

Irenaeus and Dorian Yurchuk

Peripheral Visions

February 21 – March 8, 2020

Opening reception for the artists: Friday, February 21, 6:00 to 8:00 PM

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

tel (212) 288-8660 | www.ukrainianinstitute.org



NEW YORK — **Art at the Institute** is pleased to announce *Peripheral Visions*, an exhibition of mixed-media artworks by familial artists **Irenaeus and Dorian Yurchuk**, exploring extreme visions of architectonic and topographic ruminations in the two- and three-dimension. The exhibition opens February 21 and will continue through March 8, 2020. Curated by Walter Hoydysh, PhD, Director of Art at the Institute, this marks the artists' first showing with **The Ukrainian Institute of America (UIA)**. An opening reception for the artists and presentation will take place on Friday, February 21 from 6:00 to 8:00 PM.

The dense matrix that occupies Irenaeus Yurchuk's paintings appears both constructed and organic. Like the cultural and historical architecture they evoke, these vague photomechanical records have grown from some originating seed into a pulsating mass whose boundaries are indeterminate and fluctuating. While his approach is characterized by a modernist recombination of photographic fragments into wholly abstract combinations, Irenaeus Yurchuk augments his surfaces with chromatic paint media and other materials to engineer a detailed diagrammatic figuration. The final effect proves a stunning pastiche of image, pattern, color and texture.

In contrast to his father, Dorian Yurchuk develops rituals of his own, creating objects, reliefs and illustrations that operate between painting and sculpture, and further establish new realms for visual exploration. Multi-layered in their direct and indirect intents, these works are resonant with Yurchuk's occupational and perceptual past, incorporating objects and remnants from the building trade and using these elemental materials to create works imbued with a poetic spirit residing between order and chaos, creation and destruction.

Autonomous from but parallel to his objects, Dorian's grander two-dimensional compositions are created as turbulent renderings by an inveterate outdoorsman responding to topographies from above and below,

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both real and imagined. Abstracting these encounters into idiosyncratic forms and intense colors, his illustrations and paintings ultimately capture his sense of wonder with the ebb and flow of the natural world.



Born in Ukraine during the Second World War, Irenaueus Yurchuk grew up in Central New York State. He earned an architectural degree from The Cooper Union School of Art and Architecture as well as a graduate degree in urban design and planning from Columbia University. He worked professionally as an urban planner until 2010, when he turned to art full-time. His creative work includes drawing, painting, graphic design, photography and film making. He has participated in group exhibitions in North America and Europe, including a recent solo show at the Delaware Valley Arts Alliance Gallery in Upstate New York. His artworks are held in private collections in the U.S. and abroad.

Dorian Yurchuk studied architecture at The Cooper Union and McGill University, and practices in the area of historic restoration and preservation. His paintings, drawings and sculpures have been exhibited at the Delaware Valley Arts Alliance and group exhibitions at Grazhda Music and Art Center of Greene County and Université du Québec à Montréal.

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

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

Images:

First page: Irenaueus Yurchuk, *Drohobych Church*, 2019, mixed media on canvas, 30 x 24 in.

This page: Dorian Yurchuk, *River*, 2019, acrylic and graphite on wood, 24 x 54 in. (3-panels, 24 x18 in. each)

About Art at the Institute

Celebrating its sixty-sixth 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 postwar 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, modern and contemporary art, and topical stagings that have become well-received public landmark events.

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