

Maria Burmaka “Songs and Stories of the Orange Revolution” North American Tour

New York, NY -- March 16, 2005 -- The Brooklyn Ukrainian Group in partnership with the United Ukrainian American Organizations of Greater New York is pleased to announce that Maria Burmaka, a leading female artist of Ukraine's Orange Revolution, will arrive in North America for a concert tour, which will begin April 1st in New York City, travel to Philadelphia on April 2nd and culminate in Toronto on Saturday, April 9th.

On March 31st the artist will visit the Ukrainian Studies Program at Columbia University, who will host a talk by Burmaka, followed by a reception, during which the public will have the chance to hear a discussion on the influence of music on the Orange Revolution and to meet with the singer. The talk and reception, both free, are sponsored by “Fond Katedr Ukrainoznavstva,” the Ukrainian Studies Fund.

Maria Burmaka is the first popular Ukrainian musician to travel to the United States and Canada to share first-hand, her encounters of the extraordinary acts of political protest in overwhelming support of free and fair elections in Ukraine.

The tour will allow Burmaka to perform her music in an intimate acoustic setting. She will share her songs and stories as a principal performer on Kyiv's Independence Square during the mass demonstrations that took place in Ukraine at the time of the Orange Revolution. The month-long phenomenon, initiated by Ukraine's youth and students, quickly spread to all demographics of this country of nearly 50 million. The success of this peaceful revolution has changed the face of democracy in Eastern Europe.

Proceeds from the concert tour will benefit three global projects: Help Us Help The Children, a project of Children Of Chernobyl Canadian Fund, a voluntary, non-profit charitable initiative dedicated to improving the quality of life of children living in orphanages in Ukraine; FOLK!, a non-profit documentary on Ukrainian folk dancing; and The Bohdan and Natalia Kowal Scholarship Fund, an academic scholarship program through Chicago-based Mohyla Academy Inc. for students in Ukraine.

Space is limited. Tickets are available at the following locations:

- ?? New York – Surma, 11 E 7th Street (212) 957-1288
- ?? Philadelphia – Dnipro, 1801 Cottman Avenue (215) 728-6040
- ?? Toronto - West Arka, 2282 Bloor Street W. (416) 762-8751

For additional concert and ticket information please contact Yuri Pylyp at (203) 561-5969 for New York and Philadelphia; Ihor Bokiyy at **(647) 886-1905 for Toronto.**

Brooklyn Ukrainian Group in partnership with United Ukrainian American Organizations of Greater New York present

Songs and Stories of the Orange Revolution Maria Burmaka



Friday April 1, 7:30pm
NEW YORK Ukrainian National Home 140 2nd Ave
Tickets: \$20, Surma (212) 477-0729

Saturday April 2, 7:30pm
PHILADELPHIA Ukrainian League 800 N 23rd St.
Tickets: \$20, Dnipro (215) 728-6040

Saturday April 9, 8pm
TORONTO The Golden Lion 15 Canmotor Ave.
Tickets: \$20, West Arka (416) 762-8751



Current Sponsors include Self Reliance New York Federal Credit Union, The Golden Lion of Toronto, the Ukrainian League of Philadelphia, the Ukrainian Studies Program at Columbia University, Kontakt Ukrainian TV Network, UkrainaTV.com, and Atlantic Sound Recording Studio. Information: New York and Philadelphia, Yuri Pylyp 203-561-5969 or yuri.pylyp@gmail.com, Toronto, Ihor Bokiy 647-886-1905. Visit Maria Burmaka at www.burmaka.kiev.ua.

Sponsors of the Maria Burmaka concert tour include:

Self Reliance New York Federal Credit Union
The Golden Lion of Toronto
the Ukrainian League of Philadelphia

Ukrainian Studies Program at Columbia University
UkrainaTV.com
Atlantic Sound Recording Studio

For press registration contact Natalia Labenskyj at (917) 554-2103 or natalia@nyc.com. Each reporter must be registered and present press credentials to attend this event.

Founded in 2003, the Brooklyn Ukrainian Group is a voluntary group committed to supporting Ukrainian American filmmakers, artists, musicians, and artisans in projects which incorporate Ukrainian customs and traditions in a modern day setting.

The United Ukrainian American Organizations of Greater New York is a 100-year-old organization whose mission is to unite Ukrainian American organizations in greater metropolitan New York and New Jersey in initiatives preserving and promoting our cultural heritage, creating a positive image of Ukrainians.