

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

## YARA'S TRADITIONAL MUSIC SERIES:

BANDURIST: Zinoviy Shtokalko



July 23, 2020

[www.yaraartsgroup.net](http://www.yaraartsgroup.net)

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### Yara's Traditional Music Series

Bandurist: Zinoviy Shtokalo

**Entrance music:** Medley/Viazanka from *O Dumy Moi*  
Performed by Zinoviy Shtokalko, recorded October, 1952

**Introductions** Virlana Tkacz  
**Music:** Medley/Viazanka from *O Dumy Moi*  
Performed by Zinoviy Shtokalko, recorded October, 1952

**On Zinoviy Shtokalko and the Third Wave of Ukrainian Immigrants to US**  
Virlana Tkacz

**Music:** "Ivasyk Telesyk" as told by Myroslav Diakowsky with bandura

**Music:** from epic song "Duma about Marusia Bohuslavka"  
Performed by Zinoviy Shtokalko, recorded October 1952

**On Shtokalko: His Music, Recordings and Impact** -Julian Kytasty

**Music:** From medley  
Played by Julian Kytasty

**Music:** Historical song: "In the Year 1791"  
Played by Julian Kytasty

**Exit Music** Julian Kytasty improvisation in style of Shtokalko

virtual event directed by Virlana Tkacz

bandurist: Julian Kytasty

visual design: Waldemart Klyuzko, tech support: Darien Fiorino

**ZINOVIY SHTOKALKO** a virtuoso bandurist was born in western Ukrainian near Berzhany. 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 helped issue his recording of the epic song "Marusia Bohuslavka in October 1952, as well as a medley of instrumental dance tunes, which were 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.

**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 recordings of Buryat Mongolian artists and of the Koliadnyky of Kryvorivnia from the Carpathian Mountains. She received an NEA Poetry Translation Fellowship for her translations with Wanda Phipps. They were recently nominated for a PEN Poetry Translation Award for *What We Live For, What We Die For: Selected Poetry by Serhiy Zhadan* published by Yale University Press last spring.

**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, and has curated the Bandura Downtown series. He has worked frequently with Yara Arts Group creating and performing music for theatre pieces, poetry performances, and festivals. 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 to a new generation of students in North America and Ukraine, to record, to compose and arrange music for bandura, and to engage in collaborative projects.

**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.

**STAFF:** Translations: Iryna Voloshyna, Video: John Kytasty and Publicity: Zoriana Siokalo

**SPECIAL THANKS TO:** Julian Kytasty's private archive, Levko Maistrenko and Zinoviy Shtokalko archive at the Shevchenko Society, Marko Farion, Joseph Borysthen Tkacz and Ihor Lukiw for sharing photos by Bohdan Zahaykevich.

**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](http://www.yaraartsgroup.net)**

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