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Review of educational publications by the Russian university of traditional art crafts on jewelry art

Abstract. The article provides a review of textbooks and manuals designed for professional disciplines taught to students pursuing the profession of jewelry artist at the Russian university of traditional art crafts. It describes the structure and content of these publications.

Keywords: Russian university of traditional art crafts, jewelry art, performance skills, renovation, jewelry items, jewelry accessories, jewelry technologies, artistic metal, vocational education, creative projects, graduation qualification works, jewelry artists.



Fig. 1. M.V. Churakova, "Manufacturing technology of jewelry items"

Three educational publications have been released by the Russian university of traditional art crafts for students enrolled in the direction 54.02.02 Decorative and applied arts and folk crafts, type – artistic metal (jewelry art) and bachelor's programs and specialty 54.03.02 Decorative and applied arts and folk crafts, profile – artistic metal (jewelry art) in professional disciplines.

The textbook "Technology of manufacturing jewelry items" [4] (Fig. 1⁷⁵) is intended for first-year students majoring in 54.02.02 Decorative and applied arts and folk crafts, type – artistic metal (jewelry art). It consists of four chapters containing theoretical material and practical assignments for the course "Technology of manufacturing jewelry items".

The first chapter of the publication covers general information about safety regulations and organization of a jeweler's workspace. In the second chapter, the author lists materials and tools required for

⁷⁵ Fig. 1. Churakova M.V. Technology of manufacturing jewelry items: study guide for classroom and extracurricular work of students following the secondary vocational education program, major 54.02.02 "Decorative and applied arts and folk crafts", type: artistic metal (jewelry art) / M.V. Churakova; Higher school of folk arts. – Saint Petersburg: VShNI, 2020. – 55 p. – ISBN 978-5-907193-45-1.

handcrafting jewelry, briefly describing metal alloys and the purpose of instruments commonly utilized in the jewelry industry.

The third chapter, titled "Basic technological operations for handmade product manufacturing", comprises two sections. The first section, "Preparatory operations", outlines the technological stages involving transferring the design of a future piece or its separate parts onto the material. The second section, "Primary assembly operations", offers descriptions and practical recommendations for performing the following jewelry-related operations: drilling, jigsaw cutting, filing, soldering and polishing.

The fourth chapter, "Examples of practical work completion in the discipline 'Technology of jewelry making'", contains two sections. The first section explores two themes with exercises: linear cutting technique and sawing geometric figures with crossbars. This section concludes with a creative assignment to design and cut a geometric pattern featuring intersecting figures of varying shapes. The second section, "Manufacturing simple group jewelry", details the technological process for fabricating wedding rings with flat and semi-circular profiles.

The end of the book includes a list of hand tools for practical work and a bibliography recommended by the author. The textbook is intended for classroom and extracurricular use by students receiving secondary vocational education.

The textbook "Learning renovation in jewelry art" [3] (Fig. 2⁷⁶) was prepared for third-year students majoring in 54.02.02 Decorative and applied arts and folk crafts, type – artistic metal (jewelry art).

In traditional applied arts, "renovation" refers to the recreation of historical artistic works through their comprehensive study [1]. The primary objective of renovation is, according to the author's opinion, to provide contemporary craftsmen and artists with material for creative work and assist them in perceiving aspects from bygone eras that can be given new life today.



Fig. 2. M.V. Churakova "Training in renovation in jewelry art"

⁷⁶ Fig. 2. Churakova, M.V. Learning renovation in jewelry art: textbook for independent extracurricular student work, program of secondary vocational education, specialization "Decorative and applied arts and folk crafts", profile "Artistic metal" (jewelry art) / M.V. Churakova; Higher school of folk arts. – 2nd edition. – St. Petersburg: VSHNI, 2021. – 60 pages.

The textbook consists of three chapters and includes theoretical material, questions and tasks related to the subject matter, as well as a list of literature recommended by the author for additional study.

At the beginning of the first chapter, the author provides a definition of the term "renovation" and describes the process of restoring jewelry pieces, illustrating the stages of this process in a table for clarity. There are two approaches to performing renovation of jewelry items: the memorial path (copy) involves complete detailed restoration, while the improvement path (replica, replication) entails artistic form creation which does not aim at absolutely precise reproduction of an existing composition [3]. In the subsequent section titled "Modern experience of performing renovation of jewelry items", the author presents an example of renovating a corsage ornament, a piece of jewelry belonging to the Romanov imperial family [3] (Figs. 3, 4⁷⁷). This sample of renovation was executed not as a copy of the original adornment but rather as its replication. The artwork was created as part of a diploma project at the department of jewelry and bone carving art of the Russian university of traditional art crafts.



Fig. 3. Corsage ornament from the collection of the dukes of Leuchtenberg (c. 1830)



Fig. 4. Renovation of the corsage ornament from the collection of the dukes of Leuchtenberg. 2013.
Russian university of traditional art crafts

Chapter two, entitled "Research work: gathering material for renovation of jewelry items", begins with a brief overview of the periodization of art produced by Russian jewelers, accompanied by illustrations of unique jewelry pieces. The following two sections present classification characteristics of jewelry items and describe their manufacturing technology.

⁷⁷ Figs. 3, 4. Churakova M.V., Training in renovation in jewelry art: study guide for independent extracurricular student work, program of secondary vocational education, specialization "Decorative and applied arts and folk crafts", profile "Artistic metal" (jewelry art) / M.V. Churakova; Higher school of folk arts. – 2nd edition. – St. Petersburg: VSHNI, 2021, p. 12. – ISBN 978-5-907542-35-8.

Chapter three examines all technological stages involved in the renovation of a diamond pendant made in the Art Deco style using the example of such a pendant. Jewelry in this style features symmetrical composition construction with dynamic lines, geometric forms and color schemes based on local colors.

The renovation of the pendant was carried out by students during industrial practice based on a photograph of the item [3] (Figs. 5⁷⁸, 6). The educational task aimed at improving practical skills and abilities in making jewelry pieces using complex mounting techniques with various types of setting for faceted stones.



Fig. 5. Diamond pendant, silver, amethyst, Art Deco style (c. 1926). Boston



Fig. 6. Renovation of the pendant executed based on photograph

The textbook "Training in renovation in jewelry art" is intended for students enrolled in secondary vocational education programs and designed for independent extracurricular activities.

In 2023, M.V. Churakova and E.F. Efremov developed and published the textbook "Performing skills in artistic metalwork (jewelry art)" [2] (Fig. 7⁷⁹), intended for undergraduate students studying under the program code 54.03.02 "Decorative and applied arts and folk crafts", specialization – artistic metal (jewelry art).

⁷⁸ Figs. 5, 6. Churakova M. V., Training in renovation in jewelry art: study guide for independent extracurricular student work, program of secondary vocational education, specialization "Decorative and applied arts and folk crafts", profile "Artistic metal" (jewelry art) / M. V. Churakova; Higher school of folk arts. – 2nd edition. – St. Petersburg: VSHNI, 2021, p. 55. – ISBN 978-5-907542-35-8.

⁷⁹ Fig. 7. Churakova M.V., Efremov E.V., Performing skills and improvement of expertise in jewelry art: textbook for students enrolled in the preparation direction code 54.03.02 Decorative and applied arts and folk crafts, specialization – artistic metal (jewelry art). Technical editor Yu. E. Lapina. Saint Petersburg: Higher school of folk arts, 2023. 119 pages. – ISBN 978-5-907569-36-2.

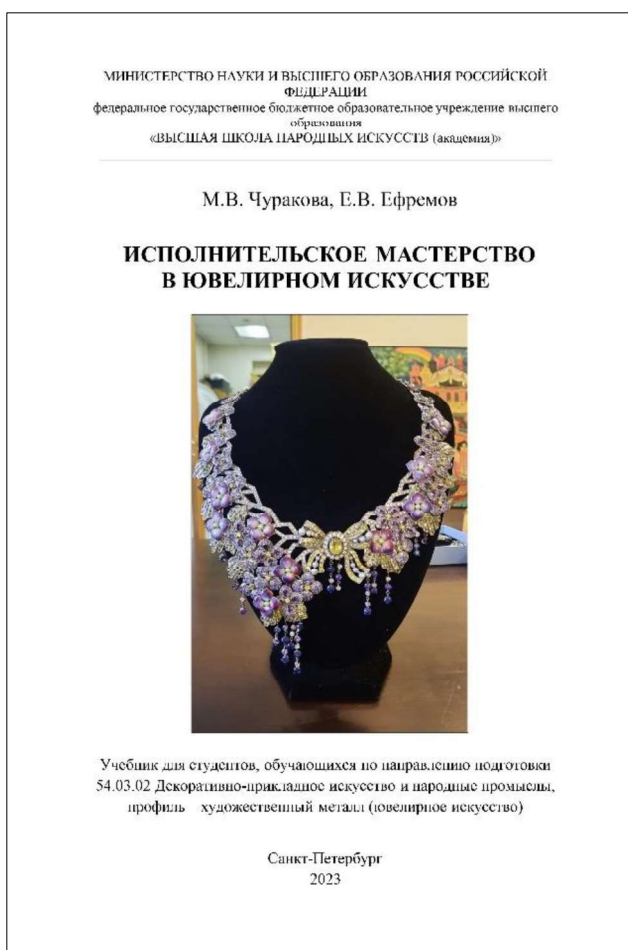


Fig. 7. M.V. Churakova, "Performing skills in artistic metalwork (jewelry art)"

with measurement techniques for different shapes of product components. Subsequent sections within the chapter – “Basic operations for manual metal processing”, “Technology of manufacturing jewelry items manually in educational production workshop”, and “Decorative finishing of jewelry items in educational production workshop” – outline jewelry-making techniques for producing artistic items.

The fourth chapter of the textbook contains instructional material on the renovation of jewelry items and step-by-step manufacturing of jewelry ornaments in an educational production workshop based on individual artistic and creative projects [2] (Fig. 8⁸⁰).

An example of a jewelry item manufactured manually according to an author's artistic and creative project is shown in figure 9.

The textbook comprises four chapters presenting theoretical materials on creating handcrafted products in various techniques of jewelry art.

In the first chapter, the authors cover the following topics: organization of training processes in an educational production workshop for manual metal processing; equipment and tools for manual fabrication of jewelry items in an educational production workshop; safety regulations when using equipment and tools in an educational production workshop.

The second chapter provides a description of the specifics of the technology used to manufacture parts of jewelry items made manually.

Chapter three, titled "Performance skills of a jeweler artist", covers several topics. Initially, the authors discuss the properties of materials used for manual fabrication of jewelry items. They then enumerate measuring instruments along

⁸⁰Figs. 8, 9. Churakova M.V. Performing skills and improvement of expertise in jewelry art: textbook for students enrolled in the preparation direction code 54.03.02 Decorative and applied arts and folk crafts, specialization – artistic metal (jewelry art). Technical editor Yu.E. Lapina. Saint Petersburg: Higher school of folk arts, 2023, pp. 108, 116. – ISBN 978-5-907569-36-2.



Fig. 8. Pankova M.D., art-graphics project of graduation qualification work on the theme "Summer melody". 2023.
Supervisor: M.V. Churakova.
Russian university of traditional art crafts



Fig. 9. Gulchenko A.V., graduation qualification work: necklace on the theme "Secret of summer night". 2020.
Supervisor: D.S. Dronov.
Russian university of traditional art crafts

For deeper understanding of the subjects covered in the textbook, the authors recommend essential and supplementary reading lists provided at the end of the publication. This textbook is recommended for students pursuing the profession of jeweler artist and educators in continuing education.

Mastering specialized disciplines presented in these publications develops professional competencies necessary for the creative realization of jeweler artists and successful competition in the labor market.

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