



Tanya Mykytiuk



Pysanky © Canadian Museum of History

These pysanky were made by Tanya Mykytiuk, a second-generation Canadian of Ukrainian descent. Tanya has been crafting pysanky since she was five years old and learned the art of pysankarstvo from her mother. She grew up in Toronto, immersed in Ukrainian culture, attending Ukrainian school, church, and youth camps in Ontario and Alberta, and participated in Ukrainian dance for many years.

Tanya's grandparents were part of a large wave of immigrants who arrived in Canada as displaced persons after the Second World War. At that time, Ukraine was under communist Soviet rule, and any expression of culture was suppressed and forbidden, giving them little opportunity to learn pysankarstvo or other traditions in their homeland. In Canada, earlier waves of immigrants had preserved Ukrainian culture in order to keep it alive for future generations.

Tanya's heritage is an integral part of her identity and contributes to her creative work as a graphic designer and pysankarka. She is proud to be part of the North American pysanka artist community and is dedicated to preserving the traditions of pysankarstvo, as well as promoting this art form within and beyond the Ukrainian diaspora.

Tanya first visited Ukraine in 2019 with her family, and is looking forward to returning in 2022, when her pysanky will be exhibited at the North American Pysanky Exhibit at the Pysanka Museum in Kolomyia, Ukraine. She has two sons who also write pysanky and attend Ukrainian school in Toronto.