



1. At the Tucson City Center Hotel  
(Inn Suites), 2016.  
Photo: Michael B. Leybov.

In 2016, at the conception of the TGMS organizers, Tucson was colored blue and all hues of blue were the theme of the show. Undoubtedly, the choice of the theme impacted the content of many exciting displays at the Main Show. The multitude of tints of blue that were represented was amazing! From almost raven blue to the deep blue of laurite, to the tender pale color of euclase and topaz. Hundreds of hues of blue and tens of types of minerals; wonderful assemblages and great collections of samples from all over the world. A perfect illustration of the essay "the color of minerals". It was pleasant that the exhibition of the Fersman Mineralogical Museum composed by Maria Alferova was recognized as the best educational show. However, the predominance of blue did not prevent dealers from demonstrating the Mineral Treasury of the Earth in all their diversity and splendor. The report below is proof of that.

Editorial

## 1. My Favorite Minerals from Tucson Shows-2016

I heard from some people that a few dealers arrived shortly after January 1<sup>st</sup> and were set up during the first week of January when the first of the early shows did not begin until January 30! It is hard to believe that people want to spend that much time and money in a hotel room here in Tucson. Don't get me wrong — there is nowhere else I would rather be this time of year than Tucson, but some of these guys will be spending thousands of dollars on hotel bills...

The Tucson City Center Hotel (Inn Suites) was bought out by a new group and I have to say that the property has been neglected. The gorgeous grass that once filled the grounds between the buildings has been allowed to die and a lot of the dealers were experiencing problems with leaky pipes, wet rugs, poor Internet service and just a general feeling that the place is on its last legs (*Fig. 1*).

Now for the minerals — first, a recent find of amethyst from California. Tehachapi, California, dealer John Seibel had specimens of amethyst from the Kingston Range in San Bernardino Co., California. The color is nowhere near as intense as many other localities but there are precious few localities for amethyst from California. Most of Seibel's have a thin outer zone of smoky quartz over the amethyst. The crystals are well formed and aesthetic overall.

Spanish dealer Luis Burillo is always one of the first dealers to set up. His mineral specimens are well prepped and clean. He had some very nice specimens of demantoid from Belqeys Mountain, West Azerbaijan Province, Iran. The crystal forms are a combination of trapezohedron and dodecahedrons (*Fig. 13*). Czech Republic dealer *KARP* always has a fine array of minerals to choose from. This time I decided on some very fine specimens of uvarovite from Saranovskoe near Per'm, Central Urals in Russia. This is not a new find but the quality was very good so I picked up a small hoard.

Rick Kennedy dredged up some old specimens of carpathite from Picacho Peak, California, that he had buried away from a trip to San Benito County years ago (*Fig. 16*). Carpathite is an organic mineral comprised of carbon and hydrogen. It is also

See more photos in Internet version  
of this article on *Mineralogical Almanac* site  
[www.minbook.com](http://www.minbook.com)



2. **Crocoite**, 18 x 19 cm. Adelaide Mine, Dundas, Tasmania, Australia. Specimen: *Adelaide Mining Company*. Photo: M. Leybov.

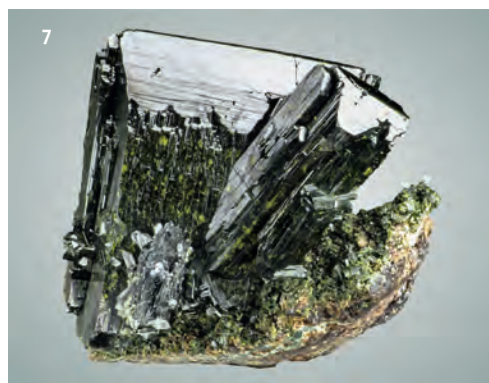
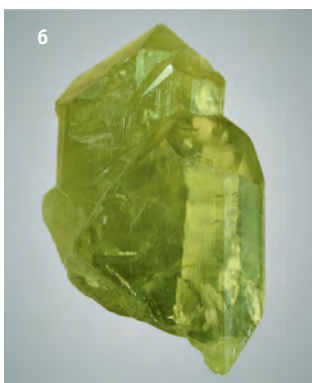
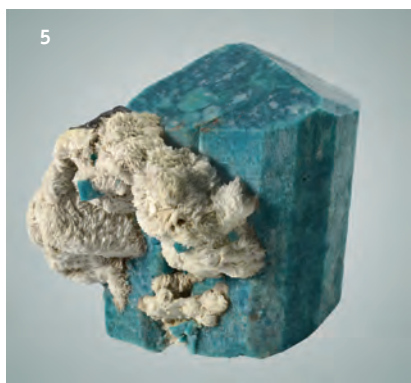
3. **Silver**, 9.5 cm tall. Colquechaca, Chayanta Province, Potosí Department, Bolivia. Specimen: *Miner's Lunchbox*. Photo: M. Leybov.

4. **Axinite**. 16 cm tall. Puiva, Subpolar Urals, Russia. Specimen and Photo: Tom Spann.

5. **Amazonite**, 7 x 6 cm. Ex Steve Smale Collection. Crystal Peak area, Teller Co., CO, USA. Specimen: *Rocksaholics*. Photo: M. Leybov.

6. **Brazilianite**, 7 x 5 cm. Cyrrego Frio mine, Linópolis, Divino das Laranjeiras, Doce valley, Minas Gerais, Brazil. Specimen: *Mineral Classics*. Photo: M. Leybov.

7. **Epidote with Magnetite and Quartz**, 12 x 10 x 9.3 cm. Green Monster Mountain, Prince of Wales Island, Alaska, USA. Specimen and Photo: *Barnett Fine Minerals*.







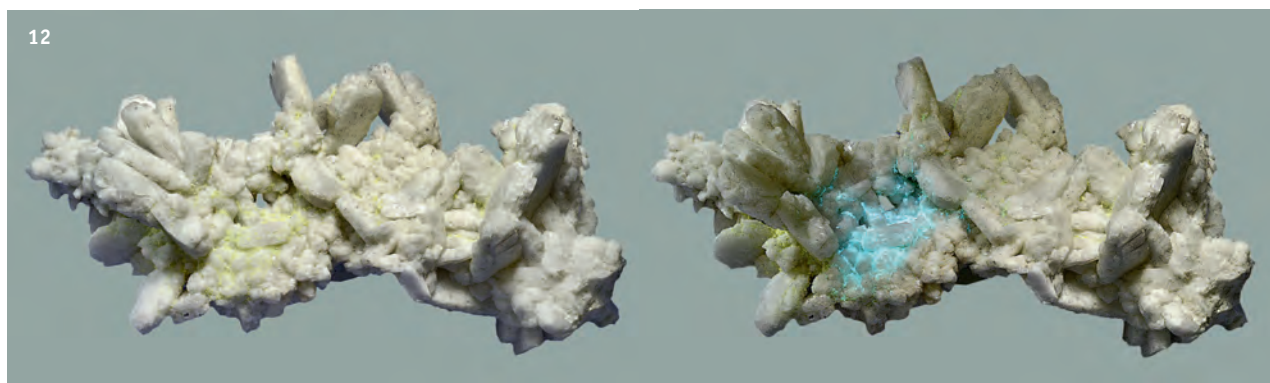
8. **Baryte**, 5 cm tall. Elbruskiy Mine, Elbrus Mtn., Northern Caucasus, Russia. *Wilensky Minerals Co.* Photo: Stuart Wilensky.

9. **Clinozoisite**, 4 x 2.5 cm. Alchuri Alpine vein, Shigar Valley, Skardu district, Pakistan. Specimen: *Fine Art Minerals*. Photo: M. Leybov.

10. Pseudomorph of **siderite** after **calcite**, 25 x 16 cm. South Africa. Specimen: *Stonetrust*. Photo: M. Leybov.

11. **Baryte**, 22 x 11 cm. Baia Sprie mine (Felsöbánya mine), Maramures Co., Romania. *Weinrich Minerals*. Photo: M. Leybov.

12. **Novacekite** and Schorl on Microcline, 25 x 11 cm. Hachupa Pegmatites, Hachupa, Shigar Valley, Skardu dstr., Gilgit-Baltistan, Pakistan. *Right: daylight; left: daylight + UV.* Specimen: *Nayab Gems&Minerals*. Photo: M. Leybov.



20. **Benitoite with Joaquinite.**

Benitoite Gem Mine, San Benito Co., CA, USA. 8.5 x 5.6 x 4.8 cm.  
Specimen: Jim & Gail Spann. Photo: John Veevaert.  
The specimen was on Jim & Gail Spann's display for diabetes.  
Here is something that happens a lot in this hobby. I originally  
etched this specimen from material purchased from Collector's  
Edge. I then sold the specimen to a collector in British Columbia.



I subsequently bought the specimen back, held it for a while then sold it to a collector in Alabama. The collector in Alabama sold his collection to Collector's Edge and I bought it back from them at the East Coast Show. I held on to it for a while and then sold it in Munich, Germany two and half years ago. And then I see it again here in Tucson. I have owned this rock three times in the past and Collector's Edge has owned it two times in the past.

21. **Legrandite**, 7 x 4 cm. Ojuela Mine, Mapimí, Mun. de Mapimí, Durango, Mexico.  
Specimen: Dave Bunk.  
Photo: Michael B. Leybov.

22. **Calcite**, 12 x 8 cm. La Florida mining area, Herrería-Valdáliga-Rionansa, Cantabria, Spain.  
Specimen: Jordi Fabre.  
Photo: Michael B. Leybov.





## 2. Meeting in a Century's Time

The Tucson show is always remembered for many happy meetings: with friends, colleagues, and specimens and collections with which you have been familiar. One of our noteworthy meetings was with a beautiful beryl crystal from the Urals (Fig. 32), which was displayed by the Green Mountains Minerals Company. The specimen was accompanied by copies that looked like pages from an old book, with watercolor pictures of Ural minerals, including that beryl itself (Fig. 31). Of course, we were intrigued and eager to hear the history of this "publication". Below we present the story told to us by Ludmila A. Budrina, a connoisseur of the Ural art history.

The watercolor was first mentioned in 1902 in the catalogue of the travelling "*Urals and Its Mineral Treasures*" exhibition as entry #85, named "*Typical Ural Crystals of Gem and Cut Gems. Watercolor Drawn from Nature*"<sup>1</sup>. This was the second Aleksey Kozmich Denisov's exhibition. The first one, titled "*The Urals in Painting*," was organized and successfully first held in Yekaterinburg (in November–December 1900) and then in Perm, the capital town of the Perm gubernia (governorate) (in December 1900–January 1901). Afterwards Denisov, who just appended his name with the place-name toponym Uralsky, decided to conquer St. Petersburg and Moscow.<sup>2</sup>



In the spring of 1902 Denisov opened a new travelling exhibition at the Passage Theatre in St. Petersburg. The visitor could then not only get acquainted with a collection of 109 paintings and drawings but also see over a thousand mineralogical specimens from his collection<sup>3</sup>. The catalogue of this exhibition was the first to mention this picture of the beryl.

Denisov-Uralsky seems to deem this painting important enough to also display it at the next, even more extensive, exhibition "*The Urals and Its Treasures*," which took place in Moscow in early 1904<sup>4</sup>. Although similar in title to the exhibition in St. Petersburg two years earlier, the exhibition in Moscow was remarkably different. Both of its parts – pictures and minerals – were augmented with new showpieces, including almost 50 more paintings.

In an attempt to bring more attention to exposition Denisov-Uralsky asked S.M. Prokudin-Gorsky (a pioneer photographer of that time) to take eight photos, which were then used to print postcards in Prokudin-Gorsky's print shop. The dates when the postcards were issued and when the permission was granted for the exhibition are closely spaced, which led us to suggest that the postcards were ordered in connection with launching a new project. One of the photographs, in the only fold-over postcard in this series, is of a watercolor with 29 minerals.

Almost immediately upon the termination of the Moscow exhibition, the painter selected a collection to be exhibited in the painting section of the 1904 St. Louis World's Fair in the United States.

The Exhibition was attended by more than 160 Russian painters, graphic artists, and sculptors. A little fewer than six hundred masterpieces provided the visitor with an insight into the various art styles in Russia at that time. Among the exhibitors were Ilya Repin, Alexander and Vladimir Makovsky, and Vasily Vereshchagin. The catalogue gave much attention to two sections, one of which was "*Ancient Russia*" comprising more than seventy canvasses, painted by Nicholas Roerich. The other was "*The Urals and Its Treasures*" painted by A.K. Denisov-Uralsky.<sup>6</sup>

Aleksey Kozmich sent fifty paintings and one watercolor to the United States, with the works picturing 29 mineral specimens from his own collection – beryl crystals from Murzinka, alexandrite and emerald from Ural Emerald Mines, crocoite

31. "*Classical Ural Crystals of Gems and Cut Gems and of Precious Metals from A.K. Denisov-Uralsky's collection*". Watercolor. A.K. Denisov-Uralsky, 1902. Reproduced from a copy of a foldover postcard printed by the S.M. Prokudin-Gorsky printing office, 1904.

32. **Beryl.** 13 x 4 cm. Murzinka, Central Urals, Russia. Specimen: "*Green Mountains Minerals*" Co.

**COLOR SPONSORS** for the article are  
**Nicholas Stolowitz and Dylan Stolowitz** of  
Green Mountain Minerals, Garrison, New York, USA

<sup>1</sup> Denisov-Uralsky A.K. (1902). Guide to A.K. Denisov-Uralsky's exhibition of paintings and watercolors of the Urals and its mineral treasures. Travelling exhibition, 2<sup>nd</sup> rev. edition, St.-Petersburg: Progress Publishing House, 79 pp.

<sup>2</sup> Budrina L.A. (2014) ...More than just a painter: on 150-years Anniversary of Aleksey Kozmich Denisov-Uralsky. Academic catalogue of the exhibition at the Yekaterinburg Museum of Fine Arts, February 19–May 18, 2014. Yekaterinburg, 2014, 6 pp.

<sup>3</sup> Denisov-Uralsky A.K. (1904). Guide to the exhibition of paintings and watercolors of the Urals and its mineral treasures. 4th rev edition, Moscow: A.N. Ivanov & Co., 76 pp.

<sup>4</sup> Official catalogue of Exhibitors. Universal Exposition. St. Louis, U.S.A. 1904. Department B Art. – St. Louis: The official Catalogue Company, 1904. – P. 19, 280–293.

<sup>5</sup> Official catalogue of Exhibitors. Universal Exposition. St. Louis, U.S.A. 1904. Department B Art. – St. Louis: The official Catalogue Company, 1904. – P. 290–291.

<sup>6</sup> Official catalogue of Exhibitors. Universal Exposition. St. Louis, U.S.A. 1904. Departement B Art. – St. Louis: The official Catalogue Company, 1904. – P. 291.

<sup>7</sup> Williams, Robert C. (1980) Russian Art and American Money. 1900–1940. – Harvard University Press. – P. 1–5.

from Berezovskoe deposit, perovskite, andradite (demantoid), diamond, gold and platinum nuggets and other. This watercolor was listed in the catalogue as entry #522.<sup>7</sup>

The contribution of the Ural painters to the Russian part of the art section of the Exhibition was highly appreciated by the Judging Committee, which awarded A.K. Denisov-Uralsky with a Great Silver Award (Medal).

Regretfully, no works of the painters returned to Russia. American researchers have traced the tragic and complicated destiny of the Russian Collection at this exhibition. The commercial venture had turned out to be a failure which ruined the manager, so the exhibits were seized and sold.<sup>8</sup>

The lost canvasses are now coming back. For example, the painting "*Forest Fire*" (1898) by A.K. Denisov-Uralsky was returned to

the USSR in 1979. "*My Boat at the Wooded High Side of the Chusovaya River*" (1901) came to Russia in 2014 from a London Auction, and "*High Rock in the Chusovaya River*" (1901) was delivered to the painter's home country one year later. Unfortunately, no other works by A.K. Denisov-Uralsky have been found so far in the United States.

**Ludmila Budrina**

Head of the Arts and Crafts Department,  
Yekaterinburg Museum of Fine Arts  
ludmilabudrina@gmail.com

## Acknowledgment

*Mineralogical Almanac* thank John S. White for improving the English style of this Tucson Show Report.





Tucson Mineral Show-2016. Photo: John Veevaert

a. Picture of Rock Currier holding one of his Uruguayan amethyst geodes.

b. Specimens from the late Dave Eidahl Collection.

c. **Diaboleite** from Tiger, Arizona. 6 cm. Rock Currier Collection

d. Zoned smoky **amethyst** from Minas Gerais, Brazil. 20 cm tall. Rock Currier Collection.

e. **Caledonite** from Tiger, Arizona. 5 cm. Rock Currier Collection.



f. **Diopside** and **wulfenite** from Tiger, Arizona. 9 cm. Rock Currier Collection.

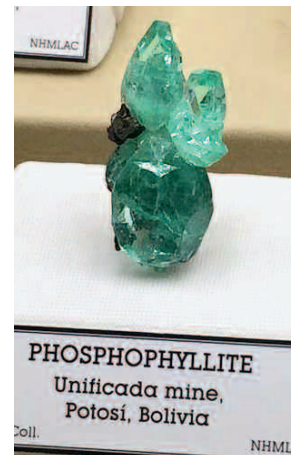
g. Crystals of **scorodite** to 2 cm from the Cobre mine, Zacatecas, Mexico. Scott Rudolph Collection.

h. **Euclase** from the La Marina mine, Colombia. 8 cm. Scott Rudolph Collection.

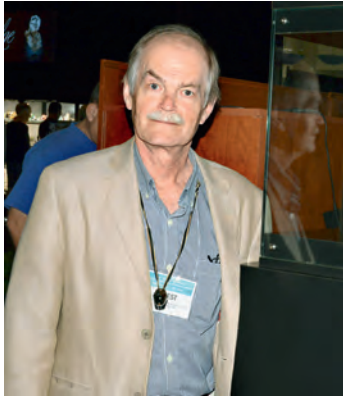


i. Crystals of **boleite** from the Amelia Mine, Baja California, Mexico. Dave Eidahl Collection.

j. **Phosphophyllite** from the Unificada mine, Bolivia. 3.5 cm. Dave Eidahl Collection







k. George Harlow, American Museum of Natural History, 2015 Carnegie Mineralogical Award recipient, at the 2016 Tucson Gem & Mineral Show.

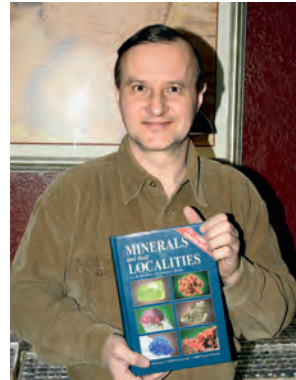
l. Wendell Wilson presents the 2016 *American Mineral Heritage* Award to Terry Szenics (right).

m. Tom Moor with his new book "Compendium of Mineral Discoveries".

n. Julian Gray (one of co-authors) with new book "*Minerals of Georgia*", 2015.

o. Jaroslav Hyrsh (one of co-author) with 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of the book "*Minerals and Their localities*".

p. Stuart Wilensky with his new volume "*Wilensky Fine Minerals*", volume 5.



q. UK Mining Ventures team (from left to right): Ian Jones, Kerith Graeber, Cal Graeber, Jesse Fisher, Timothy Sherburn.

r. Evan Jones (left) and his father Bob Jones starting recording for "*What is Hot in Tucson*".

s. Stephanie and Robert Snyder, Stonetrust.

t. Dona Leicht, Kristalle.

v. John White from Kustos (left) & Jordi Fabre (right).

