

SHEVCHENKO SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2022

In this Issue:

**Recipients of the Shevchenko
Emergency Fund Awards**

**A Fundraising Event by the
Shevchenko Scientific Society in
the US and Fulbright Ukraine**

**Member of the Month: Yuliya
Ladygina**

Member News

**Election of Dr. Vitaly Chernetsky
as ASEES Vice President/
President-Elect**

2022 ASEES Prize Winner

'Women at War' Exhibit

**Roundtable on Religion and the
Russo-Ukrainian War**

***Stolen Sun*, exhibition of artists
from Ukraine**

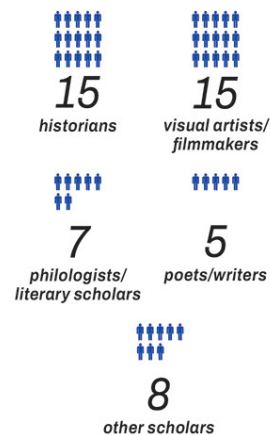
**Public Lecture on the Crippling
Legacy of Soviet-Era
Disinformation in North America**

**Russia's War on Ukraine in
Historical Perspective: Online
Speaker Series at GMU**

**"The Making of Modern Ukraine":
Timothy Snyder's Lectures on
Ukrainian History**

**Maria Sonevsky: A Ukrainian
Perspective on Eugene Onegin**

In Memoriam: Roman Voronka



The Shevchenko Scientific Society in the U.S. is pleased to announce the first round of fellowship recipients from the Shevchenko Emergency Fund. Fellowships have been awarded to fifty Ukrainian scholars, writers, and artists affected by Russia's war against

Ukraine. The fellowships include a cash stipend of \$1,000, a six-month affiliation with NTSh-A, a shevchenko.org email address, and a public profile page.

The recipients live in all parts of Ukraine: Kyiv, Kharkiv, Poltava, Galicia, and Volhynia, among others. Several have found shelter in villages near the cities in which they normally live. At least 12 are internally displaced persons (IDPs), having fled bombing or the ever-shifting front line. Fellows are also diverse by age, from those in the earliest stages of their professional careers to eminent senior scholars. The largest groups by discipline include historians, philologists/literary scholars, visual artists/filmmakers, and poets.

The Shevchenko Scientific Society recognizes the importance of scholarship and culture to Ukraine's war effort as well as for its post-war future. Adriana Helbig (chair), Vitaly Chernetsky, Markian Dobczansky, Anna Nagurney, and Yuri Yanchyshyn served on the SEF Committee and reviewed the first round of applications. If you would like to support our colleagues in Ukraine, please [contribute](#) to the Shevchenko Emergency Fund. With your support, we can issue a second round of fellowships to recognize even more of our deserving colleagues.

For a full list of recipients, click [here](#)



**A FUNDRAISING EVENT BY THE
SHEVCHENKO SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY**

IN THE US AND FULBRIGHT UKRAINE

On October 1, the Shevchenko Scientific Society in the US and Fulbright Ukraine featured several Fulbright scholars, students, and artists, as Fulbright Ukraine celebrates its 30th anniversary and the Shevchenko Scientific Society reports on its Emergency Fund.

Halyna Hryn, President of the Shevchenko Scientific Society in the US, and **Jessica Zychowycz**, Director of the Fulbright Program in Ukraine, made opening remarks.

[Natalia Otrishchenko](#), a research fellow at the Center for Urban History in Lviv and a Fulbright visiting scholar at the Department of Sociology, Columbia University, discussed the importance of urban planning in the post-war reconstruction plans.

[Misha Tyutyunik](#), a Ukrainian-born painter, muralist, street artist, illustrator, and most recently, virtual reality artist living and working out of Brooklyn, New York, has recently completed a Fulbright Grant abroad in Ukraine. He was one of five artists chosen to paint a sanitation vehicle for the NYC Dept. of Sanitation as part of their 'trucks of art' initiative.

[Iryna Tofan](#), a master's student in Museum Studies at New York University and a former communication manager at the National Art Museum of Ukraine, called for the digitization of museums' collections in Ukraine.

[Fima Chupakhin](#), renowned New York jazz pianist, cross-genre keyboardist, and composer for multimedia, performed two compositions: Myroslav Skoryk's "Melodiya" and his own variations on the folk song "Podolianochka."





MEMBER OF THE MONTH: YULIYA LADYGINA

[Yuliya Ladygina](#) is Assistant Professor of Russian and Global Studies and the 2021-2023 Helena Rubinstein University Endowed Fellow in the Humanities, Department of Germanic and Slavic Languages and Literatures, Pennsylvania State University. Her research in Eastern European literatures and cultures focuses on questions of cultural memory and cultural exchange. She is the author of [Bridging East and West: Ol'ha Kobylians'ka, Ukraine's Pioneering Modernist](#) (University of Toronto Press, 2019), and she is currently working on her second book project, "The Reel Story of the EuroMaidan and Russia's War on Ukraine", which examines the post-2014 cycle of Ukrainian war films and their perspective on the hybrid nature of modern war and its mediatization.

By analyzing portrayals of the Euromaidan Revolution, Russia's annexation of Crimea, the Donbas War, and Russia's 2022 full-scale invasion of Ukraine in recent Ukrainian films, I shed light on the myths and ideological touchstones that contemporary Ukrainian filmmakers inherited from their 20th-century predecessors and elaborate on how the canonical narratives and images from the past have been transformed and adjusted to the new historical circumstances. In my study, I pay close attention to how post-Soviet, postcolonial, and post-truth aspects of war-torn Ukraine conflate in the works of contemporary Ukrainian filmmakers to offer fresh perspectives on issues of memory and national identity. I am also interested in how contemporary filmmakers address the subject of control and circulation of information for political ends and how they frame cinema and other forms of media as pivotal strategic territories, where some of the key battles of contemporary wars are taking place, affecting the ways in which these wars are perceived and what actions are taken by those directly involved in them.

For a full profile, click [here](#)

MEMBER NEWS

Houston artist [Lydia Bodnar-Balahutrak](#) has been awarded the Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program Award to Poland for the 2022-2023 academic year. Her proposed research project was a collaborative study of socially and politically informed art in contemporary Ukraine. Due to the war in Ukraine, her grant activities will be carried out in Poland, where she will be able to travel and engage with displaced artists from Ukraine, and virtually with people and institutions inside Ukraine. Her host institution is the University of Arts in Poznan, Poland. The project draws on her profession of artist and educator, her Ukrainian-American background, and earlier projects with Ukraine.

On September 1, [Dr. Martha Bohachevsky-Chomiak](#), emeritus professor of history at Manhattanville College, delivered the public lecture "Smudged Narrative: Why Ukrainians Differ from Russians" in the virtual event series by the Fulbright Program in Ukraine. Dr. Bohachevsky-Chomiak was the Director of the Fulbright Program in Ukraine in 2000-2006, Fulbright U.S. Scholar to Ukraine at the Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv in 1992-1993, and at the National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy in 1997-1998. "I spent my life studying and teaching the history of Russian societies. As I branched into Eastern Europe and Ukraine, I had to explain both in academia and in public that, no, Ukraine is not the same as Russia. The issue is now flipped – why are the Ukrainians different from the Russians? Why are Ukrainians, generation after generation, in one way or another, compelled to affirm an individualized, non-Russian identity?" Dr. Bohachevsky-Chomiak noted in her lecture.

[Markian Dobczansky](#) was appointed the Associate Director of the [European Union Center](#) at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He teaches classes in European Studies and serves as Director of Graduate Studies for the Master of Arts in European Union Studies program. Prior to joining the University of Illinois, he was a postdoctoral researcher at the University of Toronto and Columbia University. He was also an Administrative Associate at the Shevchenko Scientific Society in the United States from June 2021 to August 2022.

Myron Stachiw, the Director of the Fulbright Program in Ukraine in 2006-2008, has become involved in a volunteer expert Heritage Rescue Emergency Initiative (HERI). Its purpose is to promote the preservation of cultural heritage during the war and its post-war restoration. The top priority areas of HERI's activity are assisting cultural institutions and their employees; preparing for rapid response to emergencies in the context of armed conflict; protecting museum collections; assessing losses and risks; carrying out primary rescue operations; collecting and systematizing information on crimes against cultural heritage; coordination of actions between various authorities at state/municipal levels, museum institutions, cultural institutions, non-governmental sector, and international organizations on the preservation of cultural heritage and its restoration.

Yara Arts Group, directed by **Virlana Tkacz**, and the Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center launched their new "Ukrainian Culture in America" virtual series featuring Julian Kytasty, master bandura player, born in the US. The four-part series begins with a virtual event on the Kytasty Family that was live streamed at the end of September and can be watched for free any time now through links on Yara's website www.yaraartsgroup.net.



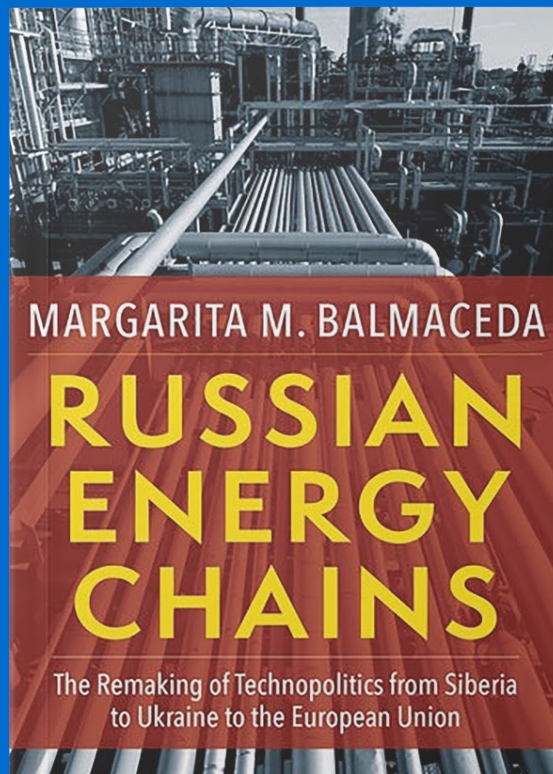
DR. VITALY CHERNETSKY ELECTED ASEEES VICE PRESIDENT/PRES IDENT-ELECT

Join us in congratulating Shevchenko Scientific Society's First Vice President on his election as Vice President/President Elect to the Board of the Association of Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES).

The Vice President is elected annually by ASEEES members and is designated President-Elect. After serving one year as Vice President, the Vice President becomes President the following year.

We wish Dr. Chernetsky much success with this significant accomplishment.

For details, please click [here](#).



2022 ASEES Prize Winner

Margarita M. Balmaceda, professor of diplomacy and international relations at Seton Hall University, received the [Ed A Hewett Book Prize](#) and the [Marshall Shulman Book Prize](#) for her book, [Russian Energy Chains](#): The Remaking of Technopolitics from Siberia to Ukraine

to the European Union (Columbia University Press, 2021).



Alena Grom, Mother and Son. Mariinka, Donbas (Womb series) 2018

'WOMEN AT WAR' EXHIBIT

[Women at War: 12 Ukrainian Artists](#), an exhibition of works by twelve Ukrainian women artists who have lived through the war, opened in [Fridman Gallery](#) in New York City in the summer of 2022. Curated by [Monika Fabijanska](#), an art historian, contemporary art curator and art appraiser based in New York City, the exhibition is currently on display at [Eastern Art Gallery](#) in Willimantic, CT.

On September 14, [Katja Kolcio](#), Associate Professor of Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies at Wesleyan University, presented Resilience in Uncertain Times – Ukraine and the World through a multi-media presentation based on Somatic Methods for Resilience, a program which she developed in Ukraine over the past eight years. [Nadia Tarnawsky](#), Ukrainian American singer of traditional Ukrainian folk music, joined Dr. Kolcio's presentation.

For a full list of events at Eastern Art Gallery, click [here](#)



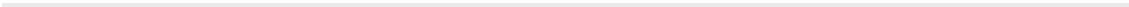
ROUNDTABLE ON RELIGION AND THE RUSSO-UKRAINIAN WAR

Religion has long been a significant factor in Russo-Ukrainian relations. Despite their shared Eastern Christian heritage, the two nations have developed divergent religious traditions and attitudes. Russian leaders have cited religious motives for their eight-year-long war against Ukraine. At the same time, a variety of Ukrainian churches and religious groups have supported their country's independent course and its resistance to aggression.

On 24 September 2022, **Jose Casanova**, **Nadia Kizenko**, **Andrew Sorokowski**, **Catherine Wanner**, and **Zenon Wasyliv** discussed the complex relationships among Ukraine's religious groups during the ongoing Russo-Ukrainian war. The participants analyzed attitudes in the Ukrainian Orthodox Church, the Orthodox Church of Ukraine, as well as the Russian Orthodox Church, along with attitudes among other denominations in Ukraine and reactions abroad.

For details, click [here](#)

WATCH NOW





Nikita Kadan, *Irpın*, 2022

**STOLEN SUN, EXHIBITION OF
ARTISTS FROM UKRAINE**

NIKITA KADAN, ZHANNA KADYROVA, ALEXANDRA KADZEVICH, OPEN GROUP

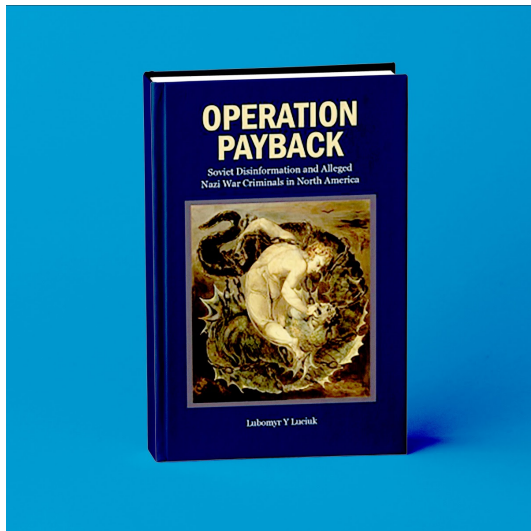
SEPTEMBER 15 — OCTOBER 23, 2022

36 ORCHARD STREET, NYC

On September 15th, Miguel Abreu Gallery opened [Stolen Sun](#), a group exhibition organized by Lika Volk, featuring work by Ukrainian artists Nikita Kadan, Zhanna Kadyrova, Alexandra Kadzevich, and Open Group. The exhibition will be on view at the [36 Orchard Street](#) space.

From Lika Volk's curatorial text: *"War is not only a tragedy, it is also a duration, an inner state; a state in which all the wars ever fought are internalized. We want to attend to heavy objects as primordial and alchemical elements of the land hoping to escape the unimaginable disruption. One refers to nature to feel the other kind of continuity of the earth itself, while our own continuity is beyond grasp. We look for the agency of all elements (stone, metal, wood, sound) upon which we place signs (meanings), as a hope that the aggressor's ability to destroy is limited."*

For details, click [here](#)



PUBLIC LECTURE ON THE CRIPPLING LEGACY OF SOVIET-ERA DISINFORMATION IN NORTH AMERICA

On September 25, the Philadelphia Study Center of the Shevchenko Scientific Society in the United States hosted an in-person public lecture, titled "The Other War Against Ukraine and Ukrainians: The

Crippling Legacy of Soviet-Era Disinformation in North America,” by Lubomyr Luciuk, professor of political science at the Royal Military College of Canada, at the [Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center](#) in Jenkintown, PA.

More [here](#).



RUSSIA'S WAR ON UKRAINE IN HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE ONLINE SPEAKER SERIES at GMU

**George Mason University presents
Online Speaker Series
Mondays 3:00-4:15 ET
September 12 - November 28, 2022**

What is Ukraine and how did it come to be the object of Putin's violent obsession? How do Ukraine's history and culture help us understand the rise of this nation and their resistance and resilience? How does the history of European imperialism, nationalism, and post-colonialism help us understand Ukraine's post-Soviet independence? Can military history or the history of international law help us understand this war? What historical analogies

are appropriate to our understanding of this war? The online speaker series organized by George Mason University tackles these issues.

A few prominent members of the Shevchenko Scientific Society in the United States, including [Yohanan Petrovsky-Shtern](#), [Steven Seegel](#), and [Serhii Plokhii](#), are participating in the online speaker series, held from September to November 2022.

For further information, click [here](#).



“THE MAKING OF MODERN UKRAINE”: TIMOTHY SNYDER’S LECTURES ON UKRAINIAN HISTORY LIVESTREAMED THIS FALL

Timothy Snyder, Richard C. Levin Professor of History at Yale University and full member of the Shevchenko Scientific Society, has made his fall 2022 lectures on Ukrainian history

available for public viewing on YouTube.

For a copy of the syllabus and the schedule of lectures, click [here](#)

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MARIA SONEVYTSKY: A UKRAINIAN PERSPECTIVE ON *EUGENE ONEGIN*

Maria Sonevytsky, Associate Professor of Music and Anthropology at Bard College, New York, author of *Wild Music: Sound and Sovereignty in Ukraine*, and Shevchenko Scientific Society member, wrote a powerful essay for the [San Francisco Opera](#) on the reception of Eugene Onegin.

In writing the essay, Dr. Sonevytsky reflected on the differential treatment of Russian and Ukrainian cultural figures:

I was asked by the San Francisco Opera to contribute an essay to their program on Eugene Onegin, which is included in their centennial season. Here I wrote about the brutal backdrop of Russian Imperial serfdom against which this love story unfolds, imperial exceptionalism and propaganda about transcendent "greatness," and some of the dynamics that may have elevated Tchaikovsky and Pushkin to global stature while excluding their Ukrainian

contemporaries — Lysenko and Shevchenko — from our canons. I wrote this with a US audience in mind, and benefitted from Peter Kolchin's comparative history of the systems of Russian serfdom and US chattel slavery." Why do we know ("the great") Pushkin, but not Shevchenko? Tchaikovsky but not Lysenko? Whose voices do we choose to hear?

Read the essay [here](#).



A R R O W S M I T 

— PRESS —

FOR THE RECORD: CONVERSATIONS WITH UKRAINIAN WRITERS

[Askold Melnyczuk](#), Professor of English at the University of Massachusetts Boston, together with [Arrowsmith Press](#), the literary magazine [Agni](#), and the Shevchenko Scientific Society, presents intimate wartime conversations with Ukrainian writers as a part of the online series *For the Record: Conversations with Ukrainian Writers*. The recordings are produced in collaboration with the Ukrainian filmmaker [Oleksandr Frazee-Frazenko](#).

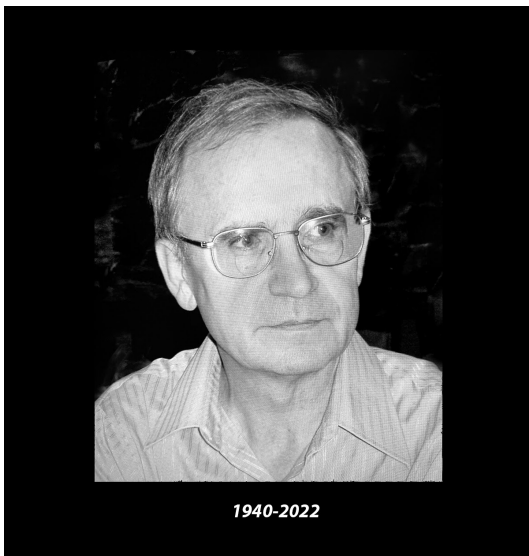
For more information, please click [here](#)



RESOURCES FOR DISPLACED UKRAINIAN SCHOLARS IN NYC

Anyone who is working with or might know displaced Ukrainian scholars in the NYC area, might fill out the Google form <https://bit.ly/3xhJgea> to facilitate the distribution of information and resources in and around NYC as well as plan future events related to Eastern European and Eurasian Studies. Questions can be directed to: Merrill Sovner, Assistant Director, European Union Studies Center, The Graduate Center, City University of New York (CUNY): msovner@gradcenter.cuny.edu.

Contact form is [here](#).



IN MEMORIAM: ROMAN VORONKA

We mourn the passing of longtime full member Roman Voronka. Born in Buchach, Ternopil region, Ukraine, in 1940, Dr. Voronka immigrated with his family to the United States in 1952 after living in displaced persons camps in Germany. He received his PhD in mathematics from New York University in 1974, and went on to a long teaching career at the New Jersey Institute of Technology. He was active in Plast, President of the Society of Ukrainian Language in the USA (1985-1995), Vice President of the Children of Chernobyl Relief fund (1990-1994). He was also active in the Rukh Fund (1990-1992), the Coordinating Committee to Aid Ukraine (1992-2001), and the Selfreliance Association in Newark, NJ (1995-2001). Dr. Voronka was awarded the title of Honored Proponent of Science and Technology of Ukraine (Заслужений діяч науки і техніки України) by President Leonid Krawchuk. He held an honorary doctorate from the Kyiv Polytechnic Institute. Dr. Voronka was a longtime member of the Shevchenko Scientific Society in the US and served on the Board of Directors and the Scholarship Committee. Вічна пам'ять.

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63 4th Ave
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