

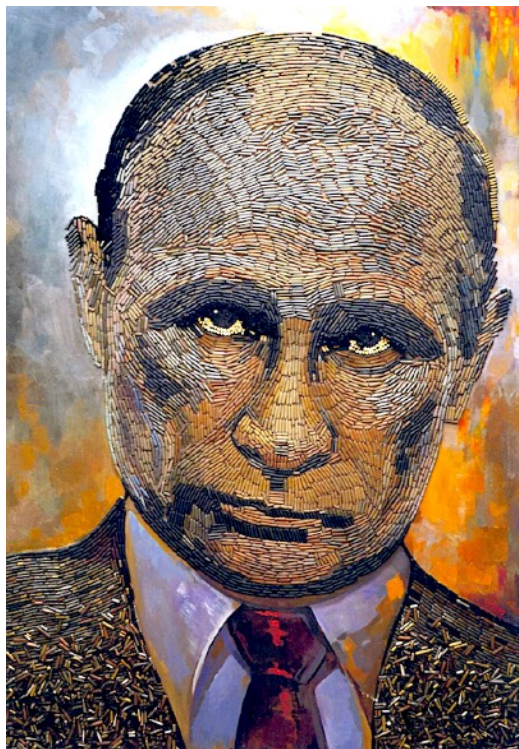
Daria Marchenko and Daniel Green: *Five Elements of War*

January 25 – February 4, 2018

Reception and artists' presentation: Thursday, January 25, 6:00 – 8:00 PM

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

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NEW YORK, NY — Art at the Institute is pleased to host *Five Elements of War*, an installation of multi-media artworks by Ukrainian artist-activists Daria Marchenko and Daniel Green. The exhibition opens on Thursday, January 25, 2018 with an artist talk and reception from 6:00 – 8:00 PM, and continues through February 4. Sponsored and presented by Raymond F. Staples, Esq., *Five Elements of War* was arranged and organized for display by Walter Hoydysh, PhD, director of Art at the Institute. It marks the artists' first public showing with The Ukrainian Institute of America in New York City.

The five process-heavy artworks on exhibit probe Marchenko and Green's critical commentary and reaction to the causes, turmoil and consequences of the ongoing Russian military aggression and war waged in eastern Ukraine — the largest military conflict in Europe since World War II which has, to date, claimed more than 10,000 military and civilian lives. Both artists took part in the 2014 uprising against the country's Russian-backed regime, known as the Maidan Revolution, and witnessed the tragic killing of friends and fellow supporters on the streets of Kyiv, Ukraine's capital city.

“*Five Elements of War* offers an ‘in your face,’ frank, first-hand view of the impact of Russia's military aggression and propaganda on Ukrainian society and culture,” said Dr. Hoydysh. “We hope it gives audiences a deeper understanding of the conflict and its ramifications, not just in Europe but also here in the U.S.”

The exhibition's signature piece, the seven-foot high “The Face of War” (2015), unapologetically depicts the figure behind the calculated conflict in Ukraine — Russian president Vladimir Putin. It is composed of five thousand bullet casings gathered at the battlefield in Donbas. Depending on the play of light in the

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exhibition space, the “mood” of the piece alters. The “portrait” intends to unveil a wide spectrum of multi-sensory and visceral emotions, all the while emphasizing developing socio-political complexities, Russian propaganda and lies generated of the conflict, and generalities of human nature in the time of war.

The remainder of the series consists of the following artworks: “The Brain of War,” “The Flesh of War,” “The Heart of War,” and “Honor.” Each work speaks to a unique and deep-seated aspect of the war, but is, at the same time, conceptually linked to the other pieces, forming an overall thematic composition throughout the space of the installation.

Daria Marchenko hails from Kyiv, Ukraine, where she attended and graduated from the Kyiv National University of Technologies and Design. Her artworks have been exhibited in Ukraine, Western Europe and the Middle East. A successful commercial artist, Ms. Marchenko is most known for her involvement as an advocate for public art in Ukraine, and the creation of both interior and exterior wall murals in over thirty countries. **Daniel Green** is a Ukraine-born painter, sculptor, and installation artist. He is a graduate of the Kyiv State Secondary Art School of Painting, and a member of the Professional Union of Artists of Ukraine. He has participated in numerous group and solo exhibitions in Ukraine and abroad.

Five Elements of War was previously exhibited at M17 Gallery (Kyiv), the Rayburn House Office Building (Washington, D.C.), and, most recently at The Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art (Chicago).

Exhibition hours: Tuesday to Sunday, 12:00 – 6:00 PM, or by appointment.

Media contact: Patrick Kowalczyk and Jenny Chang at PKPR, (212) 627-8098.

Image: Daria Marchenko and Daniel Green, *The Face of War*, 2015, 94½ x 67 inches, oil, acrylic and shell casings on board.

This exhibition was made possible with the generous support of Raymond F. Staples, Esq., Self-Reliance NY Federal Credit Union and JRS Management Co.

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About Art at the Institute

Celebrating its sixty-fourth year of activity, **Art at the Institute** is 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.