

MYHTOLOGICAL IMAGES AND PLOTES IN ART OF MODERN OF THE FIRST HALF OF XX CENTURY

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The border of epochs is accompanying crisis which held a change of the way of thinking, remove to other philosophical model of outlook. Art tends to reach the time and to represent a new life in its works and convey a mood of epoch. Early of XX century was marked by different events, such as: industrialization, the World War I, epidemics, collapse of empires, devastation and famine which destroyed a world balance. Artists tried to get a lost harmony. A new problem was established at the end of XIX – early of XX centuries. Symbolism had a considerable influence on the choice of plots and its interpretation in Modern. Art of Modern is characterized by interest to mythological characters and allegoric motives.

Myth became a way of rethinking of reality and has demanded from artist three elements: myth itself, historical epoch and picturesque language. Revival of myth in the art of XX century was based on the new attitude to myth as a saver of basics of the future culture. Myth changed the universal imagination about world order in sensory-specific form, and this property is inherited from his art.

German, French, Belgian symbolists often presented sphinx as an ideal hero for artist of Modern, which combined a woman, a bird and a lion. Centaurs were popular image that demonstrated a man power. It was important for Modern a mythological hero who demonstrated the natural essence of man.

Orientation at the organic natural forms was one of the features of Modern.

The representatives of Modern weren't interested in nature at all but in its separated parts. Objects and nature phenomena were understood by Modern in symbolic and mythological sense. For example orchids and lilies symbolized a tragedy and a death. Bells showed a wish, sunflowers meant sunlight, rose and narcissus meant tenderness and beauty, tree symbolized a life tree, cognition. Mythological image of swan attention of its beauty, allegory of doom in Ancient Egypt considered as a symbol of the city of Sun and often was in Christian iconography near paradise tree.

Vrubel's painting "The Swan Princess" a woman-bird who presented a woman beauty acquired attracting softness swan appears in the frames of theatre performance.

Popular theme and plot of Modern was an idea of growth, manifestation of vitality, immediate breakthrough, unconsciousness feeling, direct expression of the soul, awakening, formation, development, youth, spring.

Professional art renewed a connection with a folk culture. It concerned content and form of presentation. Pagan mythology "World Tree" was demanded by artists of Modern as a stable life-affirming world model. It served as a content and structural basis of paintings by M. Roerich and M. Boychuk.

The fine arts overcome the limits of specific historical time, carried the multidimensionality of space. Appeal to the national mythology expanded temporal and spatial boundaries of art and has identified a high degree of generalization visual language of modernism.