

PREFACE

It is the need of today, on the one hand, to provide studies in theory, history and practice of arts within a broad cultural-cognitive context, and, on the other, to form up cultural concepts on the solid foundation of modern, common humanitarian scientific knowledge. This current tendency of an integrated interdisciplinary approach to the background of the theory and history issues of culture and arts is clearly reflected in the articles presented by famous scientists, philosophers, culture scientists, art historians of the Kyiv National University of Culture and Arts.

The authoring team have offered a wide range of issues related to cultural and creative processes in Ukraine and in the world. The research range of the presented chapters of the monograph involves searching for the path-dependent patterns for the cultural studies in Ukraine: to study the current state and conceptual frameworks of arts and cultural education; to expand the discourse of cultural studies and art criticism; to test it in the study of specific phenomena of the cultural advancement of humankind; to reveal the cultural model evolution of the arts and the art world; to clarify the spiritual bonds of cultural activity within the world-perception and world-view transformations at the end of the 20th – 21st centuries.

These issues of development of contemporary culture, to mention but a few, require considerable efforts of philosophers, cultural scientists, aesthetician, ethician, sociologists, political scientists and representatives of other social and human sciences in the transformation processes perception that relate both to the target academic issues, and to the study of world culture and art culture issues, in particular, as a basis for artistic activity and its influence on the study of the criteria of artistic and aesthetic values of contemporary art.

The chronological and geographical range of research, published in the collection of research papers, is wide enough: from a culture of the Early Modern Period to the latest phenomena and trends of post-postmodernism as a transcultural phenomenon. In this range, there are significant issues of culture form as a transformation of social and cultural sphere in the information society, civilizational challenges of the 20th century, topical issues of historical development and current state of Ukrainian national artistic culture, at last, the transformation processes in culture at the turn of the Millennium, projected on the realities of life of the Ukrainian society.

One of the most significant factors that has a significant impact on the civilization process in terms of time is compulsive and increasing dynamics of improvement of various forms of scientific knowledge, and at the same time, strange as it may seem it is largely paradoxical combination of diverse practices of rational and irrational framed strategic objectives of social development. And as a consequence of a combination of circumstances, of subjective and objective nature of resonant tonality in the modern cultural development of mankind can specify the determinants of irrational content, which usually require rational reasoning, scientifically formed system of evidence and argument. Therefore, in this case, the ever-increasing authority of science is used as an effective tool to justify the aims that are often inhumane. And this results in both spiritual and massive military conflicts. Since the modern world is highly integrated, it is putting not only individual communities, and countries but also the whole world at risk.

As noted by contemporary American scientist A. Toffler, people often do not have time to adapt to everything that happens to them in the modern world, they are in a state of future shock, which is inexorably staring at their faces, dictating them new ways of spiritual non-self perception, experience and existence in it, which have been impossible so far.

The temporal dimension of human existence in the world acquires new forms. This is reflected in appropriate cultural forms and real-life of human existence in the world. Contemporary culture sorely requires synthesis of time samples where a human can fix in the realities a fact of culture evidence through the historical stages of world development and today it can be a clue to scientists who are addressing the advanced issues. Possible future steps in the cultural development influence actively the present solution searching for Universe existence.

The publication of the joint monograph of teacher-scholars of the Kyiv National University of Culture and Arts is an important event in the educational and scientific life of the University. This scientific publication is to be an essential component in the development of the high potential of the scholastic institution and designed to shape not only specific scientific fields (and at the University there is a wide list of the departments with relevant academic and art guild of expert teachers), but also to create a limitless framework for scientific social environment as part of the invisible "aura of the arts" (L. Kostenko), through which culture, as in a mirror, produces three-dimensional picture of itself.

It is the hope of the authoring team that presented monograph will favour the integration of scientific and humanitarian knowledge and intensification of cultural and creative processes in Ukraine and will be of interest to the professional cultural and artistic community and a wide audience.