

## NOVELTIES AT “GEMMA” OF AUTUMN 2023

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### Specimens:

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Each “GEMMA”-show in Moscow is coated with a unique atmosphere: the pre-Christmas time in December floats in rose-colored anticipation, merriness, and joy. By this time, many of the dealers have already sorted out and graded their specimens, prepared and shaped them, and hence, their booths represent some interesting novelties.

The spring show that is timed to the Day of Geologist is the most active and is flavored with the foretaste of upcoming fieldwork and expeditions. It is thus full of discussions of forthcoming trips. Someone may even be lucky enough to boast about his or her first finds, literally from just below the melting snow cover.

The specific charm of the autumn “GEMMA”-show is that the show once again gathers together friends after a long while. Both the visitors and the dealers are glad not only to exchange their recent impressions but also display their new finds and acquisitions and to tell the related stories. This is why such communications are among the most appreciated values of the autumn show. Indeed, everybody may have missed quite badly both their friends and the friendly society of mineral lovers over the past half year.

This is exactly what one felt at the show held on September 30 – October 1 in Sokolniki Park, Moscow. Jolly meetings with old friends, talks about newly found minerals and fresh news, and of course, careful selections of new pieces for the collection... Many of the visitors of this show were beginning collectors, who had just started their travel to the mineral world. They were astounded by the wide scope of the exhibits: as usual, the showcases and booths this autumn displayed a great diversity of ar-

1. Presentation of an issue of the *Mineralogical Almanac* dedicated to the memory of Boris Z. Kantor. On photo Ludmila Cheshko with Maria and Alexey Mil'shins, whose article is published in this issue.

2. Photographers Vladislav Dyatlov and Michael Leybov.



3. **Almandine.** 3.5 x 3.5 x 2.2 cm.  
Elovyi Navolok site at the Shueretskoe deposit, Karelia, Russia.



4. **Calcite.** 12.5 x 9.5 x 7 cm.  
Bor Quarry, Dalnegorsk, Far East, Russia.

ticles made of natural stones, as well as the diversity of jewelry, cut gems, souvenirs, and an assortment of beautiful collection-quality mineral specimens.

Indeed, the 2023 field season has turned out to be a success for many mineral dealers and "field hunters", and the booths were full of specimens from many Russian localities, on which accent was placed at both this mineral show and previous ones. Collection-grade mineral specimens came from all corners across the country. The Caucasus was traditionally represented by fine pieces from the Belorechenskoe deposit and by fossils. The Ul'yanovsk region demonstrated its richness of specimens with fossils and minerals. Northern Russia provided a wide range of rare minerals, which had been delivered from the Kola Peninsula, and first of all, from the Khibiny massif. The visitors and buyers were highly interested in collection material from Karelia: corundum from Khit-Ostrov, amethyst from Korabl Cape, and large almandine crystals from the Shueretskoe deposit (Fig. 3). It is also worth mentioning the material from Dalnegorsk, Russian Far East, which has long been loved so much by mineral collectors. Thanks to the diversity of the local mineralogy and the unusual look of the minerals, mineral specimens from Dalnegorsk (Figs. 4, 5, 24) are always in great demand and can sometimes amaze even the most whimsical mineral collectors. The Urals also holds high its standards as a treas-



5. **Quartz and calcite.** 8 x 4 x 5 cm.  
Bor Quarry, Dalnegorsk, Russian Far East, Russia.