



SHOT GLASSES SET

Monogrammist 'ЧМ'

Russia

Late 19th — early 20th century

*Silver, ruby, casting, embossing,
chasing, toning, gilding*

About the project

<https://tsaritsyno-museum.ru/events/special/p/lyudi-i-fondy-eng/>





SELECTED BY
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When writing the essay, I, like my colleagues who also selected exhibits for the exhibition, asked myself, ‘What is my role in Tsaritsyno?’ And I answered to myself, ‘I am an employee, an engineer, maintenance personnel’.

But Tsaritsyno is not just a museum. It is not just a park or a cultural heritage site. It is a team of professionals whose experience and contribution creates that unique atmosphere of beauty that is remembered by visitors for many years. For me, Tsaritsyno is a team of professionals who accepted me, trust me and whom I do not want to let down. Another answer to the question ‘What is your role in Tsaritsyno?’ is ‘I am part of the team’.

And so I, who did not have much experience working in a museum, but who took part in those exhibition activities that are not visible, was entrusted with choosing the exhibit that visitors would look at. I am not an art person so I just chose the object I liked.

The bottom of these shot glasses features a sculptured head of a griffin, a mythological creature with the body of a lion and the head of a bird of prey. Griffins play an important role in my life, as do those animals whose images are embodied in the griffin figure.

The lion is depicted on the coat of arms of Vladimir, the city where I was born and which I love very much.

The bird of prey — the falcon — is depicted on the coat of arms of Suzdal, the city that I cherish, in which I unwind, refresh myself and just enjoy staying there.

On the Golden Doors in the Cathedral of the Nativity of the Suzdal Kremlin, I once saw a griffin, which became my talisman, one might say, a personal coat of arms.

I think it combines the symbolism of my native and beloved cities, which always reminds me of where I come from, where my roots are, where my ancestors are from.

Knowing about my affection for this mythological character, my friends give me relevant gifts.

The similarity between the griffin on the doors in the Cathedral of the Nativity and the shot glasses I chose is obvious. It was not me who chose the item for the exhibition, but my talisman found me in Tsaritsyno.