



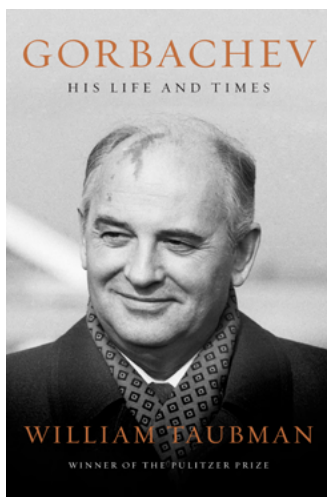
# WHY GORBACHEV'S RUSSIA BECAME PUTIN'S

**FRIENDS of  
HISTORY**

30th Annual Endowed Lecture

**THU** October 4th  
**Lincoln Hall** *Recital Hall*  
RM 75  
**5pm**

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**William Taubman** will discuss his new book, *Gorbachev: His Life and Times*—how a peasant boy rose to become the Soviet Communism's gravedigger, why the Soviet regime allowed him to destroy it, how Gorbachev and arch-conservative American President Ronald Reagan became almost perfect partners, and why Gorbachev allowed the USSR's East European empire to crumble without firing a shot. Professor Taubman will also talk about Gorbachev's remarkable marriage to Raisa Gorbachev, about Gorbachev's surprisingly mixed attitude toward Vladimir Putin, and, if the audience is interested, about Putin—and his relations with Donald Trump.

**William Taubman** is the Bertrand Snell Professor of Political Science Emeritus at Amherst College and the author of the recently published *Gorbachev: His Life and Times*, which was a finalist for the 2018 National Book Critics award for biography. His biography, *Khrushchev: The Man and His Era*, won the 2004 Pulitzer Prize and the National Critics Circle Award for biography. He is the author of *Stalin's American Policy: From Entente to Détente to Cold War*, and *Moscow Spring*, co-authored with his wife, retired Amherst College professor of Russian **Jane Taubman**. William Taubman was president of the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies in 2009 and chairs the Academic Advisory Committee of the Cold War International History Project at the Woodrow Wilson Center in Washington. He has received the Karel Kramar Medal of the Czech Republic and the Order of Friendship of the Russian Federation. He lives in Amherst, Massachusetts.



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