

Ukrainian works of art boost VSA appeal

Painting a bright future

by Janet Christie

A UNIQUE chance to own a slice of world history will be on offer in Aberdeen.

Paintings from behind the former Iron Curtain are going on sale to boost the VSA's 125th Anniversary Appeal.

The works are by six Ukrainian "Socialist Realist" artists and were produced between 1950 and 1970 when the Soviet State still practised artistic repression.

The paintings — priced from £270 to £1,800 — will be included in a sale and exhibition, in the Music Hall, Union Street, from Friday to Sunday, April 7-9.

The prestige show, organised by Junior Chamber Aberdeen, will also include works by well-known Scottish artists Barbara Balmer, Bob Batchelor, Bill Foreman and Eric Auld.

"The Ukrainian works are highly collectable and I think they will sell well in the North-east because a lot of them are studies of nature which is close to people's

hearts," said Tamara Bassi, a director of art importing company Danusha.

Artists will keep two-thirds of the price paid for the pictures, with a third going to VSA's campaign to raise £125,000 to fund special projects for the elderly, young people with special needs and families in crisis. The art sale and exhibition is supported by Aberdeen District Council, Mike Fisk Design and Oasis Frame Design.

Three VSA prints — two limited edition by Bill Foreman and one by local artist Mike Robertson — are available from Oasis Frame Design, Thistle Street, who will give a donation to the charity for each one sold. Entries for the sale will be accepted until Friday, March 17, with a £2 fee each.

● Entry forms for the art show are available from Maureen Arthur at VSA, 38 Ellon Road, Aberdeen, AB23 8EX, telephone 708200.

● FOR SALE:

Lyndsay Clark, President of Aberdeen Junior Chamber of Commerce, looks over the paintings which are on sale to help raise cash for the VSA Appeal.

