

Table of Contents

1: Introduction.....	9
2: Kharkiv, Where the Arts Empower Life Over Death	11
3: Unexpected Artists	15
4: Elevating a Musical Tradition Too Long Neglected	17
5: On London’s Fringe.....	21
6: Italy Is Never Far Away in Odesa	23
7: Sharing Wartime Kharkiv’s Horrors Through the Language of Dance.....	25
8: Toads Singing in the Walls.....	27
9: Confronting Fate in a Time of War	31
10: Documenting War with Calmness	33
11: A Ukrainian Japanese Ballet.....	35
12: Reconnecting Ukrainian Opera with its Baroque Past	39
13: Saving Ukraine’s Future by Saving Its Culture	43
14: Kyiv’s Bright Spring Theater Season	45
15: Ukrainian Pop Stars Proclaim, “Your Thorny Path Is Not in Vain”	47
16: Bringing Unexpected Partners Together in Support of Ukraine.....	49
17: Creating a Ukrainian Classical Music Repertoire, One Work at a Time.....	51
18: Ballet’s Continuing Role in Bringing Ukraine to Audiences Around the World	53
19: In Ukrainian, Freedom and Will Are One.....	55
20: Embroidering Tradition and Contemporary Design Together	57
21: Comforting Odesan Souls with Sonic Beauty.....	59

22: Upbeat Fantasies Coming to Life on the Kyiv Stage.....	61
23: A Summer’s Frolic under Emerald Skies.....	65
24: Making an Anthill of Light from a Mountain of Totalitarian Darkness	67
25: The Comfort and Crush of True Friendship	69
26: Healing the Soul Through Music	71
27: The Global Reach of Ukrainian Folk Art on Display	73
28: How Do Animals Experience War?	75
29: Not Just Battles, but Humans.....	79
30: Kyiv Rock and Hip-Hop Fans Are Going Nowhere.....	83
31: Reawakening Fearless Kharkiv Through the Arts	85
32: Ukrainian Theater Takes On the World	87
33: Making Contemporary Theater in an Unexpected Place at an Unexpected Time	89
34: Ukrainian Punk Rock Can Handle the Harsh Realities of War	93
35: Bringing Renewed Life to Ukraine’s Adoration of Icons	97
36: Puppets Bring Comfort to a Troubled Holiday Season.....	101
37: Exploring the Labyrinth of Our Own Dark Passages Through Dance	103
38: Reinventing Theater Through Artificial Intelligence.....	107
39: Ukraine’s Fashion Scene: Not Just Surviving, but Thriving.....	111
40: Shahed Overture	113
41: Rediscovering the Vibrant Classical Music Scene in 1960s Kyiv	115
42: Converting Individual Traumas into Collective Memories	117
43: Remember that We Existed	121

44: Inventing Happy Endings to Ukraine’s Story	125
45: Channeling a Hard Life into Music.....	127
46: Photographs Leaving No Hiding Place from Wartime Horror.....	129
47: Dancing with the Heroes	131
48: Should She Stay or Should She Go?	133
49: Sunflower Kids with Art in Their Souls	135
50: And the Band Played On.....	139
51: The Opera House Was Packed.....	141
52: Surviving with Humanity Intact	143
53: Let’s Go to Work.....	145
54: Going Global	149
Acknowledgements.....	153
About the Author	155
Index.....	157