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Lithuanian poet and essayist Tomas Venclova will speak on "Two Poets of St. Petersburg: Anna Akhmatova and Joseph Brodsky, A Personal View," at 6 p.m. today, at the Miami University Art Museum.

The lecture is part of Miami's Havighurst Center for Russian and Post-Soviet Studies Humanities Lecture Series. It is free and open to the public.

Venclova, a professor of Slavic languages and literature at Yale University, is known in this country as a scholar and a critic. A leading poet in Eastern Europe, he was personal friends with Russian poets Anna Akhmatova — considered one of the four great Modern Russian lyric poets — and Joseph Brodsky, a Nobel laureate. Brodsky once called Venclova "the son of three literatures," who "preserved for himself three mother tongues: Lithuanian, Russian and Polish."