

BRITISH GEORGIAN SOCIETY

Events 2009



Bagrati Cathedral

December:

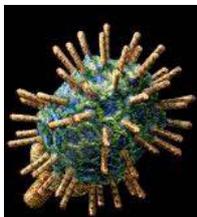
An illustrated talk by Nato Tsintsabadze, the Secretary-General of ICOMOS (International Council on Monuments and Sites) Georgia, entitled “Architectural restoration and preservation in Georgia” followed by a panel discussion. Nato is described as “standing in the front line of the struggle to preserve Georgia’s rich and unique architectural heritage”: She is a manager of internationally funded restoration projects in Tbilisi’s Old Town, and has been involved in discussions with UNESCO over the future of Bagrati Cathedral and Gelati Monastery’s World Heritage status.



Georgia and its neighbours

November:

Lecture by Tom de Waal on “Georgia and its neighbours”, held in conjunction with the Caucasus Policy Institute at King’s College, London.



Bacteriophage

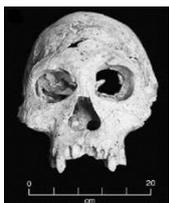
Lecture by Dr.Revaz Adamia’s lecture on Bacteriophage, the unique anti-bacterial procedure which was developed in Tbilisi during the 1930s, held in the House of Lords. Dr Adamia is Director of the Eliava Institute in Tbilisi and a former Georgian Ambassador at the United Nations.



Absence of Will

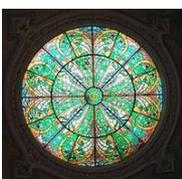
October:

A showing of Mamuka Kuparadze’s film “Absence of Will” on the Abkhazia/South Ossetian conflicts followed by a discussion. This event was held jointly with Conciliation Resources.



Fossil Hominids:
Skull from Dmanisi

May: Talk on recent “Palaeolithic Cave Finds” at Dmanisi near Chiatura, western Georgia, by Professor Nika Tushabramishvili, held at the Georgian Embassy.



April: Panel discussion “Georgia’s Art Nouveau heritage at risk” – following an illustrated presentation by Nestan Tatarashvili, head of the Art Nouveau Preservation Group in Georgia, held at The Gallery (Alan Baxter & Associates).

March: A talk by the British Ambassador, Denis Keefe on “Georgia – looking ahead”.



Women’s choir in traditional dress

February: An evening of Georgian music at the Tabernacle in Notting Hill Gate – “Georgian Harmony from Cradle to Grave”, exploring the healing power of Georgian polyphony. Three singers illustrated what brought UNESCO World Heritage status to Georgian song for its ability to heal and enhance life. The event also raised money for the Mamatsi Guli charity, which is working with groups helping the disabled and abandoned children in Georgia.

January: Film “There was once a singing blackbird” by Otar Iosseliani, one of Eastern Europe’s most remarkable directors, made in 1970 before he moved to Paris. It is a beautiful example of Iosseliani’s early genre – a tragic-comedy tinged with melancholy and shot in black and white. This was shown in the Georgian Embassy.