



Architecture of the NKTP Sanatorium in Kislovodsk

Moisei Ginzburg

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- Third in the series of facsimile publications of the work of one of modernism's most famous architects, Moisei Ginzburg, following on from *Dwelling* (2017) and *Style and Epoch* (2018)
- Published in partnership with Ginzburg Architects, now involved in the restoration of Narkomfin (1929, Moscow) - Moisei Ginzburg's Constructivist masterpiece
- Previously unpublished in English and documenting the building of a sanatorium complex in the modernist style at a time when architecture was subject to Stalinist diktat

The NKTP (People's Commissariat for Heavy Industry) Sanatorium was commissioned in 1934 by Grigory Ordzhonikidze, one of Stalin's closest allies and head of the Commissariat for Heavy Industry (he committed suicide after falling out with Stalin in 1937, the year of the sanatorium's completion). Despite the prevailing ideology that sought to outlaw modernism in favour of Stalinist neoclassicism, architect Moisei Ginzburg, with a team that included Ivan Leonidov, Evgeny Popov and Nikolai Paliudov, succeeded in creating an architectural ensemble that essentially retained its modernist integrity – and today remains a masterpiece of 1930s modernism – while making only minor concessions to the new Stalinist orthodoxy. In the early Soviet period, Kislovodsk in the northern Caucasus became known as a centre for health spas and sanatoria – 'palaces of health for the workers'. Ginzburg's sanatorium still functions as a therapy centre, and retains many of its original features, including windows, light fixtures, some of the furniture etc. This first English-language publication of the original book documenting its creation is an important addition to the Ginzburg canon.

Contents: Introduction; Architectural issues; Construction and Organization of Engineering.

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Moisei Ginzburg (1892-1946) was an architect, theorist, teacher, and a leader of the Constructivist group in Soviet avant-garde architecture. Born in Minsk into an architect's family, he went abroad to Italy and France for his architectural training. He settled in Moscow, where he taught architectural history and theory at the Moscow High Technical School and in the architecture faculty at the Vkhutemas Art School. An influential young pedagogue, Ginzburg published discerning critiques of modern architecture. His magnum opus, *Style and Epoch* (1924), was essentially a manifesto of Constructivism as the architectural style of the new Soviet era.