

Pysanka – Traditional Ukrainian Easter Egg Painting – FREE

Workshops:

3-4 Mar 1-3pm

Artplay, Birrarung Marr, next to Fed Square

24 Mar 9-1pm

Ukrainian Museum

35 Canning St, North Melbourne

Exhibition:

Apr 1, 7 & 15 12.30-3pm

Ukrainian Museum

The art of creating Ukrainian pysanky (from the word pysaty - to write) has been handed down from generation to generation. Decorated eggs were intimately related to the greeting of spring, the decorated egg represented life winning over death, spring over winter. The symbolism of the pysanka has brought hope happiness and protection to the Ukrainians for many centuries. The designs on pysanky are, for the most part, geometric, with some plant and animal forms. The most prevalent and recognised motif is the stylised symbol of the sun. Endless lines symbolise eternity, while images of animal and bird figures represent fertility and strength. The introduction of Christianity to Ukraine brought with it such elements as the cross, fish and images of churches.

Julia Mazur, Hanya Kornitschuk and Tamara Moravski have been decorating pysanky since they were children. They have had their work displayed at the National Gallery of Victoria where they have also done demonstrations. Each year, their knowledge and skills are passed on through workshops for children of all ages in the Ukrainian community, in public libraries and festivals around Victoria. Come along and learn about this age-old tradition in free workshops and an exhibition to display the work created.

Bookings: 9664 7900