



Marianna Ganko
(1942–?)

IN THE NAME OF PEACE Tapestry triptych

About the project

<https://tsaritsyno-museum.ru/events/special/p/lyudi-i-fondy-eng/>

Leningrad, USSR

1974–1975

Wool, linen, hand weaving





SELECTED BY

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At Tsaritsyno, I mainly oversee educational projects in which Moscow schoolchildren participate, you may have even heard about them: ‘Study Day at the Museum’ and the annual Festival of Humanities in Tsaritsyno.

I am a practicing teacher and researcher: I try to improve the quality of education by developing new teaching methods and techniques, analyzing and evaluating existing educational practices, introducing modern information technologies into the educational process, maintaining a balance between new and traditional forms of teaching.

My whole life before Tsaritsyno was in one way or another connected with technology; both branches of my family worked at one of the largest defense enterprises in our country. My mother and father, grandparents, even one of my great-grandfathers were all connected with the sky. Sometimes I even joke that some of my family helped people fly, while others, on the contrary, got in the way. I cannot say more about the specifics of their job. I received my first education at the Moscow Aviation Institute, and the first museum in which I worked was the Museum of Cosmonautics near VDNKh.

My acquaintance with Marianna Ganko's tapestry ‘In the Name of Peace’ took place in 2019 at one of the exhibitions of Soviet decorative and applied art. Passing by, I noticed something subtly familiar but at the same time absolutely atypical for Soviet culture. I could not understand what it was.

The realization came to me only three years later. I even said out loud, ‘It's impossible...’ This happened after another watching of one of the cult films by director Stanley Kubrick: you can now see a quote from it on the tapestry.

I decided to study this exhibit in detail, and in a month of work I was able to find in it a huge number of homages and references to other works of art — painting, graphics, literature, cinema and products of popular culture of the 70s of the 20th century. The tapestry allowed me to trace the personal relationships of Cold War-era artists, and I saw in it a reflection of national technological achievements and personal tragedies. A close and deep acquaintance with this exhibit radically changed my understanding of decorative and applied art.

If you are interested in space and space technology, the very process of cultural interaction between artists, cosmonauts and astronauts, designers of two opposing superpowers, if you just love science fiction, I invite you to talk about it!

I will be happy to discuss your feelings and impressions, points of view and assumptions about what is actually depicted in this tapestry.

At the art mediation ‘Space: Reality or Fiction?’ we will make our way through the thorns of history to distant stars, decipher and interpret each image, and even be able to identify the primary sources that inspired the artist!