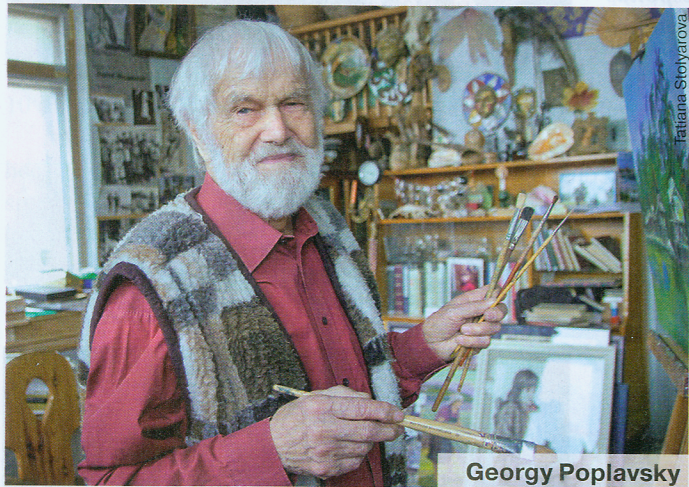


Inspiration in tandem

An exhibition dedicated to the artists Georgy and Natalia Poplavsky on show at the National Library



Georgy Poplavsky

By Lyudmila Minkevich

The Belarusian artist Natalia Poplavskaya recently celebrated her 90th birthday. Her husband, People's Artist of Belarus, Georgy Poplavsky, would have celebrated the same birthday this year, but died in 2017. The artist's fans can now only remember the talented master and continue to be inspired by his works.

Nowadays, anyone can become familiar with the works of Georgy and Natalia Poplavsky

at the National Library: until February 22nd, the *Inspiration in Tandem* book and illustrative exhibition dedicated to the couple is held here.

The world of the painter, graphic artist and illustrator Georgy Poplavsky is rich and diverse. He visited Cuba, Australia, Mexico, Singapore, India and many other countries, went as a sailor to the Atlantic and the Caribbean and crossed the Arctic on ships carrying ore, capturing his travels on paper

and canvas. However, all these works can hardly be compared to the pictures drawn in his village workshop in the Braslav District. The artist was closely connected with the Belarusian land, its history, culture, literary traditions and folk art and a special section of the *Inspiration in Tandem* show, dedicated to Belarus, demonstrates lyrical landscapes of his native country, portraits of people and pictures

of their working lives.

Mr. Poplavsky's books of illustrations are also at the forefront of the show. The artist painted for the books of Yanka Kupala, Yakub Kolas, Arkady Kuleshov, Vasil Bykov, Ales Adamovich, as well as school textbooks, often together with his wife Natalia. The latter worked on illustrations for textbooks and children's books, including Belarusian folk tales, fairy tales

of the USSR nations, works by Kipling, Perrault and others. She worked in watercolours, lithographs, etchings and linocuts.

According to the show's organisers, *Inspiration in Tandem* largely reflects the significant contribution that the Poplavsky couple made to the development of Belarusian fine arts. Over 60 documents are exhibited, including original works with the artists' autographs.



A work by N. Poplavskaya



Protection of the Theotokos. Georgy Poplavsky