"Serhii Artemov. In memoriam" - це збірка творів відомого джазмена, частина з яких увійшли до останнього альбому гурту Vibe Trio, записаного до повномасштабного вторгнення, але не опублікованого за його життя. Видання включає також статтю про Сергія Артемова, який загинув, захищаючи Україну у 2023, спогади про нього та відгуки на його твори від музикантів, з якими він співпрацював.

Видання нотної збірки "Serhii Artemov. In memoriam" з'явилося з ініціативи Українського інституту з метою популяризації української музики у світі, для поширення серед закордонних партнерів та музикантів. Над збіркою працювали команда Українського інституту у співпраці з музикантом і композитором Михайлом Лишенко. Дякуємо за співпрацю та рефлексії музикантам Дмитру Литвиненку, Якову Цвєтінському і Ксенії Слободян.

«Serhii Artemov. In Memoriam» is a collection of works by the renowned jazz musician, featuring selected pieces from Vibe Trio's final album, recorded before the full-scale invasion but not released during Serhii's lifetime. This publication also includes an article about Serhii Artemov, who died defending Ukraine in 2023, along with personal recollections and reviews of his works by fellow musicians.

The Ukrainian Institute initiated this publication to promote Ukrainian music globally and to share it with international partners and musicians. The edition was developed by the Ukrainian Institute team in collaboration with musician and composer Misha Lyshenko. Special thanks go to musicians Dmytro Lytvynenko, Yakiv Tsvetinsky, and Kseniia Slobodian for their contributions and reflections.





© Ukrainian Institute, 2024 cover picture © Yuri Gryaznov

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# Serhii Artemov. In memoriam

A profound loss resonates through the Ukrainian jazz community with the passing of Serhii Artemov, a renowned bass and double bass player, composer, and arranger. Artemov met his fate near Bakhmut while bravely defending his homeland during the Russian full-scale invasion. Despite having no prior military experience, he

volunteered for the assault brigade of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, driven by an unwavering commitment to his country. A poignant reminder of Artemov's sacrifice comes in the form of a military honor, as he posthumously receives the Medal «For Military Service to Ukraine.» His brother, Andriy, accepted the award on his behalf.

Artemov was a distinguished figure in the Dnipro jazz scene, gaining prominence with his Vibe Trio and later contributing to projects such as Dark Side Trio, Danylo Vinarikov Ensemble, and Elevation Trio.



Serhii Artemov with Danylo Vinarikov Ensemble at Am I Jazz online showcase 2021 photo credit: Yuri Gryaznov

He is also a good friend of Ukrainian institute, and all our team is thankful to him for the cooperation in 2020 at Am I Jazz online showcase, where he performed with Danylo Vinarikov Ensemble. Additionally he participated in events like Szczecin Jazz and Good Vibe Festival in Poland in 2021.

Mateusz Prus, director of Good Vibe Festival: «Serhii Artemov was an exceptionally talented and warm-hearted young man. In 2021, I had the pleasure of inviting his band, the Danylo Vinarikov Ensemble, to perform at the Good Vibe Festival in Koszalin. The concert took place in the exquisite hall of the Koszalin Philharmonic, where 600 people gathered in September. Little did we know that a few months later, Russia would launch an attack on Ukraine, prompting Serhii to join the army and defend his homeland.



Serhii Artemov with Danylo Vinarikov ensemble at Good Vibe Festival photo credit: Tomasz Majewski

During their time in Koszalin, we spoke with the band about the potential for conflict, and they acknowledged the looming risk, noting various indicators that hinted at the possibility. Regrettably, as history unfolded, Putin ordered the invasion of Ukraine. Even during nighttime strolls in Koszalin, Serhii appeared somewhat reserved, yet exuded warmth through his modest and quiet demeanor, always accompanied by a sincere

smile. He displayed a genuine curiosity about Poland, the city of Koszalin, its culture, and customs.

At the age of 29, an opportune time for a musician, Serhii had immense potential for significant achievements. Beyond his skillful playing, he was also a talented composer. The organizers of the Good Vibe Festival were deeply saddened by the tragic news of his passing on the front lines. Serhii Artemov's untimely death was a profound loss, cutting short a promising career and leaving a void in the hearts of those who knew him.»



Serhii Artemov was featured in the exhibition by Ukrainian Institute and Jazzography.in.ua titled "Ukrainian jazzmen at war"

Though physically absent, Serhii Artemov's legacy as a remarkable musician, a wonderful person, and a defender of Ukraine will endure. The community urges partners and friends to share this tribute, play Artemov's music across various platforms, and ensure his music lives on.

Ukrainian Institute has gathered the music scores by Serhii Artemov and invites musicians from all over the world to include them in their programs, make their own interpretations and thus prolong the memory of Serhii.

Mariana Bondarenko, Ukrainian Institute

# Serhii Artemov. In memoriam

# Reflections

## Misha Lyshenko

**Misha Lyshenko**, a close friend, jazz pianist, composer and collaborator, reminisces about the deep connection he shared with Serhii since their student days at the conservatory. Misha highlights Artemov's important role in the Vibe Trio, where he wasn't just a bass player but an integral part of their creative vision. Serhii's diverse musical talents, technical prowess, and, most importantly, his profound understanding of the essence of music set him apart.

Lyshenko fondly recalls their shared experiences and the natural, fulfilling creative process they enjoyed together. emphasizes He Artemov's openness, impartiality, and sincerity in both music and personality. These qualities, coupled with his uncompromising nature, influenced his decision to volunteer for the Armed Forces.

Misha: "Before the formation of the Vibe Trio, we had already played together in Libe trio

various musical collaborations, and Serhii got into our band at the beginning of his studies at the music high school - he studied at the theoretical department, and then decided to continue his studies on double bass and bass guitar. At that time, we had a great need for a bass player, and Serhii showed his interest in jazz, as well as understanding of harmony and the structure of music in general. I remember, then we even felt a kind of elation from his appearance, we had big hopes for him. And for good reason. His strength as a musician was obvious from the very beginning, and later it only revealed itself and became a permanent feature of his creative personality. This is his broad understanding

of music as a phenomenon and special attitude towards its creation. It may sound like basic stuff, but what I mean are not that common qualities. There are many wonderful musicians, but the opportunity to play and make music with Serhii gave me the feeling that together we will be able to create something special, real. And this is not only my opinion - I hear similar things from other musicians, both Ukrainians and touring Americans and Europeans, who had the chance to play with Serhii."



photos from the concert in Art Area DK in Kharkiv, 2018

photo credit: Olya Lavrik

## Dmytro Lytvynenko

**Dmytro Lytvynenko**, a good friend and drummer in Vibe Trio and Dark Side Trio, shared his reflections on Serhii, describing him as a remarkably bright and sensitive individual. Serhii possessed a strong character, evident both in his approach to life and his passion for music. While he valued the advice of others, he always maintained a distinct and thoughtful perspective on various matters.

Serhii's interests were diverse, demonstrating a multifaceted personality. He was an avid reader, engrossed in chess, and even explored capoeira, a Brazilian martial art, for a while. However, music held a special place in his heart, consistently taking precedence in his pursuits. Despite facing the challenges of a difficult fate, becoming an orphan at the age of 16, Serhii remarkably transformed into an exceptionally kind and joyful individual. His magnetic personality drew in a fascinating array of diverse and talented people.

photo credit: Tetyana Shlapak



### Yakiv Tsvetinsky

**Yakiv Tsvetinsky** (trumpet player and friend of Serhii) shares his story of acquaintance and friendship with Serhiy:

"My acquaintance with Serhii Artemov spanned over 13-14 years, dating back to our time at the Music Academy. From our earliest encounters, Serhii stood out to me with his remarkable intuition and exceptional memory. Even in our early student days, when musical prowess was still developing, Serhii exhibited a mature understanding of music, surpassing many of us. His initial foray into jazz marked his first experience with the genre, yet he played with a sophistication that set him ahead of the curve.

Our musical collaboration extended into Alma De Bossa, a commercial project with Latin American covers. Despite the unconventional nature of this period, we toured and played extensively. Serhii's ability to connect with people from all walks of life added to his allure. In our downtime, we delved into jazz theory, listened to music, enjoyed beer, and shared moments watching The Simpsons.

During the early 2010s, jazz was a niche in Dnipro, with limited venues for performances. Serhii played a pivotal role in changing this landscape. He introduced me to Unknown Petrovskyi, a club that would become a hub for jazz in the city. Serhii initiated concerts and jam sessions, drawing a substantial crowd to the club. This period marked the beginning of a vibrant jazz community in Dnipro, and Serhii played a crucial role in shaping its trajectory. Our musical collaboration continued in the group Le Noir, where Serhii's unique compositions immediately stood out. Unfortunately, personal challenges led to a hiatus from music for Serhii, and our paths temporarily diverged. However, this period of introspection profoundly influenced his relationship with music and people, shaping the conscious choices he later made upon returning to the musical scene.

Upon reconnection, we formed the Four Bros project, where Serhii's organizational skills and innovative compositions became the driving force. Through this project, Serhii encouraged us to be authentic in our musical expression, a lesson that fundamentally changed my approach to music. Life took me abroad for a while, and upon my return, Serhii was involved in Vibe Trio and Dark Side Trio. Though we didn't collaborate directly, his influence continued to resonate in our occasional joint performances. I deeply regret not having the chance to catch up and create more music together.

His sudden demise left a void, and at his funeral, I witnessed the diverse group of people from all over Ukraine he had touched throughout his life. Serhii's ability to unite individuals from various backgrounds was a testament to his unique charisma. I am grateful to Serhii for the positive impact he had on my life, though it's challenging to imagine my musical future without him. His memory lives on in the hearts of those he touched, and the lessons he imparted continue to shape our musical journeys."

## Ksenia Slobodian

**Ksenia Slobodian**, a pianist and a close friend of Serhii, recollects their initial encounter, which took place during a jam session in 2017. She vividly remembers the first time she heard Serhii play – his performance exuded sensuality, as if he were conversing through his bass guitar, displaying a keen sensitivity to the music. Serhii's distinctive features, such as his long fingers and clear, expressive eyes, caught the attention of many. Despite his youth, he emanated wisdom, always approachable and modest.

One memorable experience was attending a concert featuring Serhii with the Vibe Trio band, accompanied by Dmytro Lytvynenko on drums and Misha Lyshenko on keys. The unique setup of the concert, with the musicians positioned at the center of the hall, established a direct «connection» with the audience. Serhii and Misha presented original compositions, showcasing Serhii's extraordinary and unexpected ideas that left the audience in awe. Ksenia vividly recalls being moved to tears by the deep and conceptual nature of their music, describing the team as a groundbreaking discovery of its time.



Serhii Artemov's musical contributions will continue through an upcoming album recorded with the Vibe Trio. The first single "Surveyor 4" from this album was released 1 year after Serhii's death.

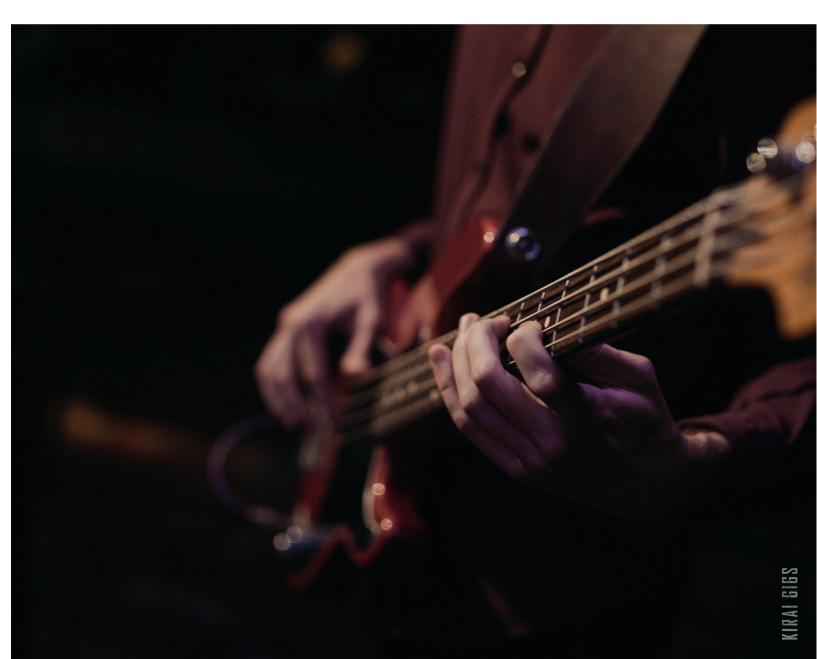
Misha Lyshenko shares insight into some pieces, «Dreamcatcher,» «Roads to Go,» and «Digital Monks,» inviting others to engage with and perform these compositions as a tribute to Artemov's memory: "He left behind a certain volume of music that we have the opportunity to play, promote, share with others. And fortunately, it's very good music, which makes this process pleasant and fulfilling for everyone. Personally, I feel how it helps me cope with this loss. It doesn't make it easy in any sense, but... I can do something for Serhii, it's very valuable."

# «Dreamcatcher»: Serhii Artemov's Unrecorded Melody

«Dreamcatcher» holds a special place in the musical journey of Serhii Artemov and the Vibe Trio. It stands as the inaugural composition that Artemov brought to the rehearsal, even preceding the formation of their trio. Unfortunately, there is no existing audio or video recording of this enchanting tune, adding a sense of mystery and exclusivity to its legacy.

The tempo of «Dreamcatcher» hovers around 140 beats per minute, offering a rhythmic foundation for the composition. However, Artemov, in his creative spirit, encouraged a liberated interpretation, emphasizing that the tempo should not serve as a constraint. This open-minded approach invites musicians and listeners alike to explore the nuances of the melody without rigid limitations.

photo credit: Yuri Gryaznov







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Serhii Artemov. In memoriam

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# «Roads to Go»: Serhii Artemov's Musical Odyssey

«Roads to Go» a masterpiece penned by Serhii Artemov, held a special place in the repertoire of the Vibe Trio, often serving as the grand finale for their concerts. This composition stands out as one of Artemov's most captivating works, seamlessly blending fusion elements with melodious tunes and skillfully uniting diverse moods and styles.

Artemov's artistic brilliance is evident in the intricate fusion of genres within «Roads to Go». The composition takes the listener on a compelling journey, navigating through various musical landscapes. The fusion elements introduce a dynamic energy, while the singable melodies create an emotional resonance that captivates audiences.

A live studio performance of «Roads to Go» not only showcases the technical prowess of Serhii Artemov and the Vibe Trio but also captures the essence of the composition's diverse influences.



Serhii Artemov at Good Vibe festival photo credit: Tomasz Makewski

As you listen, immerse yourself in the evolving textures and rhythms that define

this musical voyage. The live performance adds a layer of spontaneity and authenticity, providing a genuine glimpse into the collaborative synergy of the ensemble.



«Roads to Go»



























# «Digital Monks»: A Musical Exploration by Serhii Artemov and Vibe Trio

In the creative process of «Digital Monks,» Serhii Artemov, the visionary behind the composition, shared that it encapsulates elements that resonate with all of us. During rehearsals, Artemov prompted the ensemble to envision how renowned guitarist John Scofield would interpret the melody, instantly transforming the musical context. This approach introduced a unique perspective and enriched the creative dynamics of the piece.

In shaping the overall aesthetic vision of «Digital Monks,» the Vibe Trio drew inspiration from the distinctive sound of Medeski Martin Wood. While the final result took on a different and special character, the initial influences of Scofield and Medeski Martin Wood provide valuable insight for those seeking to interpret and play this composition. These references offer a gateway into the nuances and stylistic elements embedded within the composition.

One noteworthy aspect the ensemble focused on was the swing feel of the piece. They discovered a sweet spot that delicately balances between triplets and straight-8s, creating a rhythmic tension that enhances the overall musical experience. This intentional approach to rhythm adds depth and complexity to the composition, inviting fellow musicians to explore and experiment with the interplay of rhythmic elements.

«Digital Monks» stands as a testament to Serhii Artemov's innovative approach to music, encouraging musicians to embrace diverse influences and transcend conventional boundaries. As others embark on their interpretation of this composition, the guidance provided by Artemov's suggested influences and attention to rhythmic nuances serves as both an homage to his legacy and an invitation for creative exploration.



Live performance in Kharkiv



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Alto Sax

A piece of light

















# A piece of light



Piano

Serhii Artemov. In memoriam

A piece of light



Ballad



















Tenor Sax

Ballad









Ballad

Serhii Artemov















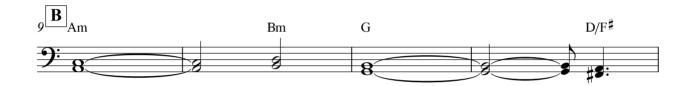






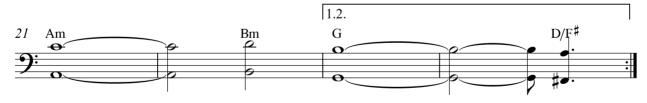


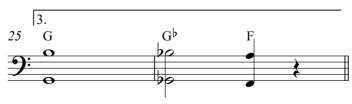






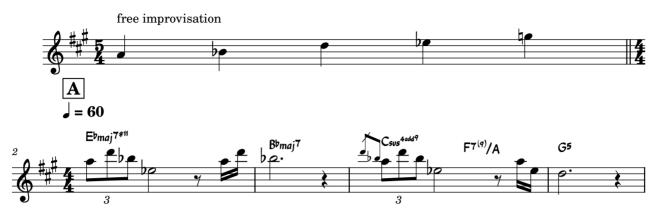








Solitude

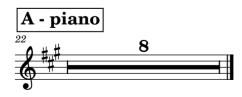












## Tenor Saxophone

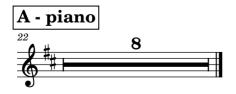
Solitude

Serhii Artemov free improvisation A = 60 $2 \qquad A^{bmaj}7^{*1} \qquad E^{bmaj}7 \qquad F_{sus}^{4add?} \qquad B^{b7(?)}/D \qquad C^{5}$ 











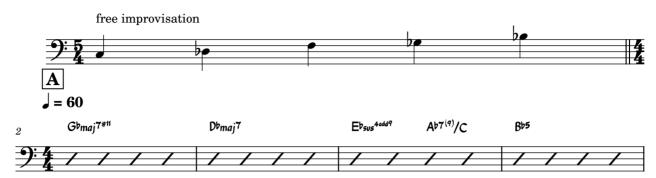
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Serhii Artemov. In memoriam



#### **Fretless Electric Bass**

Solitude











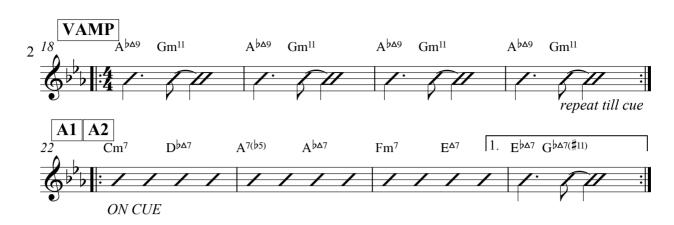
























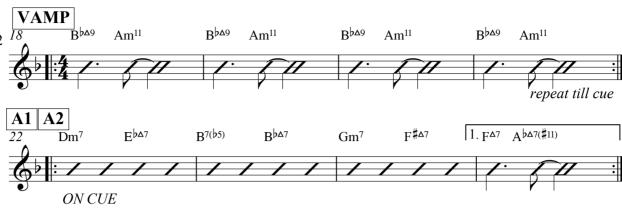


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Serhii Artemov. In memoriam





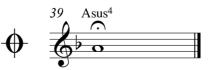












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# **Tibetan Singing Bowl**



















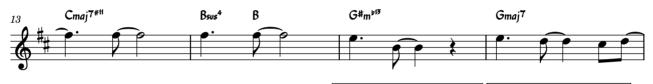
Tenor sax

# Tibetan Singing Bowl





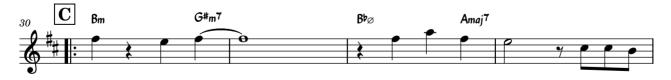














# Tibetan Singing Bowl



Bass

# **Tibetan Singing Bowl**

Serhii Artemov



## **Tibetan Singing Bowl**

[A] In this world you're always Walking as a ghost Lonely Feeling lost Only

> Gray days Bring you inspire Keeping in your heart a fire And keep your face

4

[A] Looking far and feeling bitter smoke inside Ready You'll never hide Steady

> Waves of spirit and freedom Came over us And rhythm Changed to

[B] Fight!

Flashes are bright! Running fast For your right Be and love Never forget your past It's enough to Suffer from the evil You just fight!

[C] Don't be afraid God loves you all And opens wonderful gate For those who called

Lyrics by Iryna Dubenko

Explore Serhii Artemov's music. As we honor his memory, let the music of Serhii Artemov live on.



Watch Am I Jazz? – Danylo Vinarikov Ensemble



Dark Side Trio Spotify



Elevation trio YouTube

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