



## Orly Donates His Painting



While in Toronto in April, artist Victor Orly (right) donated his painting "Bridge of Unity" to the Shevchenko Museum. Also in the photo is Consul Anatoliy Oliynyk of the Ukrainian Consulate in Toronto.

In a presentation on April 23 an outstanding Ukrainian artist from France, Victor Orly (Gennadi Grebniov), donated his pastel "Bridge of Unity" to the Shevchenko Museum.

Victor Orly was in Toronto to take part in Toronto Art Expo 2012, which took place in the Toronto Metro Convention Centre on April 19–22.

It was a great pleasure to meet the artist, a proud Ukrainian who came all the way from Marcel, France, to show his beautiful paintings — a harmonic synthesis of Ukrainian traditional art and modern neoimpressionist trends — to the multicultural public of Toronto.

There was a special atmosphere, created by his art, at Victor Orly's exhibition booth. One got a feeling of immense azure of the sea and the sky, the magic of rocky shores and bays, the beauty of pristine forest, and the poetry of old architectural structures.

Painted in the style of impressionism, the artist's works radiate sun, light, and a special energy that connects Ukraine, where Victor was born and raised, and France, where he has lived for the past eight years.

Gennadi Grebniov was born in Kyrovohrad, Ukraine, in 1962. He graduated from art school and Kyrovohrad Pedagogical



Autumn Song (oil on canvas)

University.

Living and working in a new country, Gennadi took an art pseudonym, Victor Orly. This name has a symbolic meaning for the artist. It is connected with the name of Pylyp Orlyk, a Kossak colonel and a founder of the first European constitution. It is believed that the small town near Paris is named after Pylyp Orlyk's son Hryhory Orlyk, a colonel in the French army.

The artist's favorite field of activity is pictorial art, especially motifs of romantic landscapes. His paintings reflect a world filled with poetry and beauty. His brush strokes are full of energy, emotions and feelings. There is a combination of time and space, imagination and memories, dreams and fantasies, ideas and harmonies. The paintings' palette evokes deep emotions. Nature and man, the land and the sky, the sea and the sun, history and modern times — these are the codes that represent the creative concept of the artist: to express his striving for harmony, perfection and love.

A great nature lover and romantic by nature, Victor often addresses the genre of still life. Flowers blossom in his paintings. Bright, vociferous colours inspire the artist, opening a vast space for creativity. Along with their light and warmth, Victor's paintings are also philosophical. By using historic retrospectives, the artist induces the audience to think deeply about our common human values.

His new ideas of using cinematographic elements, means of photography and sculpture, combination of different details and special colour scale contribute to the expressiveness of his paintings, giving almost a physical feeling of the extensionality of things, rhythm and movement.

Victor Orly actively participates in the cultural life of Ukraine. He founded Capital, an association for cultural relations between France and Ukraine, which promotes the exchange of art exhibitions between the two countries.

Victor also does ceramics, interior and exterior wall paintings, church restorations, and book design. Over the last five years Victor has participated in more than 30 art exhibitions around the world.

Victor Orly's art works are in museums and numerous private collections in France, Italy, Ukraine, Russia, Poland, the Netherlands, China, and the USA. Now, a beautiful pastel, "Bridge of Unity", found its home in the art gallery of the Shevchenko Museum in Toronto.

We heartily thank the artist for his generous donation, and wish him inexhaustible energy, new creative ideas and powers, appreciative audiences and many great successes.



Jazz (oil on canvas)



The Blue Telephone (oil on canvas)



Under the Southern Sun (oil on canvas)

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