

# Inside

steppe nine

A CENTRAL ASIAN PANORAMA  
WINTER 2011 – 2012

- Ambassador's Welcome **3** Welcome from His Excellency Erlan Idrissov, Ambassador of Kazakhstan to the USA
- Editor's Welcome **4** Welcome from the Editor, with map by Jessica Hamilton
- Dispatches **5** The Flight of the Eagle, by Robin Forrestier-Walker, David Mould, and Isabelle Kallo
- Features **46** Sweet Pilgrimage: Two British Apple Growers in the Tian Shan, by John Selborne  
**54** Tus Kiiz: The Fabric of Society, by Nick Fielding  
**62** Almatywood: Eighty-five Years of Kazakh Cinema, by Gulnara Abikeyeva  
**68** Riding the Iron Horse: Train Travel in Kazakhstan, by Christian and Ciaran Tyler, with photographs by Marina Gorobevskaya and others
- Culture **8** Events, Exhibitions, Music and Websites from Kazakhstan
- Books **14** Book Reviews  
**18** On the Shelf: Tales from the steppe, by Nick Fielding  
**22** Mastering the Word: A Short Overview of Kazakh Literature, by Birgit Brauer
- Fine Lines **38** Where the Wild Things Are: The Tulips of Kazakhstan, by Diana Everett
- Profile **26** Almagul Menlibayeva, by Aliya Abykayeva-Tiesenhausen
- Cartoon **30** Little Genghis, by Nicolas Journoud
- Interview **32** Krym Altynbekov, by Birgit Brauer
- Food **105** Eating Kazakh: The Real Deal, by Richard Orange, with photographs by Ikuru Kuwajima
- Hotel **111** Resort Hotel Samal, Almaty, by Isabelle Kallo
- Steppe Guide **92** Kazakhstan, by Bjian Omrani, with photographs by Chloe Dewe Mathews, Carolyn Drake, Robert Helmholz, Christopher Herwig, Ikuru Kuwajima and Tim Macpherson
- Snapshot **12** An Almaty Crash: The 1911 Earthquake, by Birgit Brauer  
**36** Grave Ambition, by Chloe Dewe Mathews  
**102** Iron Age Deer from Arpauzen, by Kenneth Lymer
- Top Ten **44** Astana in Winter, by Ikuru Kuwajima
- Last Word **112** Marat Bisengaliev: Lightning Conductor, as told to Hermione Eyre

Cover Image: The interior of a Kazakh yurt, recreated for an exhibition at the Brunei Gallery, SOAS, in London, by Glenn Ratcliffe, SOAS photographer