



Boyar of Ivan the Terrible

Date

c. 1893-1904 CE

Primary Maker

Vassili Yacovlevitch Grachev

Medium

Bronze

Description

This highly detailed equestrian bronze created by the Russian artist Vassili Grachev was made after a part of a larger composition titled *Tsar's Hunt* or *Hunt of Ivan the Terrible*.

Dressed in traditional Russian clothes, the rider is a boyar—a member of Russia's old aristocracy next to the rank of prince—in the service of the Ivan the Terrible (1530–1584). This figure on horseback played a secondary role to the Tsar in the original composition. The complete version of the work was made in 1877, but copies of segments, such as this one, were produced between 1893 and 1904. The image of the Tsar's hunt is based on a scene in the historical novel *Prince Serebrenni* (also known as *The Silver Knight*) published 1859–1861 by Aleksey Konstantinovich Tolstoy (1817–1875), in which falconers inform the Tsar that his favorite falcon has flown away.

Dimensions

Overall: 12 in. x 11 1/2 in. x 4 1/2 in. (30.5 x 29.2 x 11.4 cm)