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ТОВАРИСТВО ім. ШЕВЧЕНКА  SHEVCHENKO
SCIENTIFIC
SOCIETY founded in 1873

SHEVCHENKO SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2022

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NOTES FROM UKRAINE AT CARNEGIE HALL

On December 4, [Carnegie Hall](#) celebrated Ukrainian culture with a concert titled “[Notes From Ukraine](#): 100 Years of Carol of the Bells.” The beloved Ukrainian carol was performed on the stage of Carnegie Hall on the centennial anniversary of its premiere in North America. The carol was originally performed by the Ukrainian Republic Capella Choir ([Ukrainska respublikanska kapelia](#)) directed by [Oleksandr Koshyts](#) on October 5, 2022.

The concert showcased Ukrainian music and featured such artists as Marichka Marczyk, the Shchedryk Children's Choir, The Choir of Trinity Wall Street, Ukrainian Chorus Dumka of New York, and Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus of North America.

The centennial concert was co-presented by [Razom for Ukraine](#), the [Ukrainian Contemporary Music Festival](#), and the [Ukrainian Institute](#) and co-sponsored by the Federal Credit Union Self-Reliance New York and Vimeo. The creative director was Shevchenko Scientific Society member [Leah Batstone](#). Society members [Marika Kuzma](#) and [Maria Sonevsky](#) served on the programming committee. [Vasyl Hrechynsky](#) directed the [Ukrainian Chorus Dumka](#).

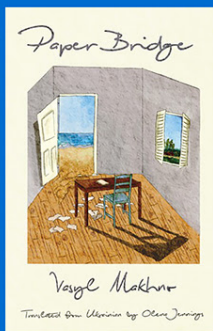
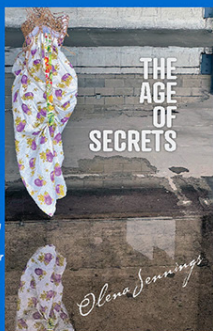
Watch a full recording of the concert



BOOK RELEASE CELEBRATION: JENNINGS, MAKHNO, TKACZ, TURCZYN



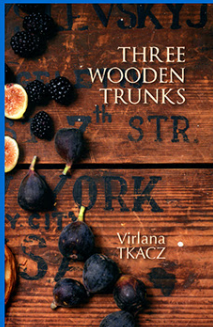
OLENA JENNINGS
is a writer and translator.
Her poetry collection
*Her novel Temporary
Shelter* was released in
2021 from Cervena Barva
Press. *The Age of Secrets*
was released in September
from Lost Horse Press.



VASYL MAKHNO
is a Ukrainian poet, prose
writer, essayist, and trans-
lator. He is the author of
fourteen collections of
poetry, the most recent of
which is *One Sail House*
(2021).



VIRIANA TKACZ
is the artistic director of
Yara Arts Group, a resi-
dent company at La
MaMa Experimental
Theatre in New York.



**CHRISTINA
TURCZYN**
is a writer and visual
artist, has contributed
watercolors to twenty
exhibits including Cornell
Has Talent. *The Sky Inside
Your Body* is a conver-
gence between poetry
and nature.

RECENT BOOKS OF UKRAINIAN POETRY

On December 10, the Shevchenko Scientific Society in the United States marked the publication of four recent books of Ukrainian poetry: [The Age of Secrets](#) (Lost Horse Press) by **Olena Jennings**; [Paper Bridge](#) (Plamen Press) by **Vasyl Makhno**; [Three Wooden Trunks](#) (Lost Horse Press) by **Viriana Tkacz**; [The Sky Inside Your Body](#) (Poets of Queens Press and Yara Arts Group) by **Christina Turczyn**.

For details and a recording of the event, click [here](#)

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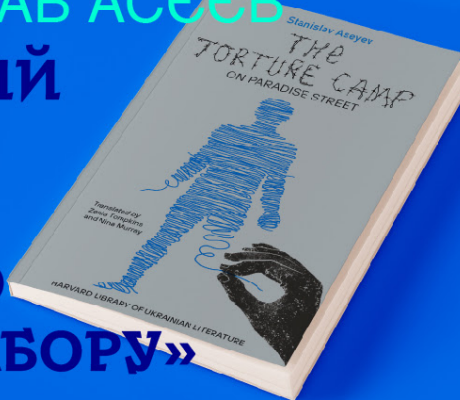


SHEVCHENKO
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BOOK PRESENTATION EVENT

СТАНІСЛАВ АСЄВ

«СВІТЛИЙ
ШЛЯХ.
ІСТОРІЯ
ОДНОГО
КОНЦТАБОРУ»



Станіслав Асєв
Журналіст та письменник,
ватор двох книжок, у яких
описує свій досвід під
російською окупацією на сході
України, збірки віршів, поезії
та роману.



Олег Коцюба
Літературознавець, з 2018 року
керує програмою публікації
Головного українського
науково-дослідного інституту,
опилює проект Інституту
Українознавства.

СУБОТА, 29 ЖОВТНЯ (2022)

5 по пол. за нью-йоркським часом

Shevchenko Scientific Society: 63 4th Ave, New York, NY 10003-5202

BOOK TALK: *IN ISOLATION: DISPATCHES FROM OCCUPIED DONBAS* (2022) AND *TORTURE CAMP ON PARADISE STREET* (2023)

Stanislav Aseyev, Donetsk-born Ukrainian writer and journalist, presented the English-language translation of his book, *In Isolation: Dispatches from Occupied Donbas* (HURI 2022). In this work of documentary prose, Aseyev focuses on the 2015–2017 period of the Russian military aggression in eastern Ukraine. Aseyev details the internal and external changes observed in the cities of Makіїvka and Donetsk. The author's testimony ends with his arrest for publishing his dispatches and his subsequent imprisonment and torture in a modern-day concentration camp on the outskirts of Donetsk run by lawless mercenaries and local militants with the tacit approval and support of Moscow.

Editorial commentary and the timeline of events leading to and during the war in Donbas were prepared by **Oleh Kotsyuba** and edited by **Michelle R. Viise**. Translator's notes were prepared by **Lidia Wolanskyj** and **Anna Korbut**.

To read an excerpt from the book, click [here](#).

Aseyev also previewed his forthcoming book *The Torture Camp on Paradise Street* (HURI, 2023), which describes the harrowing events after his arrest when he is held

captive in the notorious prison **Izoliatsiia** in Donetsk (2017–2019). The memoir recounts an endless ordeal of psychological and physical abuse, including torture and rape, inflicted upon the author and his fellow inmates and reflects on how one can survive such atrocities to reenter the world to share one's story.

The book was translated by **Zenia Tompkins** and **Nina Murray**. To read an excerpt, click [here](#).

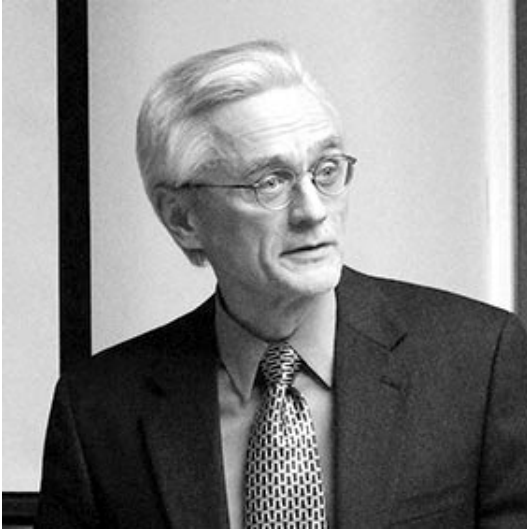
For details and a full recording of the event, click [here](#).



BOOK TALK BY VOLODYMYR RAFEYENKO

The Shevchenko Scientific Society in the United States, jointly with Razom Book Club, hosted a meeting with **Volodymyr Rafeyenko**, Ukrainian writer and literary critic. Following the outbreak of the Russian aggression in Ukraine's east, Rafeyenko left Donetsk and moved to a town near Kyiv where he wrote [*Mondegryn: Songs about Death and Love*](#) (HURI 2022), his first novel in the Ukrainian language, which was shortlisted for the Taras Shevchenko National Prize. The novel was translated and introduced by **Mark Andryczyk**.

A mondegryn is something that is heard improperly by someone who then clings to that misinterpretation as fact. Fittingly, Volodymyr Rafeyenko's novel *Mondegryn: Songs about Death and Love* explores the ways that memory and language construct our identity, and how we hold on to it no matter what. The novel tells the story of Haba Habinsky, a refugee from Ukraine's Donbas region, who has escaped to the capital city of Kyiv at the onset of the Ukrainian-Russian war.



HARRIMAN INSTITUTE'S AWARD TO ALEXANDER MOTYL

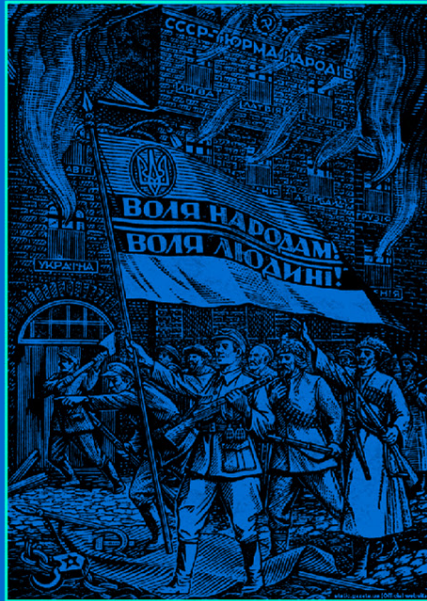
[Alexander Motyl](#), Professor of Political Science at Rutgers University-Newark, was awarded the Certificate of Recognition for Extraordinary Contributions to Ukrainian Studies by the Harriman Institute at Columbia University in November 2022. He received his Ph.D. in Political Science from Columbia University in 1984 and has frequently taught courses in Ukrainian Studies at Columbia University. He is the author of numerous fiction and non-fiction books, including *Imperial Ends: The Decay, Collapse, and Revival of Empires* (Columbia University Press, 2001), *Revolutions, Nations, Empires: Conceptual Limits and Theoretical Possibilities* (Columbia University Press, 1999), *Sovietology, Rationality, Nationality: Coming to Grips with Nationalism in the USSR* (Columbia University Press, 1990), and *Will the Non-Russians Rebel? State, Ethnicity, and Stability in the USSR* (Cornell University Press, 1987).

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Гравюра художника, члена ОУН і УВР Мико Хавсевича: «СССР – тюрма народів», 1948 рік

20TH CENTURY UKRAINIAN NATIONALISM AND MEMORY POLITICS



Alexander Motyl
professor of political science
at Rutgers University-Newark and
the author of *National Questions*
(Ibidem, 2022) and *Ostatnia*
Stacja Pituna (Insignis, 2022)



Myroslav Shkandrij
Myroslav Shkandrij is Professor
Emeritus at the University of
Manitoba and is presently a Visiting
Professor at Columbia University.
He is author of several books on
Ukrainian literature, art and politics,
including *Ukrainian Nationalism*
1929-1956 (Yale UP, 2015).



Bohdan Vitvitsky
Bohdan Vitvitsky has written on legal,
historical and philosophical subjects,
including an early attempt to explain
differences in perspectives on
the Nazi Holocaust.

20TH CENTURY UKRAINIAN NATIONALISM AND MEMORY POLITICS

Various manifestations of Ukrainian nationalism and in particular the rise of such Ukrainian organizations as the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists and the Ukrainian Insurgent Army have become the subject of numerous books, articles and conferences. An assessment of these organizations has engendered a debate in Ukrainian society and beyond. **Alexander Motyl** (Rutgers University-Newark), **Myroslav Shkandrij** (University of Manitoba), and **Bohdan Vitvitsky** (Former Special Advisor to Ukraine's Prosecutor General) reflected on ways in which to unpack and explain conflicting views of these organizations and political significance of different interpretations of Ukrainian history. For details, click [here](#)



ROUNDTABLE ON THE HOLODOMOR GENOCIDE OF 1932-33

On November 5, a panel of distinguished scholars, including **Roman Serbyn**, **Olena Muradyan**, **Victoria Malko**, and **Andrew Stuttaford**, discussed research on the Holodomor genocide. The event was sponsored by the Ukrainian National Women's League of America (UNWLA).



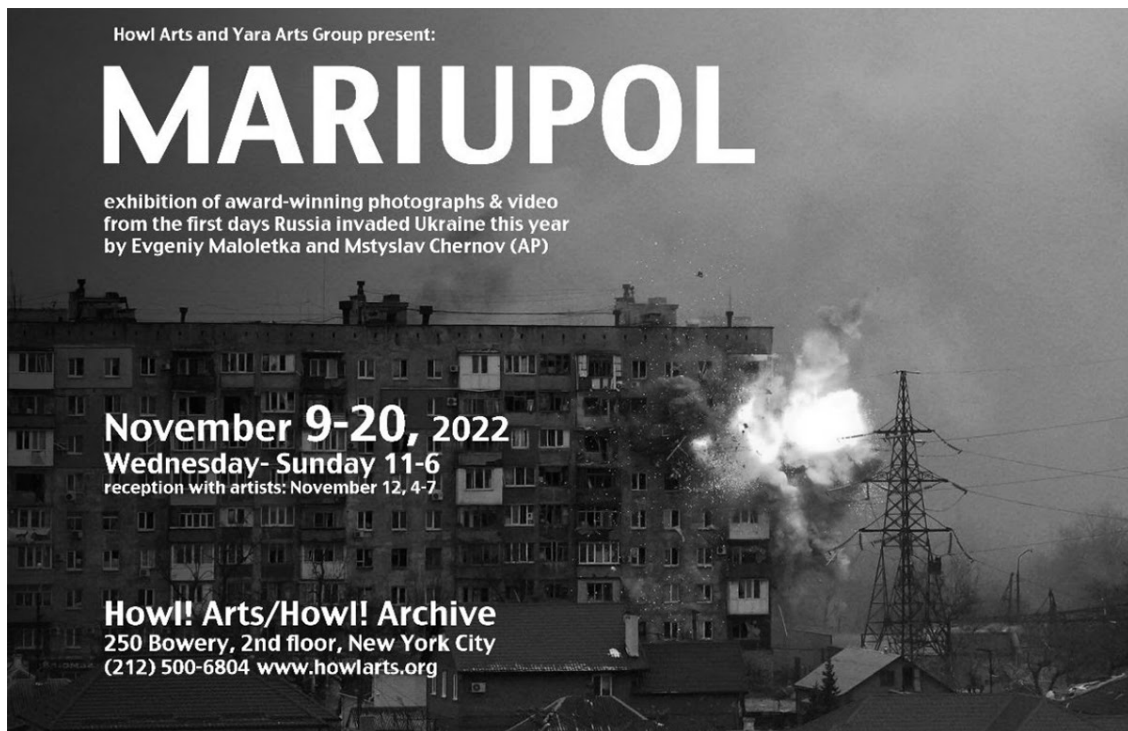
Meanwhile in Ukraine. Photo: Olena Shovkoplias

REPORT FROM KYIV: PHOTOS FROM THE RUSSIAN WAR IN UKRAINE

On November 17, the Hunter College Library opened an exhibit from [the National Museum of the History of Ukraine in the Second World War](#) that features photographs by **Olena Shovkoplias** taken on March 8, 2022, and builds on earlier work documenting the Russian-Ukrainian war in the Donbas region. Introducing the event was Professor [Susan Smith-Peter](#), followed by **Maria Genkin** (Razom for Ukraine) and Hunter College student **Ren Chaplin**.

The exhibition is cosponsored by the Shevchenko Scientific Society, Razom for Ukraine, and the Ukrainian History and Education Center.

For details and a [recording](#) of the event, click [here](#).



Howl Arts and Yara Arts Group present:

MARIUPOL

exhibition of award-winning photographs & video
from the first days Russia invaded Ukraine this year
by Evgeniy Maloletka and Mstyslav Chernov (AP)

November 9-20, 2022

Wednesday- Sunday 11-6
reception with artists: November 12, 4-7

Howl! Arts/Howl! Archive
250 Bowery, 2nd floor, New York City
(212) 500-6804 www.howlarts.org

MARIUPOL: PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBIT & YARA EVENTS AT HOWL ARTS

Yara Groups directed by **Viriana Tkacz** co-organized with [Howl Arts](http://www.howlarts.org), a nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving the past and celebrating the contemporary culture of the East Village and Lower East Side, the photo exhibit [Mariupol](#), displaying award-winning photographs and video from the first days of the Russian invasion of Ukraine this year. The exhibition showcased the works of Mstyslav Chernov and Evgeniy Maloletka, the Associated Press team who raced into the city when the invasion began. For more than two weeks, Chernov and Maloletka were the only journalists able to transmit video and still photos to the outside world.

MEMBER NEWS

The international conference “[Ukraine in North America: Diaspora Activism, Academic Initiatives](#)” was organized by the Ukrainian Studies Program at the Harriman Institute, Columbia University and held in New York City on November 3-5, 2022. The conference gathered scholars from the United States, Canada, and Ukraine to focus on different waves of immigration from Ukraine to North America and on the organizational and political activity of these individuals, chiefly their establishment of Ukrainian studies in their new homelands. [Mark Andryczyk](#), Associate Research Scholar in Ukrainian studies at the

Harriman Institute and director of the Institute's Ukrainian Studies Program, made the opening remarks.

A number of members of the Shevchenko Scientific Society in the United States participated in the international conference. [Oleh Wolowyna](#), research fellow at the Center for Slavic, Eurasian and Eastern European Studies, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, presented the comprehensive database on Ukrainians in the U.S. developed by the Center for Demographic and Socioeconomic Research of Ukrainians in the U.S. at the Shevchenko Scientific Society in the United States. [Anna Procyk](#), a member of the Advisory Committee of the Columbia University's Ukrainian Studies Program and an active participant in such scholarly organizations as the Ukrainian Academy of Arts and Sciences in New York and the Shevchenko Scientific Society in the United States, discussed the role of the two Ukrainian scientific institutions, the Ukrainian Academy of Arts and Sciences and the Shevchenko Scientific Society in America founded in New York after the Second World War. [Markian Dobczansky](#), Associate Director of the European Union Center at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, analyzed the impact of the Cold War on Ukraine and Soviet Ukrainian cultural initiatives during that period.

[Olha Aleksic](#), Petro Jacyk Bibliographer for Ukrainian Collections, Harvard Library, launched the ["Russia's War on Ukraine" digital archive](#), capturing news stories, videos, data trackers, and social media posts from organizations and media outlets on the ground. In the [Harvard Gazette](#), Aleksic discussed how she and Kostyantyn Bondarenko, the project's technical lead, partnered with web archiving service Archive-It to build the digital collection.

[Vitaly Chernetsky](#), University of Kansas, made a presentation titled "Decolonization and Discovery: 1920s Ukrainian Film Criticism Reassessed" at the [conference](#), marking the 100th Anniversary of the Founding of the All-Ukrainian Photo Cinema Administration (VUFKU). The international conference was sponsored by Indiana University's Center for Documentary Research and Practice and the Shevchenko Scientific Society in the U.S.

[Jurij Dobczansky](#), senior cataloging specialist in the East Central Europe Section of the Germanic and Slavic Division in the Library of Congress (LOC), discussed how the war affected library collecting in a [LOC blog](#).

The [Ukrainian History and Education Center](#) directed by [Natalia Honcharenko](#) organized a public event, featuring the work of "Saving Ukrainian Cultural Heritage Online", or SUCHO. It is an initiative of over 1,500 international volunteers who have collaborated online to digitize and preserve Ukrainian cultural heritage since Russia's full-scale invasion in February 2022. SUCHO has web-archived more than 5,000 websites and over 50TB of data of Ukrainian cultural institutions, to prevent these websites from going offline. SUCHO volunteers [Erica Peaslee](#) and [Kiley Jolicoeur](#) provided an overview of the SUCHO efforts to preserve Ukrainian cultural heritage.

Barry Chernoff, Professor of Environmental Studies, Wesleyan University, and **Katja Kolcio**, Associate Professor of Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies, Wesleyan University, hosted [*Standing with Ukraine: a series of livestreamed international conversations*](#), which allowed members of the Wesleyan community to connect with students, civic leaders, experts, and artists in Ukraine in an effort to humanize the war by hearing their perspectives from the war zone.

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

Please let us know about your professional accomplishments, and we will announce them to our members via the English-language newsletter and social media. We welcome information about your recent articles, books, research grants, awards, international collaborations, or career moves. To fill out the form, please click [here](#).

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