

Yuri Khymych: Embodying Architectural Reality

What could be more relaxing at the end of the working day than being distracted from all your problems and plunged into the world of great art?

"Nothing", probably thought those who came to appreciate the latest art exhibition organized by the American Chamber of Commerce in conjunction with ARTEast. But this was more than just an art exhibition, this was a chance to enjoy Ukraine's most outstanding architectural monuments.

On Friday, September 28, the AmCham offices in Horizon Towers opened their doors to present a new exquisite collection, entitled "Ukraine's Architectural Masterpieces", by the great master Yuri Khymych.

The artist was born in 1928 in the town of Kamianets-Podilsky. Years later, he entered the faculty of architecture at the Kyiv Construction Institute. Inspired by the masters, Yuri began to develop his artistic skills, and although the faculty program included many technical and design courses, for him, the most interesting were the drawing and painting sessions. Still, architecture has remained the main theme of his works.

Khymych has been devoting his talent and work to the reproduction of architectural monuments for most of his life. Following his muse, Yuri Khymych traveled all over

Ukraine, capturing the sights in his memory and then embodying them into his works. Kyiv's churches, the Renaissance architecture of Lviv, and wooden churches throughout Ukraine... nothing slipped his attention. He has painted continuously, at all times and under all circumstances, regardless of artistic trends or the possibility of remuneration.

His paintings speak clearly and colorfully, and besides Ukraine's architectural masterpieces, they also express the subtlety and magnitude of Khymych's emotions and feelings to the genius of the Ukrainian people.

The artist prefers gouache and watercolor as his main painting media. His perfected technique is used to its best advantage in his highly evocative works, which have been published in many prestigious monographs and albums, receiving praise from many outstanding personalities, including Mr. Miller, former U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine.

After a successful exhibition showing 100 works, which took place in June 2001 in Washington, Yuri Khymych kindly loaned his artworks including monotypes, watercolors, and gouaches on paper for this fabulous exhibition. Don't miss the opportunity of exploring Ukraine's architectural masterpieces during the next two months!

By Daria Pirogova



"Kamianets-Podilsky: View of the Fortress from the South"