

Kule Folklore Centre Folklore Lunch Series



UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA
FACULTY OF ARTS

Rooster: A Symbol of Resilience in Ukraine

Presenter: Victoria Kostyniuk,
Graduate Student, MLCS
When: February 17, 2023 | 12 pm MST
Where: Kule Folklore Centre,
250 Arts & Convocation Hall



In April 2022 when Borodyanka, Ukraine was liberated, the world was taken aback by photos of a ceramic rooster, peacefully sitting on a shelf in an apartment which had been destroyed by bombs. This rooster has since become a symbol of the resilience shown by the people of Ukraine. It has been gifted to political leaders who have visited Ukraine, brought knowledge of Ukrainian folklore to the general public through various exhibitions, and has even been the subject of internet memes.

This presentation will explore the history behind ceramics and pottery in Ukrainian culture, the symbolism of the rooster in Ukrainian folklore, and its newfound fame after being rescued from a shelf in Borodyanka.



Victoria Kostyniuk received her BA in Modern Languages and Cultural Studies, focusing on Ukrainian and Slavic Studies, from the University of Alberta in 2021. She is currently completing her MA in Transnational and Comparative Literature in the Dept of Modern Languages and Cultural Studies. She hopes to continue her research in the future on Ukrainian church halls in Alberta and their role as heritage spaces for Ukrainian Canadians. In her spare time, Victoria is a Ukrainian dance instructor with St. Basil's School of Dance.



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