

Hovhannes Shiraz (1915-1984)



On the Street of the Masters, *Varpetneri Boghotz*, in Gyumri, stands the house museum of lyric poet and writer Hovhannes Shiraz. It has six rooms. The collection contains original furniture; a copy of Gregory of Narek's *Lamentations*; his published works, memorabilia and photographs; an artwork presented by Sergei Parajanov to the Shiraz family on the occasion of his death; and a letter from John Steinbeck, dated May 9, 1964, two years after Steinbeck received the Nobel Prize in Literature. There, Steinbeck thanks Shiraz for his hospitality while visiting Yerevan.

The house museum was built in his lifetime. He saw the opening in 1983, but died in early March 1984 and never lived in the house.

Among the collection are also writings from his children and sculptures by his nephews.



Photo by K. Vrtanesyan