

Ukrainian Painting

Galician School of Icon Painting

With the rise of the Principality of Galicia-Volynia principality in the 13th century, a Galician tradition of icon painting arose. There was very little pressure on icon painters from Church authorities and they were free to follow their own artistic intuition rather than rigid canons in creating icons. Instead of the gold background, they often introduced red or green backgrounds.

The chief icon painting schools in Galicia were those of **Peremyshl** and **Lviv**. Each of them had many branches scattered throughout the Carpathian Mountains region as far west as Transcarpathia. Numerous samples of their work dating back to the early 15th century have been preserved.







Taras Shevchenko

(March 9, 1814 – March 10, 1861)



Taras Schevchenko

Born into a serf family in the village of Moryntsi Shevchenko was orphaned at the age of eleven. He loved to draw at every opportunity.

Taras Shevchenko

Shevchenko went with his Russian aristocrat lord Pavel Engelhardt to Vilna (1828–31) and then to Saint Petersburg.

Engelhardt noticed Shevchenko's artistic talent and apprenticed him in Vilna to Jan Rustem, then in Saint Petersburg to Vasiliy Shiryayev for four years.

Taras Shevchenko

There he met the famous painter and professor Karl Bryulov, who donated his portrait of the Russian poet Vasily Zhukovsky as a lottery prize, whose proceeds were used to buy Shevchenko's freedom on May 5, 1838.

Taras Shevchenko

In the same year
Shevchenko was accepted as
a student into the Academy of
Arts in the workshop of Karl
Bryulov. The next year he
became a resident student at
the *Association for the
Encouragement of Artists*.

Taras Shevchenko

At the annual examinations at the Imperial Academy of Arts, Shevchenko was given a Silver Medal for a landscape. In 1840 he again received the Silver Medal, this time for his first oil painting, *The Beggar Boy Giving Bread to a Dog*.

Taras Shevchenko

In September 1841,
Shevchenko was awarded his
third Silver Medal for *The Gypsy
Fortune Teller*.

Gypsy Fortune-Teller



A PEASANT FAMILY



PORTRAIT OF A. ZAKREWSKA.



Kateryna



Taras Shevchenko

In 1844, distressed by the condition of Ukrainian regions in the Russian Empire, Shevchenko decided to capture some of his homeland's historical ruins and cultural monuments in an album of etchings, which he called *Picturesque Ukraine*.

On March 22, 1845, the Council of the Academy of Arts granted Shevchenko the title of an artist.

THE BOGDAN CHURCH IN SUBOTIV



THE VIDUBETSKY MONASTERY



ROMAN-CATHOLIC CHURCH IN KIEV



ANDRUSHI



Taras Schevchenko

With the exception of some short periods of his exile, the enforcement of the Tsar's ban on his creative work was lax. The poet produced several drawings and sketches as well as writings while serving and traveling on assignment in the Ural regions and areas on modern Kazakhstan.

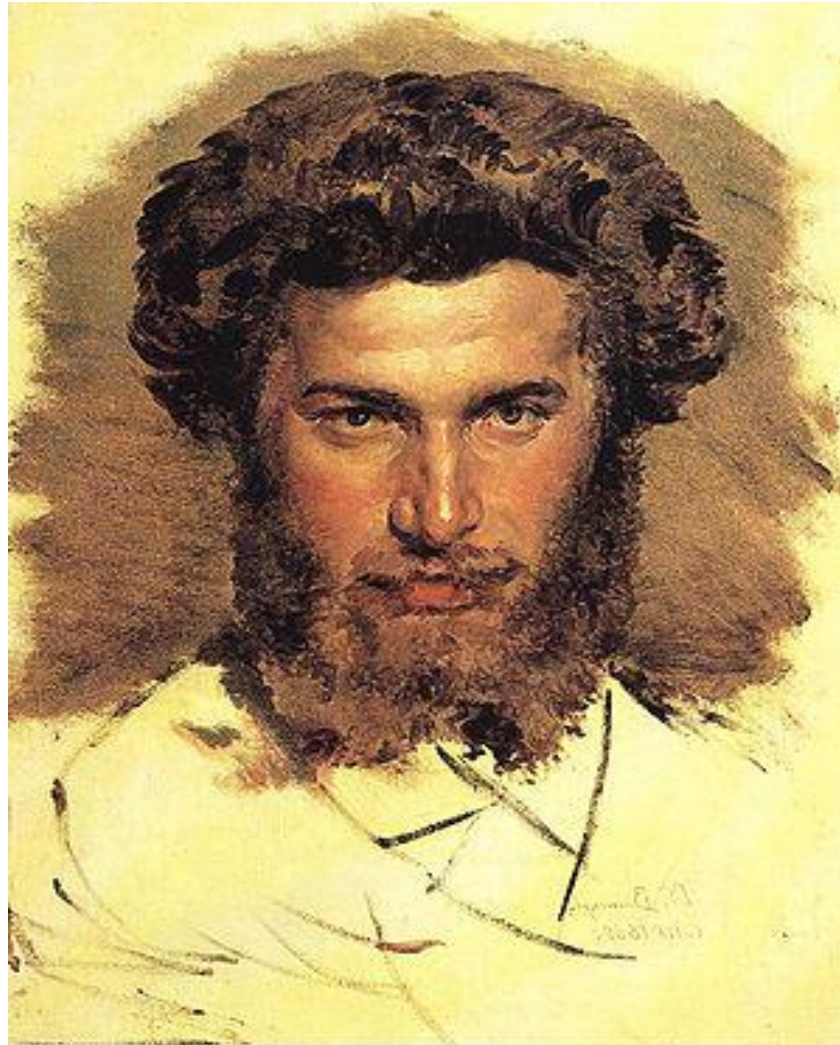
Taras Shevchenko

Taras Shevchenko spent the last years of his life working on new poetry, paintings, and engravings, as well as editing his older works. But after his difficult years in exile his final illness proved too much. Shevchenko died in Saint Petersburg on March 10, 1861, the day after his 47th birthday.

Landscape Painting

Arkhip Ivanovich Kuindzhi

(January 27, 1841 – July 24, 1910)



Arkhip Kuindzhi

Arkhip Kuindzhi was born in January 1841 in [Mariupol](#). Arkhip Kuindzhi was born in January 1841 in Mariupol, but he spent his youth in the city of [Taganrog](#). He grew up in a poor family, and Arkhip was six years old when he lost his parents, so that he was forced to make his living, working at the church building site, grazing domestic animals, and working at the corn merchant's shop.

Arkhip Kuindzhi

During the five years, from 1860 to 1865, Arkhip Kuindzhi worked as retoucher in the photo studio of Isakovich in [Taganrog](#). During the five years, from 1860 to 1865, Arkhip Kuindzhi worked as retoucher in the photo studio of Isakovich in Taganrog. Kuindzhi tried to open his own photographer's studio, but without success. After that Kuindzhi

Arkhip Kuindzhi

He studied painting mainly independently and in St. Petersburg Academy of Arts from 1868.

The full member since 1893.

Arkhip Kuindzhi

He was co-partner of mobile art exhibitions **Peredvizhniki**, a group of Russian realist artists who in protest to academic restrictions formed an artists' cooperative, which evolved into the Society for Traveling Art Exhibitions. During this early period Kuindzhi felt Ivan Aivazovsky's influence.

Arkhip Kuindzhi

In 1872 the artist left the academy and worked as a freelancer. The painting *Na ostrove Valaam* (*On the Valaam Island*) was the first artwork, which [Pavel Tretyakov](#) acquired for his art gallery.

Arkhip Kuindzhi

In 1873, Kuindzhi exhibited his painting *The Snow*, which received the bronze medal at the [International Art Exhibition](#), which received the bronze medal at the International Art Exhibition in London in 1874. In the middle of 1870s he created a number of paintings in which the [landscape](#), which received the bronze medal at the International Art Exhibition in London in 1874. In the middle of 1870s he created a number of paintings in which the

Arkhip Kuindzhi

Using light effects and intense colors shown in main tones, he depicted the illusion of illumination (*The Ukrainian night*, 1876; *Birch Grove*, 1879; *After a thunderstorm*, 1879). His later works are remarkable by decorative effects of color building.

A Birch Grove



Moonlight Night on Dneper



Rainbow



Arkhip Kuindzhi

Kuindzhi lectured at the [St.Petersburg Academy of arts](#) (Professor since 1892; professor-head of landscape workshop since 1894; but he was fired in 1897 for support of student's protests).

Among his students were artists such as [Arkady Rylov](#) Among his students were artists such as Arkady Rylov, [Nicholas Roerich](#) Among his students were artists such as Arkady Rylov, Nicholas Roerich, [Konstantin Bogaevsky](#),

Serhii Vasylykivsky

(October 19, 1854 - October 7, 1917)



Vasylkivsky grew up in an environment conducive to his development as an artist. He spent his childhood in the picturesque surroundings of Izyum.

Serhii Vasylkivsky

Vasylkivsky's father was a writer and taught his son the aesthetics of proper calligraphy line, while his mother through her folk songs set the foundation which provided the inspiration for Vasylkivsky's art later in life. Lastly Dmytro Bezperchy, an art teacher at the Kharkiv gymnasium and a student of Karl Bryulov, provided Vasylkivsky the necessary artistic support.

Serhii Vasylkivsky

Contrary to his father's wishes, Vasylkivsky left for the [St. Petersburg Academy of Fine Arts](#) Contrary to his father's wishes, Vasylkivsky left for the St. Petersburg Academy of Fine Arts. While there, Vasylkivsky was supervised by well known landscape painters [Volodymyr Orlovsky](#) Contrary to his father's wishes, Vasylkivsky left for the St. Petersburg

Serhii Vasylykivsky

His education was supplemented with travelling exhibitions and trips back home. Upon graduation in 1885 he travelled to Europe and North Africa on a scholarship from the Academy, painting places he visited from Spain to Germany and Egypt.

Serhii Vasytkivsky

In Paris, Vasytkivsky became fascinated with the School of Barbizon. By the time, he returned to the Academy, Vasytkivsky brought with him an exhibition of almost 50 art works. Critics praised these paintings, calling them "miniature pearls".

Serhii Vasylykivsky

The paintings reflected the influence of Barbizon's panoramic depiction of space, the sky and the silvery atmosphere of "Piere Corot".

Vasylykivsky retained these characteristics in his Ukrainian landscapes.

Serhii Vasylykivsky

After settling in [Kharkiv](#) After settling in Kharkiv in 1888, he was active in Ukrainian artistic circles and headed the architectural and art society there. Vasylykivsky died at age 62 in [Kharkiv](#).

Serhii Vasylkivsky

A typical Vasylkivsky theme is an armed horse-mounted cossack in steppes or a group of cossacks on sentry duty, travelling or resting.

Cossack house





Serhii Vasytkivsky

Vasytkivsky left behind almost 3,000 works of realist and impressionist art, sketches, drawings, a great number of which were lost during World War II.

He was the first, after Taras Shevchenko, to draw upon subject matter from Ukraine's past and completed a number of works on historical and ethnographic themes.

Cossack Picket



The Cossack Meadow



The Market in Poltava



Serhii Vasylkivsky

- Together with Mykola Samokysh and ethnographer and archaeologist Dmytro Yavomytsky he collaborated on the album "From Ukrainian Antiquity" (1900).
- Albums of Vasylkivsky's works were published in 1970 and 1987.

Ivan Konstantinovich Aivazovsky

(1817-1900)



Ivan Aivazovsky

Ivan Aivazovsky was born in the family of a merchant of Armenian origin in the town of Feodosia, the Crimea. His parents were under strained circumstances and he spent his childhood in poverty.

Ivan Aivazovsky

With the help of people who had noticed the talented youth, he entered the Simpheropol gymnasium, and then the St. Petersburg Academy of Arts, where he took the landscape painting course and was especially interested in marine landscapes.

Ivan Aivazovsky

In the autumn of 1836 Aivazovsky presented 5 marine pictures to the Academic exhibition, which were highly appreciated.

In 1837, Aivazovsky received the Major Gold Medal for Calm in the Gulf of Finland (1836) and The Great Roads at Kronstadt (1836).

Ivan Aivazovsky

During the period of 1840-1844 Aivazovsky, as a pensioner of the Academy of Arts, spent time in Italy, traveled to Germany, France, Spain, and Holland. He worked much and had many exhibitions, meeting everywhere with success.

Ivan Aivazovsky

His works were highly appreciated by J.W.M. Turner, a prominent English landscape and marine painter.

Ivan Aivazovsky

In the course of his work, Aivazovsky evolved his own method of depicting the motion of the sea – from memory, without preliminary sketches, limiting himself to rough pencil outlines. Aivazovsky's phenomenal memory and romantic imagination allowed him to do all this with incomparable brilliance.

Ivan Aivazovsky

When in 1844 the artist returned to St. Petersburg, he was awarded the title of Academician, and became attached to the General Naval Headquarters.

Ivan Aivazovsky

From 1846 to 1848 he painted several canvases with naval warfare as the subject; the pictures portrayed historical battles of the Russian Fleet The Battle of Chesme (1848), The Battle in the Chios Channel (1848), Meeting of the Brig Mercury with the Russian Squadron... (1848).

Subashi desant



Brig Mercury Attacked by Two Turkish Ships

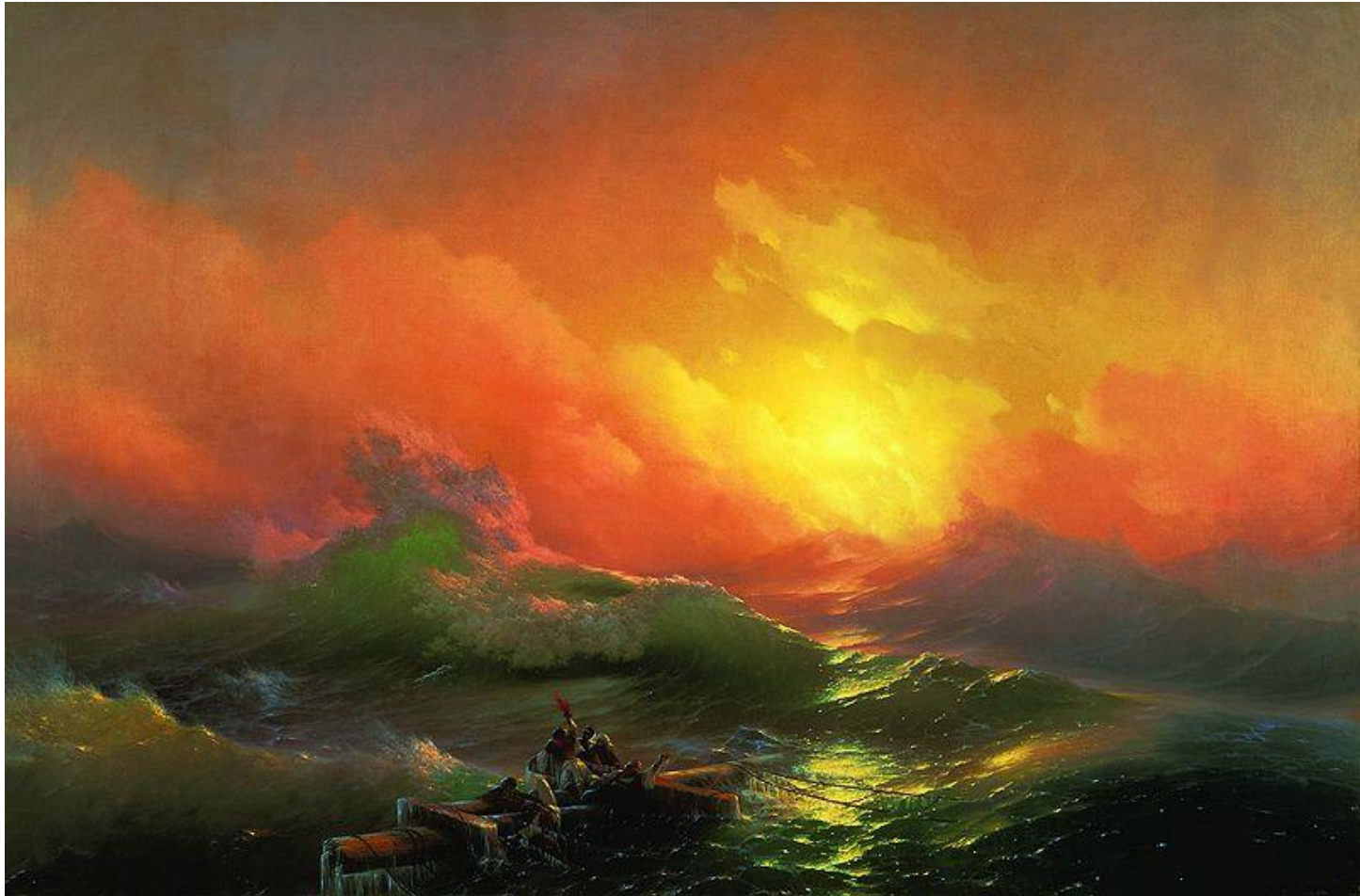


Ivan Aivazovsky

Towards the 1850s the romantic features in Aivazovsky's work became increasingly pronounced. This can be seen quite clearly in one of his best and most famous paintings [The Ninth Wave \(1850\)](#)

Towards the 1850s the romantic features in Aivazovsky's work became increasingly pronounced. This can be seen quite clearly in one of his best and most famous paintings The Ninth Wave (1850) and also in Moonlit Night (1849), The Sea. Koktebel. (1853), [Storm](#)

The Ninth Wave





Ivan Aivazovsky

The process, which determined the development of Russian art in the second half of the 19th century, also affected Aivazovsky.

Ivan Aivazovsky

The artist's greatest achievement of this period is *The Black Sea* (1881), a picture showing the nature of the sea, eternally alive, always in motion. Other important pictures of the late years are *The Rainbow* (1873), *Shipwreck* (1876), *The Billow* (1889), *The Mary Caught in a Storm* (1892).

Shipwreck



Tiflis



Ivan Aivazovsky

Aivazovsky left more than 6000 pictures, which are of very different value. There are masterpieces and there are very timid works. He failed to draw landscapes, could not draw a man.

Ivan Aivazovsky

He spent much money for charity, especially for his native town, he opened in Feodosia the first School of Arts (in 1865), then the Art Gallery (in 1889). He was a member of Academies of Stuttgart, Florence, Rome and Amsterdam.

Ivan Aivazovsky

Aivazovsky was not just a professional marine painter. He knew the sea and loved it sincerely.

Although he turned occasionally to other art forms such as landscape and portraiture, these were only brief departures from his chosen genre to which he remained faithful all his life.

Ivan Aivazovsky

Aivazovsky died on 19 April (2 May New Style) 1900, on the verge of the twentieth century, leaving unfinished a picture he had begun that same day.

THE UKRAINIAN REALIST GENRE PAINTING

Mykola Pymonenko

(9 March 1862 - 26 March 1912)



Mykola Pymonenko

Pymonenko was born on March 9, 1862 in Priorka (a suburb of Kyiv).

Prominent Ukrainian realist painter was a full member of the Saint Petersburg Academy of Arts from 1904. After studying at the Kyiv Drawing School (1878–82) and the Saint Petersburg Academy of Arts he taught at the Kyiv Drawing School (1884–1900) and Kyiv Art School (1900–6).

Mykola Pymonenko

He took part in the exhibitions of the Society of South Russian Artists (1891–6) and Peredvizhniki society (from 1893) and became a member of the latter society in 1899. In 1909 he was elected a member of the Paris International Association of Arts and Literatures.

Mykola Pymonenko

Pymonenko produced over 700 genre scenes, landscapes and portraits, many of which were reproduced as postcards.

They include *Wedding (The Kyiv Gubernia)* (1891), *Girls Fortune-telling* (1893), *Kyiv Flower Seller* (1897), *At the Market* (1898), *Victim of Fanaticism* (1899), *Before the Storm* (1906), *Hay Gathering in Ukraine* (1907), *Meeting a Compatriot* (1908), *Young People (At the Well)* (1909), *Hopak* (1908; bought by the Louvre), and *Paschal Matins* (1910).

Victim of Fanaticism



Harvest in Ukraine



Brod



Mykola Pymonenko

Pymonenko also created illustrations for several of Taras Shevchenko's narrative poems, and in the 1890s he took part in painting the murals in Saint Volodymyr's Cathedral in Kyiv.

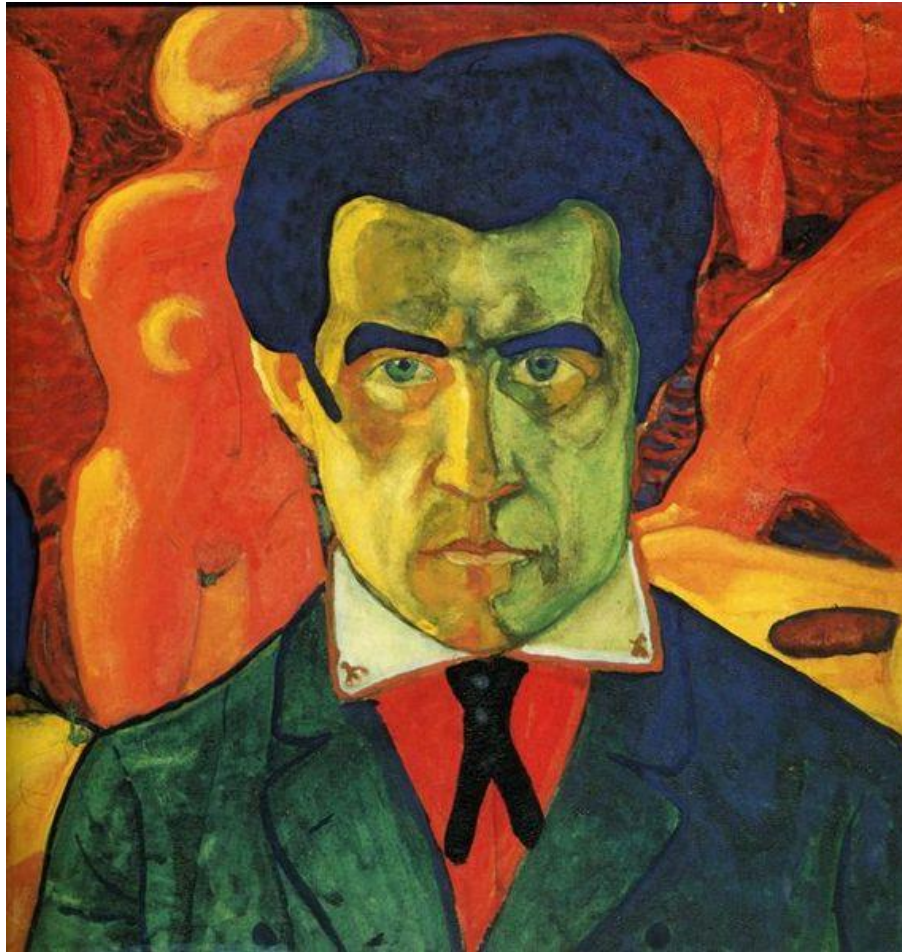
Mykola Pymonenko

Pymonenko was widely acclaimed in the Russian Empire.

Books about him have been written by Yakiv Zatenatsky (1955) and P. Hovdia (1957), and an album of his works was published in Kyiv in 1983.

Avant-garde Painting

Kazimir Severinovich Malevich



Kazimir Malevich

(February 23, 1879 – May 15, 1935)

Kazimir Malevich was a Russian painter and art theoretician of Polish descent, pioneer of geometric abstract art was a Russian painter and art theoretician of Polish descent, pioneer of geometric abstract art and the originator of the Avant-garde was a Russian painter and art theoretician of Polish descent, pioneer of geometric abstract art and the originator of the Avant-garde Suprematist movement. Recently Ukrainian art historians

Kazimir Malevich

Kazimir Malevich was born near [Kiev](#). His father was the manager of a sugar factory. His family moved often and he spent most childhood in the villages of Ukraine amidst sugar-beet plantations, far from centers of culture. Until age 12 he knew nothing of professional artists, though art had surrounded him in childhood.

Kazimir Malevich

Malevich studied drawing in Kiev from 1895 to 1896.

In 1904, after the death of his father, he moved to Moscow where he studied at the Moscow School of Painting, Sculpture and Architecture

In 1904, after the death of his father, he moved to Moscow where he studied at the Moscow School of Painting, Sculpture and Architecture

Kazimir Malevich

In 1911 he participated in the second exhibition of the group Soyuz Molodyozhi in St. Petersburg in St. Petersburg, together with Vladimir Tatlin in St. Petersburg, together with Vladimir Tatlin and, in 1912, the group held its third exhibition, which included works by Aleksandra Ekster, Tatlin and others.

Kazimir Malevich

In the same year he participated in an exhibition by the collective *Donkey's Tail* in Moscow. By that time his works were influenced by Russian avant-garde painters who were particularly interested in Russian folk art called Lubok.

Kazimir Malevich

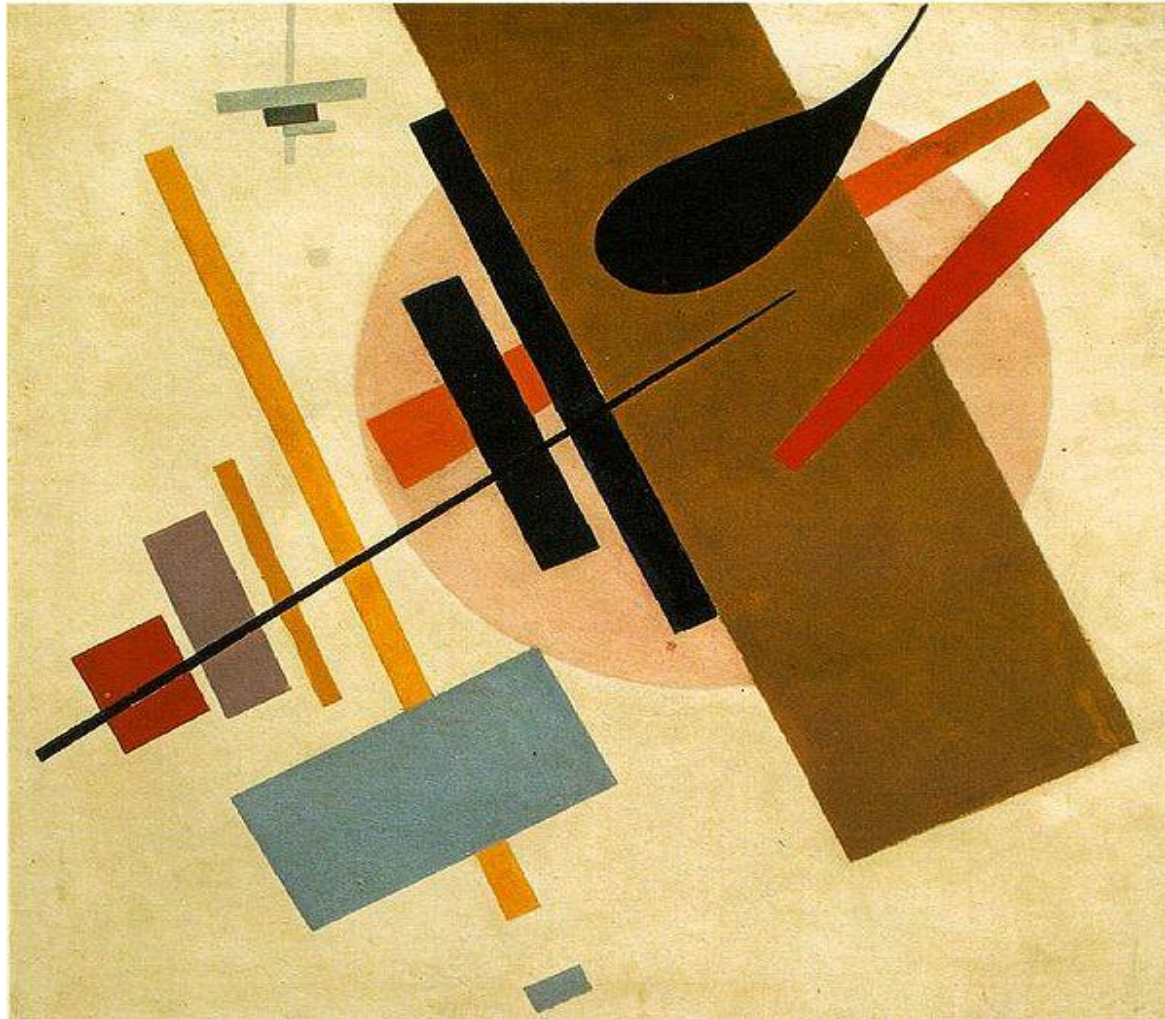
After the exhibition of [Aristarkh Lentulov](#) After the exhibition of Aristarkh Lentulov's paintings, opened in Moscow in 1913, Malevich immediately absorbed the [cubist](#) After the exhibition of Aristarkh Lentulov's paintings, opened in Moscow in 1913, Malevich immediately absorbed the cubist principles and began using them in his works. Already in the same year the [Cubo-Futurist](#) opera *Victory Over the Sun*

Kazimir Malevich

In 1914 Malevich exhibited his works in the Salon des Independants in Paris

In 1915, Malevich laid down the foundations of Suprematism. He published his manifesto *From Cubism to Suprematism*.

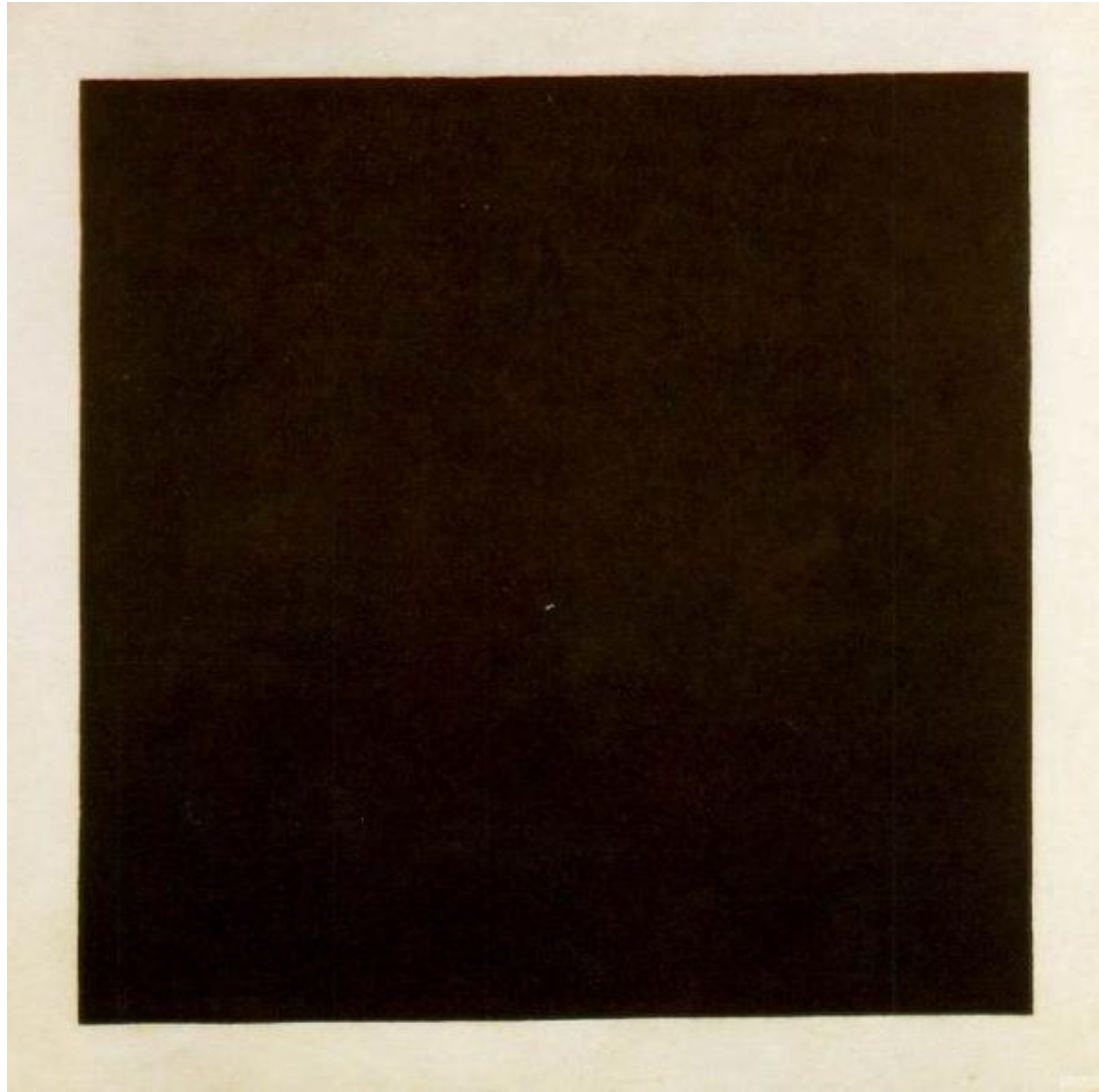
Suprematism



Kazimir Malevich

In 1916-1917 he participated in exhibitions of the *Jack of Diamonds* group in Moscow together with Nathan Altman group in Moscow together with Nathan Altman, David Burliuk and A. Ekster, among others. Famous examples of his Suprematist works include *Black Square* (1915) and *White on White* (1918).

Black Square



Kazimir Malevich

In 1918 In 1918, Malevich decorated a play Mystery Bouffe In 1918, Malevich decorated a play Mystery Bouffe by Vladimir Mayakovskiy In 1918, Malevich decorated a play Mystery Bouffe by Vladimir Mayakovskiy produced by Vsevolod Meyerhold.

He was also interested in aerial photography He was also interested in aerial photography and aviation He was also interested in aerial photography

Summer Landscape



Kazimir Malevich

After the October Revolution, Malevich became a member of the Collegium on the Arts of Narkompros, the commission for the protection of monuments and the museums commission (all from 1918-1919).

Kazimir Malevich

He taught at the

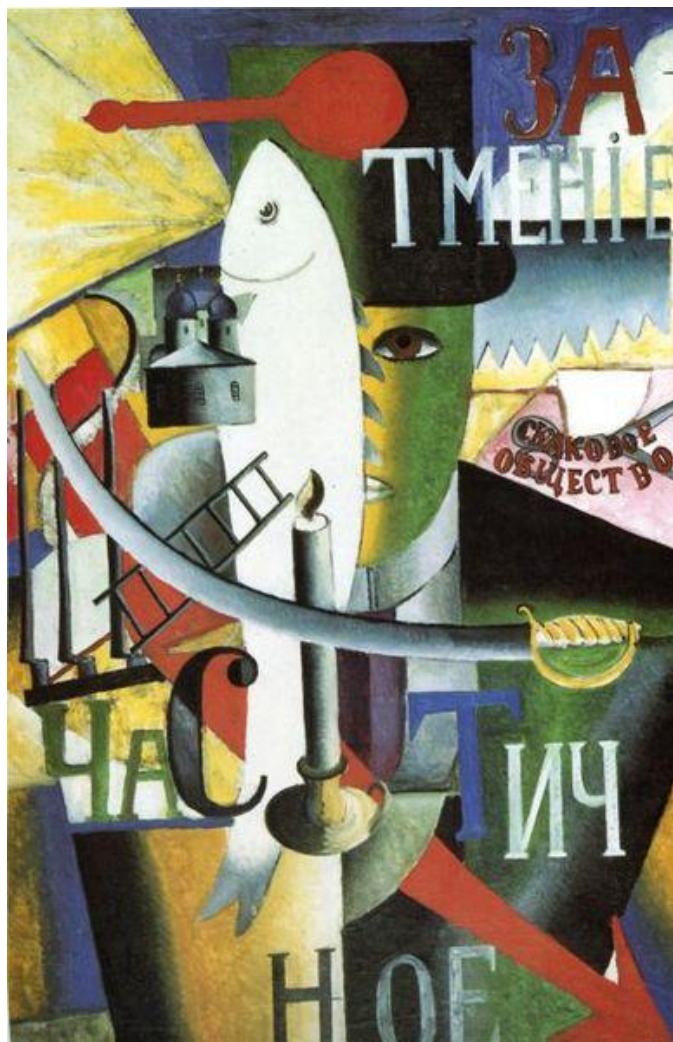
- Vitebsk Practical Art School (1919–1922)
- Leningrad Academy of Arts (1922–1927)
- Kiev State Art Institute (1927–1929)
- House of the Arts in Leningrad (1930)

Kazimir Malevich

He wrote the book *The World as Non-Objectivity* (Munich 1926; English trans. 1959) which outlines his Suprematist theories.

In 1927, he traveled to [Warsaw](#) In 1927, he traveled to Warsaw and then to [Berlin](#) In 1927, he traveled to Warsaw and then to Berlin and [Munich](#) for a retrospective which finally brought him international recognition.

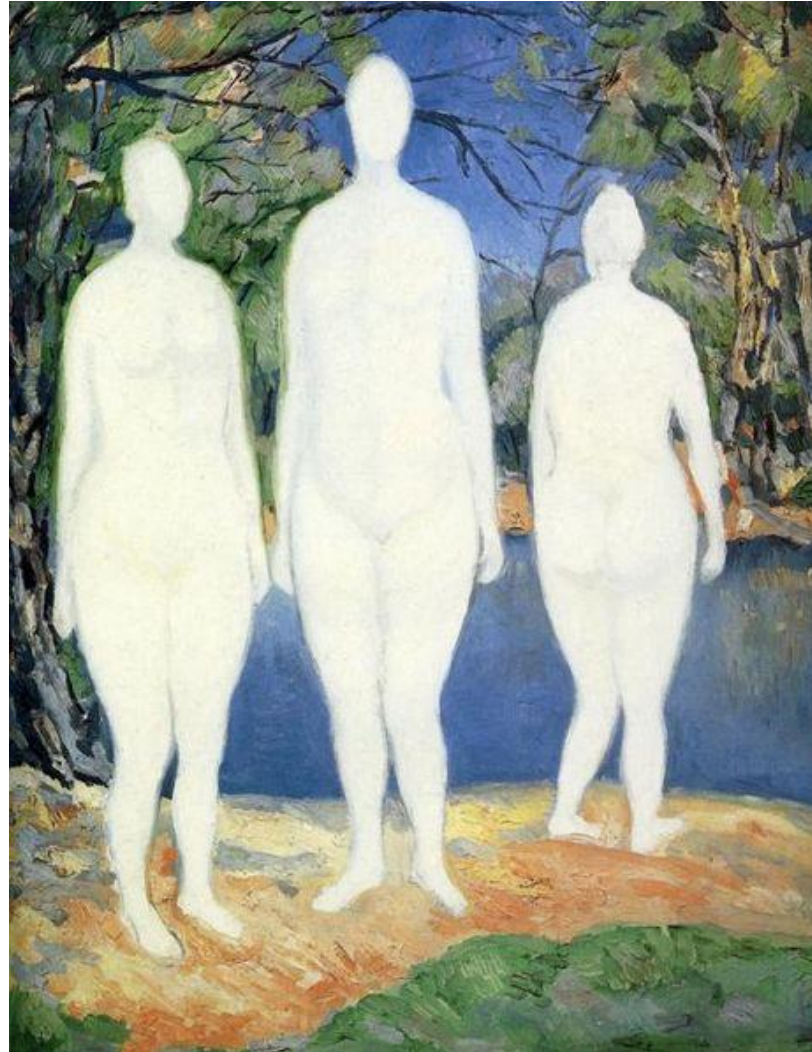
Englishman in Moscow



Head of a Peasant Girl



Bathers



Kazimir Malevich

The Stalinist regime turned against formes of abstractism, considering them a type of “bourgeois” art, that could not express social realities. As a consequence, many of his works were confiscated and he was banned from creating and exhibiting similar art.

Kazimir Malevich

Malevich's work only recently reappeared in art exhibitions in Russia after a long absence. Since then art followers have labored to reintroduce the artist to Russian lovers of painting. A book of his theoretical works with an anthology of reminiscences and writings has been published.

Kazimir Malevich

Malevich died of cancer in Leningrad on May 15, 1935. On his deathbed he was exhibited with the black square above him and a white cube decorated with a black square was placed on his tomb.

Alexsandra Alexandrovna Ekster

(1882-1949)



Alexsandra Ekster

Alexsandra Ekster was a Russian-Ukrainian painter (Cubo-Futurist, Suprematist, Constructivist), designer, and one of the founders of Art Deco. She was born in Belostok, (now Poland) to a wealthy Belarusian family. Her father, Aleksandr Grigorovich, was a wealthy businessman.

Aleksandra Ekster

Young Aleksandra received an excellent private education, she studied languages, music, art, and took private drawing lessons. She studied at Kiev art school, then in 1907 attended Académie de la Grande Chaumière in Montparnasse, Paris.

Alexsandra Ekster

From 1908 to 1924 she intermittently lived in Kiev, Saint Petersburg, Odessa, Paris, Rome and Moscow.

In Paris, Aleksandra Ekster was a personal friend of [Pablo Picasso](#) In Paris, Aleksandra Ekster was a personal friend of Pablo Picasso and [Georges Braque](#) In Paris, Aleksandra Ekster was a personal friend of Pablo Picasso and Georges Braque, who introduced her to [Gertrude Stein](#)

Alexsandra Ekster

Her painting studio in the attic at 27 Funduklievskaya Street was a rallying stage for Kiev's intellectual elite. There she was visited by poets and writers, such as [Anna Akhmatova](#)

Her painting studio in the attic at 27 Funduklievskaya Street was a rallying stage for Kiev's intellectual elite. There she was visited by poets and writers, such as Anna Akhmatova, Ilia Ehrenburg, and [Osip Mandelstam](#) Her painting studio in the attic at 27 Funduklievskaya Street was a rallying stage for Kiev's intellectual elite. There she was visited by poets and writers,

Alexsandra Ekster

In 1908 she participated in an exhibition together with members of the group [Zveno](#) ([Link](#)).

In 1914, Ekster participated in the [Salon des Indépendants](#) exhibitions in Paris, together with [Kazimir Malevich](#) exhibitions in Paris, together with Kazimir Malevich, [Alexander Archipenko](#) exhibitions in Paris, together with Kazimir Malevich, Alexander Archipenko, [Vadym Meller](#) exhibitions in Paris, together with Kazimir Malevich, Alexander Archipenko, Vadym Meller, [Sonia Delaunay-Terk](#) and other French and Russian artists. In that same year she participated in the *International Futurist*

Three Women Figures



Alexsandra Ekster

Ekster absorbed from many sources and cultures in order to develop her own original style. In 1915-1916 she worked in the peasant craft cooperatives in the villages [Skoptsi](#) Ekster absorbed from many sources and cultures in order to develop her own original style. In 1915-1916 she worked in the peasant craft cooperatives in the villages Skoptsi and [Verbovka](#).

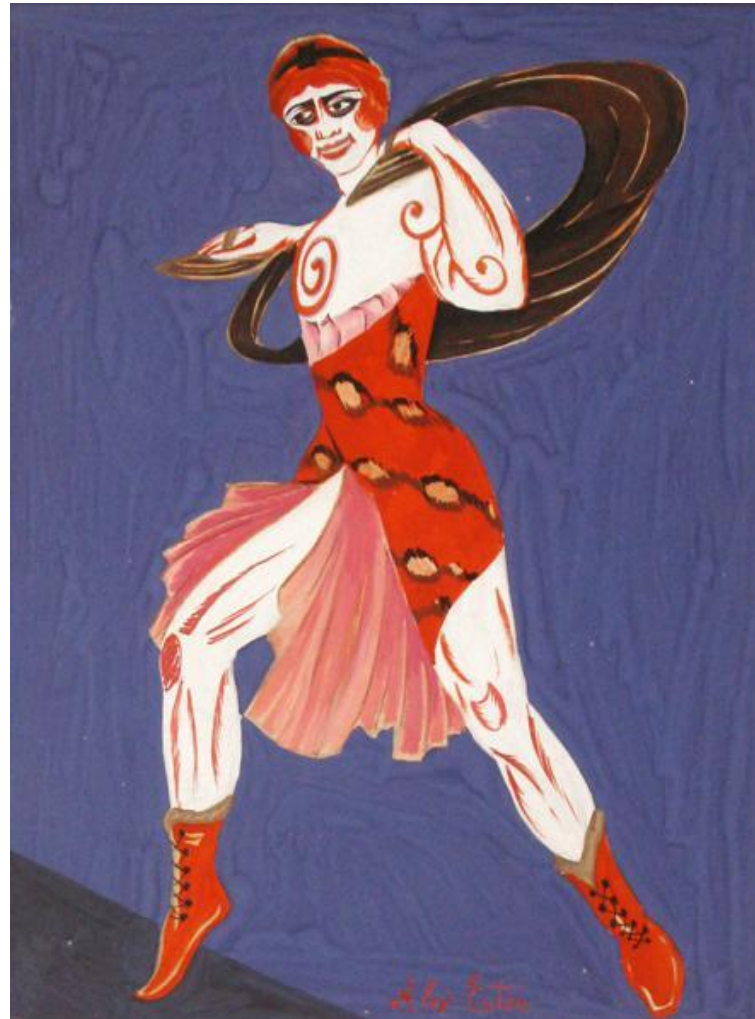
Alexsandra Ekster

Later she founded a teaching and production workshop (MDI) in Kiev (1918–1920). Also during this period she was one of the leading names of Alexander Tairov's Chamber Theatre.

Alexsandra Ekster

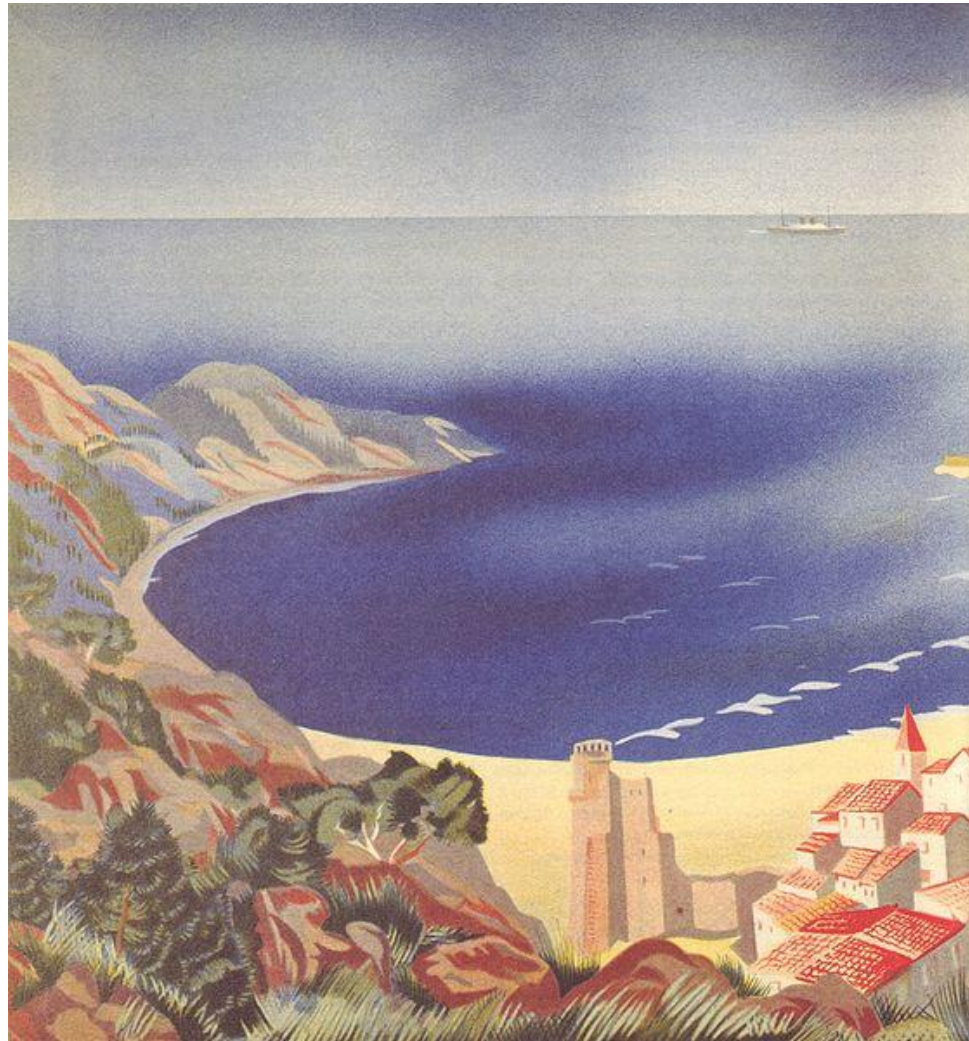
In 1919 together with other avant-garde artists Kliment Redko and Nina Genke-Meller she decorated the streets and squares of Kiev and Odessa in abstract style for Revolution Festivities. She worked as a costume designer in a Ballet Studio.

Costume Kifared





illus. for Panorama de la cote



Alexsandra Ekster

In 1921 she became a director of the elementary course *Color* at the Higher Artistic-Technical Workshop in Moscow, a position she held until 1924. Her work was displayed alongside that of other constructivist artists at the [5x5=25](#) exhibition held in Moscow in 1921.

Alexsandra Ekster

In 1924, Aleksandra Ekster and her husband emigrated to France and settled in Paris. Initially she became a Professor at the Academie der Moderne in Paris. From 1926 to 1930 Ekster was a professor at Fernand Léger's Académie d'Art Contemporain.

Alexsandra Ekster

In 1933 she began creating extremely beautiful and original illuminated manuscripts (gouache on paper), which are beyond doubt the most important works of the last phase of her life. In 1936 she participated in the exhibition *Cubism and Abstract Art* in [New York](#) in New York and went on to have solo exhibitions in [Prague](#) and in Paris.



Alexsandra Ekster

She was a book illustrator for the publishing company *Flammarion* in Paris from 1936 until her death in the Paris suburb of Fontenay-aux-Roses.

Vladimir Yevgrafovich Tatlin

(December 28 [[O.S.](#) December 16] 1885 – May 31, 1953)



Vladimir Tatlin

Vladimir Tatlin was born on December 16, 1885 in Kharkov. He was a Russian sculptor and painter, designer, and maker of abstract constructions, the founder of Constructivism. He ran away to sea at the age of 18 and until 1914 combined painting with the life of a merchant seaman.

Vladimir Tatlin

Many of his earlier pictures are of maritime subjects, notably *The Sailor* (1911–12, Russian Museum, St. Petersburg), a self-portrait.

The Sailor



Vladimir Tatlin

From 1910 he showed work at several avant-garde exhibitions in Russia. In 1914, Tatlin visited Berlin and Paris. He haunted Picasso's studio and on his return to Russia began making a series of abstract *Painted Reliefs*, *Relief Constructions*, and *Corner Reliefs* inspired by Picasso's sculptural experiments.

Female Model



Vladimir Tatlin

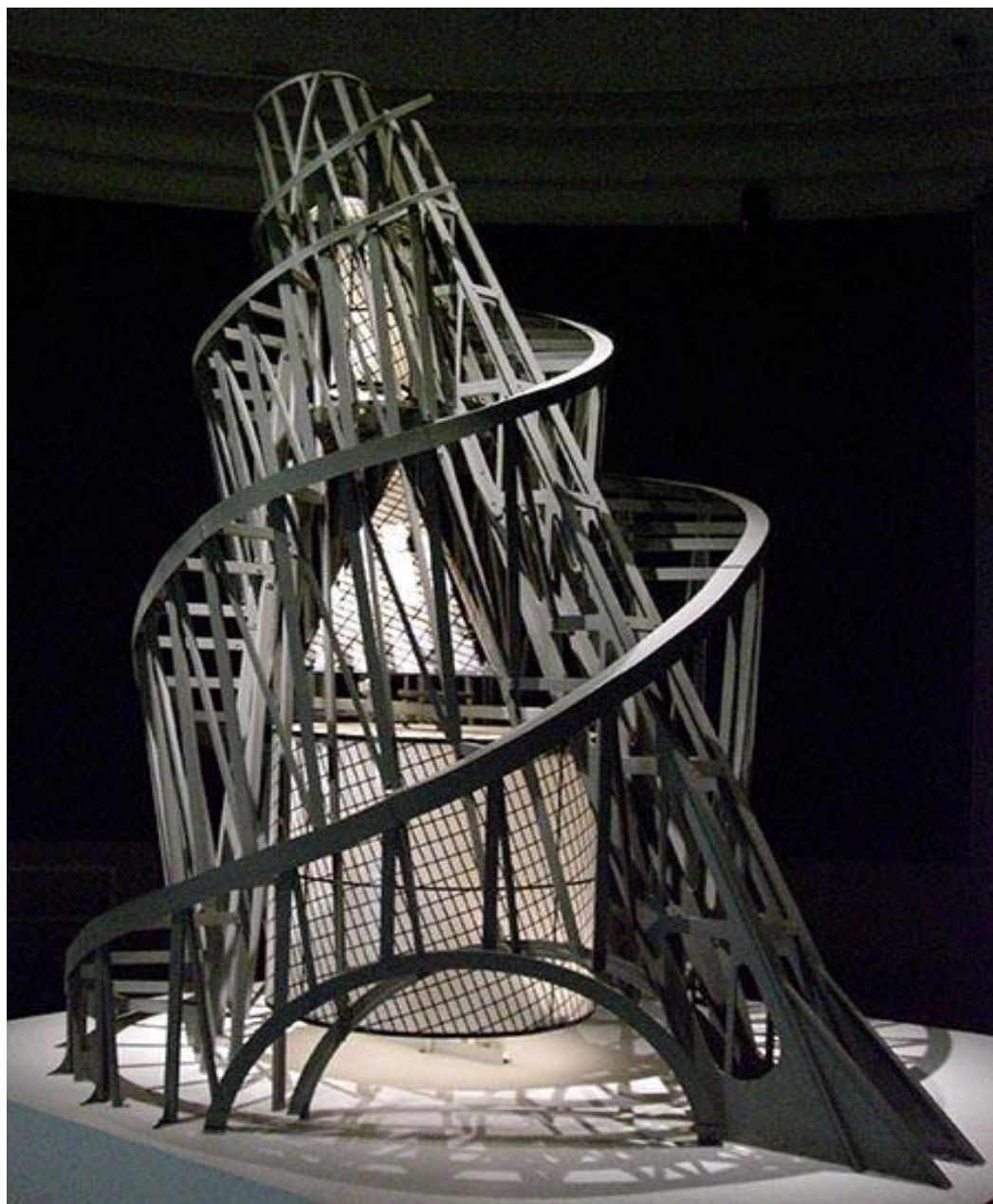
Very few of these revolutionary works survive, most being known only from photographs; it appears that they were made of a variety of materials — tin, glass, wood, plaster, etc.

Vladimir Tatlin

After the October Revolution of 1917, Tatlin's constructions made from 'real materials in real space' were felt to be in accordance with the new 'culture of materials' and he threw himself wholeheartedly into the demand for socially oriented art.

Vladimir Tatlin

In 1919 he was commissioned to design the Monument to the Third International. The huge monument—in the form of a leaning, openwork, spiral tower in iron and glass—was intended for a position in the centre of Moscow.



Vladimir Tatlin

It was to be both functional and symbolic, housing various offices of the revolutionary government and including such features as an immense projector for throwing propaganda images onto clouds. A model was exhibited in December 1920 at the exhibition of the VIIIth Congress of the Soviets.

Vladimir Tatlin

Gabo condemned the design as impracticable and it was never executed (it was intended to be much bigger than the Eiffel Tower), but it is recognized as the outstanding symbol of Soviet Constructivism. The original model has been destroyed, but there is a reconstruction in the Moderna Museet, Stockholm.

Vladimir Tatlin

He was active in teaching and administration, and his own work was mainly in the field of applied art, designing furniture, workers' clothes, etc. In the late 1920s and early 1930s he devoted his energies to designing a glider, which he called *Letatlin*.

Vladimir Tatlin

From the 1930s his main activity was theatre design. Tatlin completed his constructivist stage set and costume designs for [Zangezi](#) for a memorial production in honor of his friend. His later years were spent in lonely obscurity. In 1948 the Communist Party declared him an 'enemy of the people'.

Vladimir Tatlin

Under Socialist Realism he practised mainly stage design (a lifelong vocation), and died in relative obscurity.

Flowerpieces, Still Life

KATERYNA BILOKUR

(December 7, 1900 – June 9, 1961)



KATERYNA BILOKUR

Kateryna Bilokur was born in a peasant family in 1900 in the village of Bohdanivka near Yahotyn. She did not have any education and had to study by herself. She mastered literacy, read a lot and her soul craved for something unattainable.

KATERYNA BILOKUR

She had been very gifted in painting since her childhood. She began painting portraits of her relatives and villagers. In her later works Kateryna would extol a flower — the beauty of the land.

KATERYNA BILOKUR

Her paintings derived from the life-giving source of folk creativity based on songs, legends, tales and decorative arts. She admired the patterns on household utensils, Ukrainian clothes, towels, but her tender poetic soul was mostly charmed by flowers that blossomed around her house, in the gardens, meadows and fields.

Flowers behind the fence



Flowers, apples, tomatoes



Garden Flowers



Bunch of Flowers



KATERYNA BILOKUR

Kateryna Bilokur first exhibited her paintings in Poltava and Kyiv in 1940-41.

She was warmly welcomed by her colleagues — Ukrainian artists and her way to recognition started.

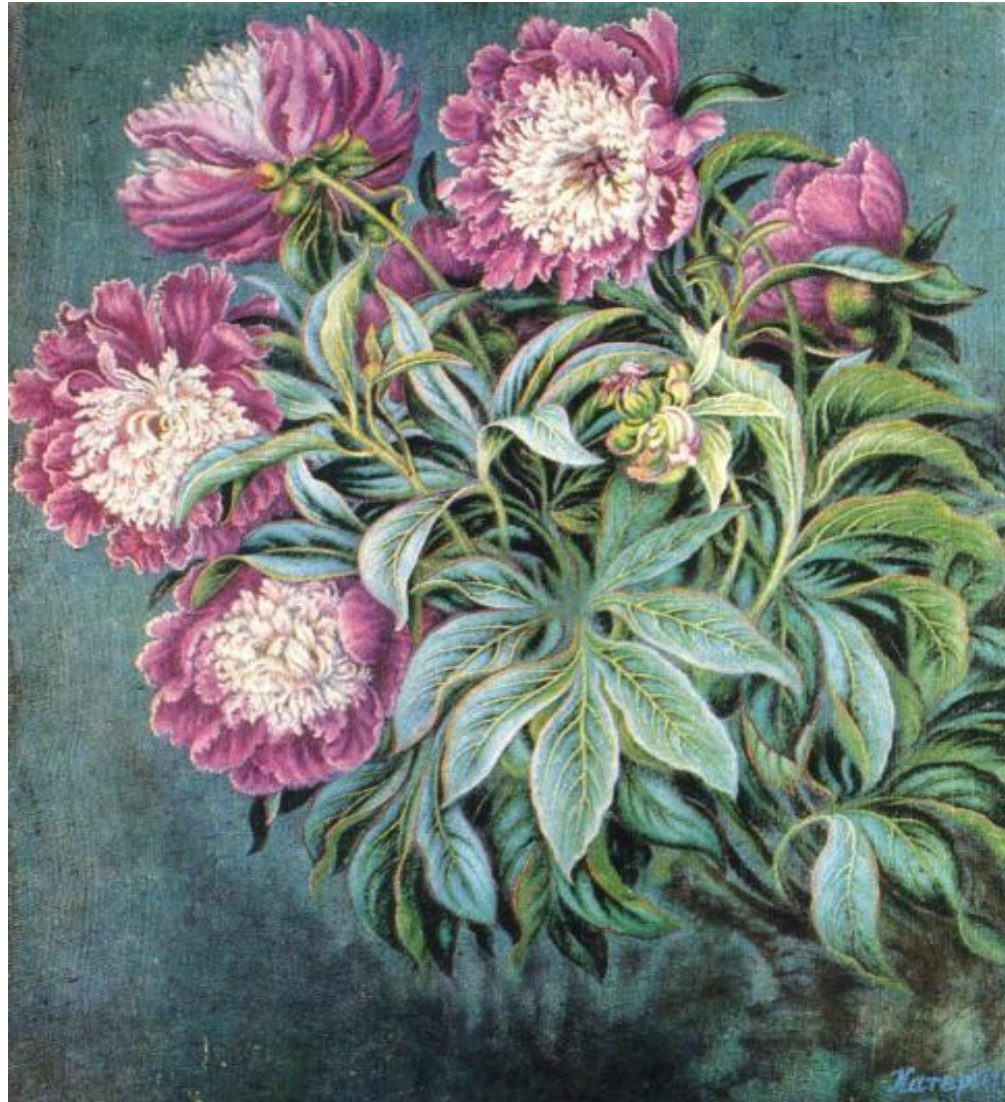
KATERYNA BILOKUR

But the Great Patriotic War began and her eleven paintings were burnt in Poltava museum. She lived through hardships and difficulties of this war. The 1950s saw another raise in her artistic career. Her works were exhibited in Moscow and other cities.

KATERYNA BILOKUR

The public was charmed by her pictures "Peonies", "Still life with bread", "Breakfast", "Flowers and walnuts" and others.

Peonies



Still life with bread



KATERYNA BILOKUR

But a well-known painter
Kateryna Bilokur had lived all her
life in pain and poverty; she did
not have any family or children.
The grave illness tortured her,
besides she had to look after her
sick mother.

KATERYNA BILOKUR

Great fame came later, after her death.

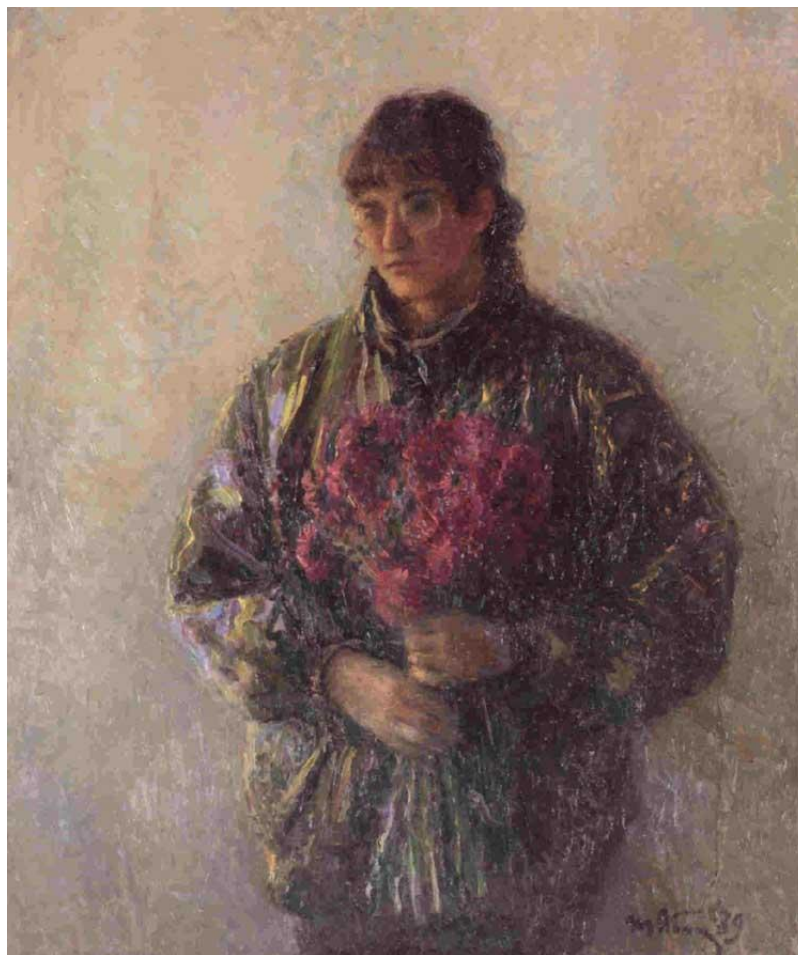
Her works are exhibited in museums in Ukraine and abroad, a picture gallery bearing her name was open in Yahotyn, a street was named after her in Kyiv.

KATERYNA BILOKUR

A lot of books devoted to her life and works are published in many languages. The Bilokur Prize Fund was founded for praising the most talented artists and painters.

Tetyana Nylivna Yablonska

(February 11, 1917 – June 17, 2005)



Tetyana Yablonska



Tetyana Yablonska

Yablonska was born in Smolensk.

She studied at the Kiev State Institute of Art (1941), the studio of Fedir Krychevsky. She worked very productively until the very end of her life, reportedly painting her last pastel etude on the very day of her death.

Tetyana Yablonska

Her early vital pictures are devoted to work and a life of Ukrainian people ("Bread", 1949). She has passed to generalizing images of the nature, differing a subtlety of plastic and color rhythms ("Anonymous heights", 1969; "Flax", 1977).

Tetyana Yablonska

Yablonska's pictures always focused on the everyday life of ordinary people: daily routine scenes, portraits of family members, and self-portraits in a home surrounding.

Rest



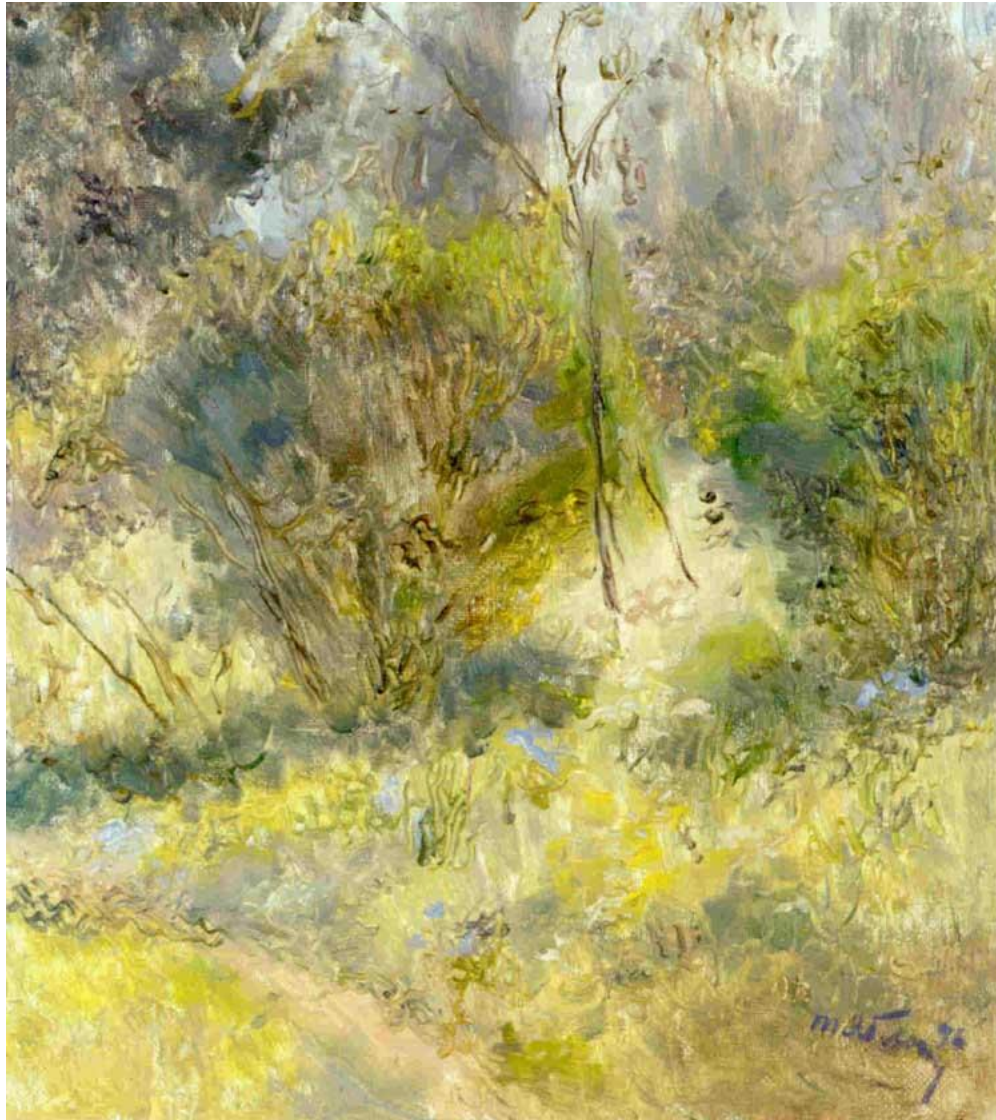
Knitting



Morning



Summer Shining



Tetyana Yablonska

Yet the artist would take a special, unconventional, attitude to what surrounded her. This is reflected in her works: there is nothing artificial or phony in them. They all carry extraordinary warmth and the feeling of being delighted with the world's beauty.

Tetyana Yablonska

Of special interest in the artist's works are colors which speak in unison with other details of the picture but still express something of their own in a special language that only they can speak.

Tetyana Yablonska

They are organic, immaterial, solid and profound. The color conveys the spiritual substance of her works and is their main component.

Snow



May



A Sketch for the Film “Dusya, the Postman”



Tetyana Yablonska

Yablonska was awarded the honorary title "Peoples' Artists of the USSR" in 1982, "Artist of Year" ([UNESCO](#)) in 1997, "Woman of Year" (*International Biography Centre*, [Cambridge](#)) in 2000.

Tetyana Yablonska

She was the winner of the USSR State Prize (Stalin prize: 1949, 1951 and State Prize: 1979), winner of the Schevchenko state prize of Ukraine (1998).

Tetyana Yablonska

She died in Kiev on June 17, 2005.