives of Pushkin's children.

Pushkin was an impulsive man and fought many duels. Indeed, his fatal duel was the second time he had challenged Georges d'Anthès, a French officer in the Russian Guard.

The last duel between Alexander Pushkin and Georges-Charles d'Anthès took place on January 27 (February 8) in 1837 in the area of Chyornaya river near the Kolomyazhskaya road and Komendantskaya dacha. Nowadays in this place you can find a square. The memorial park consists of a commemorative obelisk and two memorial stones, which are located nearby.

On a winter evening in 1837, Pushkin travelled by sleigh from Nevsky Prospekt to the Chernaya river area of St. Petersburg, then filled with woods and dachas, where Georges D'Anthès fatally wounded him in the stomach. The poet, then aged 37, had become convinced that D'Anthès was flirting with his wife and challenged the French cavalry officer to a duel.

The grief that broke out on the news of Pushkin's death was unprecedented and took the authorities by surprise. The funeral was transferred from the cathedral at the last moment to a smaller church, every effort was made to play down public mourning, and in the repressive atmosphere of the century Pushkin, even in death, continued to be viewed as a threat to public order and a source of dangerous ideas. It was more than 30 years later that the poet's genius received public acknowledgement, when a statue of Pushkin was unveiled in Moscow during 1880. Since then Pushkin has been all things to all men. In the rest of the world the operas of Tchaikovsky and Rimsky-Korsakov brought Pushkin's imagination to a wider public. In Russia the Soviet authorities highlighted his friendship with the Decembrists to claim his posthumous support.



Natalia Goncharova –is the woman who played a fatal role in life of A. S. Pushkin. Her personality has always been very controversial: she was called the evil genius that destroyed the great poet, and a victim. She spent six years married to Pushkin, but the next 27 years of her life allow you to make a much more complete and true picture of what really was one of the first beauties of the beginning of XIX century.



Before his death Alexander Sergeevich asked her: "Go to the village. Mourn me for two years and then get married, but only to an honest man". She complied with his request, but married seven years later. At 25 years, Natalya Pushkina was left a widow with 4 children.

Two weeks after the death of Pushkin, Natalia with children went to her brother Dmitri, in their family estate Polotnyany Zavod. There she led a lonely life.

Two years later, Natalia Pushkina again came to Petersburg. She was engaged in education of her children.

Natalia married 7 years after Pushkin's death, in 1844, Her husband Peter Lansky, a colleague of her brother, truly loved her. At that time, she was 32 years old, he is 45. The wedding ceremony was quiet and modest. He adopted her children. Three daughters were born in this marriage. In addition, Natalia raised four children of her relatives. She wrote Lansky. – "God sends me children from all sides ..."

The family lived at Lansky estate which, according to the city plan of 1831, stretched from Sampsonievsky prospect to the Black River. It was a cozy however modest family home inherited from Stepan Lansky (1760-1813). The estate contained a villa standing by a pond and some peasants' houses.

In the last years of her life Natalia was often ill. She often went abroad for treatment. She died at the age of 52 of pneumonia. Peter Lansky survived wife for 14 years.



Peter Lansoy died on 6 May 1877 (aged 78) and was buried in Alexander Nevsky Monastery, Saint Petersburg, together with his wife.

In 1889 the Lanskoj estate was sold to be reconstructed later.

Presently it has been restored as a villa. It retains some features of its original design. You can admire its beauty if you walk to the crossroads of Lanskoj Shosse and Samsonievsky Prospect.



