

The background of the poster is a photograph of a desk in a dimly lit room. A large, dark lamp with a conical shade is positioned on the right side of the desk. In the foreground, there are several sheets of paper with handwritten text, a quill pen, and a small dark bottle. The overall atmosphere is quiet and scholarly.

arte

DISTRIBUTION

presents

Doctor Jivago

A 52' documentary

Directed by Nino Kirtadze

Produced by Arte France and Zadig Productions



Pitch

Boris Pasternak's great novel Doctor Jivago is very popular. It won the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1958 and was successfully adapted by Hollywood. But its author's struggle against the Russian authorities, the censorship, or the CIA's involvement is less talked about. Discover this great Russian novel's rocky journey in the midst of the Cold War. To this day, it still arouses lively debates in Russia.

Nobel Prize Goes to Pasternak



The New York Times (by Max Frankel)

Boris Pasternak at his home in Peredelkino, near Moscow

Russian's 'Zhivago' Still Unpublished in Soviet Union

By **WERNER WISKARI**

Special to The New York Times.

STOCKHOLM, Sweden, Oct. 23—Boris Pasternak, Russian poet and the author of "Doctor Zhivago," has won the 1958 Nobel Prize for Literature.

The novel, which describes life after the Bolshevik Revolution, has not been published in the Soviet Union but is a best-seller in the United States and other Western countries.

Mr. Pasternak, who is 68 years old, is the first Soviet citizen to win the award, set up under the will of Alfred Nobel, the Swedish inventor of dynamite. One other Russian-born author, Ivan A. Bunin, was honored in 1933, but he was then living in exile in France.

The award to Mr. Pasternak was announced this afternoon by the Swedish Academy, which makes the annual choice. The prize amounts to the equivalent of \$41,420.

It will be conferred at a dinner here Dec. 10, along with the still-to-be-announced awards for physics and chemistry,

Continued on Page 6, Column 3



Synopsis

From the underground to the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1958, the crazy story of Doctor Jivago, the novel with which Boris Pasternak defied the Soviet authorities and put his life in danger.

«I committed the biggest crime a Russian writer could ever commit. It is a crime to publish a book abroad before it is published in the USSR. I do not yet know what measures will be taken against me, but it is certain that they will make me pay. When he finished writing Doctor Jivago in 1956, the story of an intellectual in search of truth, «a reincarnation of myself», according to him, Boris Pasternak knew he would not back down. He did not «write this novel to keep it hidden». A few months later, he handed the manuscript to an Italian literary agent who smuggled it out to a Milanese publisher. This marked the beginning of an incredible odyssey for a book written, according to the Kremlin, by a «black sheep, who spits in the face of the people».

An ideological weapon

The future publisher had to overcome pressure from the Italian and Russian Communist parties, and even received false telexes from Pasternak announcing his resignation. Seeing an opportunity to use literature as an ideological weapon, the CIA stepped in and produced paperback editions for circulation under the cloak in Russia. Pasternak, for his part, had his back and had five other copies «brought out», destined for Gallimard among others. The book was published in 1957 and thanks to it Pasternak won the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1958. He died suddenly in 1960 in his bed, of «unnatural causes», according to his family. A story symptomatic of the 20th century, elegantly told (with the help of actors from the time and Pasternak's family) by Georgian Nino Kirtadze, whose grandfather hid a copy of Doctor Jivago... behind his fridge.

arte DISTRIBUTION

the ultimate reference for factual documentaries



FLORENCE SALA

*Head of
International Distribution
& Marketing*

f-sala@arteFrance.fr



ALEC HERRMANN

*Head of
Catalog and Video
Acquisitions (DVD/VOD)*

a-herrmann@arteFrance.fr



AUDREY KAMGA
Sales Manager

a-kamga@arteFrance.fr

Canada, USA, South America,
Australia, New Zealand,
MENA Region



ISABELLE MONTEIL
Sales Manager

i-monteil@arteFrance.fr

UK, Ireland, Italy, Spain,
Portugal, Asia
language versions



SOPHIE SOGHOMONIAN
Sales Manager

s-soghomonian@arteFrance.fr

Eastern Europe, Russia,
Africa, Israel, Greece
worldwide inflight



FRANKA SCHWABE
Sales Manager

f-schwabe@arteFrance.fr

Germany, Austria, Switzerland,
Belgium, France, Netherlands
Scandinavia, Iceland