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THE SHEVCHENKO SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY IN THE CONTEXT OF UKRAINIAN INTELLECTUAL HISTORY: 150TH ANNIVERSARY CONFERENCE

In May 2024, the Shevchenko Scientific Society in the United States celebrated its [sesquicentennial](#) by organizing an international conference, bringing together scholars from Austria, Canada, the Czech Republic, Germany, Poland, Ukraine, and the United States.

[Vitaly Chernetsky](#), Professor of Slavic Languages and Literatures at the University of Kansas and the First Vice President of the Shevchenko Scientific Society in the United States, made the opening remarks.

Panelists discussed nineteenth-century Ukrainian intellectual life under Russian imperial rule, the impact of the Shevchenko Scientific Society in Galicia and beyond, and Ukrainian scholarship from the nineteenth century to the present day. For example, **Serhiy Bilenky**, Research Associate at the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, University of Alberta, presented his research on scholarship and politics in Kyiv in the 1870s. **Maryna Paliienko**, head of the Department of Archival Science and Special Branches of History at Taras

Shevchenko National University, analyzed Ukrainian diaspora archives during and after World War II as a target of Nazi and Soviet security services.

[Watch Full Recording of the Conference](#)



A TRIBUTE TO VIRKO BALEY: 85TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Shevchenko Scientific Society in the United States and the Ukrainian Institute of America, Music at the Institute held a special event to mark the 85th anniversary of [Virko Baley](#), a Ukrainian American composer in residence and distinguished professor of music emeritus at the University of Nevada. Throughout his career, Baley has tirelessly worked to disseminate accurate information about Ukrainian composers in the United States. Together with Ivan Karabyts, Baley founded the first international music festival in Ukraine, the Kyiv Music Fest. He has led the Kyiv Camerata in recordings of over fifteen CDs of orchestral music by composers ranging from Mozart and Beethoven to Valentyn Sylvestrov and Yevhen Stankovych, and has worked with the Shevchenko Opera Orchestra and the National Symphony Orchestra of Ukraine.

For details, click [here](#)



MILITANT FEMININITY: TRANSFORMATIONS OF THE IMAGE OF A UKRAINIAN WOMAN IN PUBLIC DISCOURSE IN THE TIME OF RUSSIA'S WAR ON UKRAINE BY OKSANA KIS

Since the Maidan and the beginning of Russia's war against Ukraine in 2014, one can observe significant changes in the public discourse on normative femininity in Ukraine – a remarkable trend towards the normalization of the image of the female soldier. As full citizens, Ukrainian women claim their role in defense efforts on an equal footing with men, while emphasizing women's gendered ways and means of contributing to the national project. In this talk, **Oksana Kis** examined verbal and visual materials from conventional and social media to show how the image of a militant woman (referring to both soldiers and civilians) evolves and gains momentum as a hybrid form of femininity that is more inclusive in terms of its diverse and seemingly opposing constituents.

Oksana Kis is a feminist historian and anthropologist, a senior research fellow and a head of the Department of Social Anthropology at the Institute of Ethnology, National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine (in Lviv). She is a president of the Ukrainian Association for Research in Women's History.

For details, click [here](#)



RELIGIOUS FREEDOM IN WARTIME: A VIRTUAL ROUNDTABLE

The roundtable on religious freedom in wartime Ukraine featured Protodeacon [Nicholas Denysenko](#), Emil and Elfriede Jochum University Professor and Chair and Professor of Theology at Valparaiso University; Archimandrite [Cyril Hovorun](#), a professor of ecclesiology, international relations, and ecumenism at the Sankt Ignatios College, University College Stockholm, and a director of the Huffington Ecumenical Institute at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles; and [Dmytro Vovk](#), a visiting associate professor at the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law, Yeshiva University. It was organized and moderated by the long-standing full member of the Shevchenko Scientific Society in the US **Andrew Sorokowski**.

To view a recording of the roundtable, click [here](#)



56TH ASEEEES ANNUAL CONVENTION

The Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES) held a small virtual convention in October prior to the main in-person convention in Boston in November.

An evening of contemporary Ukrainian poetry featuring readings by an array of authors from diverse generations, schools, and geographies will be held on November 22.

The 2024 ASEEEES reception co-sponsored by HURI, the Shevchenko Scientific Society in the US, and the American Association for Ukrainian Studies will be held at HURI (12 Quincy Street, Cambridge, MA) on November 23.

For the full program, click [here](#)



**MICHAEL M.
NAYDAN:
AATSEEL
OUTSTANDING
CONTRIBUTION
TO THE
PROFESSION
AWARD**

[Michael M. Naydan](#), Woskob Family Professor of Ukrainian Studies at Pennsylvania State University, received the Outstanding Contribution to the Profession Award from the [American Association of Teachers of Slavic and East European Languages](#) (AATSEEL). Dr. Naydan published more than 40 books of translations with critical introductions, as well as dozens of articles and translations in literary journals and anthologies. He was a Fulbright scholar in Lviv, Ukraine, twice, and served as a designated Senior Fulbright Scholar for the past three years.

According to the AATSEEL, the award is given “to individuals at any stage in their career whose scholarly and administrative leadership, collaboration and/or mentoring has had a significant impact on the profession, especially in terms of opening up and sustaining new directions and new opportunities for our scholarship and our teaching and/or bringing the insights of our field to new audiences.”

“The many submissions nominating Michael for this award laud his collegiality, collaborativeness, mentorship of junior scholars, generosity, ‘willingness to take on hard work for a good cause,’ and the ‘low profile, encouraging, mild-mannered’ and consistent support he has given to others,” said AATSEEL President and Stanford University faculty member Gabriella Saffron.

For additional information, click [here](#)



MEMBER OF THE MONTH: MAYHILL FOWLER

Current Position: Associate Professor, Department of History, Stetson University; Affiliated faculty, Program in Theater Studies, Ivan Franko National University of Lviv

Professional Interests: theater in Ukraine, cultural history, theater studies, gender history, Ukraine's history, society, culture

I value being a member of a community that is invested in the study of Ukraine. It is so profoundly important right now, precisely now, to convey the importance of the study of Ukraine to the greater public, and it is so important to support the community of scholars who are trying to advance Ukrainian studies. Last year I participated in a panel, “War/Art Balance: Deimperializing the Soviet Avant-Garde at the Time of Russia’s War on Ukraine, its Culture, and People,” which Oleh Kotsyuba organized at the Cooper Union in response to an exhibit there on Moscow’s VKhUTEMAS. It was a fascinating panel—and I hope that people who don’t know much about Ukraine actually heard us.

I am working on two projects. First, I am finishing a book on women in theater called *Theater Women: Place and Performance in 20th century Ukraine*, which re-tells Ukrainian theater history through the lens of its women, Ukrainian, Polish, and Jewish. Second, I have a project I am figuring out on military theater in Soviet Ukraine called *A Theater of Silence: War and Memory in Ukraine*. It is about how societies tell war, and it is about the past, about World War II, but of course, I am interested in how we are telling the current Russian-Ukrainian war as well.

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



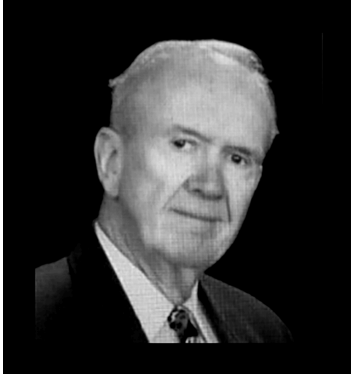
ANTON VARGA'S WORK AT THE POLISH PAVILION OF THE 60TH VENICE BIENNALE

Repeat after Me II is an audiovisual video installation created by the Ukrainian Open Group collective, which consists of **Anton Varga**, **Yuriy Biley**, and **Pavlo Kovach**. The group's work is based on exploring interaction between people and contextual spaces, creating the so-called *open situations*. Performativity and cooperation with viewers and participants are important parts of their work. They have tackled the subject of war on several occasions, ever since the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation began their military operations in the southeast of Ukraine in 2014. Open Group's projects are created through a long process, and their works' themes are always intersecting.

Repeat after Me II is a collective portrait of witnesses of the ongoing war in Ukraine. The videos presented were created in 2022 and 2024. All the protagonists are civilian refugees speaking of the war through the sounds of weapons they remember, then inviting the audience to repeat after them. The artists use the karaoke format. Yet here the accompaniment is not hit songs, it is shots, missiles, howling, and explosions, and the lyrics are descriptions of deadly firearms. This is the soundtrack of the war. The juxtaposition of works from 2022 and 2024 shows the drastic perseverance of memory, as

well as the changes in technology. The first video was shot in a camp for 'domestic refugees' outside of Lviv. The second work was created outside of Ukraine, in locations that were safe for the participants. Yet even beyond the reach of the marathon of sirens, the sounds of war remain part of their trauma and symbolically widen their scope.

For details, click [here](#)



VOLODYMYR BAZARKO (1940–2024)

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing on October 13 of **Volodymyr Bazarko** (1940–2024), the president of the Philadelphia Chapter of the Shevchenko Scientific Society in the US. The Board extends its sincere condolences to our members Mrs. Lydia Bazarko, Dr. Andrew Bazarko, and the entire family. For more information on his distinguished life, see [here](#).

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MEMBER NEWS

Margarita M. Balmaceda, Professor of Diplomacy and International Relations, Seton Hall University, is a fellow at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars. While in residence at the [Wilson Center](#), Balmaceda will pursue the research project "The Last Frontier of Decarbonization: Hidden Industrial Fossil Fuels Between Geopolitics and Climate Change."

Vitaly Chernetsky, Professor of Slavic Languages and Literatures at the University of Kansas, received a prestigious fellowship from the [University of Basel](#) in Switzerland. During his fellowship period (July - December 2024), Chernetsky will work on his research project "Emma Andrievska's A Novel about a Good Person and Ukrainian Post-World War II DP Camp Experience Reassessed." Vitaly Chernetsky and Iryna Shuvalova's translation

from Ukrainian of *Winter King* by Ostap Slyvynsky was shortlisted for the [2024 National Translation Award](#) in Poetry from the American Literary Translators Association.

Bohdan Futey was awarded the Petro Mohyla Medal for "a significant contribution to the revival and development of Kyiv Mohyla Academy," In particular, Mr. Futey made an enormous contribution to the development of legal studies in the [Faculty of Law](#) at NaUKMA. Futey was nominated by Ronald Reagan and confirmed by the Senate in 1987, to serve as a judge of the U.S. Claims Court (now the [U.S. Court of Federal Claims](#)), and he assumed senior status in May 2002.

Pavlo Gintov, Ukrainian American pianist, performed Ukrainian music at a charity concert held in [La Maison Française](#), the Embassy of France in the United States, on November 1. This event was organized by the [US Ukrainian Activists](#) (USUA), a non-profit organization dedicated to supporting Ukraine and its culture.

Olena Nikolayenko, professor of political science at Fordham University, joined the Academic Advisory Board of the Research Unit for Ukraine and Neighboring Areas at the [Slavic-Eurasian Research Center](#), Hokkaido University, Japan. She was a visiting scholar at Hokkaido University from July to August 2024.

Yohanan Petrovsky-Shtern, Crown Family Professor of Jewish Studies and Professor of History at Northwestern University, co-authored with Paul Magocsi, Chair of Ukrainian Studies at the University of Toronto, the book, [Jews and Ukrainians: A Millennium of Co-Existence](#). In its second edition, the book tells the story of Ukrainians and Jews in twelve thematic chapters, covering such topics as geography, history, economic life, traditional culture, religion, language, literature and theater, architecture and art, music, the diaspora, and contemporary Ukraine (before Russia's full-scale invasion).

Serhii Plokhii, the Mykhailo S. Hrushevs'kyi Professor of Ukrainian History and the Director of the Ukrainian Research Institute at Harvard University, received a [Scholarly Editions and Translations](#) grant from the National Endowment for Humanities for the project "Harvard Library of Ukrainian Literature."

Yuri Shevchuk, senior lecturer in Ukrainian at Columbia University, and two distinguished discussants - **Michael Naydan**, Woskob Family Professor of Ukrainian Studies in the Department of Germanic and Slavic Languages and Literatures at Pennsylvania State University, and **Oleksandra Wallo**, Associate Professor of Slavic Languages and Literatures at the University of Kansas, - discussed Shevchuk's recent book, [The Ukrainian-English Collocation Dictionary](#), in a roundtable organized by the Department of Slavic Languages and the Ukrainian Studies Program at the Harriman Institute. The event was moderated by **Mark Andryczyk**, Associate Research Scholar in the Harriman Institute. The second revised and streamlined edition of the *Ukrainian-English Collocation Dictionary* was published in April 2024 by the Hippocrene Books.

Maria Sonevtsky, Associate Professor of Anthropology and Music at Bard College, participated in the roundtable [In Tribute to Mark von Hagen's Contributions to Ukrainian](#)

[Studies](#) held at the Harriman Institute at Columbia University on September 20. As an undergraduate, she took classes with Professor von Hagen, and then she worked for a year as his assistant while he was President of the International Association of Ukrainianists. Professor von Hagen later served on her dissertation committee and was an important mentor for many years afterward.

Oleh Wolowyna, a Fellow at the Center for Slavic, Eurasian and Eastern European Studies at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, addressed the [decolonization of the demography](#) of the Holodomor during his presentation at the 2024 Danyliw Research Seminar on Contemporary Ukraine held at the University of Ottawa. Wolowyna has been coordinating research on the demography of the 1932-1934 Famine in Ukraine and Russia with a team of demographers at the Ptukha Institute of Demography and Social Studies in Kyiv.

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