

# THE PYSANKA

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*A pagan tradition of painstakingly painting hollowed-out eggs using a wax and dye method, symbolizing fertility, harvest, and good luck. When Ukraine was Christened in 988, many pagan traditions remained while adopting Christian associations. The art of the pysanka is still practiced today across several Slavic nations during the Easter season.*



There is no better way to demonstrate the beauty, intricacy, and infinite complexity of this ancient tradition than seeing (and holding) the real thing in your hands. Unfortunately, I could not risk my prized collection by taking them out of their cases at home.

I worked as a content producer at the Ukrainian Museum in the East Village at the start of the Russian invasion of Ukraine in February of 2022, and remained in that position for two years. One of my responsibilities was to photograph both Museum artifacts and gift shop inventory, which included the visitor-favorite *pysanky*. The two photographs framed here are examples from that period.



*\$200 per piece, \$450 for set of 3*