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**Review for the volume Alexei Marco. The destiny of a jeweler from  
Moldova, by Liliana Condriticova, work about the onographic study of  
the artist jeweler Alexei Marco, within Moldovan cultural space**

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**Review for the volume *Alexei Marco. The destiny of a jeweler from Moldova*, by Liliana Condraticova, work about the monographic study of the artist jeweler Alexei Marco, within Moldovan cultural space**

Ana CARAS<sup>1</sup>

**Abstract**

*The present paper represents the review for the volume Alexei Marco. The destiny of a jeweler from Moldova, by Liliana Condraticova, published at Lumen Publishing House, a volume about the monographic study of an artist jeweler from Moldova. The work comes as a novelty element in the cultural context of Moldova. The lack of studies regarding the life and work of the masters of jewelry manufacturing, determined the author to develop a work in order to provide relevant, comprehensive information, in terms of the artistic creation of the most famous jeweler in Moldova - Alexei Marco.*

*The study uses monographic method, a method used particularly in empirical research, which involves direct observation of territorial social unit without the use of sampling and without manipulating variables. The social reality investigated is approached in all its manifestations.*

**Keywords**

*Review, Alexei Marco. The destiny of a jeweler from Moldova, Liliana Condraticova, monographic study, jewelry art.*

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## Introduction

The reviewed volume *Alexei Marco. The destiny of a jeweler from Moldova* appeared in a cultural context in which art, more specifically jewelry art – the subject of this study, is in the shadow of social-economic context. The importance of art diminishes and the lack of information in the domain studied by the author is good reason to start this empirical research.

The present review aims at discovering the volume that provides for the public interested in new art, extra knowledge and the desire to develop further work in this field. The volume is a meditation of the author, recognition of forgotten values and realization of a vast creative portrait of Alexei Marco - jeweler and professional artist in decorative-applied arts, polisher of gems and ivory, famous varnish maker. The approach of the author includes important biographical data regarding the process of becoming a master, as well as the analysis of the creation from artistic and technological point of view.

It is important to mention the nature of the work in terms of methodology, the author using a monographic method, with particularities such as plasticity. This method can associate any methods and techniques for the collection of information - sociological observation, interview, which requires the involvement in research of an interdisciplinary team due to the complex nature of the studied social realities and the need for multilateral approach.

The utility of this review is to present the volume to a public interested in art jewelry, as well as the specific and culture of artists in Moldova.

## Literature Review

The volume *Alexei Marco. The destiny of a jeweler from Moldova* (2011) by Liliana Condraticova illustrates the monographic study of a famous jeweler, whose artwork requires recognition and appreciation. The author progressively presents within the work elements of introductory nature in the studied art, the life and the actual art of the jeweler.

*Alexei Marco. The destiny of a jeweler from Moldova* (2011) was elaborated by Liliana Condraticova, PhD in the study of arts, in the

Department of “Visual Arts” of Center of Study of Arts of the Cultural Heritage Institute of the Academy of Sciences of Moldova and published at Lumen Publishing House, where the author published another volume as well, in the same field *Art jewelry in Moldova*, (2010).

The volume represents a niche publication for people interested in art history and more precisely, the history of jewelry art and how they indirectly impact the cultural life of a geographical area and of a specific historical time creating cultural particularities specific to Moldova between Prut and Nistru. The work comes as a novelty element in the cultural context of Moldova. The lack of studies regarding the life and work of the masters of jewelry manufacturing, determined the author to develop a work in order to provide relevant, comprehensive information, in terms of the artistic creation of the most famous jeweler in Moldova - Alexei Marco.

This approach includes information regarding the will to live and creative force that a political deportee in Siberia has proved during the Stalinist period. This paper examines techniques and work technologies possessed by the artist, ornament articles are described, along with works produced in the technique of artistic varnish and participation in various exhibitions at national and European level. This study is a meditation of the author, the removal of anonymity and achievement of a comprehensive portrait of creation of Alexei Marco - jeweler and professional artist in decorative-applied arts, polisher of gems and ivory, famous varnish maker. The approach of the author includes important biographical data regarding the process of becoming a master, as well as the analysis of the creation from artistic and technological point of view.

Being apolitical and often considered a minor art, the history and art jewelry has not been promoted and specialized studies for this area were not created, thus the life and work of artists remained anonymous. Going through the chronological development of art jewelry in the cultural area mentioned by the author in this volume, we can see an opening of this field, due to publications in professional journals, where reference is made to the creation of artists and designers who set the highest standards of their work. Imaging of this volume provides a partial representation of the great works of the jewelry artist, which challenges the reader in a thorough discovery of the whole activity.

### Conclusions

The descriptive nature found in the style of the author succeeds in exposing the work through methodological particularities. The study uses monographic method, a method used particularly in empirical research, which involves direct observation of territorial social unit without the use of sampling and without manipulating variables. The social reality investigated is approached in all its manifestations.

I think that the volume *Alexei Marco. The destiny of a jeweler from Moldova* manages to promote remarkable but forgotten values. The utility of this work is revealed precisely by the novelty element brought to a public interested in art jewelry. This monographic study is a premier for the study of decorative arts, and the magnitude with which is presented shows the importance of bringing this art to light.

### References

Condraticova, L., (2011) *Alexei Marco. Destinul unui bijutier din Moldova*, Editura Lumen, Iași.