MEDIA SPOTLIGHT

M.G. Crisci

7 DAYS IN RUSSIA

American Author, Businessman & Cultural Activist, M.G. Crisci, speaks from the heart to Russian radio listeners around the world. (*Part 1*)



MEDIA: RADIO INTERVIEW | DATE: NOVEMBER 2014 | LOCATION: WASR 620AM, NEW YORK



On Media Distortion

"The American and Russian media on need to be congratulated for their irrational, unrelenting stream of non-nonsensical stereotyping. Americans are taught to believe Russians are people America loves to hate the most. Russians are taught to believe Americans are verbal bullies that have to be tolerated because of their military and economic might."

On American Blinders

"I'm American and I love America, but we wear blinders when it comes to cultural sensitivities. And, it is downright embarrassing how few of us understand the totality of the blood spent by others nations, particularly Russia, during World War II to allow America to maintain the great freedoms we enjoy today."

On Listening

0:00:00

"Americans and Russians may talk to each other, but nobody is listening. Why? They are borne of completely different circumstances. Americans were fiercely independent former Brits who built a geographically-isolated country from scratch, created its own rules, and learned early that a diverse consumer-driven economy was the path to respect, power & independence. By contrast, Russia is a society that has been overrun, invaded and told by others what they could and couldn't do. Once rid of the foreign element they were told by corrupt Tsars what to do until they decided to revolt. A revolt started as socialism, become communism, and ultimately slide into a dictatorship that once again told people what they could or couldn't do."



On the Big-Hearted, 800-Pound Gorilla

"A popular current-day Moscow observation. The Gorilla (i.e. America) sees a building burning with children helplessly trapped inside. A tear falls from his eye as he rushes to the rescue. In its zeal to save the innocent, the Gorilla never notices he accidentally crushes the villages and homes in his path."

On the Future

After five years of speaking to/interviewing ordinary Russians citizens on their streets and in their homes, I believe Americans and Russians are fundamentally the same. I also believe if Americans and Russian removed all the assumed untruths about each other, and worked side-by-side to make the world a better place, the world would indeed become a better place.

Interview link: <u>https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B9lUUzUMqH5EdnlVZjdFNVZqU1E/view</u> Key Audio excerpts : 7:25-9:45, 28:00-38:50, 51:00-56:00

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On the Russian Economy

Russia has the chance to be one of the world's great emerging social democracies, but it may be 50 -100 years before that promise is fully realized. And, while the Russian economy may continue to rely heavily on its commodity base, the country will have to add a consumer-based economic engine to be well-rounded, strong and independent. Key issues? Nobody is willing to take ownership, current leadership does not have the experience reshape the economy, and the country has no real infrastructure to support the required changes."

On the Reality of Russia

"The new Federation is 50, maybe 100 years away from evolving to a distinctly Russian form of Social Democracy. The reason? It will take that long for the privileged Soviet Cold War leadership, and their next of kin, to be dead and buried."

On the Ukraine Conflict.

"Writing my book, Call Sign White Lily, has had an unintended personal consequence. For the first time in my life, I have been touched directly by war. The Eastern Ukraines that I ate, drank and slept with while researching my book have been devastated by a conflict that reinforces these kind folks continue to get the short end-of-the-stick."

On Hopes, Dreams and Wishes

"I am here tonight to explain these truths to as many people in your audience around the world who will listen, so they might in turn share these truth with their families, their friends, their children and grandchildren. And, maybe, just maybe somebody on the American side hears this same message, and does likewise.

Michael on Matt

"After listening to you explain matters so accurately and clearly, it strikes me that you should be in the government. I just don't know whether you should be in the American government, the Russian government, or both!"

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