

Understanding the Unthinkable:

Applying Anthropology of Art in the Era of Russian Fascism

Igor Pasternak and Sveta Yamin-Pasternak

As researchers with lifelong close ties in Ukraine and decades-long close ties in the Russian Arctic, we are deeply and complexly affected by Russia's "dual genocide" - in Ukraine (through violence and war) and within its own borders (through the disproportionate targeting of Indigenous People by means of mobilization and misinformation). This colloquium focuses on the role of anthropology of art in helping understand what seemed unthinkable just a little over a year ago, before Russia's invasion of Ukraine in February of 2022.





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Professors Sveta Yamin-Pasternak and Igor Pasternak teach anthropology and art, respectively, at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. Their research on food, aesthetics, and human-environmental relationships spans communities around Alaska, Chukotka, and Igor's native Ukraine.