

## 125th Anniversary Edition Pysanka Mosaic Art Piece Series "Steppes of Ukraine"



In celebrating the 125th anniversary of Ukrainian immigration to Canada, Winnipeg Ukrainian artist David Wasylyshen –“Pysanka Mosaic” has created and donated a 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Edition of his popular art piece series “Steppes of Ukraine”.

David creates incredible unique art pieces using hundreds of pieces of Pysanky (Ukrainian Easter Egg) shells into three-dimensional one of a kind framed glass mosaic pictures. The Pysanka Mosaic is the result of a very long and unique creative process that preserves and expresses yet another form of the treasured pysanka art. The Pysanka Mosaic is a new contemporary way of preserving and displaying the ancient cultural traditional Ukrainian easter egg into a whole new dimension.

David’s family roots (on fathers side) originates in Saskatchewan, the Gorlitz-Canora area. His late father

Ted Wasylyshen was born and raised in the Gorlitz area and was the actual founder of the Pysanka Mosaic back in 1993 before passing away in 1995.

Having the opportunity to travel to Ukraine approximately 25 years ago with my late father was special, coming from an agricultural background I was fascinated with lands, the Steppes, fertile productive wheat fields, Carpathian foothills and mountains, the numerous older churches along the way and the Dneiper River that we hear so much from past poets, song, and folklore and in particular a fabulous sunset we both experienced in the Chernivtsi Oblast-region.

In creating this unique art piece, I wanted to combine traditional and contemporary into an unique art piece depicting the lands of Ukraine-The Steppes from where many Ukrainians immigrated from to where they settled in the Prairies-western Canada. But yet in back of my mind, noting, thinking of the similarities that I have experienced in my life to date in western Canada, the productive wheat fields in Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Alberta, the foothills and mountains in Alberta, the Red, Assiniboine, Roseau, White Sand and Bow rivers not to mention the numerous small Ukrainian churches in numerous rural areas in which many are still standing today. And let’s not forget some of the fabulous fall harvest sunsets we get in western Canada !

The 125th Anniversary Edition “Steppes of Ukraine” incorporates real pysanky shell pieces that portray the rolling plains in the Steppes, the fertile rolling fields of golden wheat, a church in the Carpathian hills and mountains, the Dneiper River running through the lands and the sun setting with the start of sunset over the Steppes of Ukraine, all in fused clear glass. Each art piece created is an original, a numbered series with no prints or reproductions ever made.

In 2010, David was selected as one of nine emerging artists from the Prairie Provinces. David’s work is currently displayed and in numerous private and corporate art collections in nearly every Canadian province, United States, Singapore, Japan, Beijing and Hong Kong.

David’s donated art piece will be available for the 125th Anniversary celebrations at the XXV UCC National Triennial Congress, held in Regina, September 30 - October 2, 2016. Additional 125th Anniversary Editions of his art series “Steppes of Ukraine” will be available for sale in which \$125 from each art piece sold will be donated back to the Ukrainian Canadian Congress.

*“Unbelievable unique pieces of artwork considering the media Dave has used and how he has incorporated a traditional form of Ukrainian art that can be displayed into a contemporary fashion.”*

*“Vibrant, beautiful, outstanding cultural and artistic display that has taken the Ukrainian Easter Egg to another level of artistic beauty and preservation.”*



**Stop by Dave’s – Pysanka Mosaic display booth and see his latest works at the UCC National Triennial Congress in Regina**