



## BRITISH-UZBEK SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 1, 2022



Welcome to the November newsletter of the British Uzbek Society. The nights are drawing in and the weather is feeling distinctly autumnal, but there's plenty of interesting things happening in the UK and Uzbekistan. We've listed several of them in this month's newsletter, and you can also follow us on [Facebook](#) and [LinkedIn](#).

## RECENT EVENTS

If you were unable to join the [Silk Road Literary Festival](#) online in September, don't worry! Almost all the talks and workshops are now online on the festival's [YouTube channel](#). We particularly recommend [Zohra Saed's](#) talk, [Langston Hughes in Turkestan](#), which is about the American poet's travels and meetings with the Union of Writers in Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan in the 1930s; historian [Iftikhar Malik's The Silk Road and Beyond](#); and BUS member [Andrew Staniland's Nodira and Uvaysiy: Female Poets of the Fergana Valley](#). If you'd like to hear more from Andrew, see below!

On 27th October 2022, [Dr Louis Skyner](#) and [Rosa Vercoe](#) held an AGM at the Embassy of Uzbekistan on behalf of the British-Uzbek Society (BUS). Dr Skyner announced that he has to step down as the Chairman after being in the role for over three years. As a result of the elections and the votes submitted by the BUS members, the three new appointments have been made.

With effect from 27th October 2022, the Chairman of the Society is [Rosa Vercoe](#). Rosa has been a BUS member since 2018, and the BUS Director responsible for cultural events and related communications since 27th November 2019. Rosa will take the leadership of the Society building on her experience of organising cultural events for the BUS Society as well as for the London-based academic and charitable institutions (LCSS, SOAS University of London, UCL and others).

We are delighted to announce that the two new Directors have joined the BUS Society: [Elena Wolf](#) will focus her work on building a stronger membership base and expanding the Society's networks using her extensive experience of working for international membership organisations and developing/leading international projects.

**Eve Novikova** will bring the wealth of her experience in corporate/art events and organising logistics for international trade exhibitions and events.

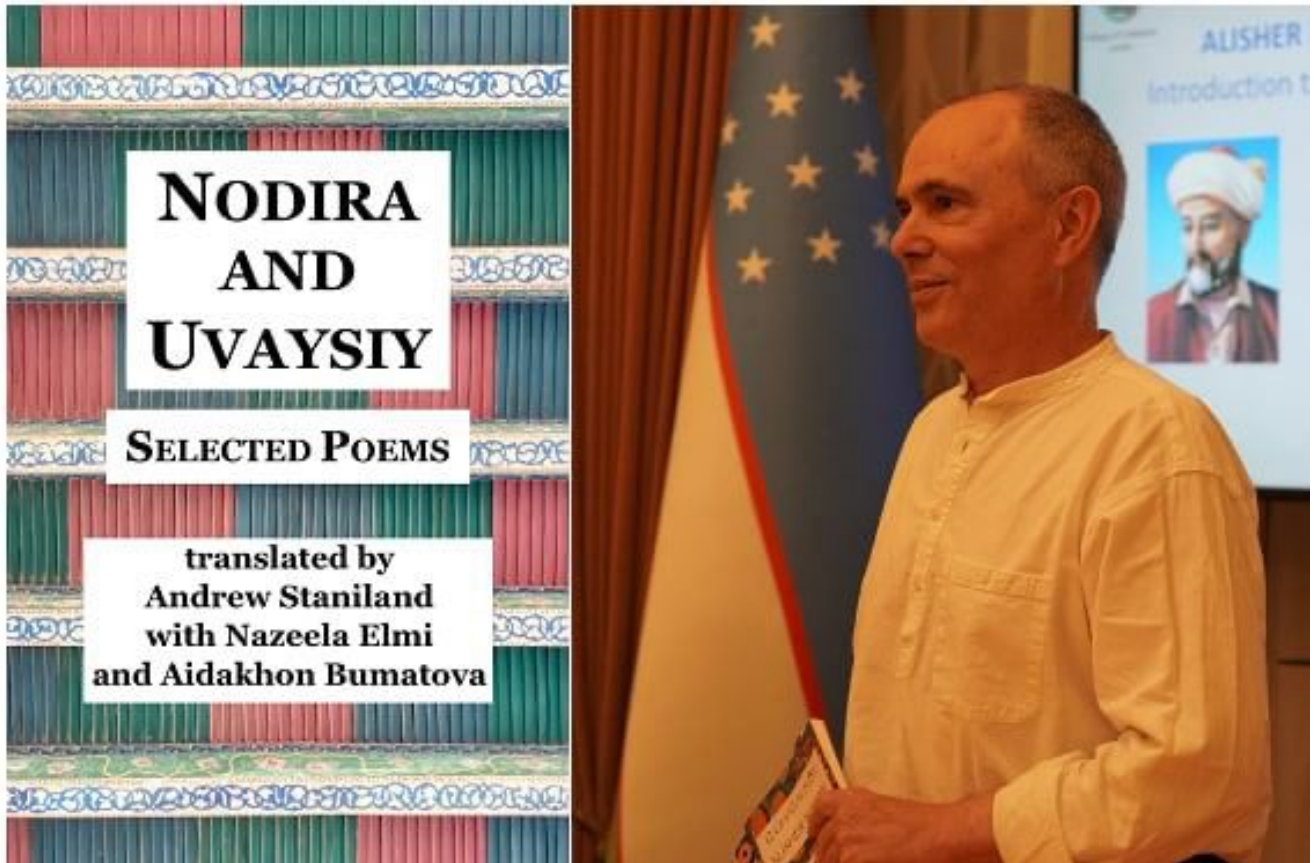


On 27th October, the British-Uzbek Society in collaboration with the Embassy of Uzbekistan organised the talk on Uzbek Cinema and its Contexts by **Professor Birgit Beumers**, a well-known researcher of the Central Asian and Russian cinema. Please read the full report in [The London Post](#) by **Raza Saed**.

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

On 10 November BUS members **Andrew Staniland** and **Sophie Ibbotson** will be in conversation about Andrew's latest book, [Nodira and Uvaysiy: Selected Poems](#). These two 19th century poets from Uzbekistan's Fergana Valley wrote in both Uzbek and Tajik, but little of their poetry has been translated into English. Working with fellow translators **Nazeela Elmi** and **Aidakhon Bumatova**, Andrew is trying to change that, giving **Nodira** and **Uvaysiy** the international audience they deserve. This event will take place at the [Embassy of Uzbekistan](#) (41 Holland Park), starting at 7pm. After the talk there will be plov prepared by **Osh Paz**, including a vegetarian option. The evening is free to attend, but please RSVP in advance to **Islom** ([culture@uzembassy.uk](mailto:culture@uzembassy.uk)).



Uzbekistan has a national stand at this year's [World Travel Market](#), which runs from 7-9 november at ExCel London. Representatives of Uzbektourism, the National PR Centre, and Uzbekistan Airways will be joined by tour operators from Dilrabo Travel, East Asia Point, International Caravan Travel Services, Marakanda Travel, Nasib Tour, Orient Voyages, People Travel, and Sezam Travel. WTM is open to the public and you can register [here](#).

BUS members may also be interested in visiting [Alexander the Great: The Making of a Myth](#), which is on at the British Library until 19 February 2023. Tickets cost £17 but concessions are available.

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## EVENTS IN UZBEKISTAN

The annual meeting of the Uzbek-British Trade & Industry Council (UBTIC) will take place in person in Tashkent on 30 November. For more information about participating in this event, please contact **Ravshan Duschanov** ([economy@uzembassy.uk](mailto:economy@uzembassy.uk)).

[Tashkent International Tourism Fair](#) (TITF), the largest tourism industry event in Central Asia, will take place in Tashkent from 30 November - 2 December. This year's [programme](#) includes panels on topics such as the government's role in tourism development, international competition and branding in tourism, and challenges in the service sector. All the regions of Uzbekistan will have stands, as will many international food destinations, and there will also be a Gastro Bazaar where you can feast on Uzbek food.



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## ABOUT THE BRITISH UZBEK SOCIETY

The British Uzbek Society (BUS) is an independent, non-political organisation. It was formally established in July 2002 with the aim of supporting and helping to facilitate cultural, educational and people-to-people links between the United Kingdom and Uzbekistan. The Society organises a monthly programme of events including lectures, forums, and cultural activities. BUS membership is open to all and the cost for an individual member is £50 per year. Students benefit from a specific discount and pay just £25. Please send all membership queries to [BUSmembership@gmail.com](mailto:BUSmembership@gmail.com). More information about events is available from [BUS\\_events@outlook.com](mailto:BUS_events@outlook.com).

[BUS website](#)



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