



Yara Arts Group and The Ukrainian Museum present:

Yara's Traditional Music Series

Zinoviy Shtokalko: Ukrainian Epic Songs

Entrance music: from “*Duma About Oleksiy Popovych*”
performed by Zinoviy Shtokalko, recorded in the early 1950s

Introductions Virlana Tkacz

Music: from “*Duma About Kozak Holota*”
performed by Zinoviy Shtokalko recorded in the early 1950s

On the Dumas and Their Preservation - Virlana Tkacz

Music: from “*Duma about Marusia Bohuslavka*”
Performed by Stepan Pasiuha recorded in 1909 by Opanas Slastion

On Shtokalko and his Duma Marusia Bohuslavka – Julian Kytasty

Music: from “*Duma About Marusia Bohuslavka*”
performed by Zinoviy Shtokalko, recorded January 27, 1956

Music: from “*Duma About Marusia Bohuslavka*”
performed by Julian Kytasty - live

Sound: Andriy Hornjatkevyc remembers Zinoviy Shtokalko
Recorded by Julian Kytasty October 2020

Music: from “*Duma About Marusia Bohuslavka*”
performed by Andriy Hornjatkevyc, recorded by “Kultura” TV 1992

Music: from “*Duma About Marusia Bohuslavka*”
performed by Jurij Fedynskyj, uploaded to Youtube December, 2019

Music: from “*Duma About Marusia Bohuslavka*”
performed by Zinoviy Shtokalko, recorded January 27, 1956

Sound: Andriy Hornjatkevyc remembers Zinoviy Shtokalko
Recorded by Julian Kytasty October 2020

Exit Music “*Escape of Three Brothers from Azov*”
performed & recorded by Zinoviy Shtokalko, January 22, 1958

virtual event directed by Virlana Tkacz

bandurist: Julian Kytasty

special guest: Dmytro Hubyak

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.

ANDRIJ HORNJATKEVYC is an accomplished bandurist who studied bandura with Zinoviy Shtokalko in the 1950s. He annotated and translated into English Shtokalko’s book *A Kobzar Handbook*, which was published by the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, in 1989. He also wrote the introduction to *Kobza: Zbirka P’ies Dlia Bandury* (A Collection of Works for the Bandura) published in 1997. He lives in Edmonton, Alberta.

DMYTRO HUBYAK is a bandura soloist, composer, and ensemble leader who performs on both the Kyiv style and Kharkiv style instruments. He teaches and directs the bandura ensemble at Ternopil’s Hnatiuk Pedagogical University in Ukraine and is an actor in the city’s drama theater. He has been awarded prizes for his bandura performance at Ukrainian and international competitions, and has released five CDs of his music.

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.

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

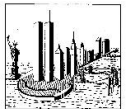
YARA ARTS GROUP was established in 1990 and is a resident company at La MaMa, the acclaimed experimental theater in New York. Yara has created thirty-seven theatre pieces based on extensive research in Eastern Europe, Siberia and Asia, in Yara’s signature style of multilingual dialogue and songs supported 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

Zinoviy Shtokalko: Bandura Instrumentals, Singer of Tales and Epic Modenist

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.

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

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