

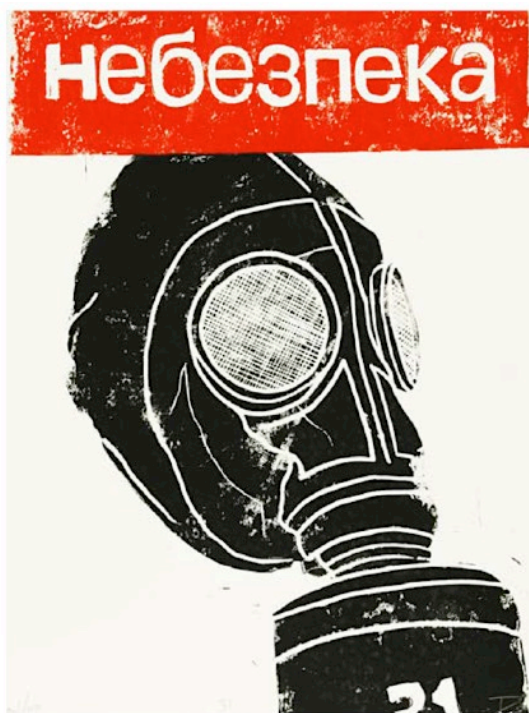
Chornobyl: Artists Respond

April 7 – 30, 2017

Opening Reception: Friday, April 7, 6 – 8 PM

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

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Dominic Sansone

31, 2015

Linocut

15 x 11 inches

Edition of 40, signed and numbered by the artist

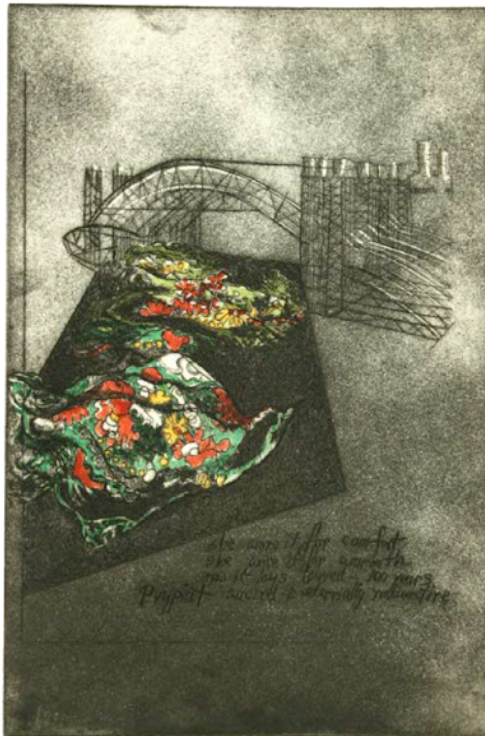
Printed by the artist on Revere Silk fine art paper

NEW YORK — Art at the Institute in cooperation with The Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art (UIMA) in Chicago is pleased to present *Chornobyl: Artists Respond*, a special exhibition of original prints commemorating the thirty-first anniversary of the Chornobyl nuclear power plant disaster. Organized by Walter Hoydysh, PhD, Curator and Director of Art at the Institute, and Stanislav Grezdo, Curator at the UIMA, the exhibition includes thirty works on paper by thirty selected artists from the Chicago metropolitan area. Opening on April 7, 2017, the exhibition will remain on view through April 30. An opening reception will take place on Friday, April 7, from 6:00 to 8:00 PM.

On April 26, 1986, Reactor no. 4 of the Chornobyl nuclear power plant in Prypiat, Ukraine exploded, resulting in the worst peace-time nuclear disaster the world has ever witnessed. Two plant workers died on the night of the accident, and another 28 people, including first responders, died within a few weeks as a direct result of acute radiation poisoning.

The World Health Organization stated that a total of up to 4,000 people could eventually die of radiation exposure and thousands others from cancer related illness due to the Chernobyl disaster.

Even after numerous years of scientific research and government investigation, there are still many unanswered questions about the Chernobyl accident — particularly regarding the long-term health impact that the massive radiation leak has on those who were exposed, their offspring, and the environmental after-effects on generations to come.



Lialia Kuchma

Prypiat, 2015

Etching with hand applied color

15 x 11 inches

Edition of 40, signed and numbered by the artist

Printed by the artist on Revere Silk fine art paper

On the occasion of the disaster's thirtieth anniversary in 2016, the UIMA commissioned a fine art print project with an accompanying exhibition titled, *Chornobyl: Artists Respond* (April 1 – May 29, 2016, UIMA, Chicago).

The UIMA invited thirty Chicago-based artists to participate in the project — each artist to create an original print in an edition of forty. The prints shown in this exhibition reflect a long history and tradition of utilizing the graphic arts to reflect and communicate socio-political messages and issues of historical and contemporary importance. Coming from diverse cultural, ethnic and social backgrounds, the artists commissioned were challenged to address the project deliberating on their personal and global observations and judgements, with subsequent interpretation of the Chernobyl disaster.

The resulting artworks illustrate a range of motifs and themes, from scenes of the Chernobyl plant accident site and its immediate aftermath, to commentary on its current state and weighty correlation to other worldwide nuclear risks and accidents.



The artists' viewpoints are as varied as the means they employed in the execution of their prints, from traditional relief, intaglio, lithographic, and screenprint techniques, to methods of additive coloring and material applications.

While the exhibition and the portfolio are composed of a multitude of unique voices and perspectives, they are all united in a collective tribute. Though the Chernobyl accident occurred 31 years ago, what's demonstrably clear is that the disaster and its memory are just as potent today as the time of the catastrophic accident.

The *Chernobyl: Artists Respond* portfolio was published by The Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art in an edition of 40. Each portfolio contains 30 original prints by 30 artists. All works in the portfolio were printed by the artists in 2015 on Revere Silk fine art paper, signed and numbered. Each sheet measures 15 x 11 inches.

A fully-illustrated catalog was designed and produced by Stanislav Grezdo in conjunction with this exhibition.

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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