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# Biography as a factor of shaping the artist's creative style

# Біографія як чинник формування творчого стилю митця

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#### Abstract

The objective of the article is to specify the essence of the chronicle as a sociocultural, anthropocentric phenomenon, as well as to justify the significance of biographical factors in the establishment and development of the master's creative style. Its implementation has become possible via involving a number of general scientific methods (induction, deduction, synthesis, etc.) alongside with the following interdisciplinary approaches: culture studies, comparative, biographical, analytical, systemic, etc. It was confirmed that: the biography is the central genre of comparative humanitarian studies. It implements ontology, outlook and the key achievements of an individual. Due to its multifaceted and universal character, the biography appears an important factor of shaping, transforming and studying the master's technique; it fixes and explicates the basic stages of a creative personality's individual history, biography events that have presupposed active/passive character, justified the person's spiritual requirements and revealed their philosophical paradigm. While rebroadcasting

#### Анотація

Мета статті – уточнити сутність життєпису як соціокультурного, антропоцентричного феномену, довести вагомість біографічних чинників на становлення та розвиток творчого стилю майстра. ЇЇ реалізація уможливилась шляхом застосування низки загальнонаукових методів (індукція, дедукція, аналіз, синтез й т.д.), а також міждисциплінарних підходів: культурологічного, компаративного, біографічного, аналітичного, системного та ін. Доведено: життєпис – центральний жанр сучасної гуманітаристики. Він імплементує онтологію, світогляд, провідні напрацювання особистості. Завдяки своїй багатогранності, універсальності біографія постає вагомим формування, трансформації, чинником студіювання почерку метра; фіксує, експлікує основні етапи індивідуальної історії креативної персони, життєписні події, котрі обумовили активність / пасивність, пояснює духовні запити людини, розкриває її філософську парадигму. Ретранслюючи літопис метра, автор паралельно висвітлює соціокультурну

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the master's chronicle, the author simultaneously reveals the sociocultural situation in which the character used to exist, and demonstrates the dominating concepts of the period.

**Key words:** biography, the artist, creative style, artistic opus, humanitarian studies.

### Introduction

Humanitarian studies give significant importance to realizing the creative personality's practical activity, as it enhances civilizational processes reconstruction and promotes the study of Homo sapiens progress regulations. The master's creative style is a complex and controversial phenomenon and its formation depends on many factors. In our view, among the dominant ones are the following: sociocultural, historical situation of the era in which the individual exists: family-like atmosphere, immediate environment; psychological qualities, the mindset, skills, etc. The artistic canvas of the world is multifaceted. While experiencing its images, considering certain events, passing them through the "Self" prism, the master broadcasts the experienced impressions via opuses. Thus, life collisions not only become the facts of the individual's past but are also consciously or intuitively projected onto the artist's elaborations, thereby determining the specifics of the writing manner. Within this framework, biography is a panoramic mirror reflecting the person's daily routines with their searches, discoveries, achievements, hopes, disappointments, losses, etc. The universality of the aforementioned genre, a significant scientific potential require a comprehensive study of its regularities, functions, tasks, as well as revealing its impact on civilizational transformations.

The objective of the article is to specify the essence of biography as a sociocultural, anthropocentric phenomenon, to confirm the importance of biographical factors for the establishment and development of the master's creative style.

Scientific novelty – for the first time ever within the science discourse, the interaction between the master's chronicle and the uniqueness of their creative achievements was justified.

#### Literature review

The current stage of humanitarian studies development is characterized by flourishing of personality study, which has supplemented and clarified a significant corpus of philanthropic knowledge. Various aspects of demiurge's ситуацію, в якій побутував герой оповіді, демонструє домінуючі концепти доби.

Ключові слова: біографія, митець, творчий стиль, мистецький опус, гуманітаристика.

biography research are represented by works of the leading contemporary Ukrainian scientists who conduct their investigations within the focus of European scientific trends. They study biography content I. Golubovich (2009), O. Popovych (2011), Yu Vernik (2013) and some others); its conceptual and typological features (V. Andreiev (2011), V. Bondarchuk (2017), (2016), U. Hrab V. Levchenko S. Liashko (2013),M. Minakov (2015).V. Menzhulin (2011), O. Onufriienko (2011) and others); the genre genesis transformation from the antiquity to nowadays N. Novosad & Moroz (2014), Z. Svjashhenko (2017) and some others); realize implementation of the epoch profile, dominant anthropological ideas within the master's chronicle A. Valevskyi (1993),T. Vlasova & Kryvchyk, Gh.Gh (2018) and some others); the ways of broadcasting individual and corporate experience via the master's biography Astalosh & Mykulanynets, (2021), N. Bohdanova (2011), A. Kosheljev (2021), L. Mykulanynets (2018, 2021) and some others); the communicative potential of the master's chronicle Artemenko, (2018).Iu. Vernik (2013), N. Dichek (2016), O. Zlotnyk (2019) and some others); explicate the description of being as a means of culture Mykulanynets interpretation L. O. Popovych (2011) and some others); interpret an artwork as part of the master's personal history Babenko, (2005), S. Matsenko T. Cherkashyna (2008), (2015) and some others); reveal biographical concepts within the artistic opuses L. Mykulanynets (2022), Muratova O. (2020) and some others), etc.

Scientific reference review witnesses significant interest to the creative personality's ontology, the biography as a form of its fixation and cognition. Ever-changing civilizational conditions, innovative social requirements demand further mastering of the genre within the framework of the key basis of the trans-modern epoch. The works that reveal the biography within the aspect of its impact on the formation, metamorphosis of the demiurge's creative style,

their choice of specific issues, genres for self-expression appear relevant.

## Methodology

Implementing the objective of the article has become possible due to involving a number of general scientific methods (induction, deduction, analysis. synthesis, etc.), as well interdisciplinary approaches: culture studies – by studying the interaction between sociocultural and personalized dimensions of the creative individual's existence; comparative - by comparing the uniqueness of the stages of the master's chronicles; stylistic - by revealing the specifics of the master's style transformation at various stages of the existence; biographical – by researching age and ontological aspects of the master's daily routine; analytical – by the grasp of the corpus of theses on the aforementioned issues; systemic - comprehensively and in accordance with humanitarian studies achievements, via considering the suggested question; theoretical generalization - by summarizing the research results.

### Results and discussions

Biography is one of the oldest and most significant humanistic genres in European history. In different eras, it performed important civilizational and social functions, and reflected the dominant worldview priorities. The tradition of connecting artworks understanding with their creator's biography dates back to the theses by F. Schleiermacher (1768 - 1834), who was convinced in the following: mastering a text means understanding its author, i. e. the subject of the text. The 19th century became the next stage within this route. This time was marked by a boost of personality studies presupposed by the scientific activity of Sh. O. Sainte-Beuve (2008) - the biographical method founder. The essence of the scholar's views is that an artistic opus cannot be considered without the analysis of demiurge's individuality, their psychology, family atmosphere and immediate surrounding. The abovementioned factors impact shaping and transformation of the master's talent and artistic manner. The ideas of the scholar were appreciated by the researchers of further periods, and they were convinced that the most important experience, as well as the facts of being, are reconsidered and reflected in opuses.

At the boundary of the 19th and the early 20th centuries, scientists studied the chronicles in order to understand the master's / philosopher's character. The construction of the strategy of

personal existence, the presence (absence) of controversies between the ideas and actions represented by creativity aroused interest. In the result of the accumulated information, conclusions were made regarding the following: the opinion authority of a person having a certain fortune, a peculiar daily routine; reasonableness of their assertions, appropriateness of their use while shaping innovative humanistic knowledge. The relevance of such research is due to the enhancement of the master's social role, interpreting them as accelerators of public and cultural processes, an attempt to understand global disturbances through the grasp of the prominent person's microcosm.

In the 20th century, the interest to the creative person increased. They are interpreted as carriers of a special life-giving energy able to change the world efficiently. Thus, the study of individual history by the public shapes a critical nonconformist consciousness and prevents people from neglecting their personal features. Most anthropologists of the aforementioned period regard the master's elaborations as an expression of their essence (although the formal school representatives disagree on this).

The role of the artist during the postmodernism epoch is extremely complicated and ambiguous (as something personal as the "product" of their activity), it lies in recreating the atmosphere of the existence absurdity, in revealing the cult of an autonomous personality, in combining various trends and focuses into a single unity, in theatricalizing the surrounding reality, etc. The abovementioned processes have intensified the search of representatives of various humanitarian fields in order to find adequate methodology of researching the master's creative style. A certain scientific universality was justified biographical studies, which, by implementing a wide range of philanthropic knowledge, documentary references, the achievements of applied disciplines, have offered the ways of studying various aspects of a creative personality's existence and practical activity. This promoted a more appropriate cognition of their nature and gave the clue to interpreting their theses.

The 21st century is a boost of personality studies, which have integrated into almost all the spheres of Homo sapiens activity. It was especially profoundly displayed in visual art forms - on television and the Internet domain. Nowadays, we can manifest the emergence of a significant number of films, documentaries and journalistic



programs. The goal is to reveal the secrets of success, the ways of structuring the progress pathway, creative style interpretation, the philosophy of prominent profiles of both nowadays and the preceding historical epochs. The center of the concept of such projects is usually a chronological description of a personality's existence, drawing parallels between the facts of their daily routine and significant achievements (which have become their feedback), civilizational mission outline, etc. They are focused on the recipient of various intellectual and spiritual levels; they aspire after demonstrating a successful hero model (which anyone could imitate) and encouraging an average dweller to self-fulfill.

Within the scientific discourse, the chronicle research is characteristic of nearly all the humanitarian disciplines. Significant achievements are represented in pedagogy, culture studies, sociology, philology, psychology, philosophy and some others. A specific biographical trend was formed in art studies. By implementing a large-scale corpus of the achievements of applied sciences, it studies the uniqueness of the master's being by means of projecting its impact on the individual creative style. Thus, a postulate is being justified: life events registered in the creative individual's chronicles are being sublimated due to the master's theses.

The generally accepted traditional definition of a chronicle is the following: this is a retrospective, chronological description of the personality's existence and significant achievements from birth to death. The art studies type of the genre has its own specifics, since the ontology constituents are cultural artifacts created by its character. The study of various domains of the creative personality's daily routine is an essential background for the grasp of the artistic and image-bearing, emotional and intellectual world of their achievements. While plunging into the life atmosphere, the scientist reconstructs and explains the individual's practical activity, acknowledges with the multifaceted circumstances that reveal the sense and the stylistic parameters of opuses. experience, moral and ethical, political and public positions are reflected in an artistic sample depicting the reality through the prism of the author's subjective vision. An opus is a form of highlighting an individual reality concept, implementing exceptional ideas of the dynamics of essential processes. The master's philosophical paradigm finds its artistic expression through a characteristic combination of a content series.

There exists a large number of interactions between a demiurge and an artwork; they outline the issues of the selected genre, stylistics, the presentation method and predicting the reaction.

An important feature of biography is a vivid sociocultural context. Any master is a hero of a certain epoch (although they may not tolerate its ideology or the dominant views); their life unfolds within the historical realities determining individual specifics of being. Moreover, an author who is structuring a chronicle builds the narrative in accordance with literature and artistic canons, social requirements functioning at a specific time. He emphasizes the key civilization basis, public ideals manifested by the character. Thus, the genre under consideration appears as an anthropological phenomenon able to broadcast information not only about a person, but also about their attitudes, controversies, challenges and the heritage of an era.

While cognizing the creative personality's biography, scientists traditionally divide it into stages. This contributes to highlighting the key moments of life, a detailed study of the factors influenced the formation crystallization of everyday status. The generally accepted stages are the following: early (the personality's formation and individual writing manner), mature (the assertion of their own philosophy and professional skills), (summarizing the creative and ontological results). The quality of everyone's experience determines not only shaping psychological features and world outlook, but is also reflected in their achievements. Let us consider each period in more detail in order to reveal the personality's evolution and to realize the role in the artistic style formation.

The early stage (approximately up to 18-25 years) encompasses childhood and youth. In scientific research, scientists (with an exception for wunderkinds' biographies) usually skip early childhood. This tendency is a certain atavism of the previous epochs (before the 20th century), when children were considered not quite mature people. It was essential to wait for their adulthood, and only then to regard their potential and achievements seriously. However, it has already been scientifically confirmed that the abovementioned stage is a crucial form of a personality's existence, which will focus their values, requirements and ideals in the future. Within this period, there occur: the formation of the "Self" concept, the characteristic features of personal creative style, the manner of expressing

an artistic image and thought presentation, which are going to become the mature style basis.

At this stage, a significant importance is given to the master's identity, social and cultural environment, family-like atmosphere, historical and political background for growth, which speed up (or slow down) the process of professional self-fulfillment. The private life events, learning from the wise and iconic teachers, being acknowledged with outstanding masters' opuses, perceiving world masterpieces, distinguishing favorite ones define the specifics of the creative personality's way of thinking. The elaborations of the aforementioned development stage are not often autonomous or innovative, they are exposed to the existing canons; however, they implement the accumulated experience. demonstrate the difficult path of the identity search and become the basis for personal discoveries.

It is vital that the biography author focuses on understanding the psycho-age, immanent and stylistic, sociocultural background for the hero formation. It requires a detailed revealing of significant events, impressions and meetings from the young talented person's life. This will enable to understand the temperament, character, preferences and appeal to certain topics, artistic trends, as well as to justify the choice of expressive means, etc., thus to decode the program of progress. The abovementioned stage of wunderkinds should be scrupulously studied, since their giftedness and independent, unique style are established during the early period.

The mature stage (in the Christian and Jewish tradition it refers to 33 - 70 year olds) is characterized by the activity intensity, the emergence of remarkable opuses, establishment of personal philosophical position, identifying new creative paths, etc. This is the long-lasting, controversial heterogeneous stage of the master's ontology, the consequence of which is usually the following: realizing the importance of personal practical activity, responsible attitude to the ideas being broadcast; self-reflection, energy concentration opuses; conscious qualitative world transformation through the responsible cultural creative work, aspiring after transferring the accumulated experience to the next generations of recipients, leaving a personal footprint in history.

The importance of the abovementioned period requires not only the analysis of the master's achievements, but also seeking methods of interpreting the individual writing manner. It is essential to outline the reasons for appealing to a certain issue or genre clearly. For this, it is appropriate for the scientist to study the autobiographical material thoroughly (in case it is available, since not every performer aspires after explaining his spiritual intentions verbally), the information that the demiurges have broadcast about themselves and their opuses, to plunge into their microcosm. It is also worth considering a significant layer of epistolary and science literature, letters, their contemporaries' memories, diaries, archival documents, etc. It is vital to see a real person rather than an idealized image being quite often offered by classical art studies, which is still under the influence of the Victorian chronicle type (only positive sides of the master's existence are demonstrated).

While reproducing the chronotope of the artist's life creativity, the author is obliged to restore the psychological portrait, mental organization, to accentuate the collisions running through their being. It is important to outline private events in detail, as well as to be highly adequate, i. e. not to descend to the level of the so-called "yellow press", not to get involved in myth-making and indulgence in the show business laws (in order to arouse interest to the character from the recipients' side). It is appropriate to compare the personal and occupational, to justify the choice of genres, subordination of the opus content to the master's life vicissitudes. When the master deliberately deviates from the autobiographical nature of personal achievements, which is a quite rare phenomenon in itself (K. Debussy, O. Skriabin and some others), it is worth explaining the nature and essence of the parallel existence of creative and private world. Moreover, it is not desirable to explain the artwork semantics primitively, by interpreting it as a literal reflection of the chronicle data. Before becoming an artwork, the phenomenon is exposed to reconsideration and is being sublimated into creative energy, and only thereafter becomes a cultural artifact.

The stylistic parameters of the mature stage are characterized by asserting an individual way of thinking (rooted in tradition, or deliberately opposed to it, but with a clearly defined unique manner), selecting the author's methodology for solving artistic issues, philosophical late themes, the independence of thought, designing new artistic ways and some others. During this period, the demiurge is usually not afraid to experiment, to go beyond the manifested canons; they promote their elaborations, etc.



The late period is consolidating the achieved results, reassessing the values being broadcast during the lifetime, transition to the patriarch's status, the reduction of practical intensity, summarizing ontological results. This stage of the master's existence is characterized by the artistic thinking transformation, the reflection of the progress being accomplished, accentuating attention on the past years' experience. The daily priorities change, the demiurge's activeness is directed from external dimensions to internal the reflections and philosophical ones: generalizations are getting intense. The aforementioned processes also affect the master's public image and their style specifics. They tend to appeal to eternal issues (God, death, immortality, civilization, humanity, etc.), as well as to global problems.

In old age, the master is less interested in the public side of life; they rarely appear at public events, their circle of communication being limited to the family and close friends. Such a chronicle scenario affects their creative style. Quite often, they appeal to chambering, intimacy of expression, the simplicity of thought and a kind of autobiography (via self-quoting, allusion and reminiscence). For a conscious master, the period under analysis lies in summing up, preparing for eternity; therefore, the demiurge's "words" are perceived as a special Homo sapiens message.

Every stage of the master's biography is self-sufficient and significant, even if it was not enlightened by significant achievement. Moreover, it is worth remembering that talent has its specific time for public recognition. The master may sometimes predict cultural tendencies that are likely to become dominant in further centuries. Thus, a thoughtful researcher takes great responsibility in structuring the creative personality's chronicle, realizing the important civilizational role of their work.

The conducted research enables to manifest that the artist's biography is a multifaceted narration about the life-creating mission implementation. It reflects the key facts of existence, explains the motives, actions and behavior of the character. The master transmits the external stimuli (historical, economic, social, etc.) through the inner being, and then reflects them via personal practical activity, thereby making them a creative style constituent. The artistic heritage is a concentration of a large-scale layer of phenomena being perceived and reconsidered by a unique profile and embodied in an artistic form.

#### Conclusions

Biography is the central anthropological genre of contemporary humanitarian study. It implements the ontology, world outlook and the key achievements of a unique personality. Due to its multifaceted nature and universality, biography becomes a significant factor of shaping, transformation and studying the master's style; it registers and explicates the basic stages of individual history, as chronicled events presuppose creative activity / passivity, explain spiritual inquiries and reveal a philosophical paradigm. While rebroadcasting the master's chronicle, the author simultaneously depicts the sociocultural situation, in which the character of the narration exists and demonstrates the dominant concepts of the era.

Before becoming an artistic image, the reality passes through the demiurge's inner essence, while the existence facts are becoming a meaningful component of an artistic opus. Life episodes can be broadcast in different ways: through practice integration into a certain civilizational process; the blending of personal experience and social phenomena within artistic activity. The condition for implementing chronicles with creative samples lies in the master's ability to productively observe and consider the reality, to specifically sympathize with it (so that it occurs part of their "Self"), to conscious and responsible towards themselves.

The article under consideration does not reveal all the aspects of the issued problematic field. Research dedicated to the study of prominent masters' biographies, as well as to revealing the role of staged opuses in the master's creative activity, and realizing the demiurge's civilizing mission appear perspective.

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