

Mykhailo Deyak: Recent Works

March 17 to April 2, 2017

Reception for the Artist: Friday, March 17, 6 – 8 PM

The Ukrainian Institute of America 2 East 79th Street New York, NY 10075

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Mykhailo Deyak
Flower IV (From the *Genesis* series)
2016
Paint on metal
47 x 47 x 15 inches.

NEW YORK — Art at the Institute is pleased to announce *Mykhailo Deyak: Recent Works*, a selling exhibition featuring multi-dimensional artworks by Ukrainian artist Mykhailo Deyak, opening at The Ukrainian Institute of America on March 17, 2017 and continues through April 2. Organized in cooperation with Voloshyn Gallery (Kyiv, Ukraine), the exhibition introduces twenty-two paintings and wall constructs by the Kyiv-based artist. Curated by Walter Hoydysh, PhD, director of Art at the Institute, and Max and Julia Voloshyn of Voloshyn Gallery, the exhibition marks the artist's first solo showing with The Ukrainian Institute of America. A reception for the artist will be held on Friday, March 17, from 6:00 to 8:00 PM.

Two groups of artworks will be presented: a series of painted metal wall constructions — *Flowers*, and a suite of paintings on glass — *Space*. Both groups turn to ruminative inquiries and explorations of the literal beginnings of physical creation. In *Flowers*, metallic sheets are formed to suggest floral shapes, but, can also be understood as cosmological suppositions for explosive dispersions – the Big Bang.

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Space reveals brusque pictures painted on glass — a traditional medium used in Transcarpathian practice of glass art iconography — minimalistic landscapes, at times exposing diminished humanoid and vegetative allusions, emphasizing the grandeur and scale of the horizon and beyond.

Natural science and topology make an appearance in the form of surface reference, or, as a formal device. Pared down, color plays an important part as these artworks' compositional makeup. Deyak uses flatly applied and modulated coatings of paint to work with and against the works' physicality, emphasizing and accentuating certain parts, while softening others — all the while making quiet references to the outside world. At this articulation, he fosters a sense of self-containment.



Mykhailo Deyak
Untitled (from the Space series)
2016
Acrylic on glass
59 x 39.25 inches.

Born in Ukraine's Transcarpathian region, Mykhailo Deyak studied at Uzhhorod State Arts and Crafts College (1999 – 2003). In 2003, he enrolled for advanced art studies at the National Academy of Fine Arts and Architecture, in Kyiv. His artworks have been exhibited internationally, and are represented in private and institutional collections in Ukraine, Canada, China, France, Great Britain, Switzerland, and the US. He lives and works in Kyiv, Ukraine.

Mykhailo Deyak's works are featured in Voloshyn Gallery's booth at this season's running of SCOPE Art Show (NYC) held at The Metropolitan Pavilion in Chelsea, March 2–5, 2017.

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Voloshyn Gallery was founded in Kyiv, Ukraine in 2006 by Max and Julia Voloshyn. Its mission is to develop a lively discourse of the current artistic and collecting communities in Ukraine and promote its presence within wider global cultural practices. The gallery represents contemporary artists from Ukraine domestically and abroad, and participates in international art fairs and curated art projects. The gallery serves as a platform for experimentation, research, and social projects for emerging and established artists alike.

About Art at the Institute

Celebrating its sixty-third year, Art at the Institute is the the visual arts programming division of The Ukrainian Institute of America. Since its establishment in 1955, Art at the Institute organizes projects and exhibitions with the aim of providing post-war and contemporary Ukrainian artists a platform for their creative output, presenting it to the broader public on New York's Museum Mile. These heritage projects have included numerous exhibitions of traditional and contemporary art and topical stagings that have become well-received landmark events.

The Ukrainian Institute of America, Inc. is a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting the art, music and literature of Ukraine and the Ukrainian diaspora. It serves both as a center for the Ukrainian-American community and as America's "Window on Ukraine," hosting art exhibits, concerts, film screenings, poetry readings, literary evenings, children's programs, lectures, symposia, and full educational programs, all open to the public. Founded in 1948 by William Dzus, inventor, industrialist, and philanthropist, The Ukrainian Institute is permanently housed in the Fletcher-Sinclair mansion at 2 East 79th Street and Fifth Avenue. The building is designated as a National Historic Landmark and protected as a contributing element of the New York Metropolitan Museum Historic District.

Exhibition hours: Tuesday to Sunday, 12-6pm, or by appointment.

For further information: Please contact Olena Sidlovych, Executive Director, at (212) 288-8660, or mail@ukrainianinstitute.org.

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