

Exhibits transport visitors to early 19th century

1812 War in Minsk's History exhibition unveiled at National History Museum of Belarus

There are six thematic sections united by the idea of war. On show are cold steel and firearms, ammunition, articles from military daily life, documents, maps, commemorative medals and historical re-

constructions. The exhibition aims to give an objective and historically true version of the past, with Minsk at the core.

The daily routine of the war years is under focus, with collections on loan



ARTUR PRUPAS

Preparations for 1812 War in Minsk's History exhibition

from the National History Museum, Vitebsk's Regional Local History Museum, Mogilev's Regional Local History Museum, Kobrin's Military-Historical Museum, Belarus' National Historical Archives and the National Library.

The dramatic history of

our country is closely linked with the most famous and bloody wars in Europe. The Napoleonic wars were no exception, while being a turning point in the early 19th century. The 1812 War is known as the Patriotic War in Russia and, in Europe, as the Napoleonic Russian

campaign. It changed the fates of European nations, turning to ashes the hopes of those who wished to revive the Rzech Pospolita.

In 1812, Minsk (the second most important city after Vilnius in the Belarusian-Lithuanian region) was an important military-

strategic centre within the former Grand Duchy of Lithuania. From July-November 1812, over 80,000 Napoleonic soldiers passed through the city. Fortunately, no major battle occurred — unlike those witnessed by Borisov, Vitebsk and Mogilev.

Christmas patterns from beads

Around a hundred works on show at Christmas Patterns: Bead Weaving Elza Gavrushenko's personal exhibition at Mogilev's Folk Museum

By Vladimir Levantsev

Necklaces, chokers, bracelets, brooches, belts, bags, panels, napkins, vases, bouquets, souvenirs and icons are among the exhibits made by Elza Gavrushenko. She has been involved in beadweaving for over a decade, developing all her own designs, inspired by traditional folk

motifs and symbolic use of colour. "It's not difficult to create items from beads if everything is clear. Of course, you need patience," she notes.

Having headed a beadweaving course in a centre for extra-curricular activities for four years, Ms. Gavrushenko has given all her knowledge to her pupils. "The children have more than 60 diplomas

and have won prizes at many contests," she adds.

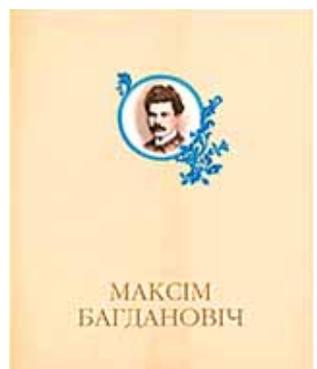
Mr. Gavrushenko is a member of the Belarusian Folk Creative Work Masters Union and a craftswoman of Mogilev. She has produced two guides on beadweaving and, taking part in contests and exhibitions, has been awarded several prizes and grants.



Students attend classes in pictorial art

Creativity in poet's life

Petrus Brovka Belarusian Encyclopaedia Publishing House releases Maxim Bogdanovich edition, dedicated to 120th anniversary of the birth of the classical Belarusian writer



Cover for a book about the poet

By Anastasia Yanushevskaya

The encyclopaedia contains approximately 2,000

articles on the poet's works, exploring their thematic and narrative motifs. An introductory essay reveals the human, spiritual and creative image of Bogdanovich and the socio-historical conditions under which he lived and worked.

Many of the materials are being published for the first time, dedicated to the places where he lived and worked or visited. Many extracts are from periodical editions, examining the national character of the poet's creativity and his romantic, philosophical, historical, aesthetic and public-political views. Others



BELTA

Editorial office works on the book

look at the poetry, prose and journalism of Bogdanovich and highlight his ties with foreign literature and art.

The encyclopaedia contains articles about those sculptors and painters who

created works inspired by his writing, or who illustrated his books. Some made portraits and statues to him, while composers have even written songs and ballads based on Bogdanovich's poems.

Honorary acknowledgment of real merits

Belarusian Academy of Arts joins leading institutions of culture

By Tatiana Ponomareva

The newly acquired status acknowledges the high level of training offered by the Belarusian Academy of Arts. It is among the leading educational institutions in the sphere of culture. It meets a whole range of criteria — from its number of students, teachers and professors, to its curriculum and public-political work.

Alongside its guaranteed quality of education, it employs professors and teachers who are actively engaged in research and publication. They take lectures and seminars, while developing teaching methods, pursuing research and finding applications for their learning.

The Belarusian State Academy of Arts is Belarus' third cultural university to be awarded honorary status: the Belarusian State Academy of Music and the Belarusian State University of Culture

and Arts also have such recognition.

At present, the Belarusian State Academy of Arts trains people to find employment in the theatre and in television and radio, as well as teaching pictorial and decorative-and-applied arts, and design and art history. It has five departments: theatre; arts; design and decorative-and-applied arts; cinema; and the enhancement of qualifications and staff retraining. Master's Degree programmes are offered, alongside postgraduate and doctoral training.

A Theatre-Studio operates at the Academy, hosting demonstrations of term and diploma papers, as well as practical lessons, international conferences, workshops, master classes and artistic meetings. A new panel has been set up to allow students to defend their thesis works in 'Technical Aesthetics and Design'.