

Yara Arts Group and The Ukrainian Museum present:

**YARA'S
TRADITIONAL
MUSIC:**

ZINOVIIY SHTOKALKO: Epic Modernist

October 2020

www.yaraartsgroup.net

Yara Arts Group and The Ukrainian Museum present:

Yara's Traditional Music Series

Zinoviiv Shtokalko: Epic Modernist

Entrance music: *Atonal Etude #1*

performed by Zinoviiv Shtokalko, recorded March 29, 1957

Introductions Virlana Tkacz

On the Writings and Legacy of Zinoviiv Shtokalko - Virlana Tkacz

Sound: Four poems by Zinoviiv Shtokalko "Slovo," "Pavuk"

"Den" and "Mlyn" read by Olga Kirichenko Shuhan

music by Julian Kytasty, recorded at Mayana Gallery, 1998

video by Waldemart Klyuzko

On Shtokalko's Writings and his Publishers -Marko R. Stech

Sound: "Molytva" (Prayer) by Zinoviiv Shtokalko

read by Olga Kirichenko Shuhan, music by Julian Kytasty

and Michael Andrec, recorded at Mayana Gallery, 1998

On Shtokalko and his Experiments with Bandura Music – Julian Kytasty

Music: *Atonal Etude #2*

performed by Zinoviiv Shtokalko, recorded March 29, 1957

On the Doors Shtokalko's Experimentation Opened

Discussion with Julian Kytasty and Michael Andrec

Music: "Dr Shtok Makes House Call" by Julian Kytasty/EBT

performed by Experimental Bandura Trio

Michael Andrec, Julian Kytasty and Jurij Fedynsky

recorded July, 1999 by Alex Kytasty, Hunter, NY

Video: Bandura Ping Pong Project "Match Point"

Julian Kytasty & Waldemart Klyuzko, 2014

Exit Music "Kobzar Trance" by EBT

performed by Experimental Bandura Trio

Michael Andrec, Julian Kytasty and Jurij Fedynsky

recorded August 1998 by Levko Maistrenko, LMK Studio NYC

virtual event directed by Virlana Tkacz

bandurist: Julian Kytasty

special guests: Michael Andrec and Marko Robert Stech

visual design & video: Waldemart Klyuzko, tech support: Darien Fiorino

ZINOVIY SHTOKALKO a virtuoso bandurist was born in western Ukraine near Berezhany. He studied medicine and bandura in Lviv and Munich and emigrated to the US after WWII. In the 1952 he became friends with Myron Surmach, the owner of a Ukrainian bookstore, who also sold records. Surmach set up a recording session for Shtokalko, and his October 1952 recording of the epic song “Marusia Bohuslavka” and of a medley of instrumental dance tunes was issued on Surma Records. Surmach then also taped Shtokalko playing what would become his long-playing album *O Dumy Moi* issued in 1970, two years after Shtokalko had died. But the real treasure Shtokalko left would come to light only decades later. He had recorded tapes in his basement studio that would inspire the next generations of bandurists in America and Ukraine. In 1977 Shtokalko’s writings were published as *Na okrainakh nochi /On the Outskirts of Night*.

VIRLANA TKACZ heads the Yara Arts Group and has directed over thirty original shows at La MaMa Theatre in New York, as well as in Kyiv, Lviv, Kharkiv, Bishkek, Ulaanbaatar, and Ulan Ude. She has co-produced a series of concerts and recordings of Buryat Mongolian artists and of the Koliadnyky of Kryvorivnia from the Carpathian Mountains. She has also worked with Kyrgyz artists to create two theatre pieces based on Kyrgyz epics songs.

JULIAN KYTASTY grew up within a strong tradition of family music-making. He is a third generation bandurist following in the footsteps of his father Petro and grandfather Ivan Kytasty He has been associated with the New York School of Bandura (NY Bandura) since 1980, is the curator of the Bandura Downtown series, and works frequently with Yara Arts Group. His work on Yara’s *1917-2017 Tychyna, Zhadan, and the Dogs* earned him a NY Innovative Theater Award for best original score. He continues to teach bandura students in North America and Ukraine, to record, to compose and arrange music for bandura, and to engage in collaborative projects.

MARKO ROBERT STECH is a writer, literary scholar, and well-known specialist in the history of Ukrainian culture. He works at the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies as executive director of the CIUS Press and project manager of the Internet Encyclopedia of Ukraine and the Hrushevsky Translation Project. He has produced over 100 Ukrainian-language TV segments in a series *Ochyma kultury* dedicated to key figures and important phenomena in the history of Ukrainian arts and culture.

MICHAEL ANDREC is a Certified Archivist at the Ukrainian History and Education Center (Somerset, New Jersey), where he has been working on bringing the Center’s collections accumulated since the 1960s -- including personal papers, organizational records, and recorded sound -- to professional

standards of preservation, description, and accessibility. He is also part of the organizing committee for the UHEC's "Nashi Predky/Our Ancestors" Ukrainian genealogy program. In addition, he is the archivist responsible for the management of the permanent institutional records of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA (Somerset/South Bound Brook, NJ).

WALDEMART KLYUZKO is an artist from Kyiv who has collaborated with Yara Arts Group since 2010, most recently creating the set for *Opera GAZ*. He is a visual artist who has had exhibits at La MaMa Galleria, the Ukrainian Institute of America and the Bezpala Gallery in Toronto.

DARIEN FIORINO is at Cornell University studying environmental science and performing arts. He was in Yara’s *Winter Songs on Mars* and *1917/2017: Tychyna, Zhadan, and the Dogs* at La MaMa.

STAFF: Translations: Iryna Voloshyna, Publicity: Zoriana Siokalo

SPECIAL THANKS TO: Levko Maistrenko and the Zinoviyy Shtokalko archive at the Shevchenko Scientific Society, Julian Kytasty’s private archive.

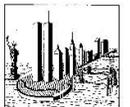
YARA ARTS GROUP was established in 1990 and is a resident company at La MaMa, the acclaimed experimental theater in New York. Yara has created thirty-seven theatre pieces based on extensive research in Eastern Europe, Siberia and Asia, in Yara’s signature style of multilingual dialogue and songs supported by evocative visuals and documentation. Yara has also created numerous traditional music events and the *Kurbas: New Worlds* exhibition for the Art Arsenal in Kyiv. **Yara Arts Group 306 East 11th St #3B, New York, NY 10003 (212)475-6474 yara@prodigy.net www.yaraartsgroup.net**

Yara’s Virtual Events are made possible by public funds from New York State Council on the Arts and contributions from NY Bandura/Bandura Downtown and the friends of Yara Arts Group.



Council on
the Arts

Yara Arts Group
from La MaMa Experimental Theatre in New York



OTHER YARA VIRTUAL EVENTS: www.yaraartsgroup.net
Zinoviyy Shtokalko: Bandura Instrumentals and Singer of Tales

Ukrainian American Cultural Figures:

Pawlo Humeniuk -known as the “King of Ukrainian Music” in the 1920s.

Vasile Avramenko -who brought Ukrainian dance to New York in 1929.

Zinoviyy Shtokalko Ukrainian epic singer in New York in the 1950-60s

Oleh Lysheha – Ukrainian poet who worked with Yara in the 1990s