HISTORIC EVENTS IN UKRAINE

JULY 1914

World War I breaks out: Ukraine turns into a battleground between the Russian Empire, Austria-Hungary and Germany

FEBRUARY-MARCH 1917

February revolution in Russia and abdication of Tsar Nicholas II

JUNE 1917

The Ukrainian People's Republic, with Kyiv as its capital, proclaims its autonomy within a federative union with Russia

OCTOBER-NOVEMBER 1917

Bolshevik revolution in Russia

DECEMBER 1917

The Bolsheviks establish the Ukrainian People's Republic of Soviets as part of the Russian Soviet Socialist Republic

JANUARY 1918

The Ukrainian People's Republic proclaims its full independence and declares war against the invading Bolshevik Russia

1918-1921

Ukrainian War of Independence: Ukraine's territory becomes a battlefield between several Ukrainian governments, the White Russian Army, the Bolsheviks, and the newly established Republic of Poland

1921

The Bolshevik Red Army conquers two-thirds of Ukraine; the western third becomes part of Poland

1922

The Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, with Kharkiv as its capital, becomes a founding member of the Soviet Union

1920s

The Soviet government encourages Ukrainian language and culture with the policy of Ukrainisation

1932-1933

Millions in Ukraine die as a result of an artificially created famine, known as the Holodomor, during Stalin's collectivisation campaign

1930s

Reversal of the Ukrainisation policy: 'Ukrainian bourgeois nationalism' is declared as the primary problem in Ukraine

1937-1938

Culmination of the Stalinist purges of the Ukrainian intellectual elite

CULTURAL EVENTS IN UKRAINE

1908

The exhibition *Lanka*, the first show of avant-garde art in the territory of Ukraine, opens in Kyiv; participants include Oleksandr Bohomazov, Wladimir Baranoff-Rossiné, Davyd and Volodymyr Burliuk, and Alexandra Exter

NOVEMBER 1917

The Ukrainian Academy of Art, the first higher-art school in Ukraine, opens in Kyiv; Mykhailo Boichuk becomes the professor of the fresco, mosaics, and tempera studio

JANUARY 1918

The Kultur Lige is established in Kyiv to promote the development of contemporary Yiddish culture

MARCH 1918

Alexandra Exter opens her private studio in Kyiv

1922

Les Kurbas establishes the Berezil Theatre in Kyiv

The Ukrainian Academy of Art is transformed into the Institute of Plastic Arts; in 1924 it becomes the Kyiv Art Institute

1926

The Berezil Theatre moves to Kharkiv

1928 & 1930

Contemporary Ukrainian art is shown as part of the Soviet pavilion at the Venice Biennale

1932

Socialist Realism is introduced as the only official art style of the Soviet Union

1937

Mykhailo Boichuk and Les Kurbas are executed