



## KAPITEL 10 / CHAPTER 10<sup>10</sup>

### CREATIVE HERITAGE OF VADIM KRISHKENKO IN THE CULTURAL AND ARTISTIC SPACE OF UKRAINE

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#### Introduction

Vadym Dmytrovych Kryshchenko - a well-known Ukrainian poet-songwriter, People's Artist of Ukraine, Honored Worker of Arts of Ukraine, Honored Worker of Culture, Member of the National Union of Writers of Ukraine, laureate of many literary and artistic awards, recipient of many state and church awards, the highest honor of public organizations - Knight of the Fatherland and others, professor of the Department of Cultural Studies of the National University of Bioresources and Nature Management of Ukraine, who recently celebrated his 88th birthday.

*The purpose of the research* is to characterize the song works of Vadym Kryshchenko and reveal their significance in the cultural and artistic space of Ukraine.

*Research methodology.* To achieve the goal, the following research methods were used: comparison, systematization, generalization, abstraction, grouping, ranking, interviewing, biographical, historical, literary, phenomenological methods.

*The scientific novelty* of the study consists in summarizing the results of the creative output of the poet-songwriter Vadym Kryshchenko and proving its significant importance for the cultural and artistic space of Ukraine.

*Keywords:* cultural and artistic space, creative heritage, Vadym Kryshchenko, Ukrainian song, pop music, national identity.

#### 10.1. Relevance of the research topic.

The institutionalization of Ukrainian pop music began in 1991, because it became an independent cultural phenomenon during the period of the formation of Ukraine's independence, being structurally modified at the popular, folk and rock levels.

The current state of Ukrainian pop music is characterized by the emergence of new genres and styles of music, which have both positive and negative consequences. On the one hand, a wider information space has opened up for performers (thanks to the advent of the Internet and mass media), but interesting arrangements and

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unconventional vocals, a combination of extreme vocal techniques and foreign performance mannerisms often discolor the national core of Ukrainian songs. Modern music does not always become high-quality, often loses its aesthetic function, because it is detached from Ukrainian vocal traditions and folk melos, which significantly damages the artistic value of the popular song genre.

Vadym Kryshchenko is exactly that poet-songwriter, without whose creative legacy it is difficult to imagine modern Ukrainian pop song and culture in general, because his creative biography is almost 80 years old (he started writing poems while still at school). His work reflects the entire history of the Ukrainian people, its complex fate and unhealed wounds. It was the song that helped to survive all life's troubles, it accompanied Ukrainians everywhere - at work, during holidays and the liberation struggle. All this is sung in the songs of V. Kryshchenko, many of which have become popular.

And although Vadym Dmytrovych does not need a special introduction, the study of the significance of the poet's song work in the cultural space is relevant, since it played a big role in the life of Ukrainians, developed them spiritually, raised the level of their worldview, helped to form their identity, which, in turn, contributed determining the role of our state in the world.

## **10.2. Analysis of basic research and publications.**

The first attempt to organize the creative biography of V.D. Kryshchenko belongs to its art director Inna Pavlenko, who in 2019 published the book "Vadim Kryshchenko. Postscript, or There will be more." It was the first book in the trilogy about the Poet, to which he himself wrote the foreword. It contains life facts, works from the artist's own archive, and essays about him from his creative colleagues, students, and good friends.

But in the scientific discourse, special studies dedicated to the creative figure of the artist do not exist. There are only isolated journalistic articles, such as "A song touches the heart the fastest and most deeply" by N. Antonyuk [1], "Vadim Kryshchenko: Let one song fly over you..." V. Boyko [3], "Poet-songwriter Vadim Kryshchenko: "If Someone told me to draw an image of Ukraine, I would draw it with Raisa Kyrychenko" by G. Volkova [4], "To bring autumn by the hand: a conversation with V. Kryshchenko about music and poetry, composers and performers" by L. Isachenko [6], " Poetic words of Vadym Kryshchenko", "Vadim Kryshchenko's Song



Dinner" and others. Some publications about himself were printed by the poet-songwriter himself, there are also organized scripts of literary and musical evenings dedicated to Vadym Kryshchenko's birthday [15].

Among other literature, there is an interview with the poet: "Poet-songwriter Vadim Kryshchenko: "I don't understand wealth...", "Vadim Kryshchenko: "My song reservoir is not yet exhausted", "A person who writes poems cannot be called old! ", "My salvation has always been a song..."

Fortunately, today there are materials about the luminary of Ukrainian song in social networks [16, 17].

Nevertheless, the phenomenon of Vadym Kryshchenko's work deserves not only scientific research in Ukraine, but also its dissemination in world art history, because the poet is an example of how a person becomes a symbol of eras and a representative of national culture in the world.

### **10.3. Presentation of the main material.**

The modern cultural and artistic space of Ukraine can be characterized as a combination of a wide range of cultural assets, which include the following components: linguistic, religious, artistic, ethno-national. It should be noted that traditional Ukrainian culture played a decisive role in preserving these components, as well as national identity, that is, everything that contained information about the life and daily life of Ukrainians, their worldview, customs and rituals. It is the native language and folk culture that act as unique markers of national identity, and artists, who are their talismans, play a major role in enriching the cultural and artistic space. Vadim Dmytrovych Kryshchenko is one of such vivid representatives of amulets.

Vadym Dmytrovych was born in Zhytomyr on April 1, 1935. He, the author of more than 1,000 song compositions and 50 poetry collections, is known not only in Ukraine, but also abroad, because for years the calling card of Ukrainian singers abroad was an invocation and grandiose song with his words "Welcome!" His lyrics have long been warmed by popular love and respect, and his skill has been tested over the years.

Creative cooperation with no less famous composers Igor Bilozir, Ostap Havrysh, Pavel Dvorsky, Volodymyr Domshinsky, Oleksandr Zlotnyk, Oleksandr Morozov, Igor Poklad, Gennady Tatarchenko and others gave the world many songs that became popular: "Family", "May you be lucky, good people", "Let's pour, brothers, crystal



bowls", "Prayer", "Ukraine", "Swans of love", "Cherry-cherry". It was about them that Borys Oliynyk once said: "A happy combination of simplicity (not to be confused with simplicity), an orientation towards European models in support of a unique worldwide phenomenon - the Ukrainian folk song - these are the components that lured and lure composers of different generations to his work and ranks - starting with the classics. And this is exactly what the viewers and listeners feel, thousands and tens and hundreds of thousands of whom Vadim Kryshchenko gathers into the band with words and melody" [18].

Vadym Kryshchenko made an invaluable contribution to the development of the cultural and artistic space of Ukraine. He created countless scenarios for various events, including the "Slavic Bazaar", the celebration of Ukraine's Independence. Original concerts of V. Kryshchenko unite the best performers who perform in the prestigious halls of our country. And every time the halls are full of spectators, which proves the high representativeness of the Ukrainian song.

In addition, as V. Kryshchenko notes, he is the only poet in Ukraine who writes only in the Ukrainian language. Although he was offered considerable fees, even forced, the poet remained faithful to the Ukrainian word. And this factor is also of great importance for the nation-building of our state, because language is the basic basis of national identity. It is simultaneously a condition for the development of culture, its product and society, its genesis.

The author wrote his first poem in the sixth grade - it was a poem dedicated to the partisans. A journalist by profession, it seems that very recently he brought his poems to A. Malyshku, anxiously waiting for the response of the famous poet, and even today his songs are sung by all the outstanding performers of the Ukrainian stage. A. Malyshko seemed to have prophesied Vadim's creative fate: "Your poems are like a song."

With such songs, the artist recently celebrated his 88th birthday, however, in the conditions of martial law, the jubilee creative evening, which usually takes place in the "Ukraine" palace, took place at the National University of Bioresources and Nature Management of Ukraine, but this long-awaited cultural and artistic event became an unprecedented event. Well-known works performed by People's Artists of Ukraine Oksana Bilozir, Ivo Bobula, Nadia Shestak, Alla Popova, Oleksandr Vasylenko, Roman Rudy, Honored Artists of Ukraine Viktor Kavun, Dmytro Andriyets, bands "Hetman", "Cossack Fun" and others, the soulful atmosphere once again contributed elevation of the Ukrainian spirit, proved that the Ukrainian song has a healing and



incredible power to convey love for the Motherland even in the most difficult conditions, because it touches the deep strings of the soul, filling it with patriotism and love.

In the work of the poet, the priority of moral virtues, kindness, compassion and conscience, which was instilled in him from childhood by his parents-teachers and grandmother Ulyana, is traced. In addition, the poet's grandmother was a very religious person, cherished folk customs and traditions, which also affected the artist's work. He condemns lies, arrogance, pride and avarice. All this is noticeable not only in the work, but even in the names of the concert programs - "Ukrainian Soul", "Ten Commandments of God", "Save Me, Song", "Let Your Will Be Done" and others.

Therefore, the subject matter of Vadym Kryshchenko's work is quite diverse. In his poetic palette - love for the native land, for parents, friends, glorification of goodness and love, philosophical understanding of the concept of existence. What is the value of poetry dedicated to the bright image of the mother, whose exaltation runs through all his work. The topic of the mother is especially painful for the poet, because he lost his mother very early - at the age of 14. The poet writes about this:

You went beyond the limit a long time ago -

In the distant post-war year.

I cherish your memory,

Like that tear in a sad eye... [8, in Ukrainian].

Among the songs about mother are "Vysyvanka", "About mother", "Father and mother", "Mother's word", "Mother's song", "Mother", "Mother is going", "Mother is the evening star", "Mother-mother" ", "Mom, don't cry", "I paint my mother" and others. Apparently, every conscious person can repeat to his own mother the lines written by V.D. Kryshchenko:

Mother, I bow low to you,

Mother, I will lean on your warm hands,

Mother, forgive my burning sin,

Mother, you are the most precious of all... [8, in Ukrainian].

Vadim Kryshchenko's intimate lyrics always exude trepidation and tenderness. "Icons are written about you...", "I know: the world takes off its hat in front of you", "I hug the net of sweet cheeks, and the world becomes clearer to me", "In love, even the roadside grasses bloom like starry roses", "I live - as long as I love," writes Vadym Dmytrovych to his beloved woman. Poet's poems about nature, which he considers the doctor of human souls, are no less figurative:



If your soul is sick,  
 The only medicine is warm silence  
 And nature's distance is transparent,  
 What makes a fairy tale in three colors... [8, in Ukrainian]

In the poet-songwriter's poetic works, there are many winged sayings that resonate in the hearts of Ukrainians: "Only love and work are blessed, and everything else is a vanity, a vanity," "for me, the Motherland is where Ukrainian is spoken," "my husband's past is in the rut, a woman's past is in her eyes" and many others [8].

The artist reacts painfully to every challenge of today. Thus, he is concerned about the state of Ukrainian song, when song creativity is filled, in his opinion, with "murky foam" and unprofessionalism, and Ukrainian culture is instilled with a sense of second nature. In the article "Who will protect the Ukrainian song?" V. Kryshchenko appeals to all those who care about modern Ukrainian song with a request to extend a hand of help and support, because the song is the savior of the human soul [10].

The recent epidemiological situation in Ukraine also affected the artist's work - he wrote a number of literary works ("Ukrainian mother, be strong", "Holy Right", "In the Quarantine Zone", "A word is needed" and "From new poetry - to the malice of the day. About the coronavirus." Here is an example:

Like a small coronavirus  
 He grew up in a big disaster  
 And fiercely mows in old age  
 Chinese and Italians?  
 Why is there no stopping him? –  
 He also went to Ukraine.. [8, in Ukrainian].

Nevertheless, today we especially want to emphasize the topic of Vadym Kryshchenko's awe-inspiring attitude towards Ukraine. He compares her with his own mother, his beloved woman, lives with Ukraine in his heart, which is reflected in his work. "We don't love ourselves in Ukraine, but we will love Ukraine in ourselves," the author writes, and in the poem "My Questionnaire" he states:

I want to feel in the major chord:  
 My pedigree - was, will be... It exists!  
 Being Ukrainian is a matter of pride for me,  
 Being Ukrainian is an honor for me! [8, in Ukrainian].

The patriotic mood accompanies the poet's works such as "Crystal Cups", "Let's stand up, Ukrainian brothers", "Family", "Mother Ukraine", "While you, Ukraine, live"





and many others. And during the last year, as a response to the terrible events in Ukraine, Vadym Dmytrovych published the cycle "War broke into our house (reportages from turbulent war days)". In the poems "Alarm Bell", "Who Sows Bread", "Become a Defender", "Flag of Courage and Truth", "Let's Reject Fear and Despondency", "We Are Renewed Through Blood", "Mariupol", "To the Traitors of Ukraine", "Retribution" " and others, the leitmotif is the belief that "the word "Ukraine" will be consonant with the necklace of the words "freedom", "truth", "honor", because in the righteous struggle "the imperishable memory of ancient heroes will give us strength and steadfastness". if children are born to us in times of trouble, - the Ukrainian people will be immortal forever!", "today the Lord himself is for us - and this is probably the most important thing!" that "Ukraine... will rise to stand proudly, like a new Prometheus, before the eyes of the countries and nations" [Cit. For 8].

That is why the People's Artist of Ukraine Professor Vadym Kryshchenko wrote with full responsibility in the poem "Confessional":

There were sins - this is also a shame.  
This guilt burns me...  
But every poem of mine is a prayer,  
May you be resurrected, Ukraine.

## **Conclusions.**

So, Vadym Kryshchenko is one of those who has been creating Ukrainian culture for decades and continues to popularize it. He, without a doubt, should be considered one of the luminaries of Ukrainian literature and Ukrainian pop music at the same time. He is not just a poet: the words of his poems fill the music with meaning, they sound a message to the Ukrainian people, which is often reflected in the names of the songs: "Stand up, Ukrainian brothers", "Ukraine, remember the heroes", etc. Ukraine is revealed in songs, in symbolic images encoded in them. Vadym Dmytrovych is doing everything to raise the prestige of modern Ukrainian song, enriching the cultural and artistic space of Ukraine. In his opinion, it needs protection, just like the native language, which is the primary basis of the song. It is difficult to disagree with this, since the proliferation of such samples of songwriting as the works of V.D. Kryshchenko, reflecting the true features of the Ukrainian people - emotionality, love



of freedom, patriotism - form the cultural and artistic space of Ukraine. Thanks to the work of Vadym Dmytrovych, the cultural and artistic space of Ukraine retains its permanent features and continues to be enriched with new cultural examples. The deep meaning of this work is clear not only to Ukrainians, but also to the world public, because it is his song masterpieces, along with folk songs, that Ukrainian singers represent the spirit of the nation on world stages. "Read the poetic lines of Vadym Kryshchenko, spend even a moment alone with him - and you will feel that his word, his thought can be transformed into joy and anger, can become awe-inspiring and deep feelings that remain in the human heart for a long time" [9] , - we will conclude our article with such apt words-advice of Yuri Muschketik.