

# Inside

steppe five

A CENTRAL ASIAN PANORAMA  
WINTER 2008 – 2009

- Editors' Welcome **5** Welcome from the Editors, with map by Liz Dixon and Claire Oakley
- Dispatches **9** Hope Springs Eternal, by Josh Abrams
- Features **32** A Darkness Visible, with photographs by Seamus Murphy and a foreword by Anthony Loyd  
**62** Louise Firouz: A Tribute, by Thierry Kelaart with photographs by Caren Firouz  
**68** A Secret Agent on the Silk Road, by Eric Enno Tamm with photographs by C. G. Mannerheim  
**96** Istalif: Return to Form, by Thomas Wide with photographs courtesy of Turquoise Mountain and Thierry Kelaart
- Exhibitions & Galleries **14** Battleground: War Rugs from Afghanistan at the Textile Museum of Canada  
**18** Video Art from Asia at the Arthur M. Sackler Gallery in Washington, DC  
**19** Cold War Modern at the Victoria and Albert Museum in London  
**19** Aurel Stein exhibitions online
- Books **20** Feature Book Review: *Love Me Turkmenistan*, by Lucy Kelaart  
**22** Reza Deghati illuminates *A Darkness Visible*  
**23** Lucy Gordon admires *The Wasted Vigil*  
**25** Bijan Omrani ponders *A Short Walk in the Hindu Kush*  
**26** Summer Coish laments *Crying Forever*  
**27** Mitch Albert remembers the *Land of the High Flags*  
**27** Katie Hickman enjoys *Revolution Baby*
- Fine Lines **108** Kazakhstan Blues, by Elena Vorobyeva and Viktor Vorobyev
- Cookery **104** Yoghurt, by Charles Perry with photographs by Janarbek Amankulov
- Regulars **102** Hotel: Khorog Serena Inn – a mountain hideaway, by Dominic Sutherland  
**103** Restaurant: The Bukharan Big Apple, by Josh Abrams  
**110** Products
- Steppe Guide **80** Chingiz Aitmatov, by Sian Glaessner and Ravil Bukharaev, with photographs by Janarbek Amankulov, Carolyn Drake and Mark Grigorian
- Snapshots **12** Wash Day, by Tim MacPherson  
**30** Full Moon in the Altai, by Reza Deghati  
**94** Hanging by a Thread, by Christopher Herwig
- Top Ten **28** Kiosks, by Malene Hein, Christopher Herwig and Dominic Sutherland
- Defining Moment **112** 3,2,1 ... Sputnik!

Cover Photograph: An Uzbek farmer relaxes in the fields in Taloqan, Takhar Province, Afghanistan, by Seamus Murphy