



Ukrainian ceramic and craft

Exhibition Stand of Ukrainian design at Expo Maison et Objet, Paris

March 24-28

Hall 5A, stand M44

Nowadays Ukraine put the world in awe of unimaginable courage, fierce resistance, and striving for Freedom which equals Life for each of us.

At the beginning, our initial aim preparing this project, was to amaze the people by the things about Ukraine, such as talent, freedom of creativity, mastery of work with natural materials, modern-day thinking and love for native land and traditions.

A different story is now behind each art object. Currently, all artists left their studios and offices to contribute to the course of Ukraine Victory working as volunteers.

Ukraine was caught by the war during the time of true renaissance... like barbarian raid This renaissance stemmed from search of the connection with its roots, desire to show cultural and historic layers of sense in contemporary objects.

Design also attempted to “translate” cultural “codes” into the modern-day language understandable around the world and created the object of exceptional beauty and esthetics.

We were in constant search of the answer to the question: What is Ukrainian design?

Now we seem to find the answer. It is a new matter, with a distinct feature of Freedom of creativity, love for the native land and modern-day thinking, and holistic understanding of interconnections and interactions. That is why Ukrainian design is so diverse, yet always living and genuine.

Every art object presented today is a vivid example. We were fortunate to manage to bring some exhibits to Paris just before the war. Some of them are displayed in the gallery of Ukrainian design and ceramics in Paris, Galerie Sana Moreau.

The war will be over soon. So, we hope that Ukrainian designers and artists will be back to their work. Buying and filling your homes and projects with wonderful creations of Ukrainian design and craft will be your meaningful contribution and help to the artists to continue their work.

We suggest that you look at these art objects from a different perspective now. Each time buying something from a Ukrainian designer you will get the feel of priceless spirit of freedom that is engraved in every object.

Project Curators: Anastasiya Biletska and Sana Moro

Maino Design Ukraine, Maino Design France

Organizers: Maino Design Ukraine, Maino France

With the support of Ukrainian Embassy and Ukrainian Culture Center in France

Project Partner: Galerie Sana Moreau

Signature Style Valentyna Dvornik

EXHIBITION PARTICIPANTS:

Anna Prysiuda

The designer who creates objects as a system which incorporates the human, nature, feelings and impressions. The creator of **Sustainable Materia Store**- the marketplace of sustainable local materials and the community of designers and manufacturers.

« I am collecting stories and images in my memory; then I use this collection of memories to craft the objects with their own story. I believe, they represent a strong bond between the object and its owner. I add some “flavors” natural materials in original interpretation to enhance this bond. I like scuffs and signs of time.»

Ikebana 2021 – hanger lamp

Materials : «flowers» - wood (ash tree), «kenzan» - metal.

Functional features: touch button “flower head” to turn on/off/ dimmer. Each flower can be turned on and off separately.

Designer: Anna Prysiuda

Artist: Yevhen Kanchukovskiy

[@anna_prysiuda](https://www.instagram.com/anna_prysiuda)

Diduh

Diduh – is a unique studio where they work with “lost and restored” wood. Each object from **Diduh** is several- hundred-year history which can last for another three hundred thanks to transformation. Touching the décor or furniture from this wood you, for sure, will feel the beauty, depth and mystery of the object.

«We are granting the third life to the wood we use: first it was a tree growing for 100-150 years, then it became a structure: house, shed, bridge. The structure lasted for another 100-200 years. We are looking for such old structures during our special expeditions. Then our artists clean, treat, dry the wood and transform it to the object of interior, which is going to serve the owner for more hundreds of years”— Dmytro Obrizan, creative director and co-owner of the studio.

Coffee table “Bridge”

Materials : wood (oak tree) from the antique bridge which used to connect two settlements in Central Ukraine.

Designers : Dmytro Obrizan, Artem Vasyliiev

Artist :Yuriy Abarovskiy

@diduh.design

GUCULIYA.TINI. Collection of ceramics and textile

The limited collection of black hand-made ceramics Guculia.Tini from the designer (Danuta Kril.). Every object is with the unique, almost lost, pottery technique preserved only in one region of western Ukraine (Havarechchyna). Black “smoky” ceramics is made in an authentic mud stove with firewood, as it was more than 100 years ago. Smoke absorbs in the clay, oxidizes it and colors it in black. Only a handful of craftsmen to date are working in “havarechchyna” technique named after the region where it is still preserved.

“ I was inspired by the unique pottery traditions of the western region of Ukraine where I am coming from. This method is more than 100 years old and was almost lost under the soviet power. There were only few craftsmen left in the 80s, but now the so called “smoky ceramics” is being revived, as it is presented in this collection.”- Danuta Kril, designer.

Minimalistic forms of the handicrafts inherit the elements of ancient symbolism. Every element also requires a great mastery of the craftsman to achieve laconic geometrical forms. Incorporating modern design to crafts technology, the studio revives a disappearing pottery technique and creates décor objects for contemporary interiors.

The black table cloth is an ideal addition to the ceramics collection. Together, they create an emotionally and visually completed composition pleasant to touch. Rusticality of dining table setting is achieved through the black color of natural fabric, and minimalistic ornaments—solar symbols and tree of life, decoration pompons from natural wool, and hand embroidery elements.

An unusual black color creates a festive atmosphere and illuminates the dishes colors.

Materials: ceramics, natural linen, wool yarn, hand embroidery

Designer: Danuta Kril

Craftsmen: Mykola Bida, Olesya Kovtyk

@guculia/

Gushka

Gushka * — Ukrainian studio of woolen goods.

Gushka — an attempt to preserve, rethink traditions and allow to experience them

“Everything started from the time with our grandmoms and grandpas. We loved listening to their stories. They would sit on the benches in the front yard and start singing and telling stories how the mountains looked like before. They treated us with warm milk, “wrapped us up” with legends and folktales and we were inheriting those traditions. Our goal now is not to lose this heritage. The studio applies traditional worsted weaving technique for rugs and blankets, and ring spinning frame for carpets. Every handicraft is hand-love-made.

Gushka does not harm the nature, rather it cooperates with it. The goods are made of wool, woven on home looms, felted in Carpathian waters and dried in mild mountain air.

Gushka does not fear time. Due to ancient methods of weaving and whole organic nature, our goods are super durable.”– Daryna Furmanyuk, studio founder and designer.

Materials and techniques: natural hand-treated wool, traditional hand weaving

www.gushka.com.ua

Mapico

Debut collection of Mapico studio includes; an arm-chair, puff and collection of natural wool rugs and pillows. This is the wool from “happy sheep” grazing quietly in the Carpathians, ecologically clean mountain region of Ukraine.

This is studio designer Mariia Puliaieva’s first attempt to use home woven textile for furniture. This textile is made on antique looms. After the process is over, the tapestry is washed in the mountain river. Wooden parts of furniture are hand made from ash tree and coated with natural substances to preserve authentic color and texture of wood.

Collaboration between designer Mariia Puliaieva and traditional craftsmen resulted in this modern in design and ecologically friendly collection. The project let preserve and revive this traditional craft. The technology has not changed for hundreds of years and it manifests sustainability of manufacturing, hand labor and use of natural materials.

Arm-chair, puff and pillows from Mapico collection

Author: Mariia Puliaieva

Materials and techniques: wool yarn, ash tree, hemp fabric

@the.mapico

Olga Radionova

The artist from Kyiv, Ukraine. She has an art degree and experience in sculpture and painting. In 2014, she created a technique of soft sculpture, which became her signature. Olga works with various types of fabric, artificial and genuine leather combining them with wood, ceramics and metal. She participated in more than 30 exhibitions and fairs in Ukraine and EU among which are Paris Design Week, Ukrainian Design Days, Ukrainian Art Week. She has 11 personal exhibitions.

«Soft sculpture technique originates from an experiment. I began as a sculptor working with bronze and wood. Later I decided to test other materials. Once, I had to make a sculpture light enough to be hanged. That was the beginning of my experimenting with upcycle fabric. In my work I use various types of fabric; their features always prompt me the form and shape of a future element of the creation. I make the base for soft sculptures from wood, clay or papier mache adding the necessary decorative elements after. I handmake from ten to several hundred soft elements for each sculpture».

Work from the series "The Tree of Life".

Materials: wood (125-year-old oak-tree), metal, fabric

“ To create this series, I was inspired by the wood which happened to get to my studio. It was a 150-year-old oak tree log. Working with it I kept wondering: how much has this tree experienced and witnessed in its lifetime? I made sculptures in which this aged wood is the centerpiece, an allegory of the past. Soft fabric details symbolizing the future are as if growing from this center. Combination of materials as well as combination of time periods is the symbol of succession and evolution”

Sculptor: **Olga Radionova**

[@olga_nova_art](#)

WOOD MOOD

A family-owned studio of wooden design founded by Andrii and Anastasiia Burzi. The artists find inspiration in creating new objects from unexpected combinations of natural materials following the principles of sustainable manufacture to show their natural beauty.

Every collection of decorative candles has its distinctive features. Collection Rocky preserves carefully hand peeled textured bark. Collection Ubud is crafted from a polished wood with natural history unfolded in chimerical patterns and holes from insects. Volcano is not painted: it is treated with fire, cleaned from the ash in black and coated with bee wax to create the effect of frozen in time charcoal.

Black Illusions Line – a new collection of the blackest candles with deep aroma of rare essential oils. Black as charcoal, they are treated with fire and wax to achieve perfect exquisite matt surface. As all WOOD MOOD candles, they are also reusable with changing cartridges to be easily charged for long sustainable use.

Designers and craftsmen: Andrii Burzi and Anastasiia Burzi

Materials and techniques: natural wood, bee wax, essential oils.

mywoodmood.com

ZEMNA

Zemna is a studio of interior and object design with a ceramic workshop; it is the family of artists Tetiana Krasutska and Andriy Mykhaliak .

The studio was expected to present a ceramic installation ROZMOVA (“Dialogue” at the exhibition, but they could not make it to Paris before the war. We deliberately leave the

description of the installation and use ROZMOVA on the project posters claiming their participation even without physical presence.

Installation ROZMOVA (ceramic dishes set) –utility set of dishes which transformed into décor object after you collect and connect all parts. “ We are in love with ceramics for many years and enjoy the process of creation and interaction with the material. This installation project is about making parts from special templates together with one of the kind handmade elements.”- Tetiana Krasutska.

Material – white clay, white and black glaze, mixed technique, hand modeling.

Authors: Tetiana Krasutska, Andriy Mykhaliak

<https://www.zemna.design>

Natura Ceramica

The founders of Natura Ceramica studio Andriy and Olesya met in Lviv National Art Academy. For 20 years, this ceramic duet has been making the best pottery combining traditional regional approaches with their own techniques. Andriy does not only make ceramics, he is also a famous sculptor, who likes to experiment with materials. He participated in many exhibitions.

The artists are very much fond of travelling, watching the nature and showing bionic forms in their collections. They experiment with materials and textures following and rethinking the nature. The exhibits at the expo are two vases from GONTA collection: ceramics is naturally mixed with wooden elements fixed according to the principles of traditional roofs of Carpathian houses GONTA. Oak tree wood from old houses is used in inlay.

Collection of vases GONTA

Materials: ceramics, wood (oak tree)

Craftsmen: Andriy and Olesya Voznytski

Empathy ceramics

...The time signs on the stone....old walls with mold and fungus which become part of nature when life is penetrating the stone and pronounce itself under humidity. Incredible patterns and combination of colors and textures—this is the true source of inspiration for the artist Lada Donchenko.

Lada Donchenko continuously experiments with chemical composition of glazes and components following chimera patterns emerging on stone surfaces when exposed to time, water, wind and other nature powers. To create interior and utility ceramic objects the artist again and again plays out ancient scenarios of creation: interaction of humans with material, material with elements, fantasy, proficiency, lucky chance, intuitive experiments.

Every object is created through interaction of four elements: earth, water, fire and air. Skilled human hands just shape it.

Collection of interior vases Empathy ceramics

Author: Lada Donchenko

Materials: ceramics, author's techniques

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