

ABSTRACT

Olga Kotsuibanska, Nadiya Levitska

Mosaic of nowadays Ukraine as a resurrection of Kyiv Rus traditions.

Mosaic art of Ukraine was born as a piece of Christianity. Famous religious reform of Volodymyr the Great has brought to Ukraine numerous traditions of Byzantine culture. Implantation of new art was quite successful. Brilliant mosaics of Saint Sofia cathedral and St. Michael's Golden-Domed Monastery, especially famous mosaic of St. Demetrius have shown the craftsmanship of Ukrainian artists. Bright and lively mosaic tradition actually died with decay of Kyiv Rus. During the time of Renaissance and Baroque, frescoes and icons became more popular than mosaic in the interior of Ukrainian church. Though many traditions of medieval culture were preserved, complicated and laborious art of mosaic was replaced by painting. Mosaic was unexpectedly returned in Soviet era. On the basis of the Ukrainian Institute of High-Molecular Compounds a polyester mosaic was developed, which had a wide colour range, differed in the ability to take any shape, characterized by high resistance to natural and exploitative factors. Imperial consciousness of totalitarian state needed something to emphasize their power. Numerous gigantic mosaics were installed on the walls of Soviet cities. Most of them had primitive, common plot - achievements of Communistic party, brave pioneers and happy peasants. However, some of them kept individual character of their creators. Being under the pressure of ideology, Soviet artists had founded culture of protest.

Metro station "Zoloty vorota" became a turning point for the Ukrainian mosaic art. Being created on the verge of Independence, it was dedicated to the memory of Kyiv Rus, but in the same time - to the future rebirth. "Zoloti vorota" station was listed as the one of the most beautiful metro station in the world. Opened in 1989, it was decorated by the 28 mosaic portraits of the prominent figures of the history of Kyiv Rus. All of them, including decorative floral lines, were created in several month, and none of them was similar to the previous one. To sum up, this station is a kind of short history of Kyiv Rus. In this case, we've

got real resurrection of medieval culture - depiction to clarify and to remind.