

Yevgeny Ass



**Yevgeny Ass**  
Professor at Moscow Architectural Institute, vice-president of Moscow Union of Architects, and director of Ask Architects architectural bureau:

**1 The most beautiful:** Proviantskiye Sklady Stasova. Unique for Moscow — classical nobility, calmness and refinement of details.

**2 The ugliest:** Christ the Savior Cathedral. The pomposity and arrogance are in glaring contradiction with the awkwardness and dullness of the architecture. There are a lot of ugly buildings in Moscow, but this one is the most fundamental.

**3 The most interesting:** Dom Narkomfina. Innovative typology and flawless elegance of form. It is a pity that this masterpiece of 20th century world architecture is in such a sad state.

**4 The most typical:** A Moscow *vysotka* (Stalin skyscraper). The archetype of Muscovism. Senseless scale, utopian pathos and idealism.

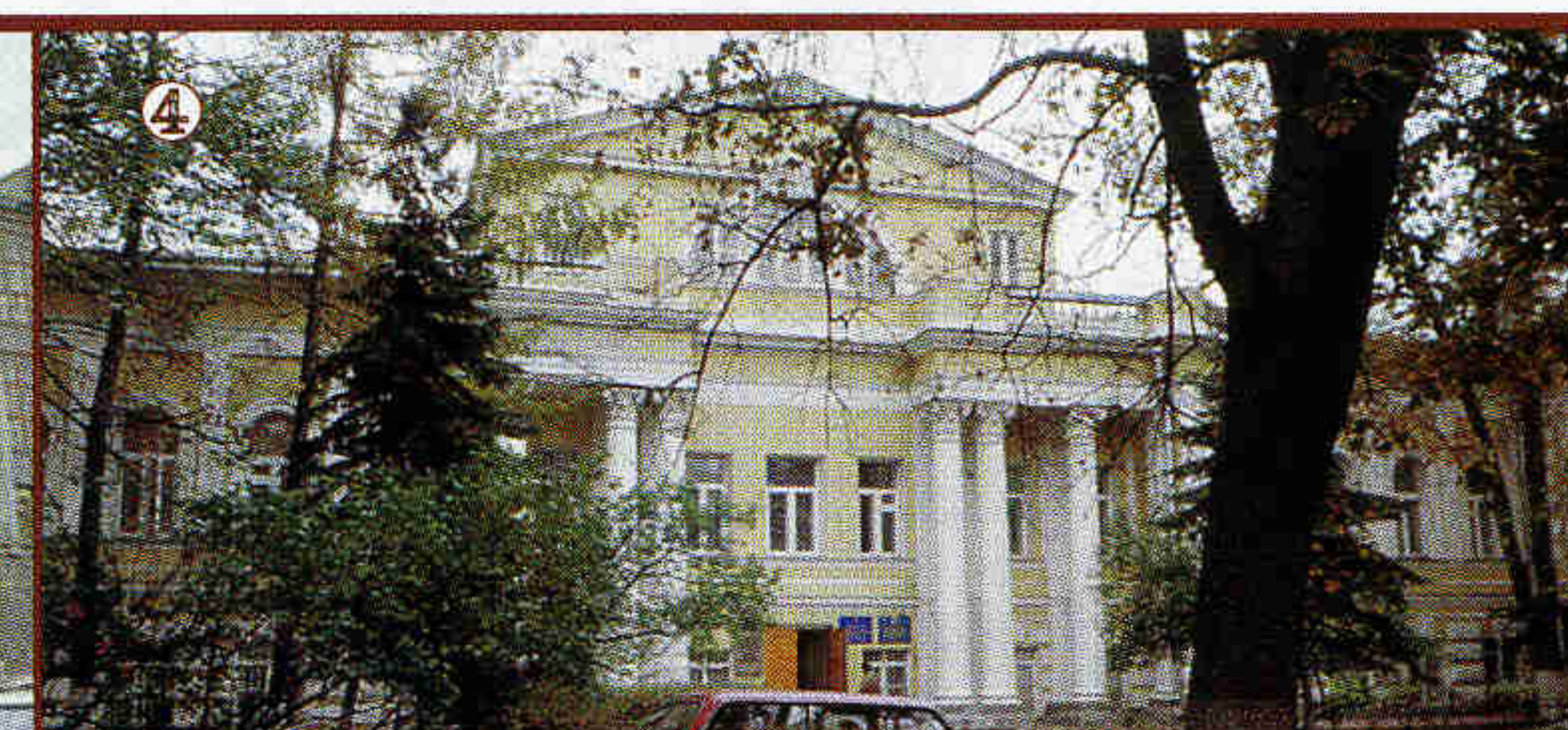
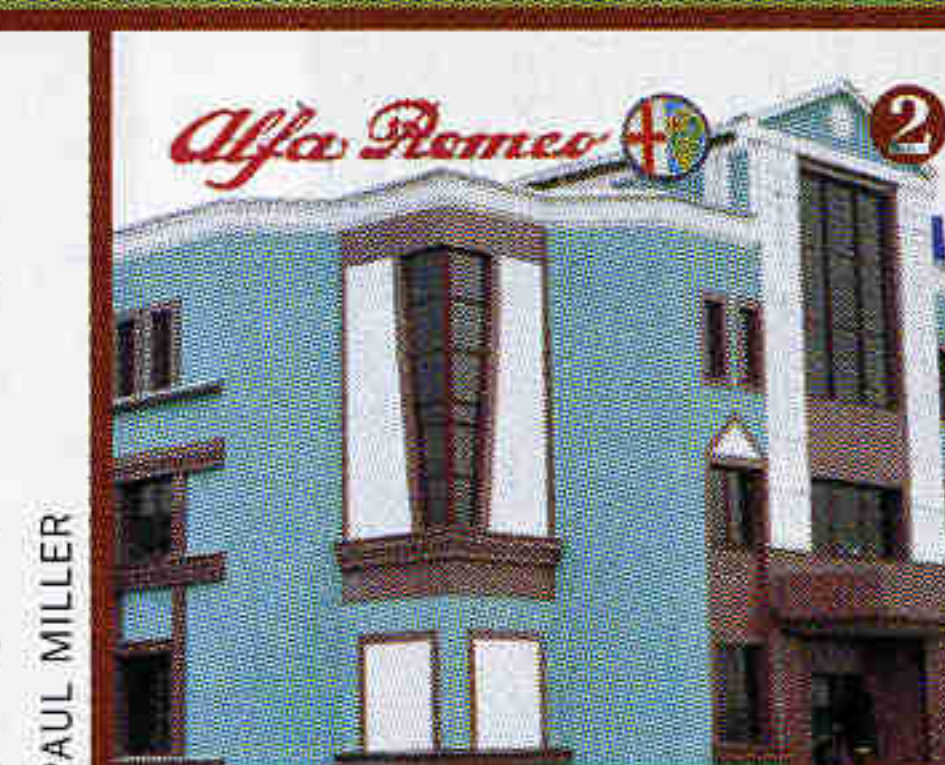
**Sergei Kiselyov,**  
co-owner of the architectural bureau Kisselyov and Partners:

**1 The most beautiful:** Dom Pashkova. This is a banal answer. I am always delighted when I look at this building while driving by. The house is positioned in an absolutely fantastic way, contrasting its gait with that of the Kremlin. It's drawn magnificently and it is more associated with beauty than with sturdiness and function.

**2 The ugliest:** The trading center in Varshavskoye Shosse is so ugly that I almost stopped the car when passing by. I haven't seen a building uglier than this one. Contradiction of form and content — to put a trading center in a classical shape is so unnatural.

**3 The most interesting:** Central Telegraph. It was very rationally conceived. The zones of activity and communications are divided, which is the principle of modern architecture. It was there already in the 1920s. Free planning of the floors, it gives astonishing flexibility. It is very professionally done.

**4 The most typical:** Yellow and white mansions in Prechistenka and Ostozhenka appeal to one's feelings of Muscovism. Everything else could be seen in other cities and comes from other cities.



Sergei Kiselyov