

Exhibition of Ukraine's most respected artists to be staged at Kinblethmont Gallery from September 26

A MAJOR exhibition of over 60 pictures from some of Ukraine's finest living artists is to take place at Kinblethmont Gallery from September 26 to October 12.

Featured is Andriy Yalanskyi from the Ukrainian Academy of Arts, who has been called The Monet of Ukraine.

His pictures are shown and collected worldwide. Those who came to the spring exhibition will have seen a taster of his work.

His paintings of landscapes, farmyards and domestic animals show empathy with his subjects and the moods of the seasons with a freshness, movement, wit and a sense of immediacy. He will be staying at Kinblethmont during the exhibition.

Ukrainian artists, in the middle of the last century were 'encouraged' to work in the Socialist Realist style as approved by the communist party of the USSR at that time. Since then they have developed their own styles, influenced, obviously by the art movements of western Europe and America.

Petro Magro, now over 90, is a lyric artist, whose work shows a calm, almost fatalistic, view of the countryside he portrays; his pictures show depth of perspective and a spontaneous understanding of the drama of his subject.

Like the others, husband and wife, Panas Tytenko and Olena Yakovinko are influenced by the Impressionists; they use strong colour and light to on their pastoral views of people and flowers, usually within a domestic scene, often children.

Leonid Kudryavtzev, a mere 86, like Magro, broke free and has developed a more stylised form

display his closely observed illustration of the effects of various lights on his subjects.

Voludymyr Zhugan, Anatoiy Kostenko (1920-1997) and Harmash, three more established artists, complete the line-up.

On behalf of the gallery, Robert Ramsay said: "We are delighted to bring this collection to Central and North Eastern Scotland where so many of our home-grown artists have their own interpretations of such similar subjects against a background of rural existence where impressionism finds its strongest subject matter.

"This is in sharp contrast to the more angst-ridden metropolitan work that tends to dominate the art scene in the west.

"We believe it will bring stimulation to our local painters and joy to the public who come to view the work. All these pictures one could live with happily for a lifetime."

The gallery is open from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. every day - admission is free.

All pictures are for sale.

☐ Pictured is Andriy Valanskiy's elegant 'Polo game', one of the exhibits at Kinblethmont from September 26 to October 12.

