

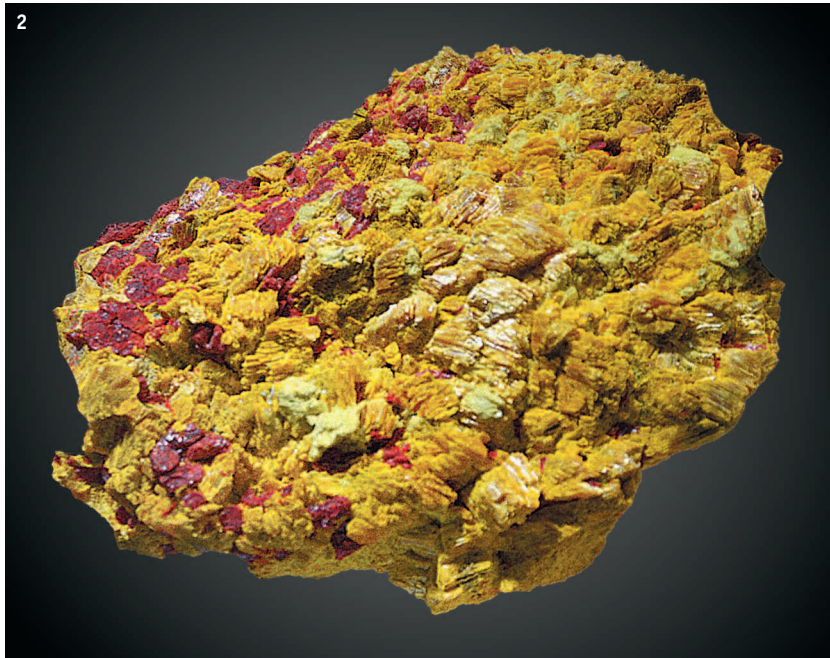
GEMMA – DECEMBER 2019: “...EVERYBODY COULD FIND HIS MINERAL SPECIMEN HERE...”

Michael B. Leybov
Mineralogical Almanac,
m_leybov@mail.ru



1. **Calcite**. 6 x 4 cm. Korshunovskoye deposit. Nizhneilimskiy district, Irkutsk region, Siberia. “Russian Minerals Ltd.” specimen.

Photo: Michael B. Leybov.



2. **Orpiment** with **realgar** and **sulfur**. 30 x 22 cm. Sarasinskoe ore field, Altai krai, South Siberia. Victor V. Levitskiy specimen.

For two days, 14 and 15 December, the pavilion 7A at the Sokolniki park in Moscow was crowded by the mineral amateurs and connoisseurs. One more mineral show “*Samocvetniy razval*” (Gem pile) was held there. Every year it grows so fast that the show managers moved their office away from the show area so the new participants can have their booths.

More and more mineral specimens arrive from the overseas sources. Some new to the global mineral market specimens approach Russia pretty quickly: for example, zunyite from Iran (Fig. 6), which appeared at the world shows less than a year ago.

We know about new interesting finds of Chinese minerals (Figs. 3–5) thanks to Olga and Dmitry Davydov’s tenacity and taste.

Dalnégorsk has inexhaustible supply according to the show booths. Year after year, decade after decade it produces famous calcite druses, endlessly variable quartz and fluorite specimens, datolite of different shades of green and blue, spectacular specimens of sphalerite, galena and many more. This show Dalnégorsk presented several good specimens.

Unusual find was awaiting us at Victor Levitskiy’s booth near entrance: a large orpiment specimen from Altai krai was shining like a bright yellow spot (Fig. 2).



3. **Calcite**. 13 x 7 cm. Xianghualing mine, prov. Hunan, China. Olga and Dmitry Davydov specimen.

4. **Calcite**. 4 x 2.8 cm. Liping county, prov. Guizhou, China. Olga and Dmitry Davydov specimen.

5. **Fluorite**. 11 x 10 cm. Quan Zhou city, Yongchun County, prov. Fujian, China. Olga and Dmitry Davydov specimen.

6. **Zunyite** crystal. 1.8 cm. Qalat-e Bala salt dome, Bender-Abbas district, prov. Khormozgan, Iran. “Russian Minerals Ltd.” specimen.



According to Victor, this find was a result of successful and rare coincidence that could be formulated as “*to show up at the right place at the right time*”.

Perhaps, even to have a chance to see this miracle of nature one should visit this show. And they, miracles, happen there every year.

The skillful collectors try their best to enter the show as early as possible to see and to acquire the best specimen. Therefore, the show is still popular for both sophisticated experienced collectors and public. Each can find his specimen. We wish the organizers new achievements in the new 2020 year coming, and the participants and the collectors — new discoveries.