

Yara Arts Group &
the Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center present:

Yara's Traditional Music Series:
Folk Fiddler: **Pawlo Humeniuk**



premiere
June 11, 2020
V i r t u a l l y
www.yaraartsgroup.net

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Yara's Traditional Music Series

Folk Fiddler: Pawlo Humeniuk

Entrance music: А я тоє дівча люблю (I love that girl)

fiddle: Pawlo Humeniuk, with clarinet, trombone and piano
recorded December 3, 1925

Introductions Virlana Tkacz

Music: Як зачую коломийку (When I hear the kolomyika)

Pawlo Humeniuk on fiddle, with clarinet, trombone and piano
recorded December 3, 1925

On Pawlo Humeniuk and the First Wave of Ukrainian Immigrants to US

Virlana Tkacz

Music: Грай, або гроші віддавай (Play, or return the money)

Pawlo Humeniuk on fiddle with tsymbaly and string bass
recorded November 1926

Танець під вербами (Dance under the willows)

Pawlo Humeniuk on fiddle with tsymbaly and string bass
recorded November 1926

On Humeniuk's recordings of rituals: Engament, Ukrainian Wedding, and Christening -Iryna Voloshyna

from Зручини (engagement)

Pawlo Humeniuk on fiddle, with guitar, drum tambourine, vocals:
Ewgen Zhukowsky and Nasza Roza Krasnowka recorded May 1926

from Українське весілля (Ukrainian wedding)

Pawlo Humeniuk on fiddle, with guitar, drum tambourine, vocals:
Ewgen Zhukowsky and Nasza Roza Krasnowka recorded April 1926

from Chrestyny (Baptism)

Pawlo Humeniuk on fiddle, with guitar, drum tambourine, vocals:
Ewgen Zhukowsky and Nasza Roza Krasnowka recorded Dec. 1926

US ORCHESTRA: Yaryna Dron - first violin, Serhii Postolnikov second violin, Andrii Levchenko – cello bass

І я собі козак лепкий (I'm good looking) from Pawlo Humeniuk
Mazurka from Pawlo Humeniuk
Золанівська гречка (Zolotiv hrechka) from Slobodian

Exit Music: На весілля при вечері (At the wedding Dinner)

Pawlo Humeniuk on fiddle with tsymbaly and string bass
recorded November 1926

virtual event directed by Virlana Tkacz

folklorist: Iryna Voloshyna

US Orchestra

Yaryna Dron first fiddle,
Serhii Postolnikov second fiddle,
Andrii Levchenko cello bass

Visual Design Waldemart Klyuzko

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PAWLO HUMENIUK one of the great Ukrainian fiddlers was born in western Ukrainian the village of Pidvolochysk and emigrated to the US before 1908. He played with local music groups at Ukrainian weddings, concert and family occasions in the New York area. Together with his brother John, he made and repaired violins in a shop on 2nd Street in the East Village. In the 1920s he became friends with Myron Surmach, the owner of a Ukrainian bookstore, who also sold records. Surmach introduced Humeniuk to the OKEH records representative. Humeniuk signed a contract and on December 3, 1925 recorded four traditional village dances. These recording sold well and in the spring of 1926. Humeniuk teamed up with the singers Ewgen Zukowski and Nasza Roza Krasnowska to record the two-part Ukrainian Wedding, one of his all-time best sellers, kept in print by Columbia Records for over 25 years. They went on to record a series of rituals from village life, such as engagements, baptisms and afterparties. Humeniuk also recorded many Polish dance tunes, especially polkas. My personal favorite are Humeniuk's instrumentals such as Dance under the Willows, where his virtuosity is captivating. Virlana Tkacz

VIRLANA TKACZ heads the Yara Arts Group and has directed 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 recordings of Buryat Mongolian artists and the Koliadnyky of Kryvorivnia from the Carpathian Mountains. She received an NEA Poetry Translation Fellowship for her translations with Wanda Phipps.

IRYNA VOLOSHYNA is a folklorist working with Yara Arts Group. Originally from Khmelnytskyi, Ukraine, she sang with Ladovytsi. In New York, she is a member of Ukrainian Village Voices and works at the Ukrainian Museum. She is a doctoral student at Indiana University.

US ORCHESTRA was formed by three musicians from Kyiv: Yaryna Dron first violin, Serhii Postolnikov second violin, Andrii Levchenko cello bass, tsymbaly and tambourine. Their repertoire includes traditional Ukrainian music they record in the field or find in archives. US Orchestra stands for "Ukrainska Silska Orchestra" - Ukrainian Village Orchestra, and which is how Ukrainian immigrants in the US called their bands. The band plays traditional Ukrainian music from Poltava and Western Podillia, as well as the music of Ukrainian immigrants in US and Canada. They have performed in Ukraine, Poland (Kody, Wszystkie Mazurki Świata), Germany, Slovakia and Greece. They have collaborated with the Austrian klezmer music band "Di Libe Layt." <https://ukrainska-silka-orchestra.bandcamp.com/>

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: Tychnya, Zhadan, and the Dogs* at La MaMa.

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**

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