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**СУСПІЛЬНО-ПОЛІТИЧНІ ПРОЦЕСИ
НА УКРАЇНСЬКИХ ЗЕМЛЯХ:
ІСТОРІЯ, ПРОБЛЕМИ, ПЕРСПЕКТИВИ**

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MICROMINIATURE AS A PHENOMENON OF MODERN CULTURE

Microminiature in Ukrainian culture is a new kind of human creative activity, which became possible with scientific and technological progress and the development of high technologies, in particular with the advent of electronics and super-powerful microscopes. Today it reflects the level of development of both the person, its creator, and several spheres of person's cultural activity (science, philosophy, technology, art, engineering), at the junction of which microminiature arose. It suggests that it's a phenomenon of modern culture. However, microminiature as an extraordinary cultural phenomenon remains almost unexplored. This actualizes the need for its understanding as a phenomenon of modern Ukrainian culture, first, using post-non-classical methodology.

The special need to address to the Ukrainian microminiature, its formation and development is due to the fact that it's an important factor both for the reflection of modern people and their culture, and for the self-identification of the nation, as well as the understanding of the national technoart dynamics in general.

According to the definition of the cultural dictionary, microminiature is a "small sized work of art", a certain type of activity of a modern person [1].

But unlike the bookish miniature or other small-sized works, it's creation and perception is impossible without the super-powerful microscopes.

Ancient microminiature existed in the V century B.C. without the use of high-precision equipment. The example of this is the earrings that

were found in Feodosia in 1853 and dated back to IV–III century B.C. It's interesting that the complexity of soldering gold "grains" in the decoration was so complex that the famous Carl Faberge could not repeat the technique of soldering at the beginning of the twentieth century.

In the 10th century, a microscopic gold grain with a diameter of 0.3 – 0.4 mm appeared in the arts and crafts of Kievan Rus, in particular in the decoration of women's jewelry, earrings, pendants and rings for men.

That was an ancient technical stage of microminiature development without the use of optical technologies.

Modern microminiature, which appeared in the 70-ies of 20th century, is a purely technical art. The precondition of its creation and perception as a cultural value was the scientific and instrumental development, the emergence of new technologies for processing solid materials.

The creation of microminiature involves an extremely high level of concentration of the artist, the accuracy of his or her movements, the minimum expenditure of energy, the establishment of self-control and a certain spiritual organization. It's even extremely important to hold the breath (up to 6 min.), because it's "work with dust" and strokes are applied between heartbeats.

This explains why the high demand and the price of micromasterpieces do not increase the number of its artists. Today the name of each microminiature artist is world famous. They are E. Kazarian, M. Maslyuk, M. Syadristyi, A. Sysolyatin, M. Dotsvsky, A. Konenko, M. Aldunin.

Microminiature refers to an elite culture. It displays the talent, the skill, the special perception of the world by the best representatives of the society. It's a new way of human being objectification both external and internal, of forces, abilities, qualities and potential. This is a new cultural value, which reflects the orientation of human existence to perfection, to the ultimate identification of the human nature. At the same time, unlike the well-established point of view about obscurity of perception of high culture works, the microminiature is easily perceived by the viewer.

The specifics of the Ukrainian microminiature is that it's a techne and at the same time microminiature develops as an art. Thus, Ukrainian artists created the world's first operating electric motor with microscopic volumetric parts weighing 0.06 grams. The engine immediately began to be successfully used in medicine to ensure the operation of microprobes.

The technical feature of modern Ukrainian micromasterpieces is significant detailing and complexity. According to M. Syadristyi: «In the coming years, and for the million dollars, none of the jewelers will copy my golden mosquito in full size with the girl sitting on its nose in a pleated dress under the umbrella, and her feet in shoes. And my Hrin's memory ship with 337 parts is unattainable for coping» [2].

The Ukrainian microminiature as an art is presented by microportraits, micro compositions and even micro artworks, which retain the core art functions, including key one – aesthetic.

The specific feature of the Ukrainian microminiature as an art form is that it combines visual and non-visual elements.

“It just seems like you're walking in a straight line, through the years and inviting distance, and in fact – in a hurry to go home again return to the eternal spiral” [3].

Thus, the Ukrainian microminiature, which combines symmetry, harmony, order and beauty, at the same time, is a technique and art, practice and worldview, philosophy and life.

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