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Nota di contenuto	Front matter Contents Introduction to the English Edition Preface. In Search of a Metaphor: In Place of an Introduction Part I. Magic Lantern (Projection) Part II. Rainbow (Refraction) Part III. Garden of Memory (Reflection) Pindar, Derzhavin, and the Twenties: In Place of a Conclusion Notes References Index
Sommario/riassunto	The poetry of Gavrila Derzhavin is a monument to that which could be read, heard, and, most important, seen in the two centuries in which he lived. The Palladian villa he occupied, the British service placed on the table before him, the English spinning machine put to use on his estate, and even the optical devices, such as the telescope, magic lantern, and camera obscura, which populated his home: Tatiana Smoliarova restores Derzhavin's visual environment through minute textual clues, inviting the reader to consider how such impressions informed and shaped his thinking and writing, countering the conservative, Russophile ideology he shared in his later years. In examining the poetics, aesthetics, and politics of Derzhavin's poems written in the early nineteenth century, Three Metaphors for Life makes us see this period as a chapter in the contradictory development of

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social reform, insistent on a distinctly Russian historical destiny, yet
enthusiastically embracing technological and industrial innovations and
exploring new ways of thinking, seeing, and feeling.