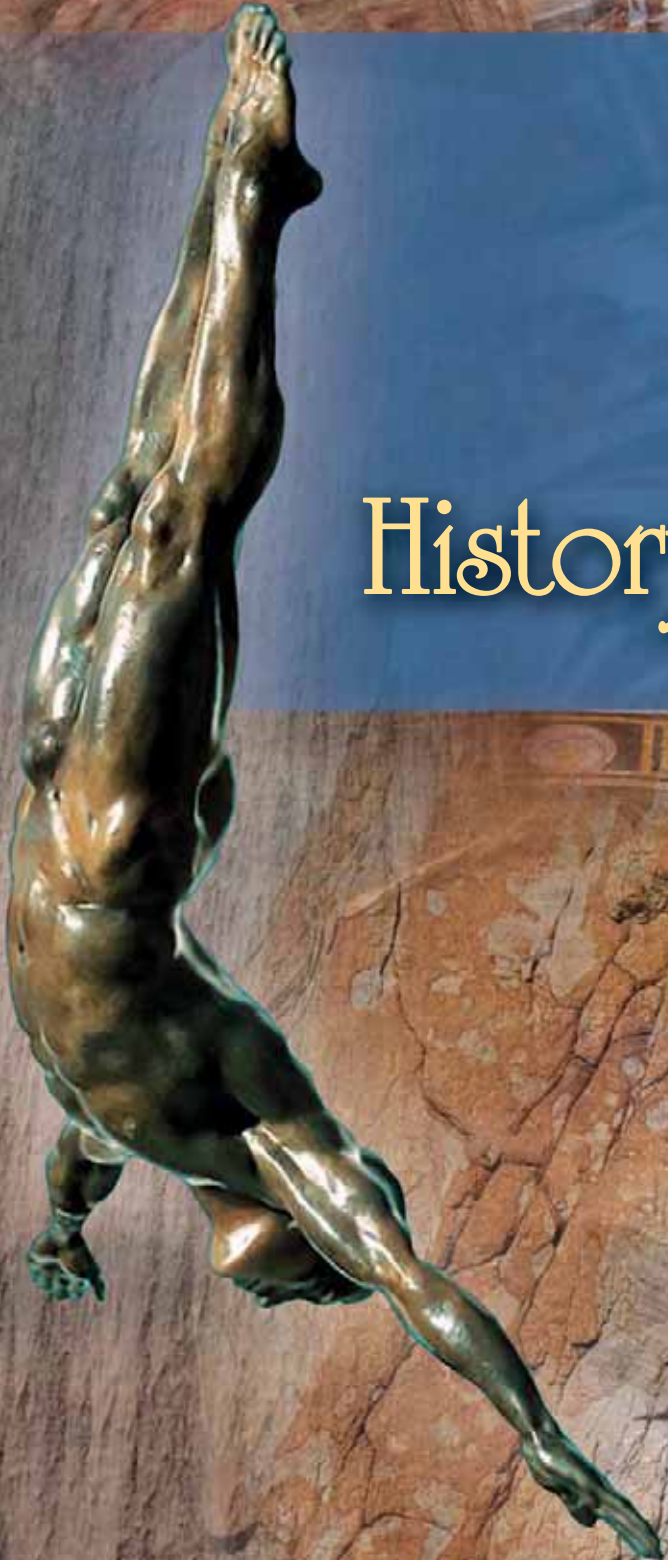




M. M. Bulatova

Diving

History and Modernity



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The National Olympic Committee of Ukraine Ukrainian Diving Federation



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The monograph “Diving. History and Modernity” is committed to making a voluminous record of the past readily available in one convenient source, where an interested reader can locate the facts, events, or particularities of diving as the Olympic aquatic sport. The scope of the centuries-long history of the development of diving in different cultures, the history, facilities and equipment, with a special emphasis on diving events - all of this contributes to the ever-expanding knowledge of this sport.

A distinctive feature of this edition is the organic combination of text and illustrations. This collection will enable the reader to advance beyond a narrative summary and truly submerge into the subject.

The monograph is intended for children and youth, specialists in physical education and sports, a wide range of readers interested in the history of the Olympic sports.

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Dear friends!

Diving is an incredible, extremely spectacular, and an exciting Olympic sport!
As the President of the Diving Federation of Ukraine for over 20 years, I am very pleased to see the popularity of this sport gaining momentum every year in Ukraine and around the world.

“LIKO-HOLDING” as the main sponsor of the Ukrainian Diving Federation since 1991 has built the “LIKO” Olympic Sports Centre in Kyiv where more than 2,000 athletes train every day. The youth diving sports school “LIKO Diving School” with over 500 participants is proud to hold national, international, and world competitions in diving.

Sport is life. I am convinced that due to the awareness of the common responsibility of each of us for ourselves and others, for a healthy nation and the future of our country, difficulties will be overcome, and strenuous times will pass us by.

Good luck to all who have dedicated their lives to a great cause, which symbolizes strength, the greatness of spirit, and courage, promotes the development and growth of physical culture and sports!

I wish everyone good health, good luck, perseverance, inspiration, and victories!

Sincerely,

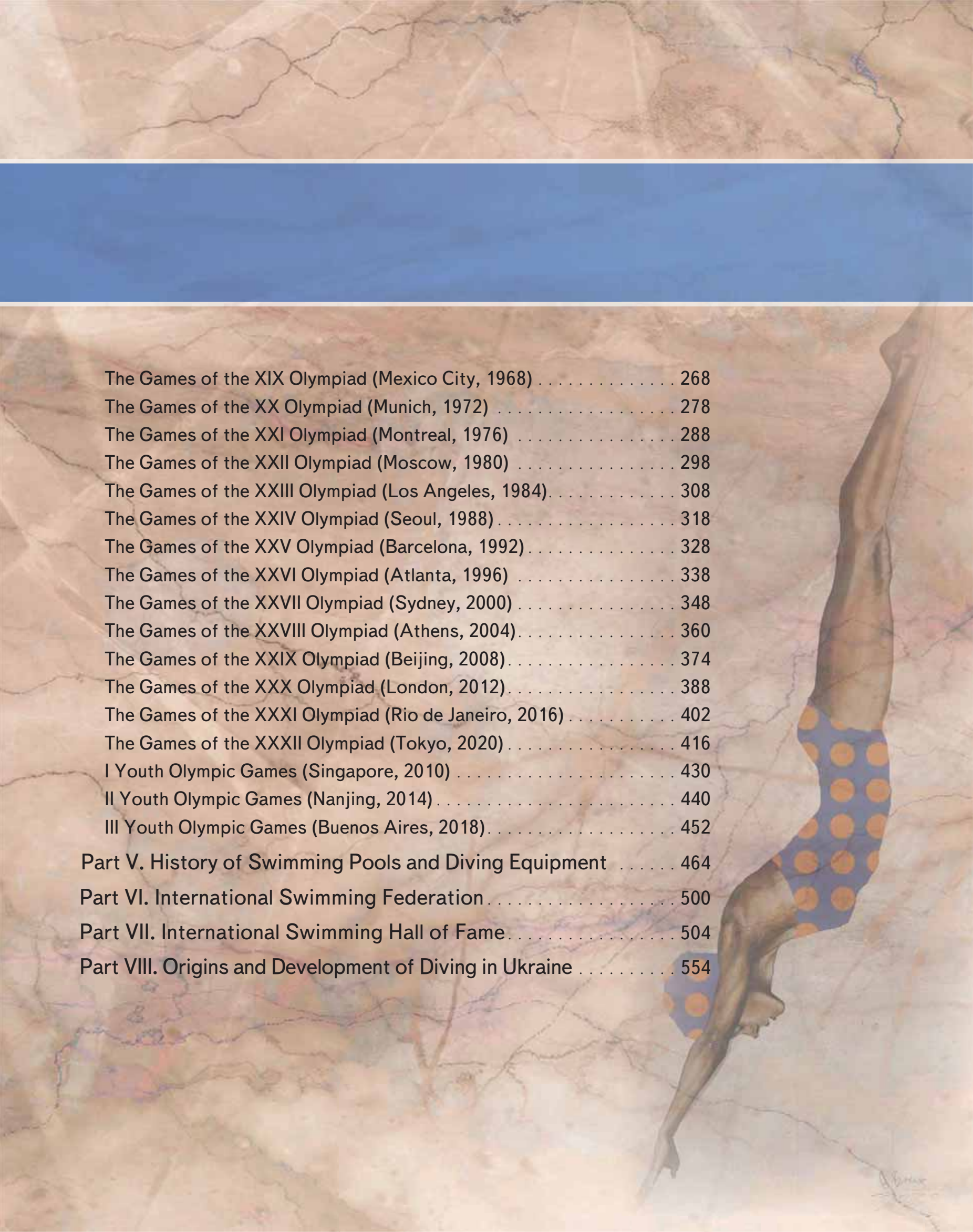
**NOC of Ukraine, Vice President
Ukrainian Diving Federation, President**

Igor Lysov

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Foreword

Dear readers!

You are holding a monograph dedicated to the vast world of one of the most wonderful modern aquatic sport - diving. From the extremely rich history of this ancient pastime, we have selected only those facts and events that directly or indirectly influenced the formation of this sport.

The cultural heritage of the ancient civilizations - Mesopotamia, Egypt, China, Japan, Greece, Rome, etc. - is the richest source for scientific research and is of undiminished interest. The material proof found during long term archaeological excavations, presented in a large number of expositions in various museums of the world, gives us reason to say that diving was one of the oldest activities as well as hobbies of mankind.

Particular attention is paid to those types of diving that formed the basis for the development of modern aquatic sports (pearl diving, long distance plunge, diving on horses, shallow diving, cliff diving, etc.).

First of all, we wanted you to see the best in diving - from plain diving on the beaches to supervised elite practice, which is the pinnacle of the creative thinking of athletes and coaches. The boundary that separates them from each other is what the athlete himself brings to this idea, his intention, his pondering on the functionality and beauty, a passionate desire to achieve perfection, and, of course, a divine gift of talent.





Athletes and coaches become co-creators, making new forms, elements, and images that are subject to a single goal - to get closer to perfection, to succeed.

We considered it necessary to gather the knowledge on diving from the beginning, its evolution in the historical aspect, development, and improvement in the program of the Games of the Olympiad, formation of the Hall of Fame, the reflection of this sport in the masterpieces of world-renowned pieces of art.

Fundamental is the summary on the diving history at the Games of the Olympiad rich in numerous interesting facts.

The monograph describes the modern symbols of the Games of the Olympiad, as well as posters, awards, and commemorative medals, logos, pictograms, mascots, and more.

The historical material in the section “Diving at the Olympics” is concluded with questions, as well as answers for quick self-tests.

The monograph can be read line by line, and you can choose from it what you want or need to know today.

For fans of diving, the history of the origin and development of sports facilities and equipment for this sport will be interesting.

The part “International Swimming Federation” narrates the history and activities of this respected organisation, as well as competitions held under its auspices.





The part “International Swimming Hall of Fame” is devoted to the main aspects of the sports careers of the most outstanding divers of the XX and XXI centuries, who made the most significant contribution in the development of this aquatic sport both on the international arena and in individual countries.

This wonderful sport has inspired philosophers, writers, musicians, sculptors, painters, and other artists at various times, whose unsurpassed works are reflected on the pages of this book.

The monograph is illustrated with various renowned works- of -art - paintings, engravings, sculptures of different eras. Diving is represented in posters, numismatics, phaleristics, postcards, cartoons, literature, cinema, etc.

The last part “Origins and Development of Diving in Ukraine” contains unique information collected from archival sources and directly from the Ukrainian coaches, athletes who have practiced this sport in our country. The origin and development of diving, from the last quarter of the XIX century to the present day, in Ukraine in general and directly in the regions that were once the centres of development of this unique Olympic sport.

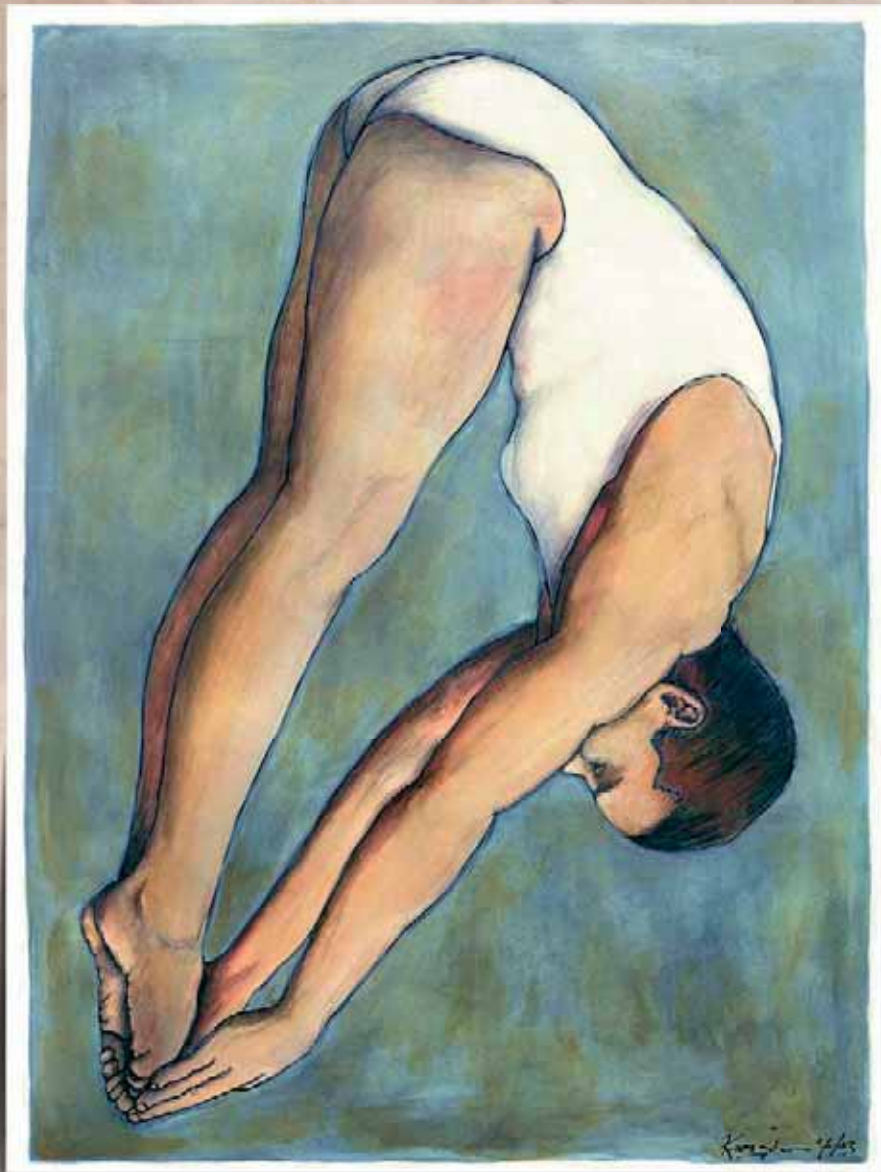
The author expresses her sincere gratitude to all the professionals who provided invaluable advice, helped gather information and photos, shared their knowledge and boundless love for diving. Among them are Merited Coaches of Ukraine, Merited Masters of Sports of Ukraine, Masters of Sports of



Ukraine of International Class, Doctors of Sciences, professors, heads of regional branches of NOC of Ukraine and the Ukrainian Diving Federation: Anastasiya Avramenko, Lyubov Asayeva, Oleksandr Barsukov, Olga Bilozyorova, Oksana Vatseba, Oleg Vyshyvanov, Volodymyr Volkovynskyi, Ivan Vrzhesnevskyi, Sergiy Gumenyuk, Olga Ivanenko, Mariya Kolchyn, Viktor Kostyukevych, Iryna Kuznetsova, Vanar Kuzmenko, Diana Kulberi, Tetiana Lakhmanyuk, Yuliya Likhachova, Iryna Manchesko, Tetiana Maryanko, Valeriy Martynovsky, Oleg Melnykov, Volodymyr Molchanov, Yuriy Osypchuk, Olena Patserina, Georgiy Prokopenko, Felix Samsonov, Lyudmyla Samsonova (Panchenko), Tamara Sarkisova, Yuriy Seryogin, Oleksandr Sydorenko, Anna Sorokina, Tamara Tokmachova, Tetiana Turova, Mykhailo Ugryumov, Nina Umanets, Viktor Khrystoyev, Igor Yanko, Yevgen Yatsyuk, and others.

Special gratitude is for the provided archival materials to the Museum of Sports Glory of Ukraine and its director Alla Khomenko, as well as to the Museum of the History of the City of Kyiv and its Director Larysa Bulavina.

The author expresses deep gratitude to the President of the Ukrainian Diving Federation Igor Lysov for support in this publication, as well as the leading Ukrainian athletes for invaluable advice and original materials. I hope that the monograph will be of interest not only to those who are engaged in diving and numerous fans of this aquatic sport, but also to a wide range of readers both in our country and abroad.





Part I. *The* Pages of History





God-fish, or god Ea. Clay relief. Monuments of Nineveh - the capital of the Assyrian state. VII century BC. According to legend, that god was the owner of the depths of the sea and was considered the main deity of the Sumerian state, the ancestor of all living things



Divers. Relief. Mesopotamia. 870 BC

Diving in Ancient Times, the Middle Ages, and the Renaissance

From the time long past, a man sought to discover the world, to explore the unknown, to conquer new territories. Looking at the sky, he dreamed of becoming a bird, to be able to fly up and marvel at the Earth from above. Standing on the waterside, he gazed into the water depths, dove into the aquatic profundity for a chance to explore an extremely beautiful and mysterious underwater ambiance.

From the ancient times, people dove from the cliffs, shores, ships, and so on. The activity was common not only among sailors, fishermen, pearl divers, and warriors but also among brave daredevils who sought to vanquish the globe.

Much proof of people diving was discovered during archaeological excavations, which found its reflection in murals or ceramic art.

For example, people of ancient Egypt that worshiped the great Nile River practiced swimming, diving, and water divertimento from an early age. An illustration to that is an image of the silhouettes of three people diving and swimming found in a cave near the town of Wadi Sura in southwestern Egypt, bordering Libya.



Sailing ship. Clay relief. Sumerians (southern Mesopotamia)



God of the Moon on a boat. Clay relief. Sumerians (the first human civilization)



Sailors and divers. Hieroglyphic wall and Ceiling slab. Dendera Temple complex. Upper Egypt

Historians often cite the Egyptian image, which was made during the reign of the 21st dynasty of pharaohs in Egypt (1069-945 BC): it clearly portrays people swimming and having fun in the water.

Another interesting find were the spoons for mixing make-up paints, which had the shape of a swimmer that pushed a container in front of him, at the same time feeling quite balanced and confident in the water.

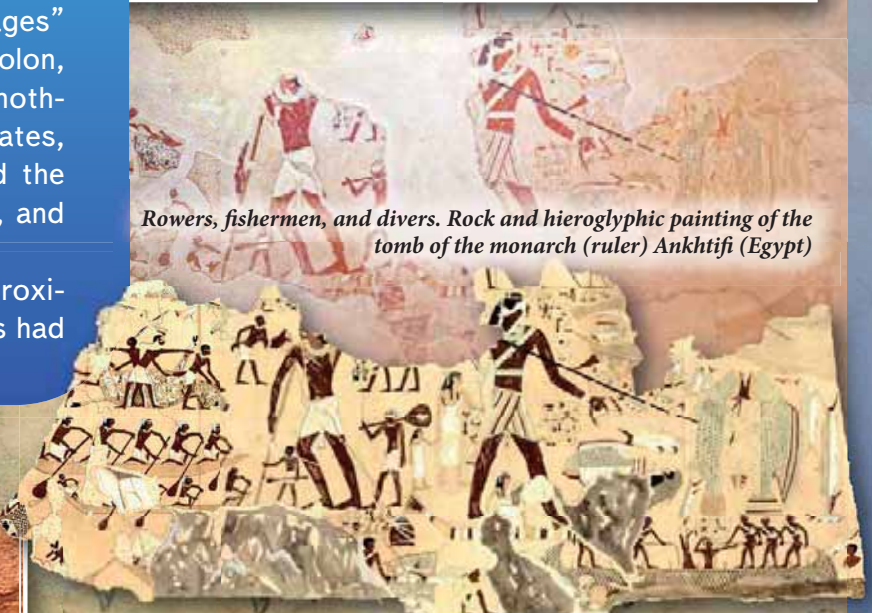
As for the ancient Greeks, their whole life was connected to the sea. Learning to swim was part of their primary education. Children were taught to swim from childhood, and belts with cork floats were used for training.

Well-known is the statement of the Athenian politician, statesman, and philosopher, one of the “seven sages” of ancient Greece, who lived in the VI century BC, Solon, “Boys must first learn to swim and read.” Much later, another ancient Greek philosopher, an apprentice of Socrates, a teacher of Aristotle, Plato (429-347 BC) repeated the statement of Solon, “A man who cannot read, write, and swim is poorly educated.”

“Odyssey” the epic poem created by Homer approximately in the VIII century BC tells us of how Odysseus had



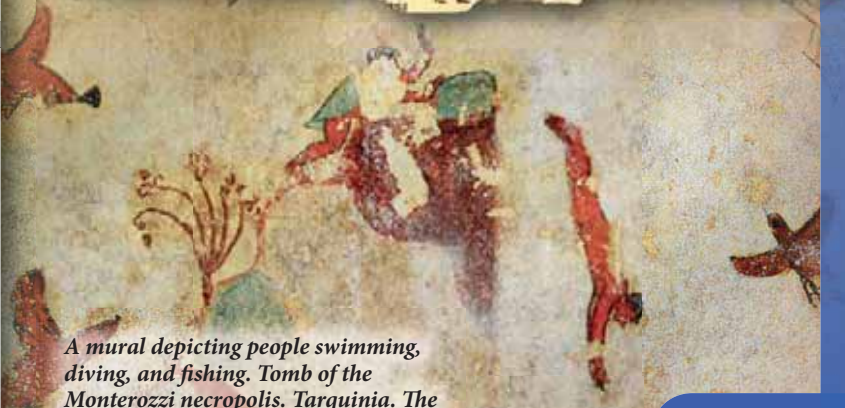
Rowers, fishermen, and divers. Rock and hieroglyphic painting of the tomb of the monarch (ruler) Ankhthifi (Egypt)



Swimming people. Rock slab in the 'Cave of Swimmers'. Wadi Sura. Western desert. Egypt.



A mural depicting people swimming, diving, and fishing. Tomb of the Monterozzi necropolis. Tarquinia. The early Etruscans





Theseus' voyage to Crete. Black-figure Greek ceramics. Fragment of the painting. VI century BC



Warriors on dolphins. Red-figure Greek ceramics. Fragment of the painting. 520-510 BC



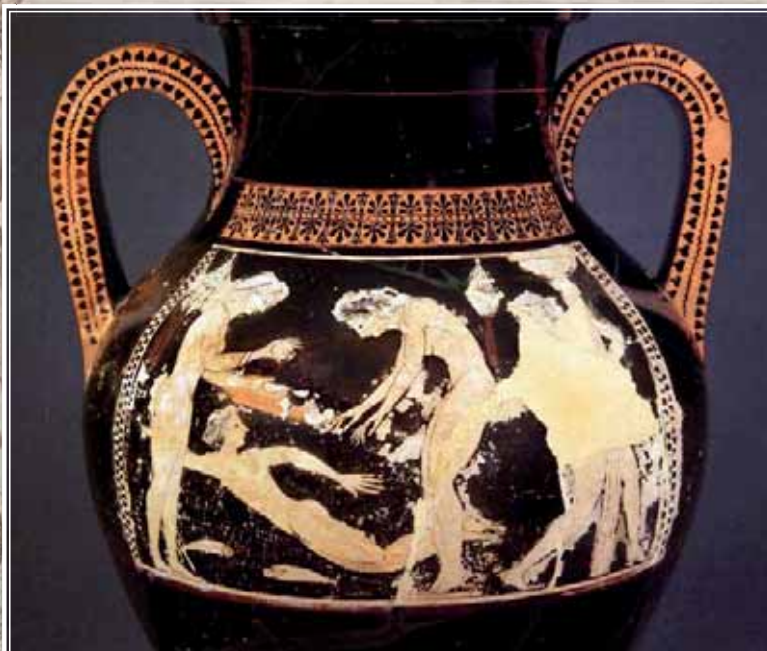
Sea voyage of the god of grape harvest, wine, and winery Dionysus. Black-figure ceramics

to go after the sinking of his ships. In the Iliad and the Odyssey, Homer also described the dives performed by brave oyster hunters competing in swimming and diving.

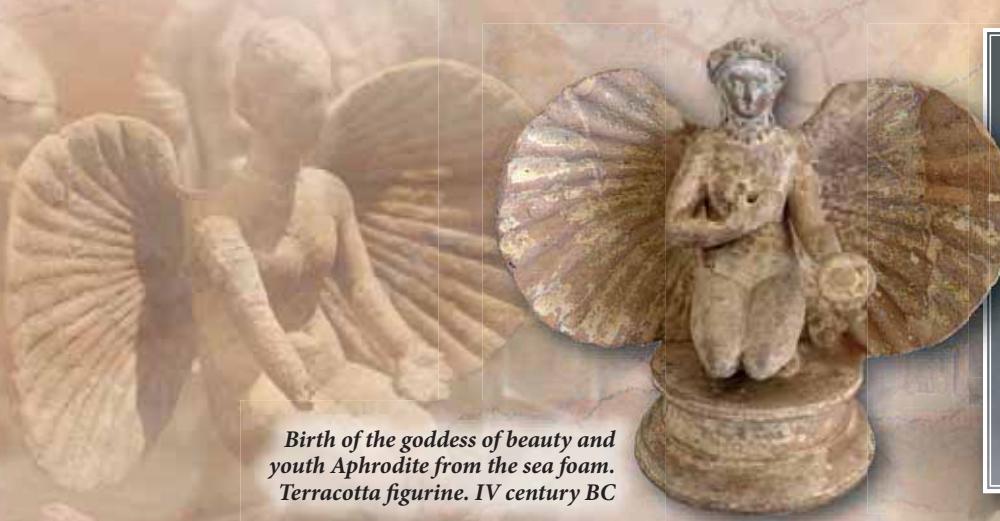
Another undeniable proof of the ability of the Greeks to feel free in the aquatic environment and dive is the battle of Salamis (480 BC). Ancient Greek Historian Herodotus, who was named the Father of the History by Cicero's colourful expression, was the author of the first significant tractate - History, which describes the Greco-Persian wars and customs of the peoples of that time. It showed that the Greeks easily sailed to the mainland after a shipwreck, unlike the Persian warriors, who could not swim and drowned.

Herodotus believed that an important contributor to the victory in the historic naval battle of Salamis (480 BC), in which 370 Greek Triers won over a huge Persian fleet (1,200 ships), was the ability of Greek soldiers to dive and swim. According to legend, in that battle, the Greek army was aided by a Thracian from the town of Scione, Scyllis, who had the reputation of an unsurpassed swimmer, and his daughter Hydna (who also felt at ease in the water). On the night when the storm raged and the Persian ships were forced to drop their anchor near Mount Pelion, Scyllis and Hydna rushed into the stormy sea near Aphetae and swam

Swimming people. Red-figure ceramics. A fragment of the painting. 510 BC



Aphrodite rising out of the sea foam. Terracotta relief. IV century BC. Terantino (modern Italy)



Birth of the goddess of beauty and youth Aphrodite from the sea foam. Terracotta figurine. IV century BC



Lekythos - a vessel for storing wine in the form of Aphrodite in a seashell. IV century BC

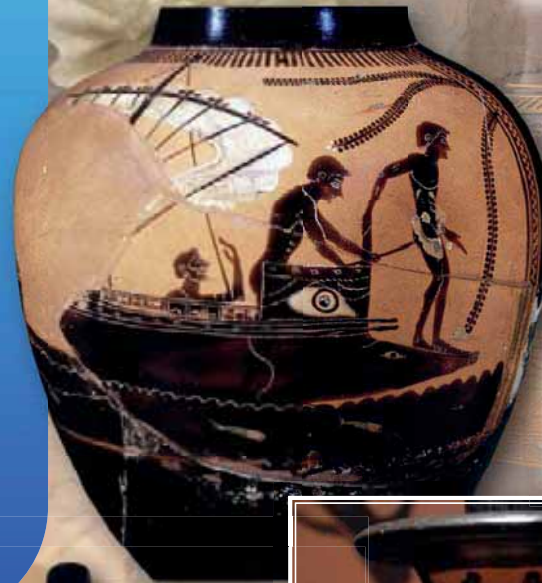


Aphrodite. Terracotta sculpture. III century

to the Persian fleet (they had to overcome about 15 km). When they reached the ships, they began to dive and destroy the anchorages of enemy ships underwater. A heavy storm scattered the ships, threw them on the reefs, took them into the open sea. Legend has it that the Greeks, honouring their accomplishment, erected a statue of Scyllis in Delphi, and his daughter was called the Beloved of the God of the Seas.

The ancient Greeks also became known for conducting various athletic competitions. Although contests held in the water were not included in the programme of the grand All-Greek games - the Olympics, Delphic, Isthmian, Nemean, and Pythian - but were essentially held at the games in honour of the god Dionysius in Hermion.

On many ancient Greek vases, artists depicted young men swimming and diving. The best reflection of this plot was on the vase of the V century BC, now stored in the collection of the British Museum in London, where we see the god of light Apollo rise in his chariot drawn by four winged horses from the waters of the ocean surrounded by boys diving.

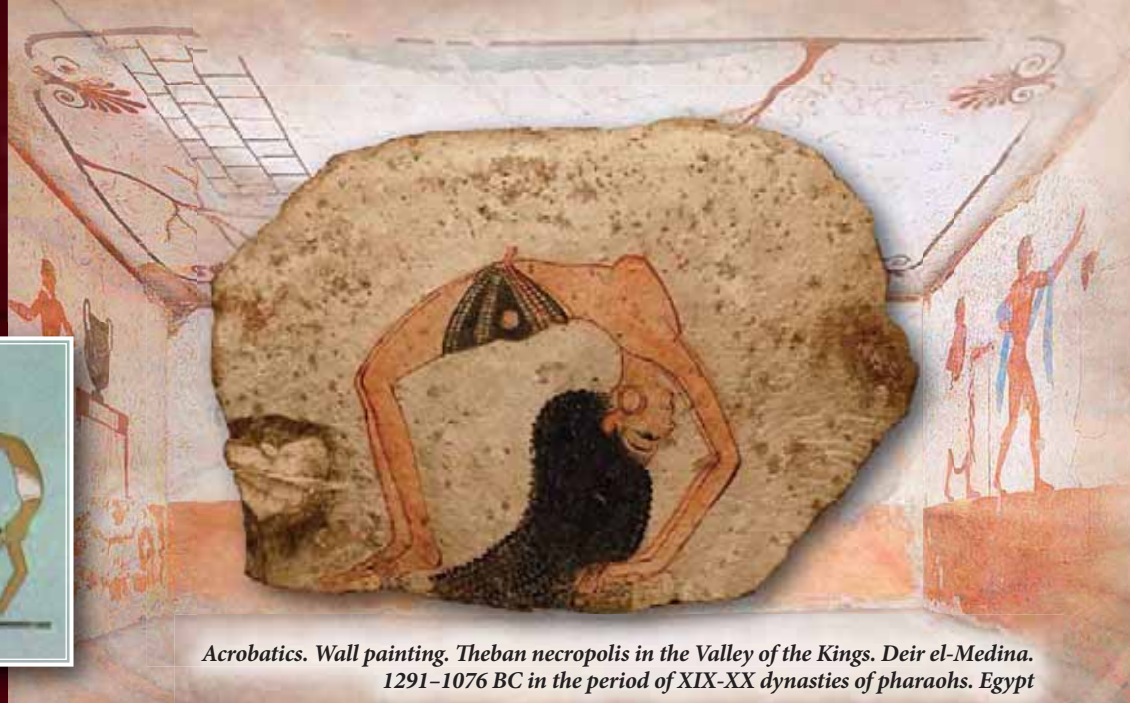
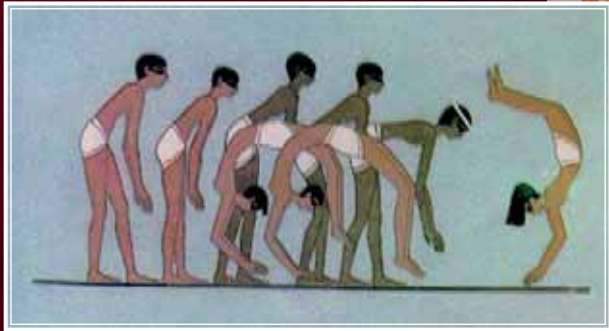


A man preparing dive from a ship into the water. Black-figure vase painting. 510 BC

The sun god Helios in his chariot. Around young men who swim and dive. Red-figure Greek ceramics. Fragment of the painting. V century BC



Diving people. Etruscan black-figure vase painting. 500 BC



Acrobatics. Wall painting. Theban necropolis in the Valley of the Kings. Deir el-Medina. 1291–1076 BC in the period of XIX-XX dynasties of pharaohs. Egypt



Acrobatics. Red-figure ceramics. 340-330 BC. Greece

Acrobatics

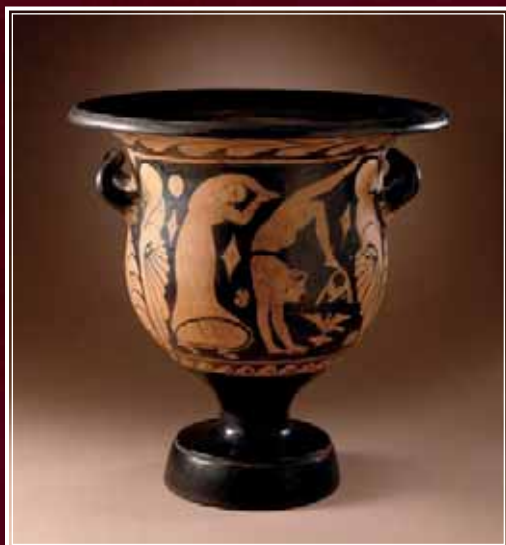
Diving is impossible to image without proper acrobatic training. Elements of acrobatics are inherent in many cultures of mankind. The history of this athletic art dates back to antiquity and accumulates back to thousands of years.

Images preserved on monuments, frescoes, paintings on utensils, indicate that acrobatics was known in ancient Egypt 2300 years BC. At that time, it was part of all festivities and was popularized among all social classes.

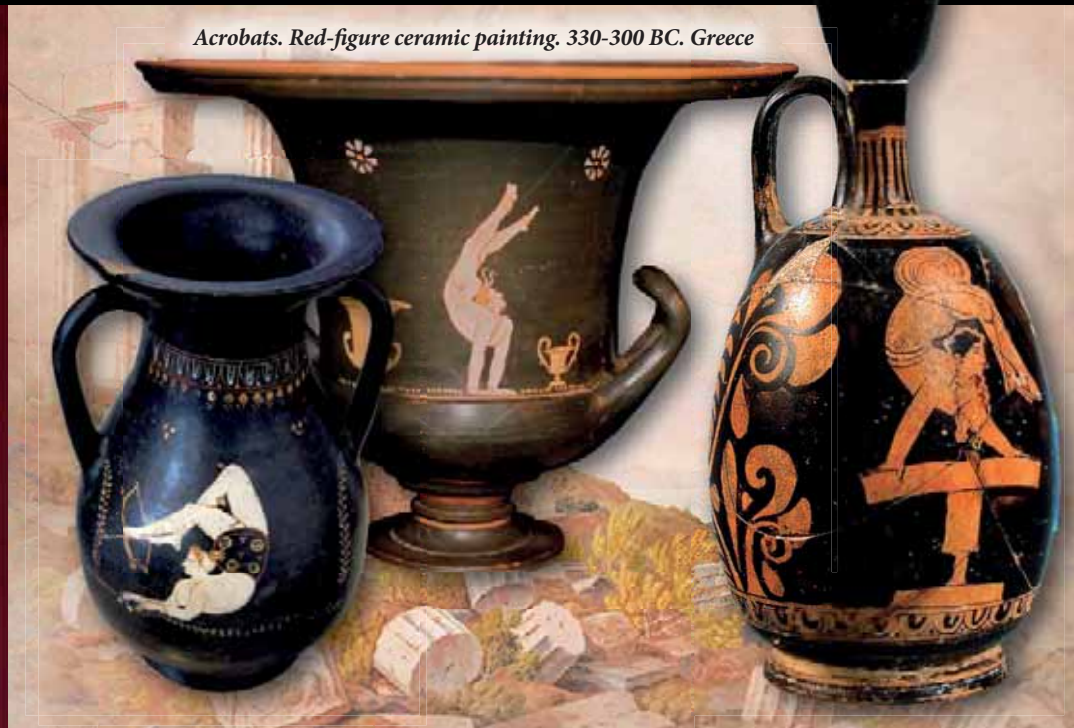
Acrobatic exercises were known in ancient Greece as evidenced by numerous cultural monuments including paintings of ancient Greek vases.

Games with bulls were practiced in Crete part of which were acrobatic exercises. They are reflected in the relief frescoes of Knossos, Agia Triada. An excellent proof of the acrobatic skills of athletes in Crete is the relief composition on one of the walls of the Palace of Knossos (1580-1400 BC).

At the end of the XIX century during the excavation of the domed tomb in Sparta, among many objects two gold cups depicting figures of acrobats performing various tricks, in particular, an image of a leap forward grasping the horns of a running bull were found. Those life-threatening exercises required high skill and meticulous preliminary training with the bull at rest.

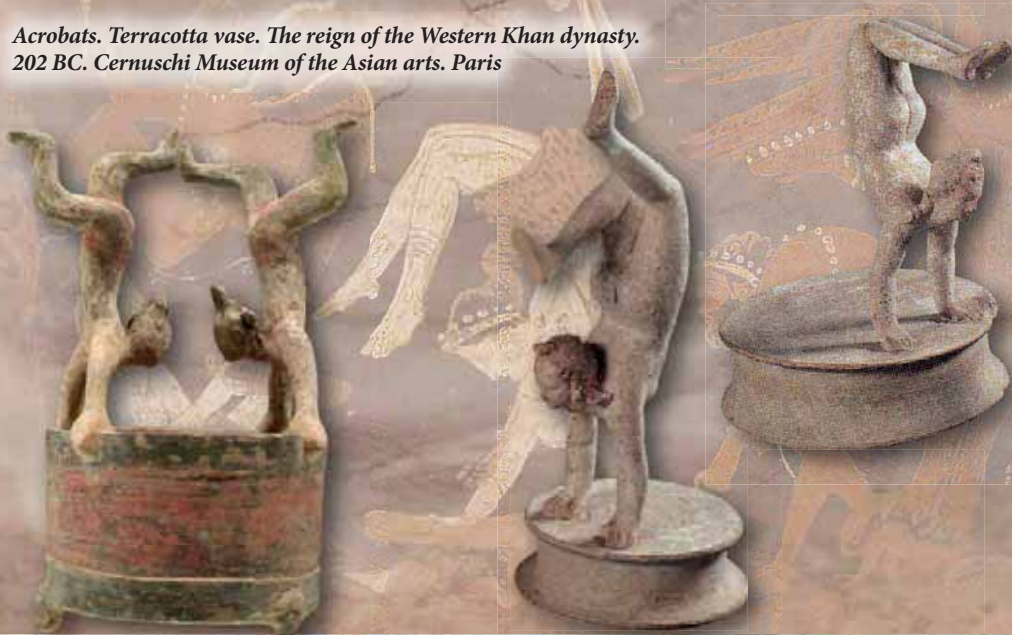


Acrobats training. Red-figure ceramic painting. 330-310 BC. Greece

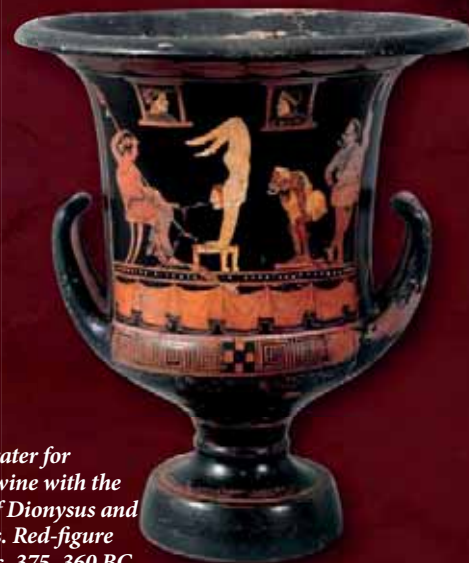


Acrobats. Red-figure ceramic painting. 330-300 BC. Greece

Acrobats. Terracotta vase. The reign of the Western Khan dynasty. 202 BC. Cernuschi Museum of the Asian arts. Paris



Greek crater for mixing wine with the image of Dionysus and acrobats. Red-figure ceramics. 375-360 BC. Found in Sicily



The young boy is precariously balanced on top of the back of a crocodile. Sculpture. 1 century BC. British Museum. London



Taurocapsia. Fresco from the Palace of Knossos. Late Minoan period, mid-fifteenth century BC. Archaeological Museum. Heraklion, Greece



The Minoan bull leaper. Bronze sculpture. Minoan period. 1550-1540 BC. British Museum. London

The Bull Leaper Knossos. Ivory. 1500 BC. Knossos. Crete. Archaeological Museum. Heraklion, Greece





Roman bronze sculpture of an acrobat. I-II centuries



Roman bronze sculpture of an acrobat in a handstand. I-II centuries



Terracotta sculpture of acrobat

In the ancient Greek theatre, scenes from the comedies of Aristophanes (IV century BC) alternated with acrobatic clown performances.

In the ancient Rome, acrobatic tricks were mostly demonstrated by traveling artists - "circulators". Much proof of this is found in the murals on buildings discovered during excavations in the city of Pompeii.

In China, acrobatics was an integral part of culture since the Han Dynasty (203 BC).

Acrobatics developed rapidly in the VI-X centuries in the medieval Europe.

During the Renaissance in Italy, the Venetian Republic organised "competitions of living architecture", i.e., the construction of acrobatic pyramids. One such pyramid is depicted in a masterpiece by Francesco Guardi, located in the main gallery of the Louvre.

The first manual on the use of acrobatic exercises in physical education appeared in the late sixteenth century. Acrobatics later became an integral part of the German physical education system.

Only in the nineteenth century, acrobatics developed two main directions – the circus art and competitive sports (in combination with gymnastics).

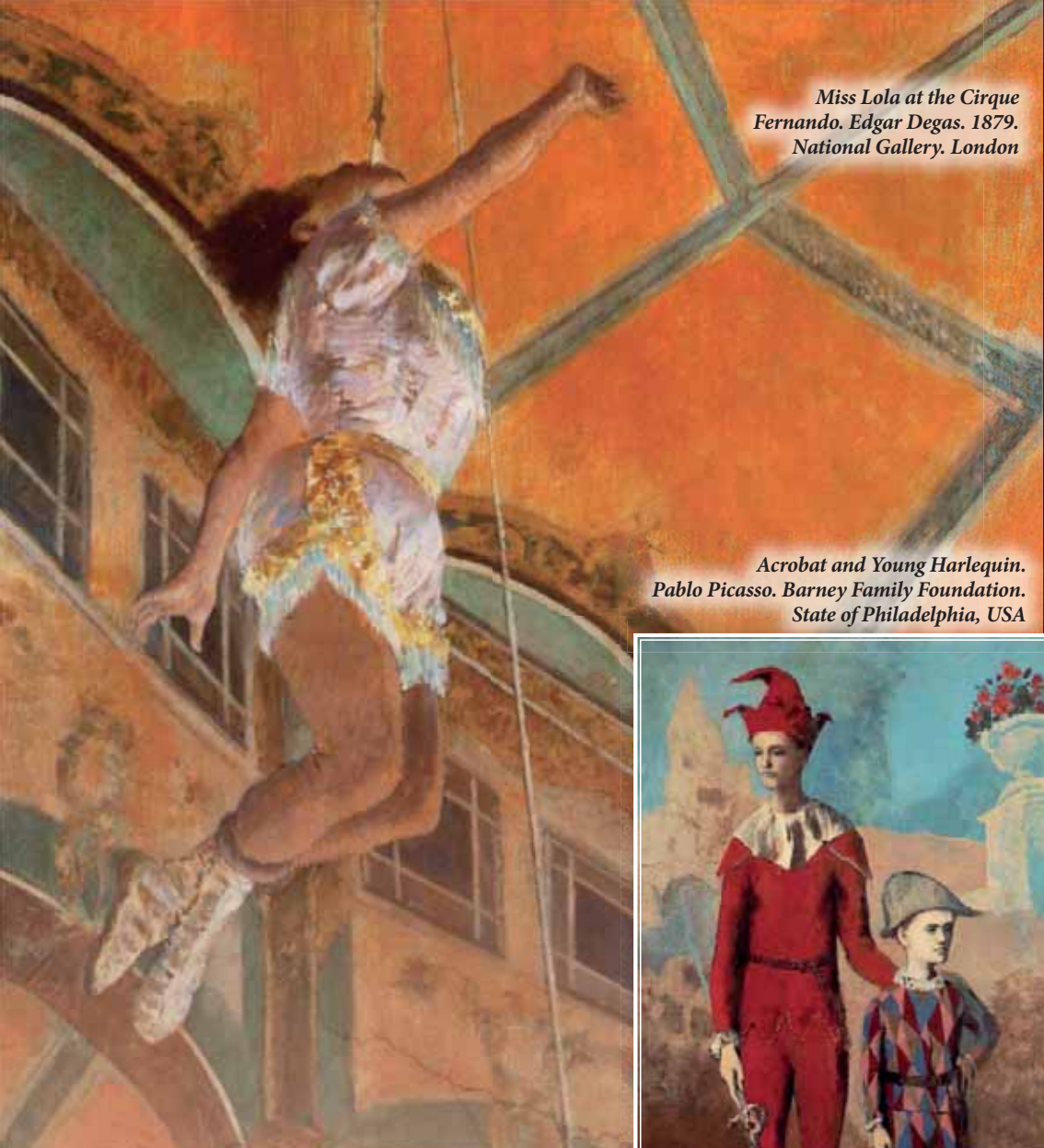
Acrobatics has always been of interest to fine arts: the master of impressionistic painting Pierre Auguste Renoir depicted acrobat sisters Francisca and Angelina Wartenberg in his *Acrobats at the Cirque Fernando*; in 1905, Pablo Picasso created *Acrobat and Young Harlequin*; Viktor Vasnetsov presented his painting *Acrobats (Festival in a Paris Suburb)* in 1877; *Miss Lola at the Cirque Fernando* - an oil on canvas painting by French impressionist artist Edgar Degas - was presented in 1879.



The Juggler of Notre Dame. Illustration of a French poem of the thirteenth century



Street acrobats in China



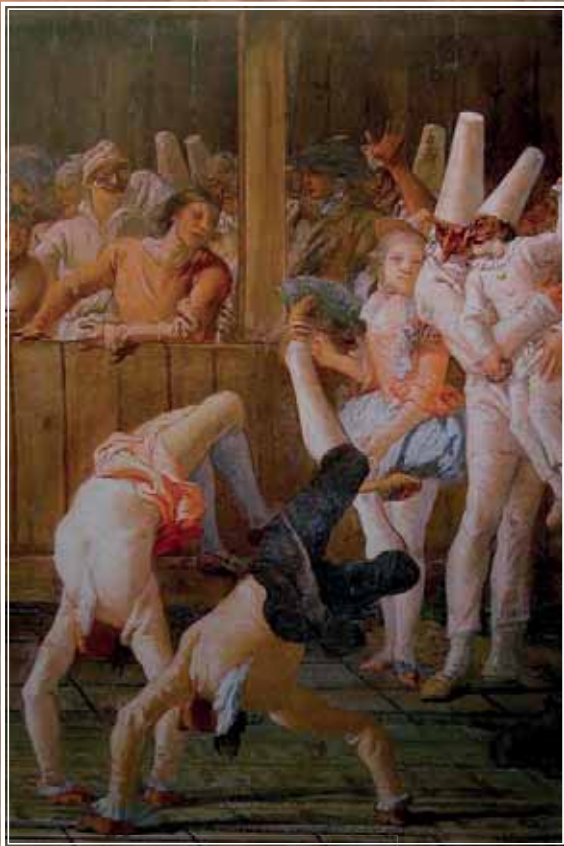
Miss Lola at the Cirque Fernando. Edgar Degas. 1879. National Gallery, London

Acrobat and Young Harlequin. Pablo Picasso. Barney Family Foundation. State of Philadelphia, USA

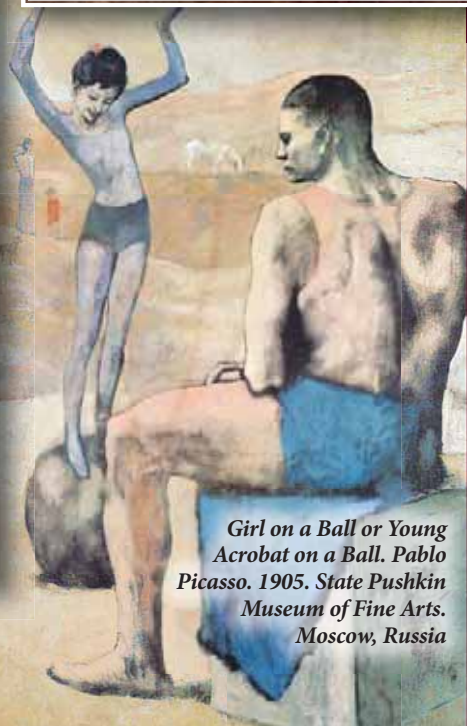


Acrobats at the Cirque Fernando (Francisca and Angelina Wartenberg). Pierre-Auguste Renoir. 1879

Acrobats (Festival in a Paris Suburb). Viktor Vasnetsov. 1848. State Russian Museum. St. Petersburg, Russia



Pulcinella and the Tumblers. Giovanni Domenico Tiepolo. 1790



Girl on a Ball or Young Acrobat on a Ball. Pablo Picasso. 1905. State Pushkin Museum of Fine Arts. Moscow, Russia





The Triumph of Neptune. Roman mosaic. II century. La Chebba, Tunisia

Gods of the Aquatic Environment in Greco-Roman Mythology

In all aspects of their lives, the ancient Greeks saw the influence of numerous gods. The Greeks revered and made sacrifices to them, worshiped their strength and power, and prayed for intercession. That was especially true of the gods associated with the aquatic environment, which was due to the role played by water (both fresh and sea) in the formation and development of ancient Greek civilization. After all, rivers and seas provided water and daily food, were routes for travel and trade, and often became arenas of hostilities.

Water was used in many religious rites primarily associated with purification: before prayer or sacrifice, after living through "impure" phenomena (birth and death), after committing a serious crime, and etc.

The attitude of the ancient Greeks towards the gods was reflected in numerous myths and legends.

Poseidon as one of the most powerful and revered gods ruled over all the pantheon of the aquatic environment; he was the brother of the thunderbolt Zeus, the ruler of the sea depths, the god-ruler of world waters. He was depicted as a powerful mature man with long hair and a beard, often with a trident in his hand, galloping across the sea in a chariot drawn by four horses with fish tails covered with scales. In addition to the horse, the sacred animals of Poseidon were a dolphin and a bull.



Pont. Roman mosaic. Tunisia



Ceto (Keto) - the goddess of the abyss, as well as monsters that live in these depths. Altar of Zeus in Pergamum (fragment)



Aegaeus (Aigaios) the god of the stormy sea (in the centre). Ceto is his wife (right) and Triton. Late Roman mosaic from the Baths of Trajan. Bardo National Museum, Tunisia



Nereus was one of the most beloved and revered gods of the water element: a kind, just wise and old man, the personification of the calm sea, which promises sailors a happy voyage (left), Doris (Oceanid), the daughter of Oceanus, the wife of Nereus (centre) and Oceanus. The relief of the altar in Pergamum



Eurybia was the embodiment of naval power in ancient Greek mythology. Bronze sculpture. Peter Mandl. XX-XXI centuries. Sweden



*Oceanus and Tethys. Mosaics. Zeugma Mosaic Museum. Gaziantep, Turkey
The Grey Ocean was a titan god equal to Zeus himself in honour and glory. Tethys was his wife, who was considered a goddess who gives life to all that exists. Oceanus had three thousand sons - river gods and three thousand daughters - Oceanids, the goddesses of streams and springs. They watered the whole earth and all living with ever-flowing life-giving water*



Nereus. Ancient engraving. Philip Galle. 1586. Netherlands



Oceanus. Fountain sculpture by Nicolas Salvi. Trevi Fountain. Rome



Poseidon (Neptune) and Amphitrite. Roman mosaic. 1 century. Herculaneum. National Archaeological Museum, Naples



Nereid with a dolphin. Relief. IV-V century

Poseidon was recognized and revered as the powerful and almighty god by all sailors and merchants who built altars for him and appealed to him to give their ships a happy voyage and provide for the success of their trade.

The cult of Poseidon was widespread throughout ancient Greece, mainly in the coastal part and on the islands. The Isthmian Games with horse riding halls were held in his honour. The XXII anthem of Homer and the XVII Orphic anthem were dedicated to him. He is the protagonist of Euripides' tragedy *The Trojan Women*, Aristophanes' comedy *The Birds*.

The decorative art of modern era often depicts the god Poseidon on the fountains. Raphael depicted Poseidon in a chariot drawn by sea horses.

Poseidon and his wife, the goddess Amphitrite, and their son, Triton, live in a luxurious palace at the bottom of the sea, surrounded by nereids, hippocampi (seahorses called fish kings), dolphins, and other inhabitants of the sea.

Amphitrite - the sea goddess - was often depicted next to a man in a chariot drawn by seahorses or tritons or mounting the tritons. Amphitrite was revered along with Poseidon. Statues were erected in her honour, for example in a temple on the Island of Tenos. Numerous paintings by Titian, Peter Rubens, Francois Lemoine, and Charles-Joseph Natoire were dedicated to her.

Upon learning Poseidon's desire to marry her, she fled to Atlas. However, she was found by a dolphin sent by Poseidon who persuaded her to return to his master.



Poseidon. Roman mosaic. III century. Archaeological Museum. Sousse, Tunisia



Sculpture of Poseidon. Copenhagen, Denmark



A graceful nymph supported by a seahorse rides the waves accompanied by two dolphins. Mosaics. End of II - beginning of III century. Archaeological Museum. El Jem, Tunisia



Nereid riding a dolphin. Red-figured Apulian ceramic plate. IV century BC. The State Hermitage, St. Petersburg

For that service, Poseidon placed a dolphin among the celestial constellations. Dolphins are always part of the Amphitrite Formation. They are depicted on many monuments of ancient art and modern times.

Their son Triton, who causes formidable storms with the thunderous sound of his trumpet from the sink, was often depicted with a human figure with the tails of dolphins instead of legs.

One of the pre-Olympic gods was Pontos (Pontus), the god of the inland sea, who became the father of Nereus, Phorcys, and their sister Ceto (Keto).

One of the most revered gods of the aquatic environment was the marine prophet elderly Nereus, who had fifty beautiful daughters that protected sailors and gave them a happy voyage.

Among the deities of the sea were also prophetic gods - the elderly Proteus and the god Glaucus.

All seas and lands were surrounded by the grey ocean - the god Titan, who was the ancestor of the gods, the beginning of all living things. His wife was Tethys, the goddess that inspired life to everything. Together they bore three thousand sons - river gods and three thousand daughters - Oceanids, goddesses of streams and springs.

The ancient Greeks worshipping all gods of different generations, dividing them by areas of influence and patronage, agalma (offering to the deities, which



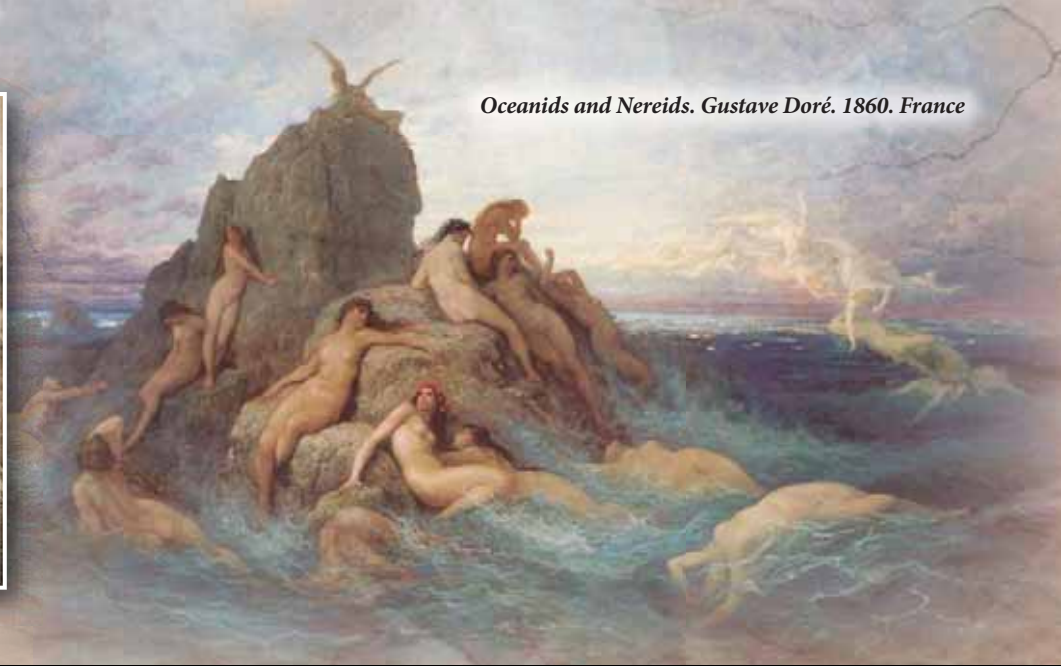
Alcmena and Oceanids. Red-figure ceramics. IV century BC. British Museum. London



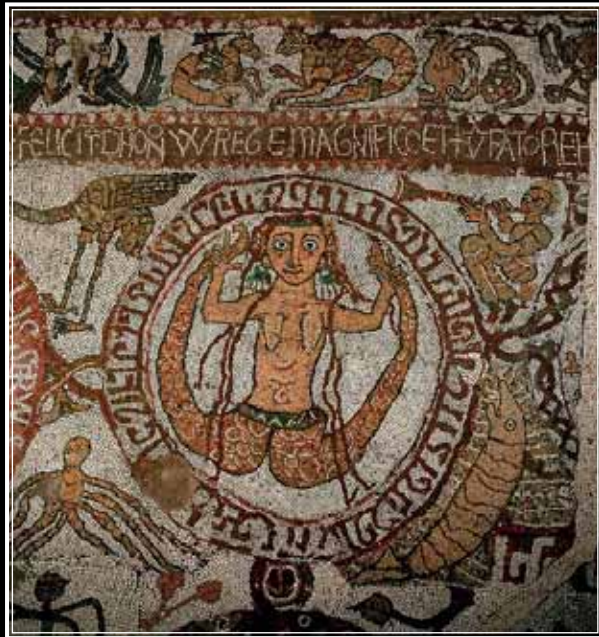
Hermes - the messenger of the gods - playing with a dolphin. Red-figure ceramic vase. V century BC



Venus and Neptune, Roman Gods. Louis Desplaces. Engraving. 1718



Oceanids and Nereids. Gustave Doré. 1860. France



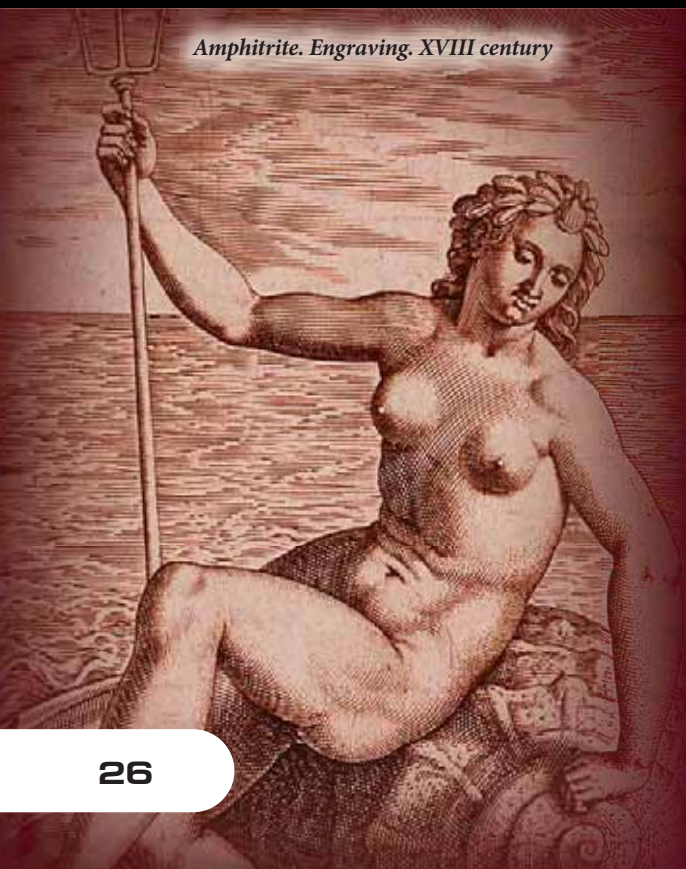
Roman mosaic image of a mermaid. Beginning of the II century

gave them special value), creation of these divine images – all that served as proof of a fine sense of the essence and diversity of natural phenomena and their veneration.

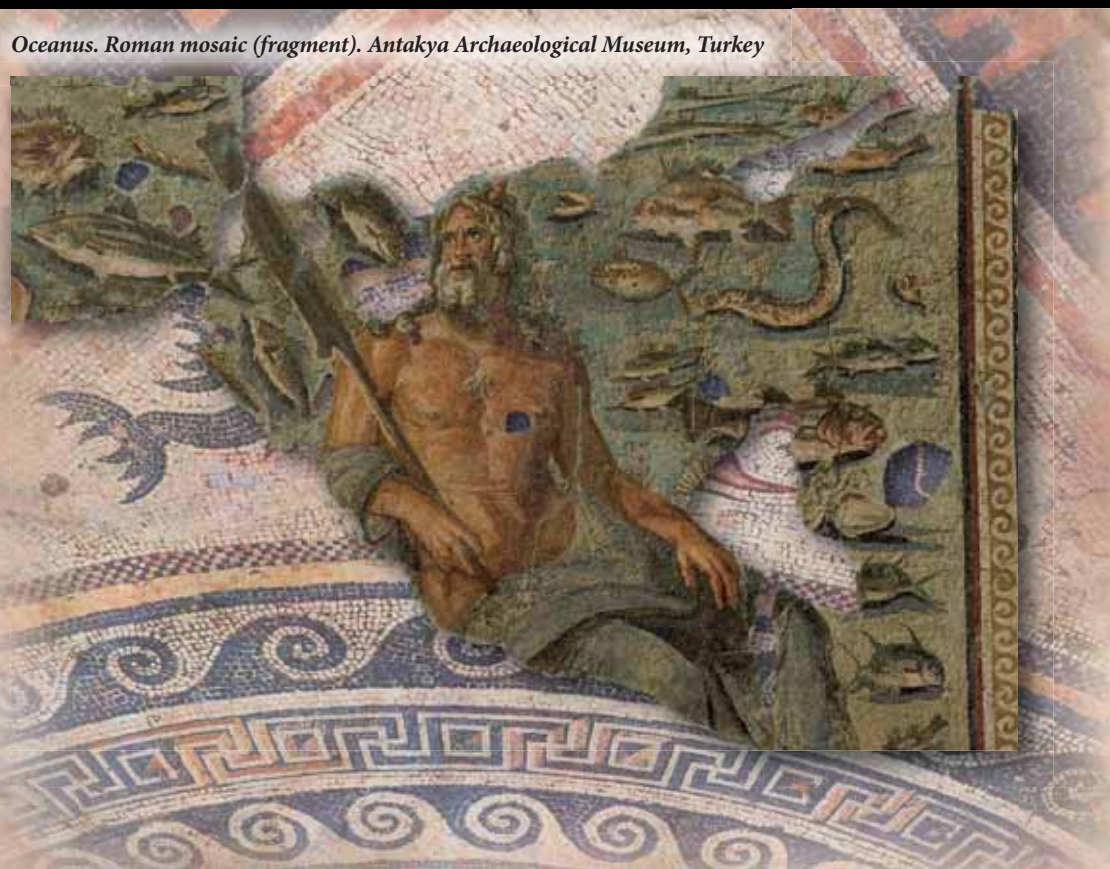
The ancient Greeks divided their large number of gods and deities into three generations. Among the ancient Greek gods of the second generation, the gods that were closely connected to water resources stood out significantly. In particular, that applied to the children of the lord of the inland sea Pontos: Nereus became the lord of the calm sea, and Phorcys gained power over the surging sea, over the hidden dangers of the depths. Eurybia became the embodiment of marine power. Ceto's daughter was endowed with the power over sea monsters, and Thaumias was considered a deity of sea wonders.

Special attention should be paid to the huge number of deities of the water element, which were worshiped by the ancient Greeks. Among them were the Oceanids – the daughters of the Oceanus, the Tritons – the retinue of Poseidon and Amphitrite, messengers of depths, the Nereids – the sea nymphs, sisters of Amphitrite, the river gods – the sons of Oceanus and Tethys, the Limnads – the nymphs of lakes and swamps, the Naiads – the nymphs of springs and rivers. The inhabitants of each town and village worshiped the deity of even a small stream, which provided them with the life-giving water.

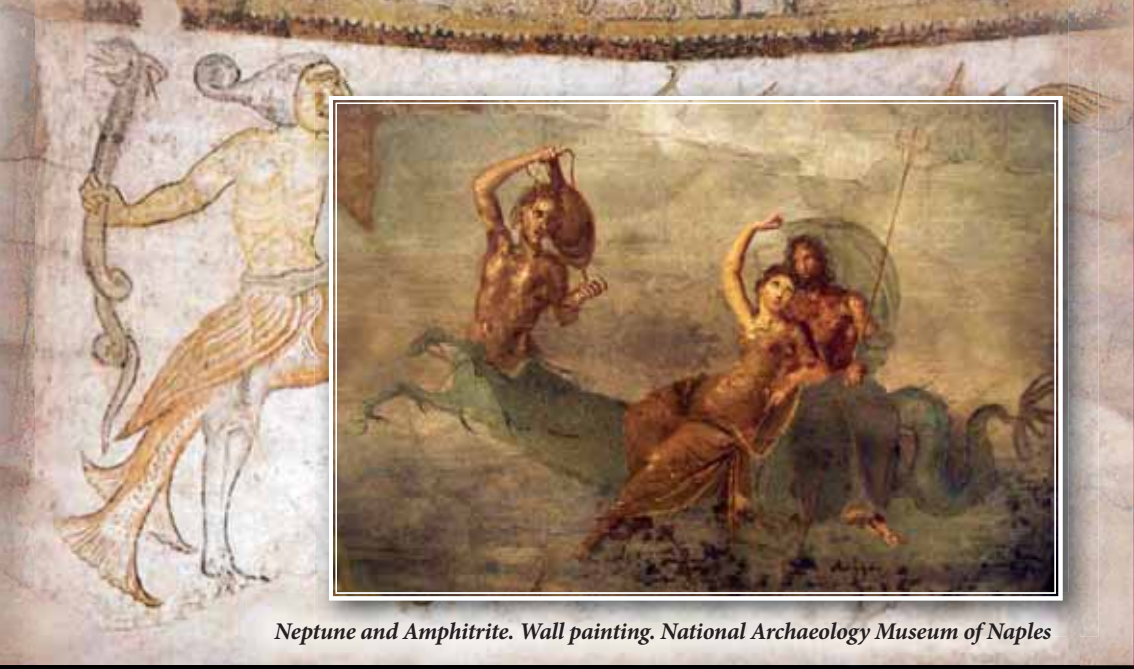
Greek mythology is permeated by the love of the sea and the ability of the Greeks to navigate in the aquatic environment. Many myths and legends of the



Amphitrite. Engraving. XVIII century



Oceanus. Roman mosaic (fragment). Antakya Archaeological Museum, Turkey



Neptune and Amphitrite. Wall painting. National Archaeology Museum of Naples

ancient Greeks are associated with sea voyages (take for example the voyages of Odysseus, the voyages of Jason and the Argonauts), the heroic deeds of the gods and their descendants, the seas and their inhabitants (octopuses, dolphins, fish, corals, etc.). The theme was also reflected in numerous pieces of sculptural art, in decorations of the ancient Greek amphorae and vases as well as in figured shell-shaped vessels, which served to store ointments and cosmetics, and of exquisite decor.

The roots of the Roman mythology originated in primitive myths associated with the worship of the forces of nature, the family, the origins of the community, and the city. However, from about V-IV centuries BC the influence of Greek mythology began to be felt in the outlook of the ancient Romans. Over time, they easily accepted the Greek deities into their pantheon, thus trying to attract to their side both the gods themselves and the people who worshiped them.

Many Greek gods were given new names by the Romans, leaving the former area of patronage. Thus, Poseidon became Neptune, his wife Amphitrite - Salacia, Pontos - Pontus, the god of the north wind Boreas - Aquilon, even the hero of the Greek epic Odysseus - Ulysses.

Greek civilization significantly influenced the formation of Roman mythology and found a vivid manifestation in ancient Roman culture, the monuments of which have survived to this day. In the Roman era, sea deities were often embodied in sculptures as well as depicted on mosaics during the construction of public pools.



Neptune and Amphitrite on four seahorses surrounded by a pair of erotes, fishermen and nymphs emerge from the depths of the sea. Roman mosaic. Beginning of the II century



Neptune and Amphitrite. Sebastiano Ricci. 1691-1694



Inhabitants of the sea. Pair of gold bracelets. 200 BC. Greece



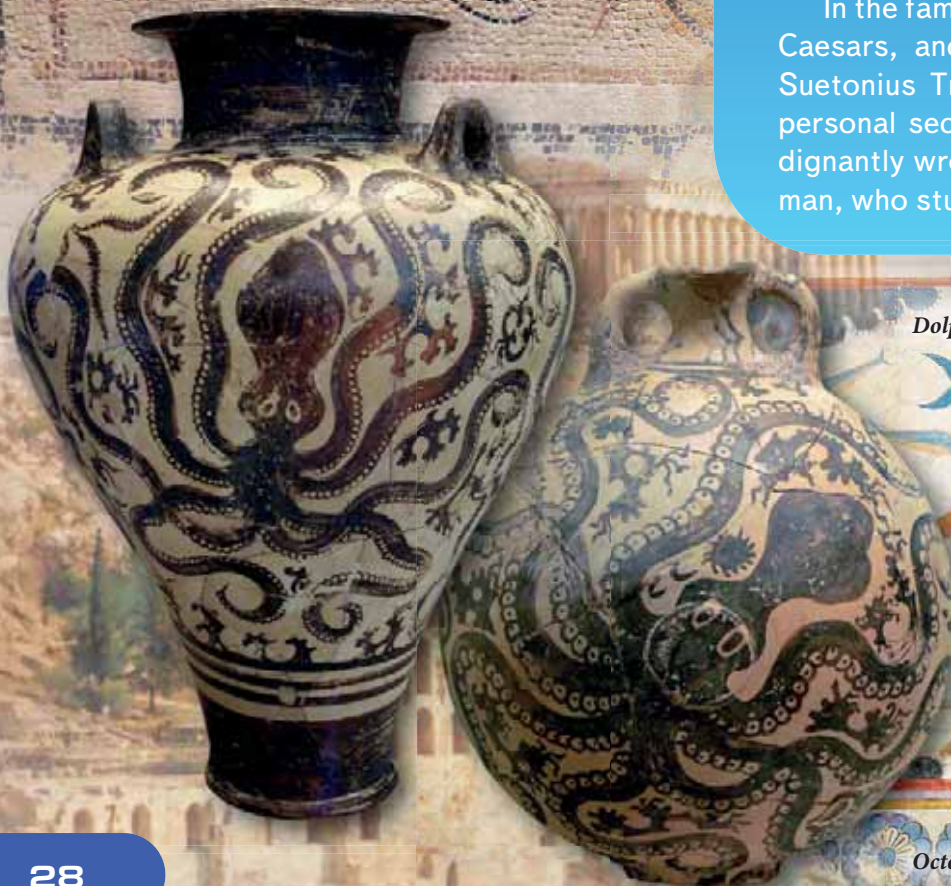
Etruscan monuments indicate that diving has been known since ancient times. Thus, the wall fresco found in Cornetto, Tarquini in Italy, dating back to the VI century BC, depicts a boy performing a dive off a cliff. The boy's body is elongated, arms outstretched to the sides - like a diving "swallow."

The mural found in Paestum (southern Italy), dates back to about 480 BC, depicting a human dive from a ledge into the water, also has an allegorical meaning - it is reminiscent of the ephemerality of human life, which flies into the water.

It is known from historical sources that the ancient Romans also paid great attention to teaching swimming to the younger generation of citizens of the empire, using cork vests.

The Roman poet Horace, who lived in the first century, instructed the children with these words, "The time will come, my child, when your body is formed and your spirit grows up, you will swim without a cork in open water."

In the famous biographical collection *Life of the Twelve Caesars*, ancient Roman scientist-encyclopaedist Gaius Suetonius Tranquillus, who in the first century was the personal secretary of the emperor-educator Hadrian, indignantly wrote about the Roman emperor Caligula, "This man, who studied that easily, could not swim!"

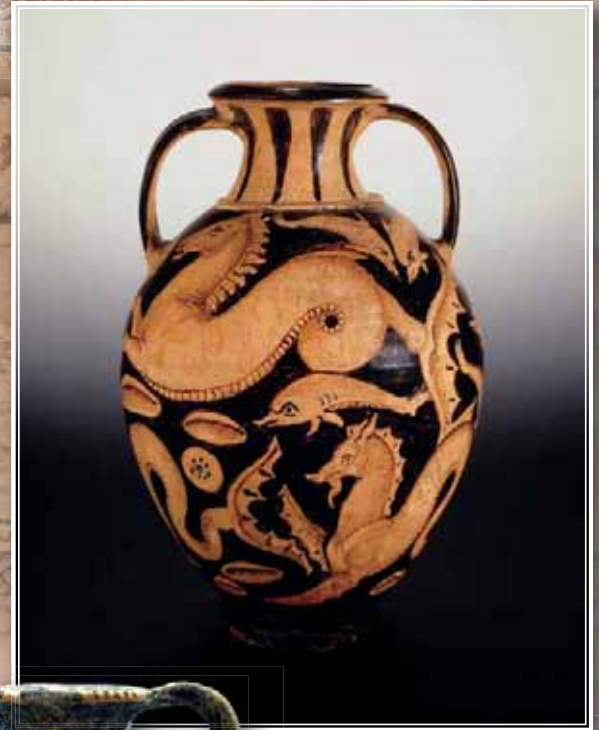
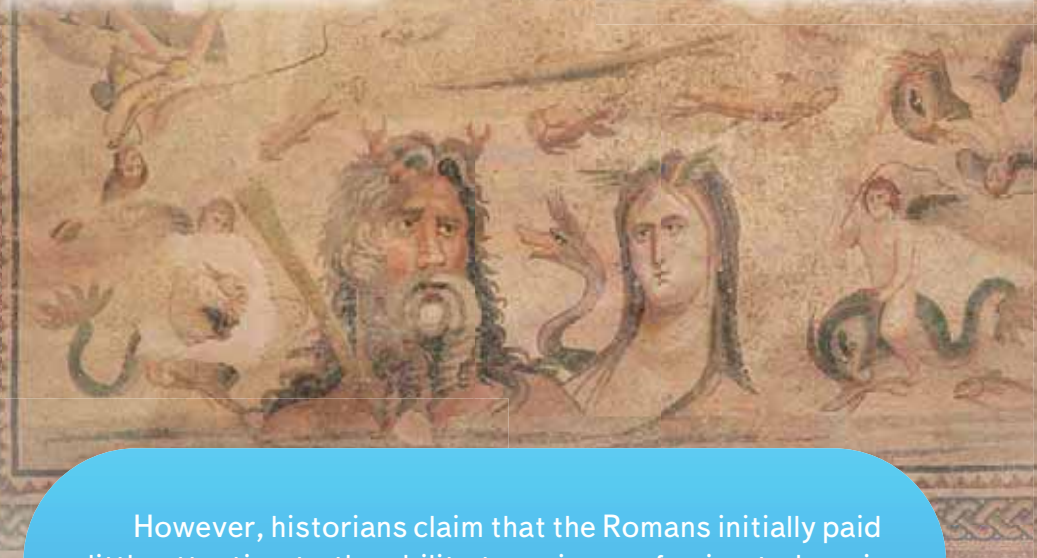


Dolphins playing. Fresco wall painting. Minoan civilization

Octopus. Black-figure vase painting. Ceramics. Mycenae

Ocean and Tethys. Mosaic painting at the bottom of the pool in Zeugma. Roman mosaic

Underwater world. White-figured ceramic amphora. Etruria. 325-300 AD



However, historians claim that the Romans initially paid little attention to the ability to swim, preferring to luxuriate in thermae, pools with thermal baths, and more. The situation changed during the Punic Wars against African Carthage (264-146 BC), when Roman soldiers had to learn swimming to win.

Roman cities such as Stabia and Herculaneum, which were destroyed at the same time as Pompeii in 79 by the eruption of Vesuvius, were once famous for their seaside resorts (a kind of Saint-Tropez of ancient Rome).

The Romans loved not only the pools but also games on the sunny beaches. The famous mosaic of Villa del Casale in Piazza Armerina in southern Sicily shows us the beach games of the Romans in the III century.

In the ancient Rome, there were especially trained divers, who were called urinators. Like modern divers, they retrieved sunken objects, damaged enemy ships, and so on. Usually, men of the Phoenician origin were hired for that job.

Divers were needed to sustain the life of the Roman aristocracy. They supplied shellfish, deep-sea animals, sponges, pearls, and purple tint to the rich homes with which the Romans dyed their togas.



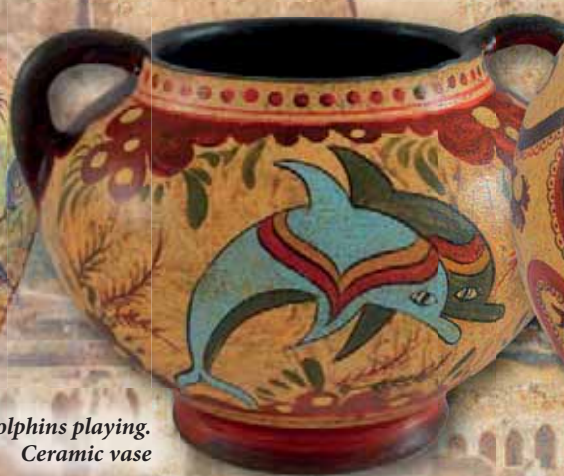
Minoan ceramic vases with the image of playing dolphins. Knossos

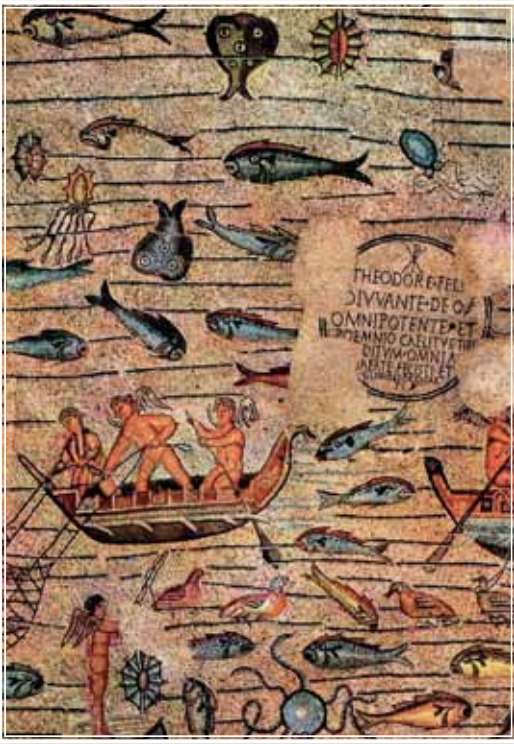


The Octopus. Ancient Greek vase. Red-figure painting. Minoan era



Minoan dolphins playing. Ceramic vase





*Islands and lagoons of the Adriatic.
Roman mosaic*



Ship and playing dolphins. Fresco of Villa Romana (Italy)



*Eros riding a dolphin.
Roman mosaic.
Tunisia*

Historical sources claim that it was in the ancient Greece that the first attempts were made to submerge in a special container, which was a prototype of the bathyscaphe. And those attempts were made by Alexander the Great - a great military leader who sought to conquer the world.

From time immemorial, the peoples of many countries had the brave, who threw themselves into the sea or river off cliffs, bridges, ship masts for fun. For example, in India - in Delhi, Kashmir, and Agra - locals dove into a deep well filled with water from the top of a 20-metre temple.

Many such divers in Kyiv Rus were also not afraid to dive from a great height, and swimming competitions played an important role there. Such an example were the mass competitions, where the best swimmers of the ancient Slavs were gathered on the Pochaina River, a tributary of the Dnipro. They all dove into the river at the same time and had to catch fish with their hands for some time. The one who managed to catch the biggest fish was declared the winner and received a silk fishing net as a reward.

Later on, in the Middle Ages the inhabitants of Italian cities practiced the ability not only to swim in different styles but also to dive, as evidenced by numerous confir-

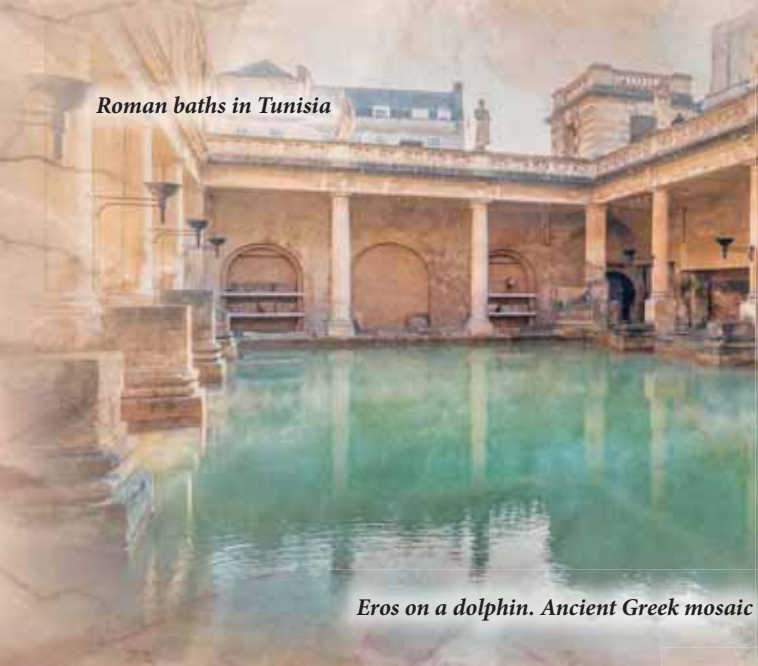


Fish catchers. Mosaic canvas. Villa Romana (Italy)

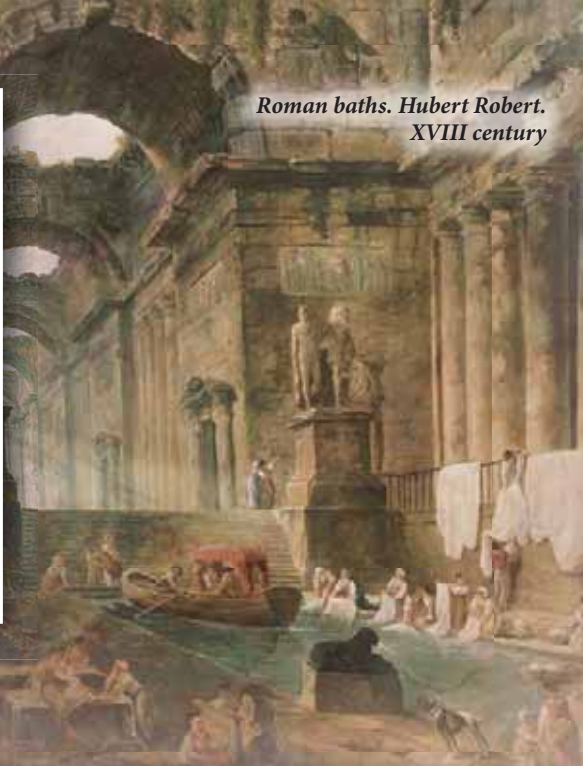


*Fishermen. Roman mosaic.
Alcalá de Henares (Spain)*

Roman baths in Tunisia



Roman baths. Hubert Robert. XVIII century



Eros on a dolphin. Ancient Greek mosaic



mations, including illustrated, in medieval Italian manuscripts.

In Renaissance manuscripts, various stories about diving from bridges may be found. Thus, the manual of Weinmann, published in 1538, for the first time mentions diving from bridges in Basel, Switzerland, and Constanta, Romania, which, along with swimming, were a favourite pastime of young people. Amusingly enough, because of the fear of being cut in half, they did not dive with their feet first but only with their heads down!

In the French novel by Francois Rabelais The Life of Gargantua and of Pantagruel (16th century), it was said that the knight taught the protagonist not only different ways of swimming but also diving.

It is known that the inhabitants of the state of Bosnia and Herzegovina (located on the Balkan Peninsula) organised competitions in diving from a bridge that exceeded 20 metres in height in the seventeenth century.

Scholars also confirm that a similar tradition existed among the inhabitants of Mexico and Hawaii in the middle of the XVIII century.

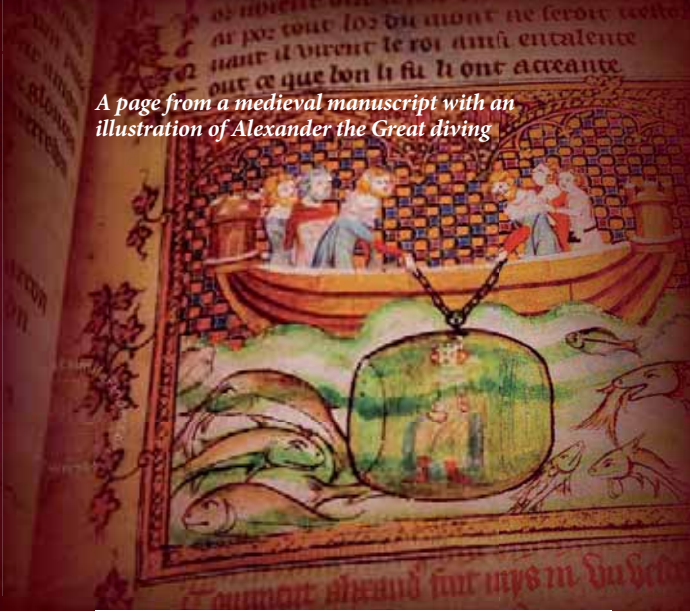


Roman baths

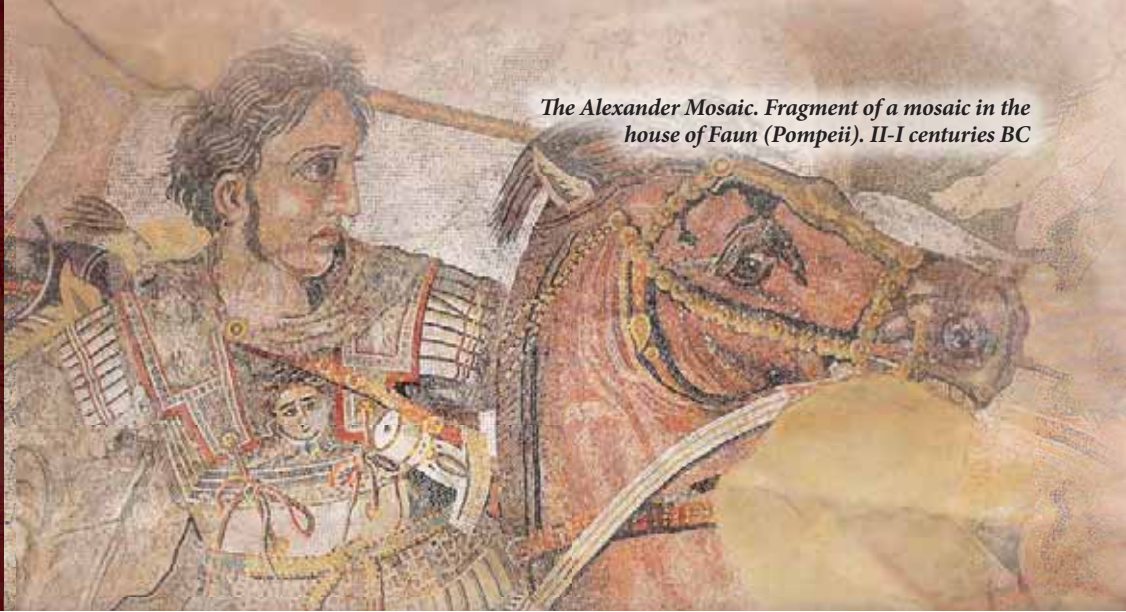


Eros riding a dolphin

A page from a medieval manuscript with an illustration of Alexander the Great diving



The Alexander Mosaic. Fragment of a mosaic in the house of Faun (Pompeii). II-I centuries BC



Sea dives of Alexander the Great

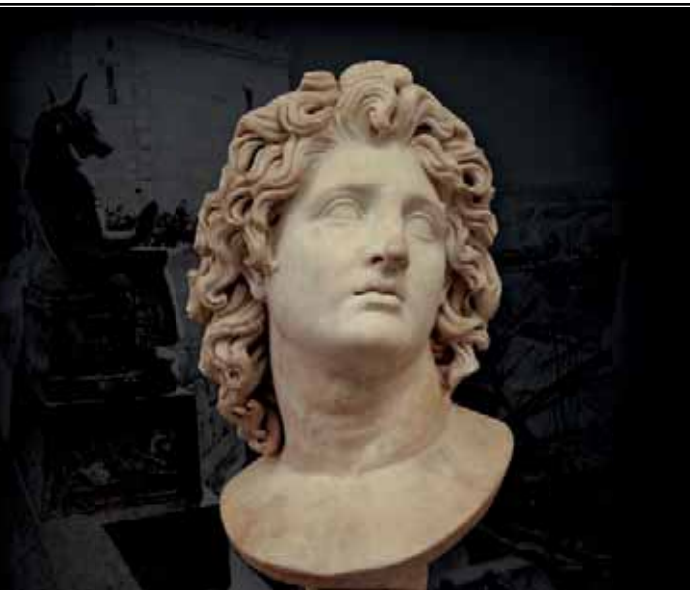
Alexander the Great - a talented military leader and a pupil of the great Aristotle - had a brilliant mind and was known for his knowledge and education. He actively supported science and contributed to the development of art in his powerful kingdom, which united almost all the territories of the ancient world.

Such literary sources as *The Life of Alexander the Great* (*Res gestae Alexandri Magni*), by Julius Valerius Alexander Polemius of early IV century, *History Against the Pagans* (*Historia Contra los Paganos*) by the priest and apologist of the V century Paulus Orosius, list of the fourteenth century Roman d'Alexandre, Iskander-name by the Persian writer Nizami Ganjavi of the XII century have all been preserved until today. These sources mention the first dive into the depths of the sea with the help of the bell invented by Aristotle and executed by Alexander the Great.

In 332 BC Alexander the Great conquered all of Phoenicia during his military campaign in Egypt, with only the unconquerable city of Tyre becoming an obstacle. The city was located on a rocky island, fortified on all sides by high walls, the height of which sometimes exceeded 45 m.

The siege lasted for seven months, but the ingenious defenders of Tyre kept coming up with new ways to repel the enemy, so numerous military attempts to cease the city did not work. Until more than 120 ships from the rulers of the conquered cities came to the aid of Alexander the Great.

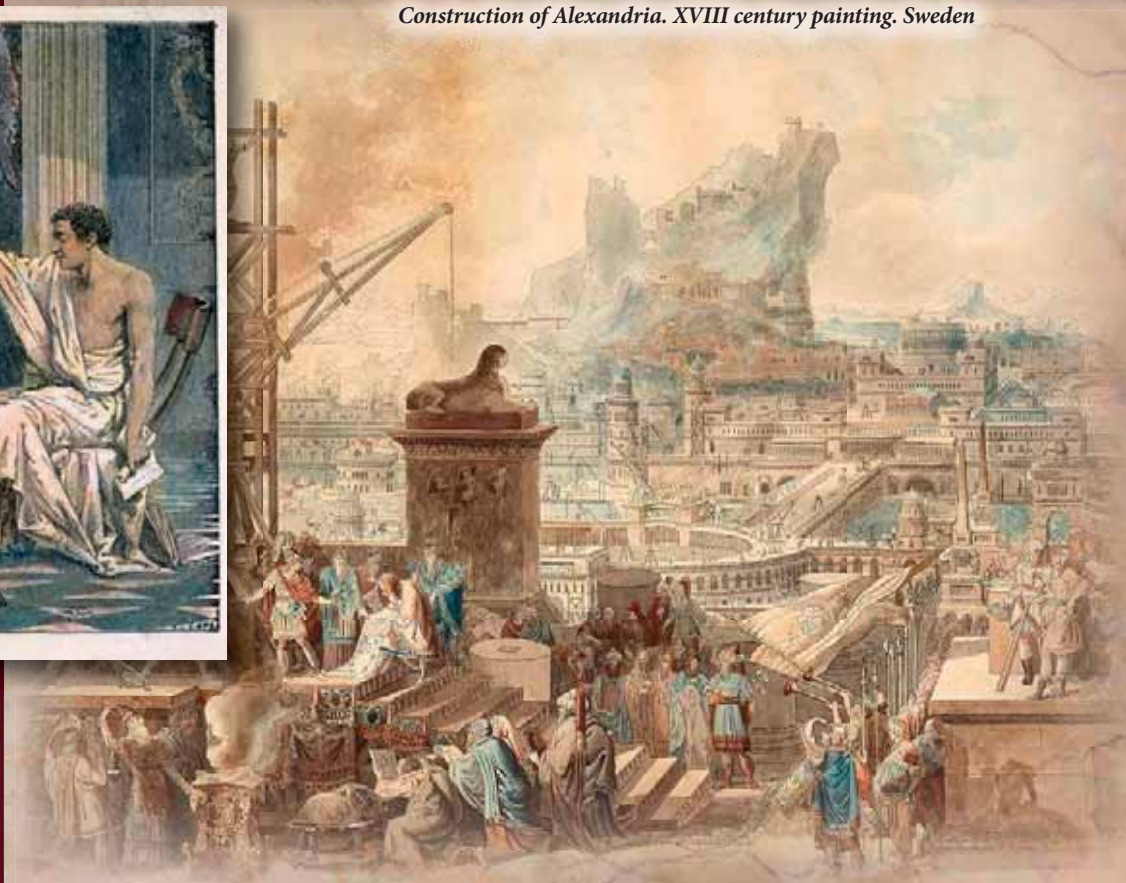
Marble bust of Alexander the Great in the image of Helios. Roman copy from the Greek original of the III-II centuries BC. Capitol Museum. Rome, Italy



Construction of Alexandria. XVIII century painting. Sweden



Aristotle with his disciple Alexander. Colour lithography. XIX century.





Dive of Alexander the Great. Miniature of the XV century. The king was lowered underwater in a transparent cylinder, which was illuminated by two lamps. The British Library. London

Illustration of a medieval manuscript reflecting the author's idea of the immersion of Alexander the Great in the bathyscaphe

Then the Macedonian king ordered to lower underwater the observation equipment, which had the shape of a clay bell with glass windows - portholes. The equipment was called colympha; Aristotle had described it in his tractate *Problemata*.

The purpose of the dive was to find out whether the defenders of the Phoenician city of Tyre set up underwater obstacles that would prevent the advance of Greek ships.

Alexander's soldiers had the same bells. With the help of colymphas, the siege warriors had to reach the walls of Tyre to break their strength. At the same time, Greek ships fired heavily at the city.

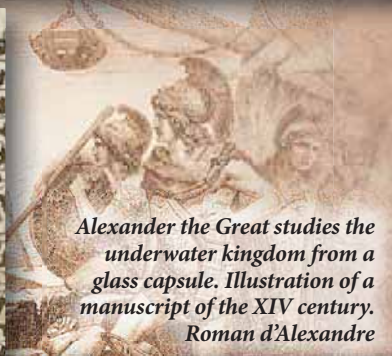
Eventually, the walls were destroyed, and the impregnable city was captured. Thus ended the seven-month siege of Tyre, which killed 8,000 residents of the city, of whom 6,000 died during the assault, another 2,000 were crucified along the sea. According to the ancient Greek historian Flavius Arian, another 30,000 captured inhabitants were sold into slavery.

Numerous Roman, Persian, and medieval texts provide a biography of Alexander the Great, describing and illustrating this episode.

The fall of Tyre terrified southern Syria; Samaria and Judea surrendered without resistance. The road to Egypt was opened for the great commander Alexander the Great.



Illustration of a medieval manuscript reflecting the author's idea of the dive of Alexander the Great in the bathyscaphe. Illustration of the manuscript Stories of the Wonderful King Alexander. 1320

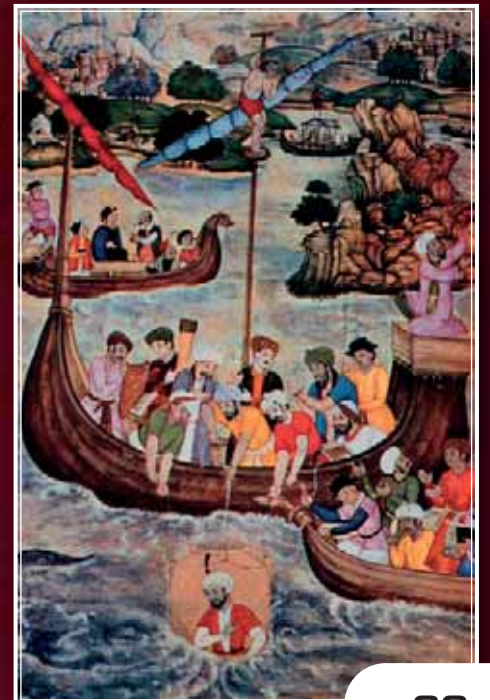


Alexander the Great studies the underwater kingdom from a glass capsule. Illustration of a manuscript of the XIV century. Roman d'Alexandre

Dive of King Alexander the Great. Manuscript illustration. The British Library. London



Alexander the Great, which is immersed into the water in a glass bell-shaped vessel. Persian painting of the sixteenth century. Unknown author



Siege of Tyre. Andrea Del Castagno. 1898-1899



Oronzio de Bernardi was the author of a textbook on the art of swimming. 1794.



Man swimming in a lifebuoy. Leonardo da Vinci. XV century

Plunging tournaments were also held and the judges were chosen to determine the best divers. The ability to “enter” the water with little or no splash was valued most. Legend has it that a local Maui leader loved to dive off rocks and similarly tested the bravery of his warriors. Only those who dove into the ocean from a 30-metre cliff got a place in his combat unit.

In Western Europe in the late eighteenth-early nineteenth century, the construction of pools began to promote aquatic sports. Professional athletes who demonstrated their art of performing figure diving were invited there. The first manuals on swimming and diving were published in 1794. Oronzio de Bernardi created a manual on the art of swimming in Naples, in which he described and illustrated dives similar to modern dives of the first and second classes.

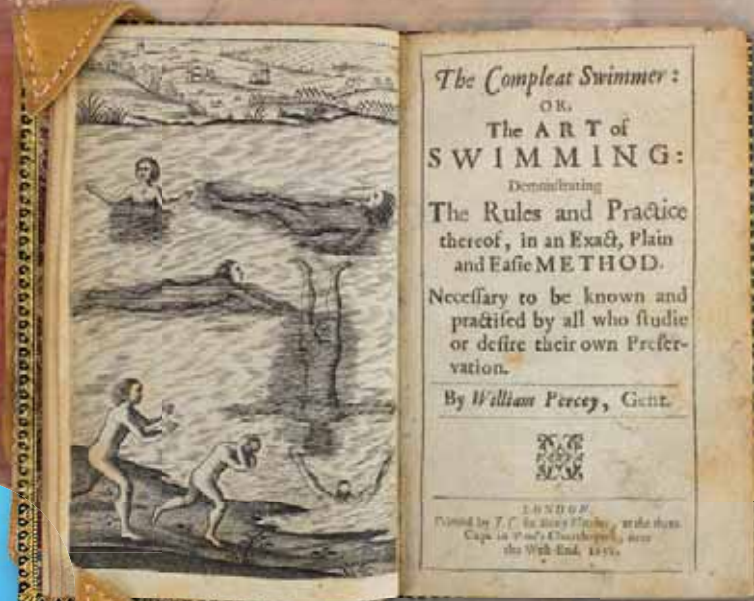
A manual on swimming by the famous German educator and a prominent activist in the field of physical education Johann Christoph Friedrich GutsMuths was published in 1789. It was called A Short Guide to Swimming, and it described swimming lessons, swimming on the chest, back as well as diving.



Illustrations of the book by Oronzio de Bernardi. Splash. 1794.



Divers. Colour lithograph from the 'bon ton' series. 1810-1815. France



The Art of Swimming. London. Great Britain

Diving in Modern and Contemporary Times

Several factors contributed to diving becoming widely popular in the second half of the nineteenth century. First of all, numerous aquatic resorts grew in demand, many of which had facilities and special areas for aquatic sports, and, second of all, gymnastics gained incredible popularity, forming the basis for diving. On the beaches and shores, vacationers and athletes performed various gymnastic exercises, and with time, they began to perform some of them not only on land but also over water.

It is from gymnastic exercises, which became popular in Sweden and Germany in the eighteenth century, that the competitions in diving originated. Gymnasts were able to perform various acrobatic elements such as flips and springs at a considerable height. Those unusual actions of gymnasts turned into a new sport - "exquisite" diving (fancy diving), while diving for further swimming became known as "ordinary" diving.



The Art of Swimming - the illustrated book by William Percy. Great Britain



Swimming classes for ladies. 1860. Great Britain



Games in the pool



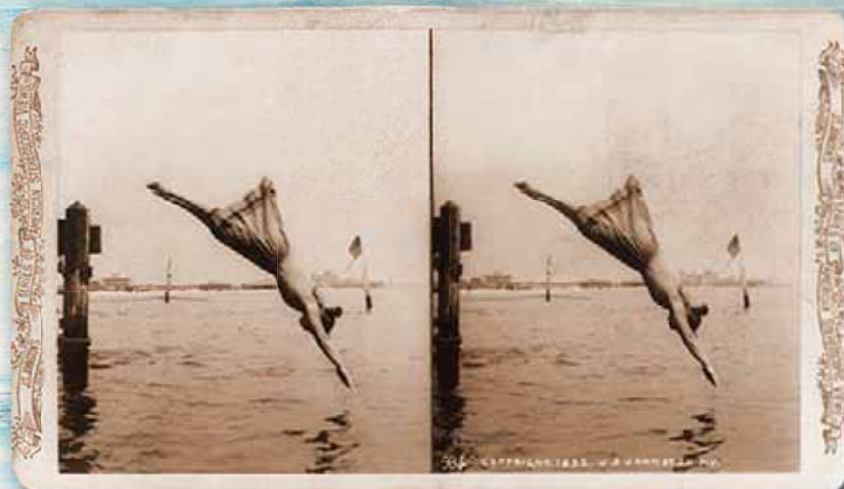
An old photograph of a diving platform

At the same time, the German and the Swedish diving schools emerged.

German athletes performed dives from springboards and bridges, standing close to the support. During the dive, the athlete's body was very tense, and the movements were sharp. They entered water headfirst with their hands pressed tightly to the body. Such dives were known for their high accuracy.

The Swedes dove from platforms, specially erected wooden supports on lakes and beaches. The dives of the Swedes differed in freedom and natural body position. Their movements in the air during the flight were characterized by softness and flexibility. The water entry was performed with the arms forward, interlaced above the head.

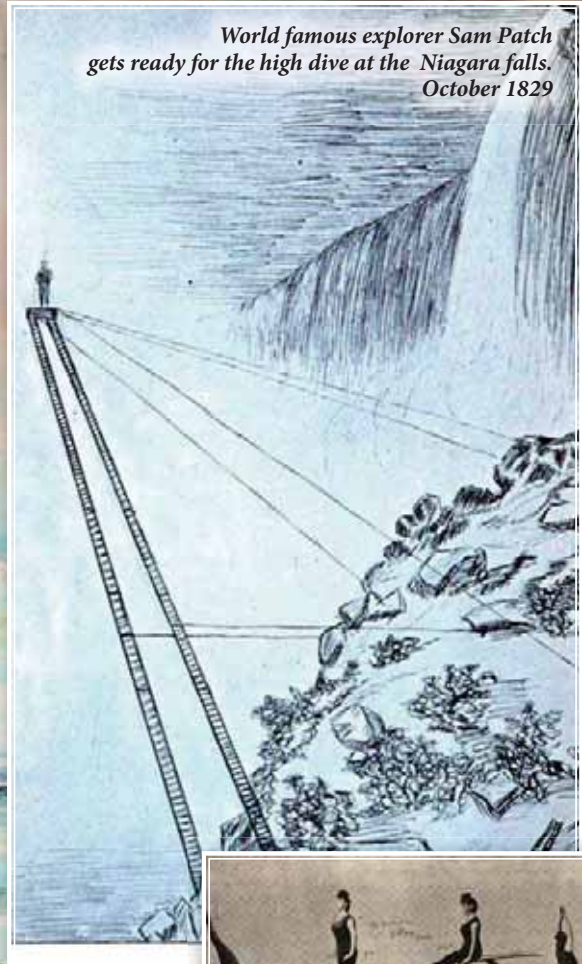
In the summer months of the late 1800s, gymnasts in Germany and Sweden moved their classes from the indoor pools to the beaches, performing hurdles and various flips in diving. Those classes were referred to as "fancy water diving". Athletes also competed in the art of diving, using two methods: running or from an elevated rigid platform.



Platform dive. XIX century. New York. USA



World famous explorer Sam Patch gets ready for the high dive at the Niagara falls. October 1829



Germany

The city of Halle stands at the origins of diving in Germany.

The Guild of Halloren salt pot makes also specialized in training swimming and diving skills. Members of the Guild perfected their prowess jumping off the bridge into the Saale River. Together with the German gymnasts, diving enthusiasts formed the world's first diving association in 1840. Most members of the association were gymnasts, calling their classes water gymnastics. Thus, diving became a very popular activity in Germany.

In the same year, Herr Tychy's Baths were opened in Berlin, where diving was practiced, and new dives were invented. The German diving style was rooted in the Prussian system of physical education of the XVIII-XIX centuries, aimed at training a strong, agile, courageous, and disciplined army.

The beginning of the competitions corresponded to the spread of swimming clubs and swimming associa-

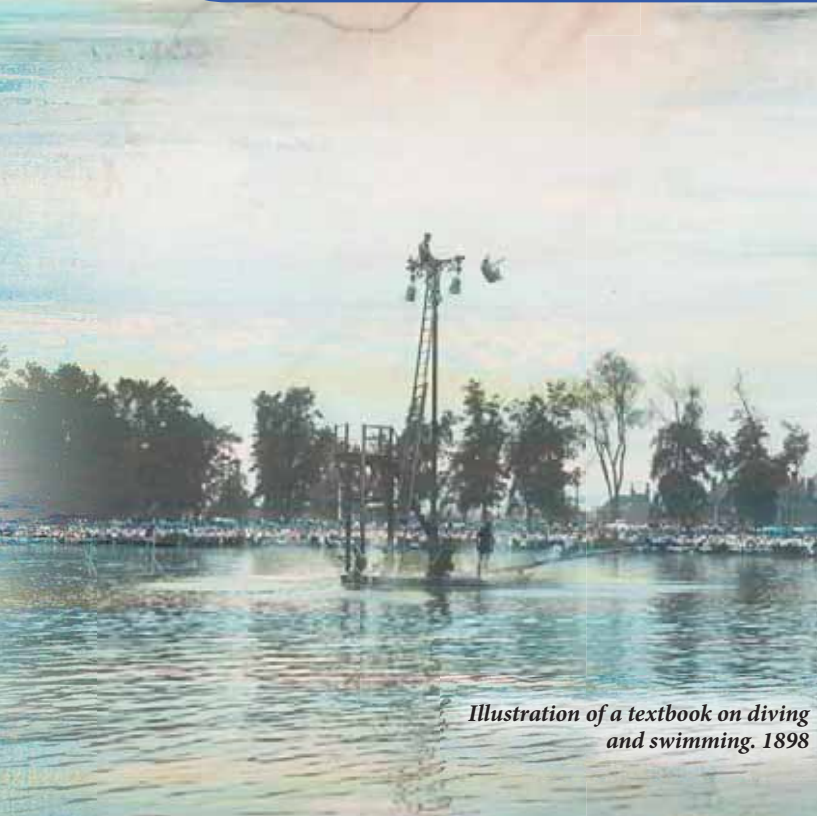


Illustration of a textbook on diving and swimming. 1898



Page of an illustrated magazine with diving lessons. 1920s. Diving is performed by Annette Kellermann - Austrian professional swimmer and diver



Games in the swimming pool. End of the XIX century

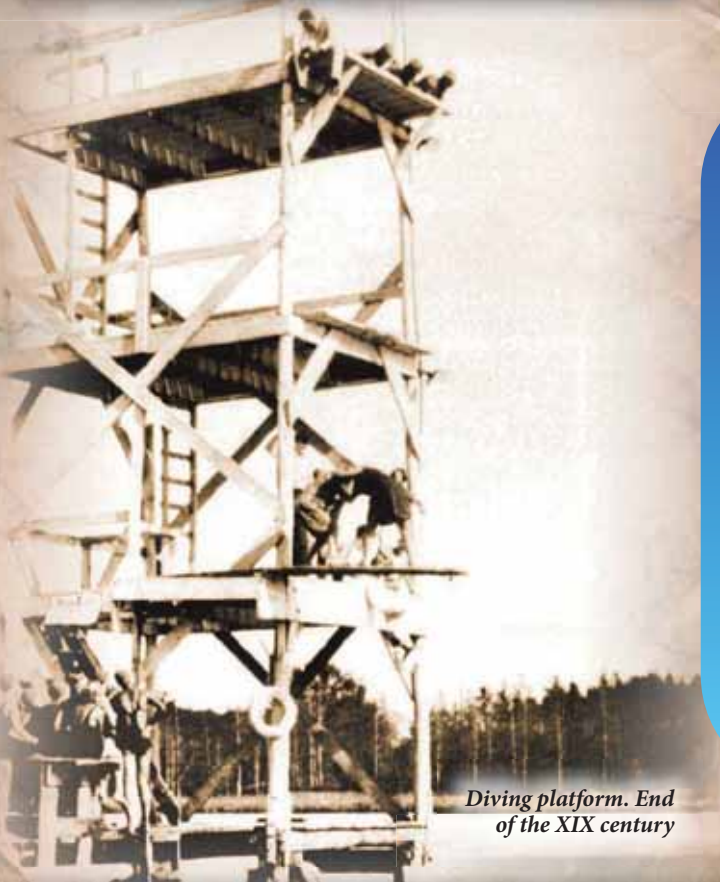


tions. Germany's oldest club the Neptune began to hold international events in both the springboard or as it was then called the "bottom board" and the platform in 1882. In 1891, the first rules of diving events were approved, and in the following year the first rankings were published.

Germany began to hold regular diving events in the beginning of 1886, thus allowing the German divers to win leading positions in Europe and the world.

Scandinavia

Diving was also quite popular in Scandinavia. Young people loved to dive from cliffs, and later from specially built 15-, 17-, 19-metre-high platforms. The Swedes dove very far from the apparatuses; their movements in the air were soft and rhythmical.

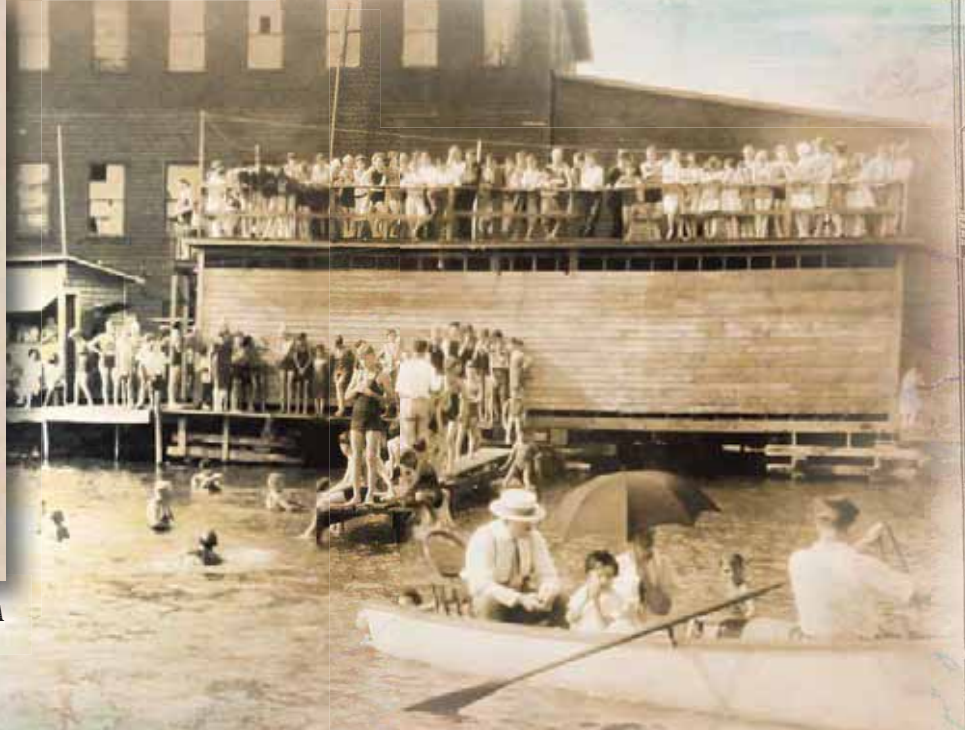


Diving platform. End of the XIX century

Aquatic leisure on the beach. 1920. Geneva. Switzerland



Splinter Beach. Lithograph. George Bellows. 1912. USA



Diving on the Thames. The first half of the XX century. London, United Kingdom

Ladies swimming club. Illustration of a magazine. The beginning of the XIX century. London, UK

Great Britain

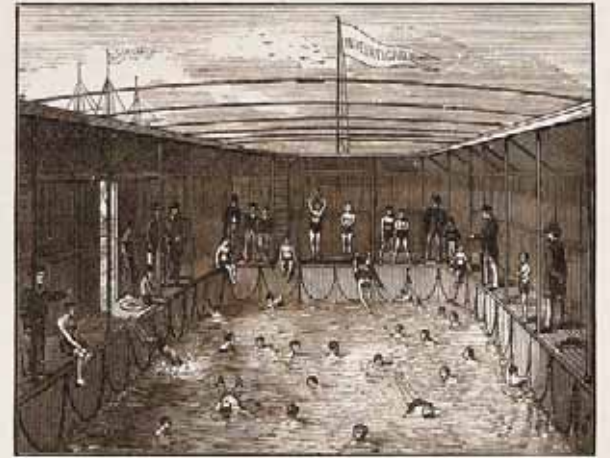
Diving became increasingly popular in Great Britain in the late nineteenth century in London. Amateurs dove into the water from different heights. And in 1871, a competition in diving into the Thames from the London Bridge was held.

The first diving platforms, brought by a group of Swedish athletes, were installed at Highgate Ponds, artificial lakes that served as water reservoirs for London residents. They were built in 1777 and were a vacation spot for the townspeople.

The height of the first artificial diving platform was 15 feet (4.6 m).

The so-called world championship was held there in 1893. The Royal Life Saving Society held a diving event called the National Graceful Diving Competition at Highgate Ponds in 1895. Competitors dove from a height of 15 or 30 feet (4.6 or 9.2 m).

It was at those competitions that Otto Hagborg and C. F. Maurizzi introduced fancy diving to the Englishmen.



Games onboard a training ship. Lithography. XIX century. United Kingdom

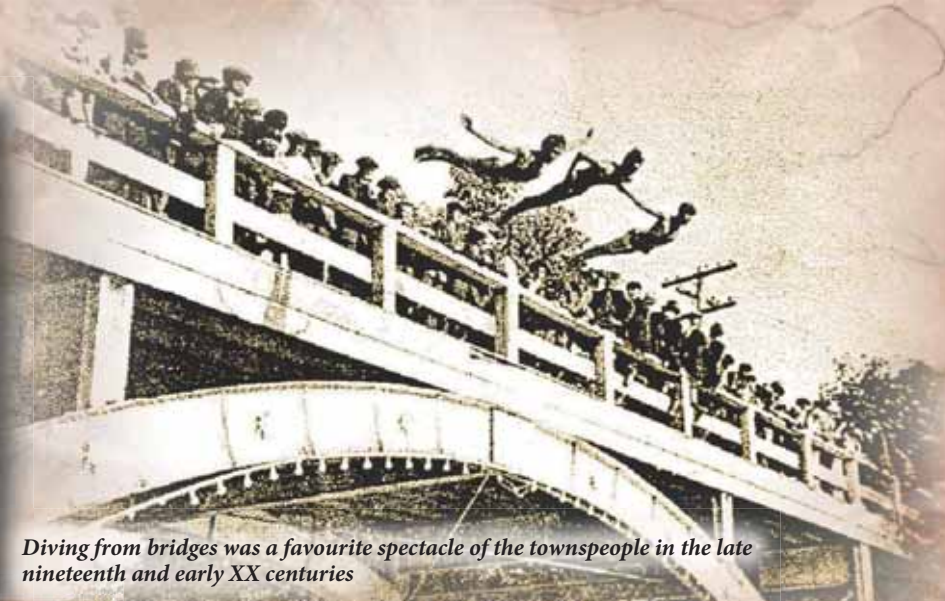


Swimming pool at the British Station. One of forty thematic illustrations by Captain George Franklin Atkinson. 1860. Great Britain

Temporary swimming pool built on the Thames River. The end of the XIX century. Charing Cross, the geographical centre of London. United Kingdom



Dive from a bridge in Dallas. USA



Diving from bridges was a favourite spectacle of the townspeople in the late nineteenth and early XX centuries



Group diving from the bridge

Otto Hagborg was a Swedish genre painter who dedicated every free minute to his favourite hobby - fancy diving. In the 1890s, he settled in London with his friend, the athlete Hjalmar Johansson. They presented new fancy diving at a national competition held by the Royal Life Saving Society in 1895. Athletes demonstrated their acrobatic diving technique from a 30-foot platform at Highgate Ponds, which became the impetus for creating the Amateur Diving Association in 1901. It became the first organisation in the world responsible for diving (later to merge with the Association of Swimming Enthusiasts).

Captain Claude Champion de Crespigny became a follower of the Swedish approach in Great Britain.

The United States

The popularity of diving in the United States began to grow rapidly in the second half of the nineteenth century along with the rapid growth of resorts and recrea-



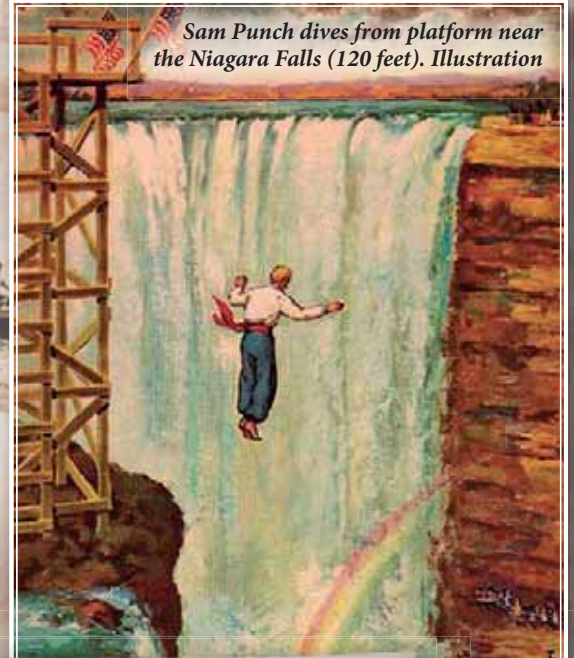
Platform dive. Postcard. 1915. USA

Swimming pool with a diving platform in Shelbyville (Indiana, USA). The end of the XIX century





In the pool of the hotel complex. Hannah Duncan. XX century



Sam Punch dives from platform near the Niagara Falls (120 feet). Illustration

tion areas on the ocean coasts and the numerous rivers and lakes.

Followed by the example of many European countries, the construction of indoor pools with diving facilities was commenced in the north. The number of outdoor pools was growing in the south. They were usually built on the ocean coast and filled with seawater. This allowed visitors to enjoy swimming and games regardless of the weather and protected them from dangerous encounters with marine life.

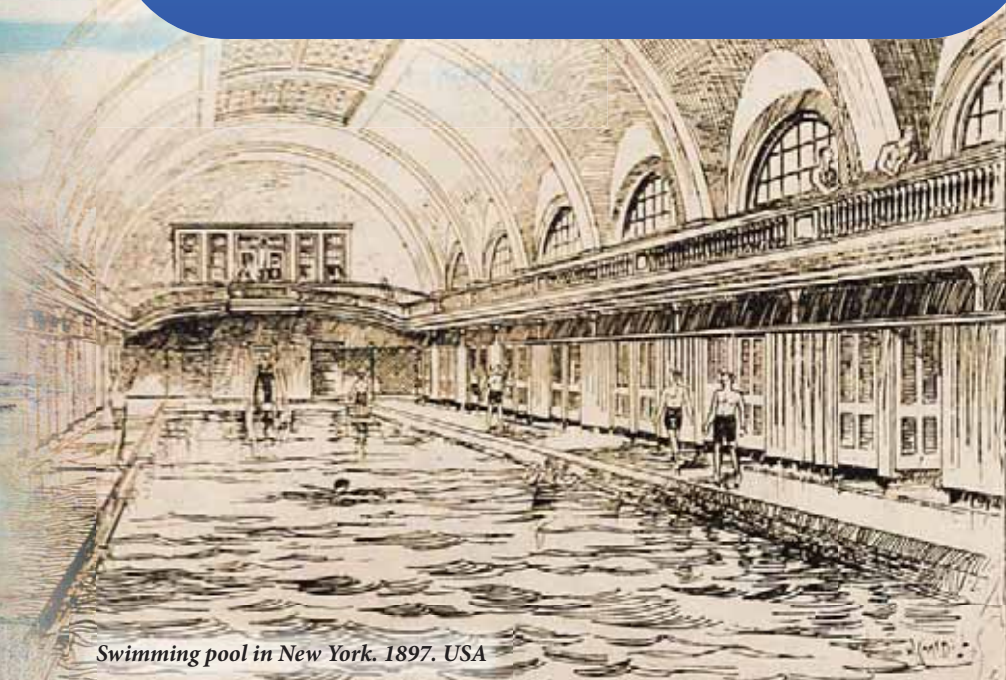
The first indoor swimming pool in the United States was built in 1868 on Cabot Street in Boston, Massachusetts. It was more like a huge bath visited by all the residents of the surrounding areas, who did not have the opportunity to enjoy such a luxury as a bath at their home.

The first swimming pool at the Philadelphia Racket Club was opened in 1907.

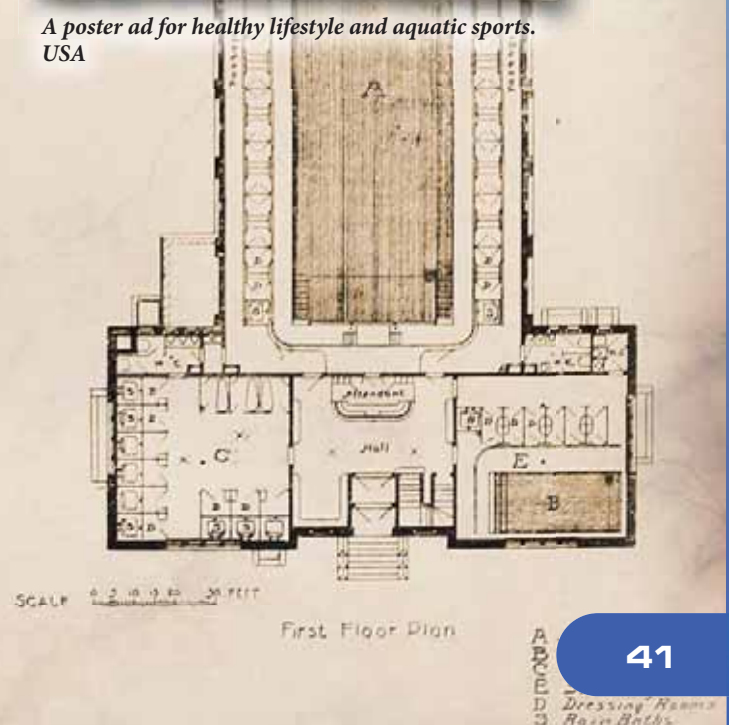
In 1910, the next step in the construction of swimming pools was associated with a technological breakthrough - the introduction of clean-up systems, disinfection (chlorination), and filtration of water in the swimming pools. In the same year, Carl Ethan Akeley in-



A poster ad for healthy lifestyle and aquatic sports. USA



Swimming pool in New York. 1897. USA





Educational poster on swimming and diving. XX century. USA



Teaching girls to Dive. Early XX century. USA



Diving from the platforms located on the walls of high-rise buildings. XX century. USA

vented gunite (shotcrete), which allowed to build swimming pools quickly and inexpensively.

Nevertheless, the main impetus in the development of diving in the United States were the Olympic Games.

For the first time men's diving event was held at the 1904 Games of the III Olympiad in St. Louis. Athletes from two countries (USA and Germany) competed in the high dive and long-distance dive.

Capturing the attention of the world at the 1908 Games of the IV Olympiad in London, the Olympic programme was expanded with diving from a 3-metre springboard and a 10-metre platform. Female divers joined as the participants of the Olympic event in 1912.

Germany and Sweden were the international leaders in this aquatic sport before the First World War. Although in a short period of time the athletes from the United States were able to climb to the top. Two factors contributed to the rapid spread and popularization of diving in the United States: a warm climate in some areas of the country, which allowed to dive outdoors for at least 7 months throughout the year, and a rapid growth of aquatic facilities.



Diving platform in the Belvedere Hotel. Ontario, Canada



Swimming pool with a diving platform. Portsmouth, USA

SWIMMING POOL, PILSEA LIDO, PORTSMOUTH

This fine pool has a length of 220 ft. x 60 ft. wide. It has equipment for diving, racing, and water polo, and is surrounded by beautiful gardens and tennis courts.

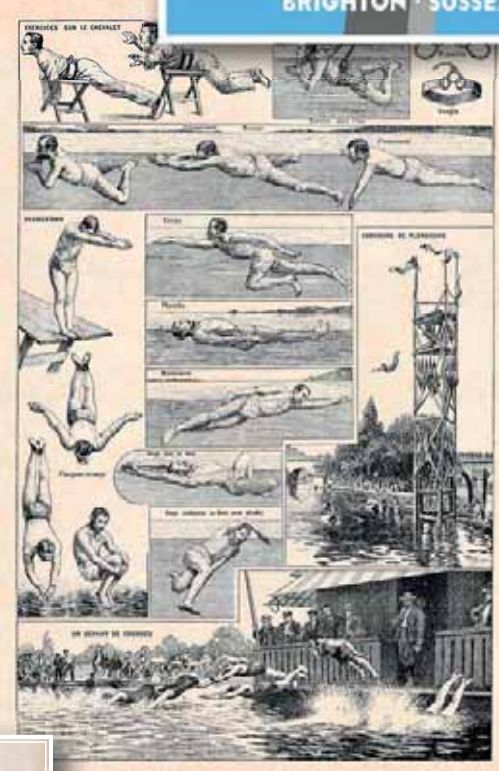


Advertising poster.
Brighton Sussex.
XX century.
Great Britain

Later on, the American athletes developed their own diving style, adopting the relaxed arms and shoulders as well as the peculiarities of water entry from the Scandinavian school, and the tension in the legs from the German school. This is how the modern method of diving created by representatives of different countries and a minimum number of splashes appeared. The founder of the American school of diving was Ernst Magnus Brandsten, who participated in the Games of the IV Olympiad as part of the Swedish national team in 1908 and later moved to the United States.

The first National Championships in the 3-metre springboard and the 10-metre platform were held in the United States in 1909. At the first post-war 1920 Games of the VII Olympiad in Antwerp, the American athletes demonstrated their style of diving and won a set of medals in women's and men's plain diving, and gold and bronze medals in men's fancy high diving.

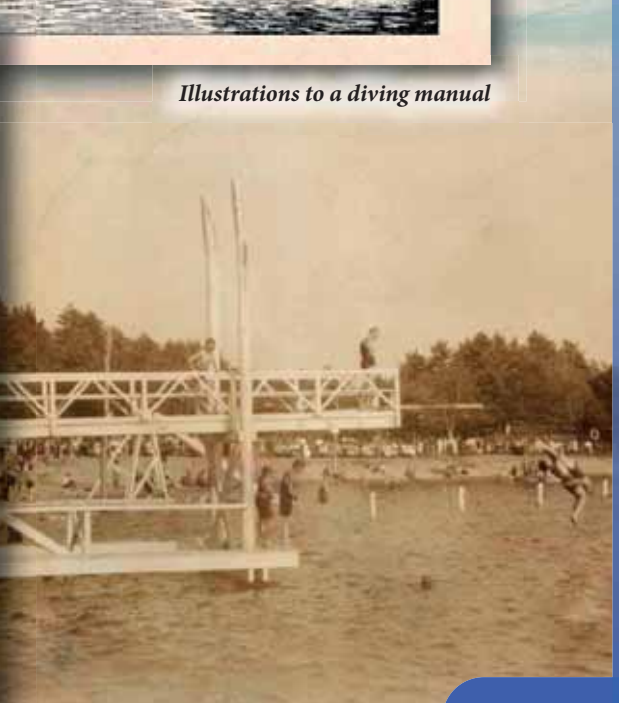
Thus the triumphant march of the American athletes in the first part of the 20th century began.



Illustrations to a diving manual



Open water diving





A. Glagolev's book *The Notes of a Russian Traveller* (1823-1827), which describes the passion of the Russian people for diving



Russian Empire

In the Russian Empire, the first mention of diving is found in A. Glagolev's book *The Notes of a Russian Traveller* (1832), which depicts the courage of the Russian people, their passion for swimming and diving from pillars and bridges.

In 1834, the first public swimming school was opened in St. Petersburg near the Summer Garden. It was headed by Gustav Muar de Pauli, a gymnastics teacher who had arrived from Sweden. This school focused on different swimming styles ("frog-style" breaststroke, backstroke, sidestroke, "dog-style", "swinging", with weapons), diving, plunging, and water rescue. It is known that among its regular visitors were such famous Russian poets and writers as Alexander Pushkin, Petr Vyazemsky, Alexei Pleshcheev.

The Head of the Neva Swimming School, Gustav Muar de Pauli, became an integral part of the history of this sport in Russia. It was he who wrote the manual that marked the beginning of scientific knowledge on swimming, which was published in St. Petersburg in 1838 un-



The first improvised platforms erected in open water



The first open water swimming and diving school was opened in 1908 in Shuvalovo, the suburb of St. Petersburg.



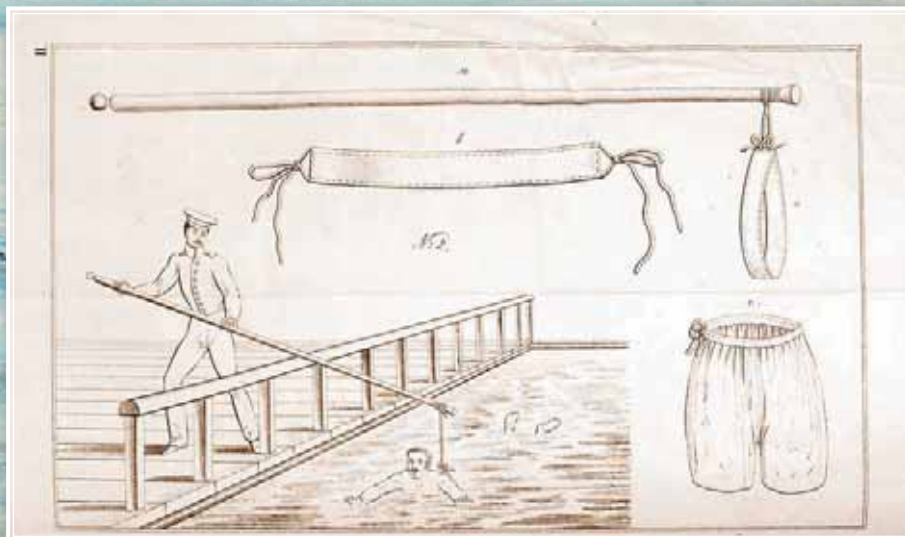
der the title Guide to Swimming with Testimony of the Benefits of This Art at War.

For the first time, on its pages, the reader found a detailed description of various techniques of swimming, diving, plunging and, which was especially relevant at the time, rescue on the water.

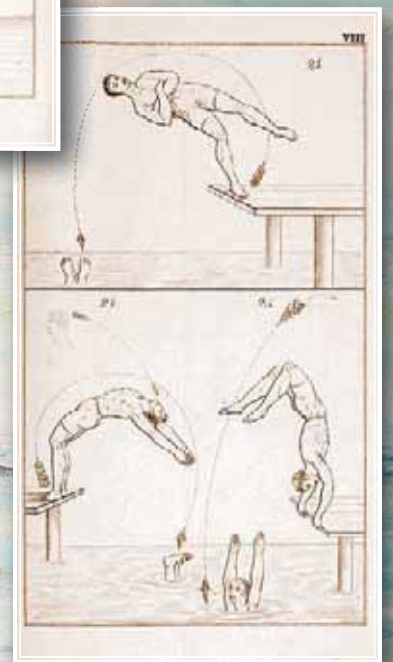
In the XIX century, a manual on the art of swimming by H. O. Kluge and C. Euler was published in the Russian Empire. It described the techniques of 121 dives and the methods of teaching them.

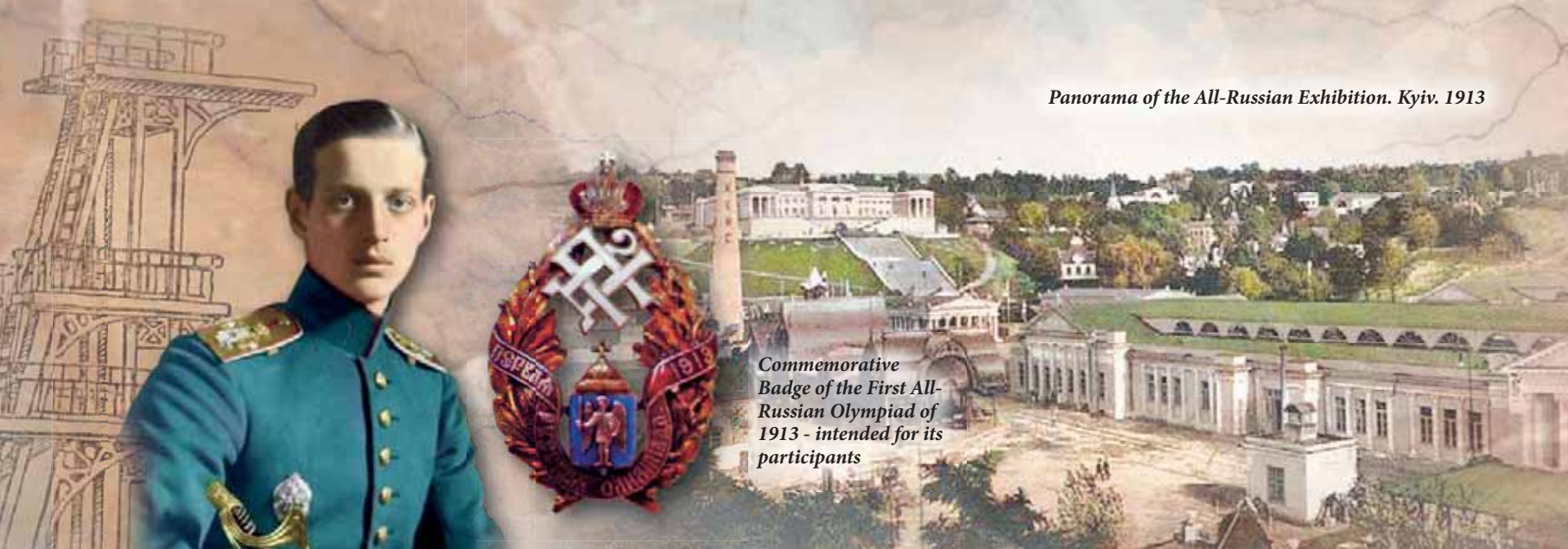
In the early twentieth century, swimming schools were established in St. Petersburg, Moscow, Kyiv, Sevastopol, and Mykolaiv. Those were the few clubs that existed at the expense of wealthy sports fans. There were platforms in almost all aquatic training camps of those schools, but regular classes with divers were not conducted. The bravest of the swimmers were fond of diving. By trial and error, they sought more or less the correct technique for their implementation. Not surpris-

Guide to Swimming with Testimony of the Benefits of This Art at War by G. M. Pauli was issued in 1838.



РУКОВОДСТВО
 КЪ
ПЛАВАНІЮ,
 СЪ ПОКАЗАНІЕМЪ ПОЛЕЗЫ ЭТОГО ИСКУССТВА
 ВЪ ВОЙНѢ.
 Соч. Г. М. ПАУЛИ,
 профессора Анатоміи и Математики, преподавателя Гимнастики въ Кадетскомъ Корпусѣ, профессора перваго Гимнастическаго Института и перваго заведенія для плавания въ С. Петербургѣ.
 Съ литографическими рисунками.
 САНКТ-ПЕТЕРБУРГЪ.
 Въ типографіи Ивана Глазунова и К^о.
 1838.





Commemorative Badge of the First All-Russian Olympiad of 1913 - intended for its participants

His Imperial Highness Grand Duke Dmitry Pavlovich - the patron of the First All-Russian Olympic Games



Vyacheslav Sreznevsky - First Chairman of the Russian Olympic Committee

ingly, those divers could perform only three or four simple dives. The most popular was the half-turn forward, bending forward dive, which was named the Swallow as the body of an athlete in the air reminded that bird.

An open water swimming and diving school was opened in the suburbs of St. Petersburg Shuvalovo in 1908. Its founder was a naval officer and M. D. Vladimir Peskov (1873-1937).

On the weekends, adults and children learned to swim on the shores of Lake Suzdal to the sounds of the orchestra. Every Sunday, there was an aquatic festival, where swimming competitions were held and diving was demonstrated, as well as complex dives - single, group, blindfolded, and in the darkness with lighted torches.

During the summer season, up to 400 people learned the skills here, many of whom later passed the exam and could receive a Master's Title in swimming. The Master of Swimming had to fulfil the standards of 12 disciplines, including swimming in different styles, 30 m swimming



Major General Vladimir Voyeykov, head of the Chancellery of the Supreme Supervisor over the physical development of the population of the Russian Empire





Solemn prayer on the opening day of the Horse Exhibition in the presence of the patron Grand Duke Dmitry Konstantinovich and Prince Gavriil Konstantinovich

with a stone (weighing at least 2 kg), dive from a 7-metre platform, demonstrate the methods of rescuing people on the water. On the weekends, the school held festivities with the best students and teachers, performing various elements in the water, demonstrating different ways of swimming and diving, diving from a springboard and platform, competitions in speed swimming and water rescue skills.

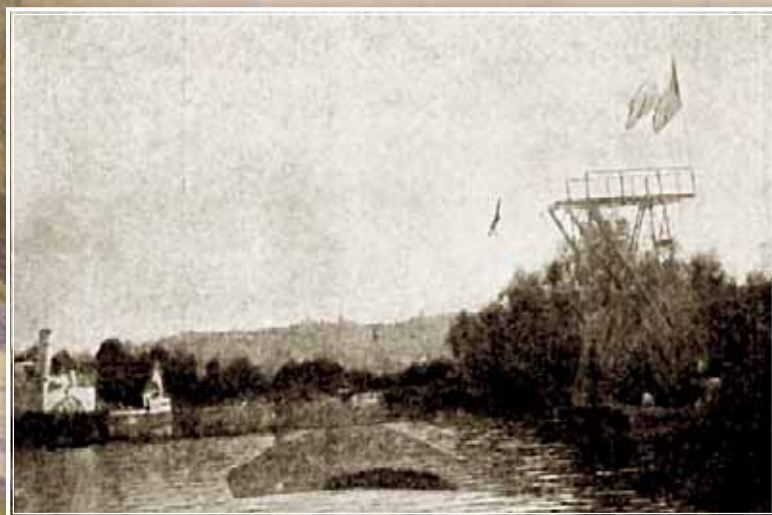
Shuvalovo water festivals played a huge role in the popularity of diving in the Russian Empire.

A whole group of swimmers who became interested in this sport gathered around V. Peskov: the Finikov brothers, M. Butovich, A. Zhemchuzhnikov, A. Skryzhinsky, V. Belyaev, and others. Masters of the Shuvalovo school formed the backbone of the Russian national team of swimmers, which debuted at the 1912 Olympic Games in Stockholm.

The Moscow Society of Swimming Enthusiasts built a 5-metre platform on the Moskva River for diving practice.



Gold medal of the First All-Russian Olympic Games in 1913

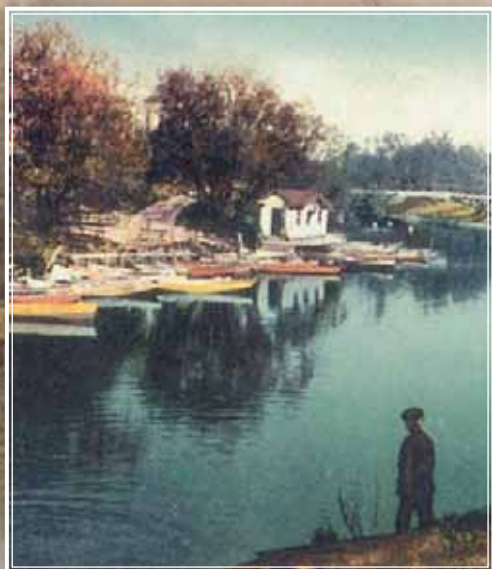


Platform diver (height 32 feet, or about 9.75 m) at the Games of the First All-Russian Olympiad. Kyiv. 1913



Badge of the participant of the First All-Russian Olympic Games. 1913





Groups of divers were practicing in Kyiv, Mykolaiv, Sevastopol, Baku, Revel (Tallinn), and other cities.

In Kyiv, Trukhaniv Island became the divers training centre. Platforms were built there, athletes trained and water festivities were held there.

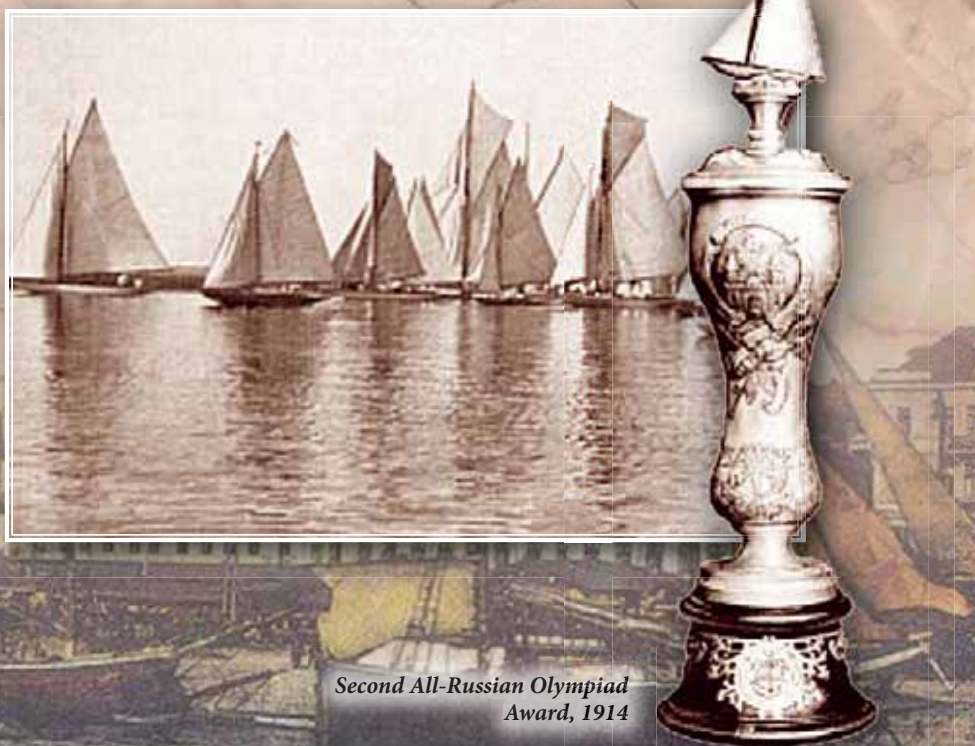
In Kyiv, Trukhaniv Island became the centre for platform diving and regular athletic practice as well as for aquatic pastimes.

The first official diving events were held in Kyiv as part of the First All-Russian Olympiad in 1913. For this, a 32-foot platform (9.75 m) which was then called "the tower" was mounted on the Dnipro River. Apprentices of the Shuvalovo's school won all three awards: V. Bogdanov (104 points) was awarded the first place, A. Hämäläinen (99 points) - the second, V. Finikov (90 points) - the third.

In the "fancy diving" events of the First All-Russian Olympiad, V. Kolpakov was ahead of P. Avksentiev (both were the representatives of the Shuvalovo School of Swimming).



Competition in diving at the Second All-Russian Olympiad held at the Daugava River. Riga. 1914



Second All-Russian Olympiad Award, 1914

Poster for the Second All-Russian Olympiad held on 6–20 July 1914 in Riga

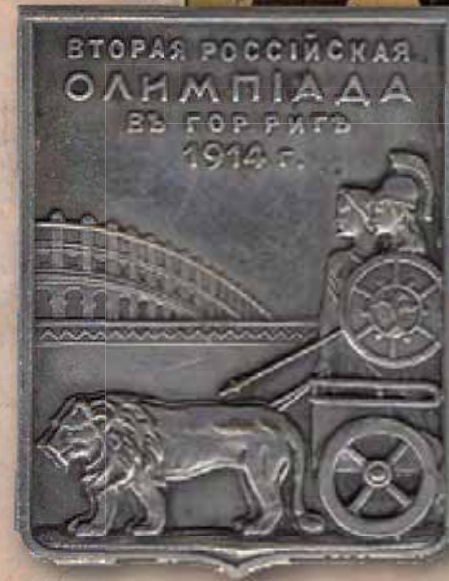


The following year, the Second All-Russian Olympiad was held in Riga. Due to the poor organisation of swimming and diving events, which were held in open water, athletes from St. Petersburg, Moscow, Kyiv, Revel, and other cities refused to perform and left. Therefore, the athletes from Riga were the first in diving from the platform and springboard without any competition. There were no women's diving events at the time.

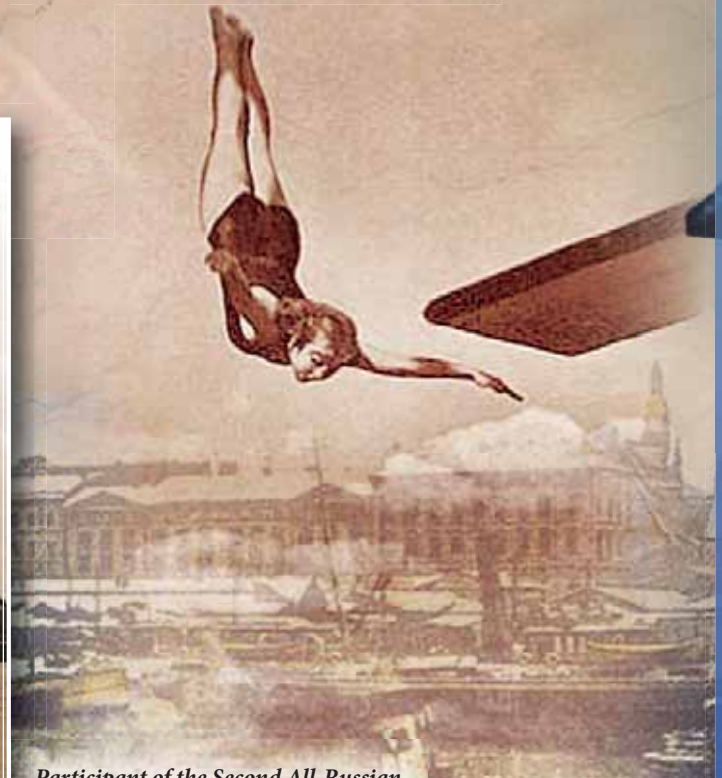
With the beginning of the World War One, the life of the Shuvalovo School began to fade. Some athletes moved to Sestroretsk with Dr. Peskov in 1916, where they settled in an indoor pool and established the Sestroretsk Swimming School. Other athletes moved to many cities; for instance, Baranov organised the Mykolaiv School of Swimming and Diving.

The summer of 1917 was the last swimming season of the Shuvalovo School.

The next diving event took place in another country - the USSR.



The prize medal of the Second All-Russian Olympic Games



Participant of the Second All-Russian Olympiad diving. Riga. 1914

СПАРТАКИАДА - УДАР ПО БУРЖУАЗНОМУ СПОРТИВНОМУ ДВИЖЕНИЮ



USSR

The Petrograd Rowing Society made its first attempts to revive diving in 1919. A small platform was installed on the float boat. An aquatic centre was formed around which athletes from the former Shuvalovo and Sestroretsk Schools could unite. In 1920, on the initiative of Dr. Peskov, it was possible to establish a new aquatic sports society named Dolphin on the Krestovsky Island, which held aquatic training camps every two weeks in the summer for athletes from Moscow, Novgorod, and other Russian cities as well as for the Finnish divers.

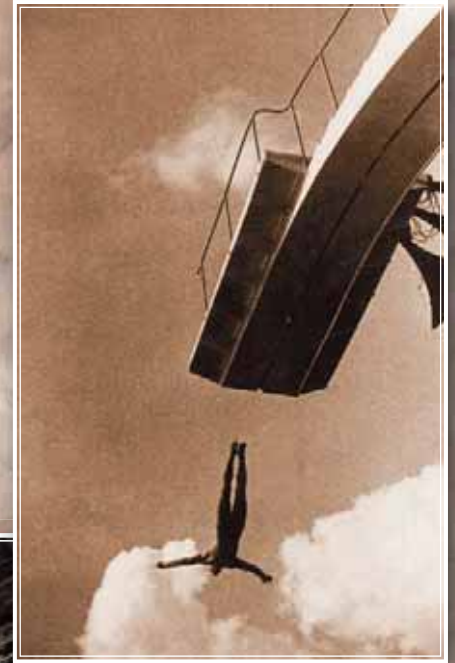
The capital of the USSR, Moscow, hosted the first National Diving Championships in 1923. The dives of the participants of the competitions did not differ in variety and elaborate technique. Boris Astafyev became the first champion of the USSR.

Indoor swimming pools began to open in Leningrad in 1924. On the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the October Revolution, the "Pool-Palace" was inaugurated in Leningrad in 1927, which became a powerful centre for athletic training not only in the USSR but also in Europe.



Diving at the Spartakiad of the Peoples of the USSR. Poster. 1928. Moscow, USSR





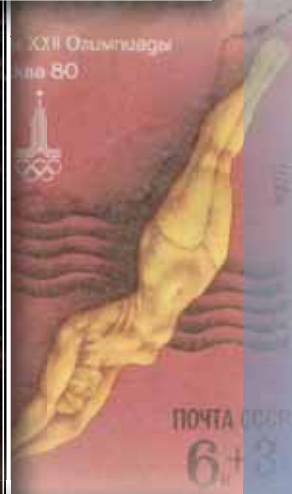
There were about ten aquatic centres on the Moskva River in Moscow, where swimming and diving schools operated in 1927. The largest organisations that cultivated aquatic sports were the trade unions.

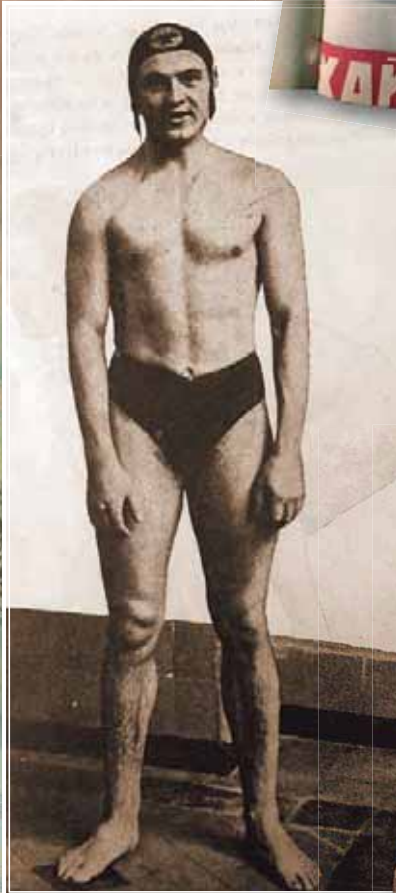
In the winter of 1927–1928, a new swimming pool was opened in Kharkiv, and a large swimming pool project was rooted in Moscow.

Upon the invitation of the workers' sports organisation Forvest (Berlin), the Soviet divers took part in foreign competitions for the first time in 1926. Among the best divers were Boris Astafyev, Boris Anufriev, Aleksandr Grigor-enko. At that time, Soviet athletes were just beginning to master springboard diving, before that they had performed only in high diving events.

The Germans were considered the best springboard divers in the world at the time. The springboard champions of Germany - Panke, Krabel, and Fritsche - joined the competition.

The Berlin event was quite tense and interesting despite a certain inequality in athletic skills, the two-day long competition showed the following results:





A representative of the Sports Union of Metalworkers – diver Malyshev. 1931

Boris Astafyev won the second place in the springboard, far ahead of many much more experienced German athletes. The trip to Berlin became a positive experience for Soviet divers, showing the paths for further improvement of skills.

The country's first manual Swimming, Diving and Water Polo was published in Leningrad (N. Butovich, V. Kitaev, V. Podzhukevich, and A. Shumin) in 1928.

A powerful impetus for the development of diving in the USSR was the start of the First All-Union Games held in 1928 in Moscow. The competition was attended by 25 thousand athletes from 15 republics of the USSR and athletes from 17 countries. The competition was held at the water station of the Moscow Trade Unions on the embankment of the Moskva River near the Crimean Bridge. More than 50 people took part in the competitions, the diving programme was significantly expanded, the skill of athletes improved. Boris Anufriev won the male springboard competition.

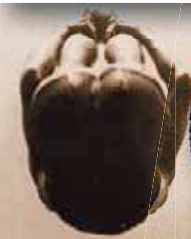


German diver Panke at the competitions in Leningrad. 1938





Boris Astafyev - the first champion of the USSR in diving

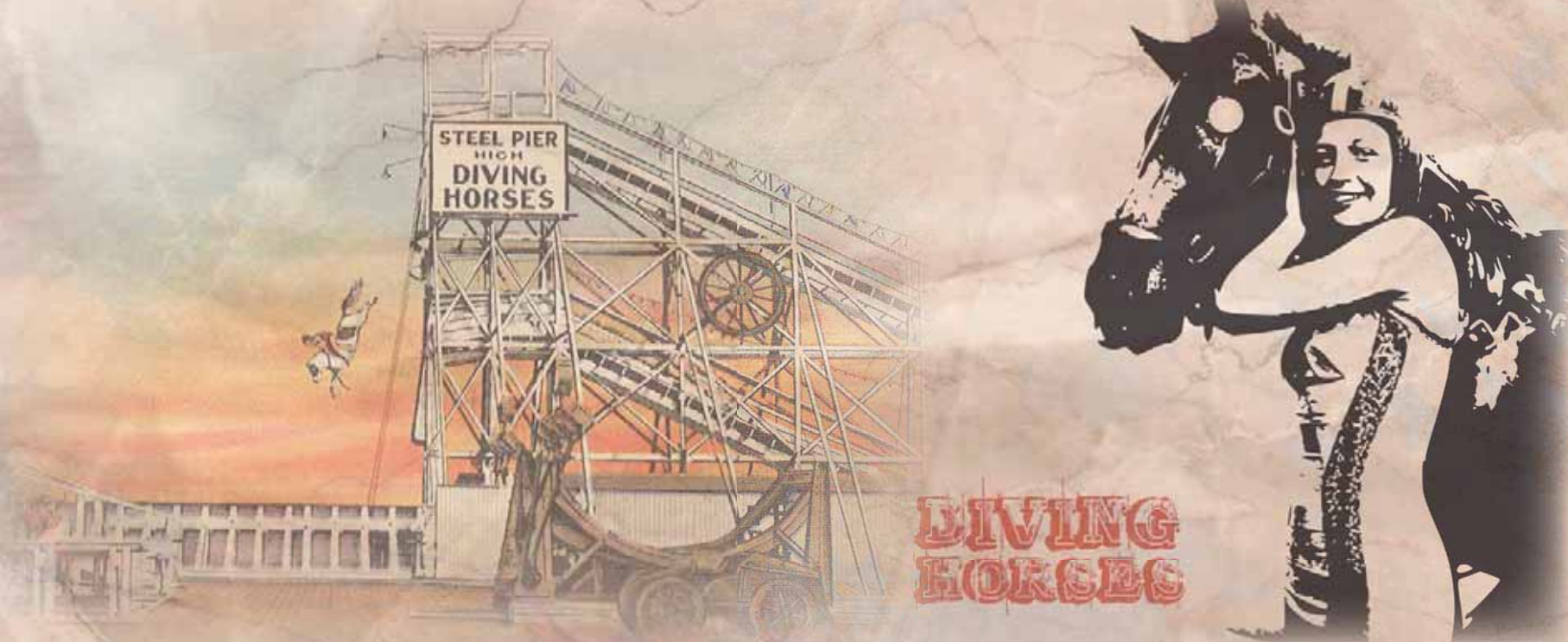


N. Slivina from Moscow was the best in the women's platform diving. The All-Union Olympics showed a growing interest in diving of the USSR. An even greater increase in the skill of divers was demonstrated at the following Championships of the USSR, which took place in 1934. The USSR Diving Championships were held annually after 1934. In addition to the All-Union competitions, the sports calendar included the Championships of the Republics, regions, cities, departments, and sports associations. The number of participants grew with each competition; the rivalry became more acute, honing the skill of athletes. Year by year, the best coaches and athletes were creating new elements, improving diving techniques, thus creating a well-polished training system. Soviet divers took part in many international competitions and had several impressive victories.



Diving was part of the programme of the Spartakiad of the Peoples of the USSR. Postage stamps dedicated to these events





Part II. *Types of Diving*





Pearl Divers

Pearls have been considered a symbol of prosperity, status and well-being since the ancient Roman times. Information about pearls can be found in sources up to several thousand years old - in the Indian Vedas and on Persian clay tablets. The Old Testament, the Talmud, the Quran, and the Indian epic literature - the Mahabharata glorify the purity and unsurpassed beauty of pearls.

Pearls are the oldest gemstones, which began to be used in jewellery, as they don't need any further processing. People added pearls to cosmetics, used them as medicine, and wore them as amulets.

The history of pearl diving dates back long before the modern era.

The historical sources mention that about 4,000 years BC pearl fishers already existed in various regions of China.

Records of pearl deposits in the Gulf of Mannar, located between Sri Lanka and southern India, date back to the VI century BC.

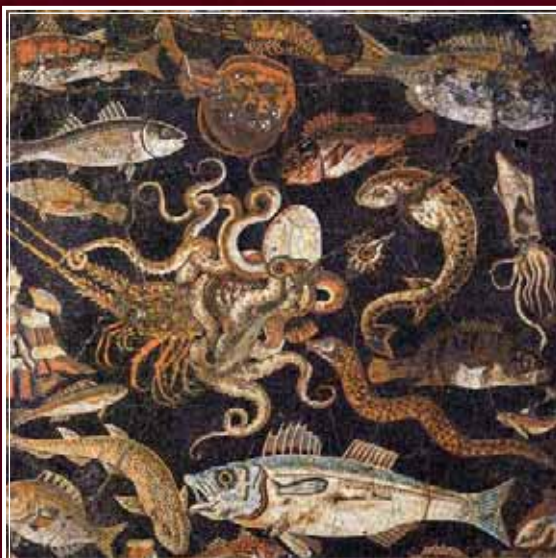
For centuries, pearl diving was reason for mutual conflicts among the royal families and military leaders of India, Persia, and Arabia, later Portugal, Holland, Great Britain, France, and others.

However, it should be noted that the extraction of pearls is quite complicated and requires special training and preparation.

In Japan, for centuries, pearls were fished exclusively by women.



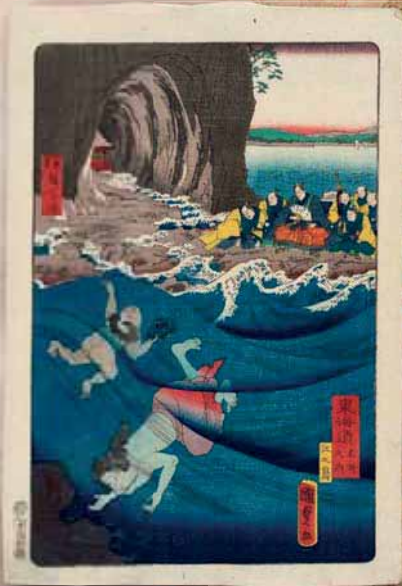
Pottery with the image of an octopus. Minoan black-figure ceramics. 1500 BC. Crete. Archaeological Museum. Heraklion, Greece



Mosaic depicting the inhabitants of the sea. National Archaeological Museum. Naples, Italy



Pearl divers. Japan



Pearl divers. Japan



Pearl divers. Avatars of Utamaro. Screen printing on handmade paper. 1788–1790 Japan

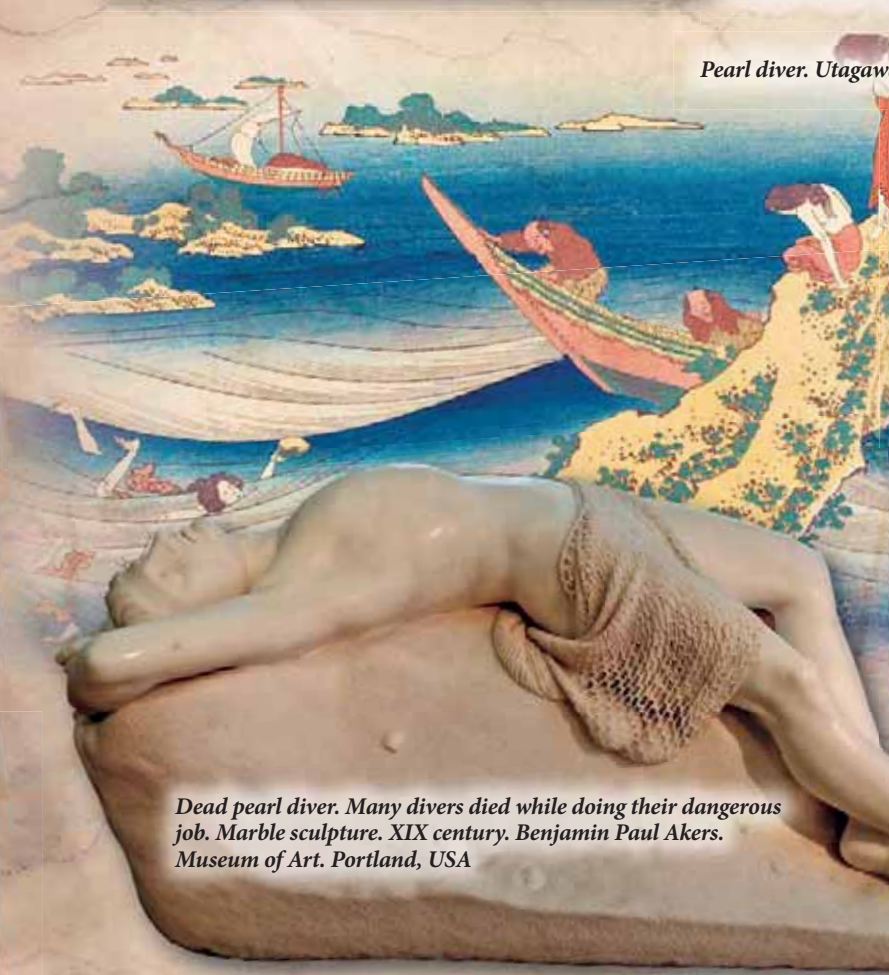


Photos of pearl divers - ama. Japan. The first half of the XX century

Pearl diver. Utagawa Kuniyoshi. 1884 Japan



Abalone Divers. Kitagawa Utamaro. 1788 Japan



Dead pearl diver. Many divers died while doing their dangerous job. Marble sculpture. XIX century. Benjamin Paul Akers. Museum of Art. Portland, USA

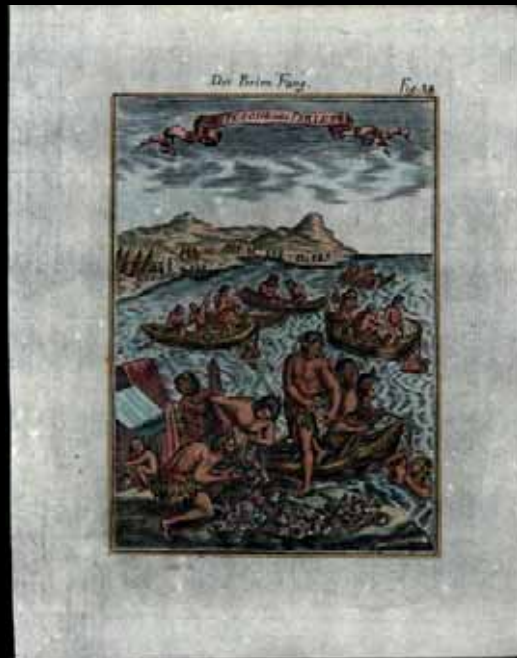
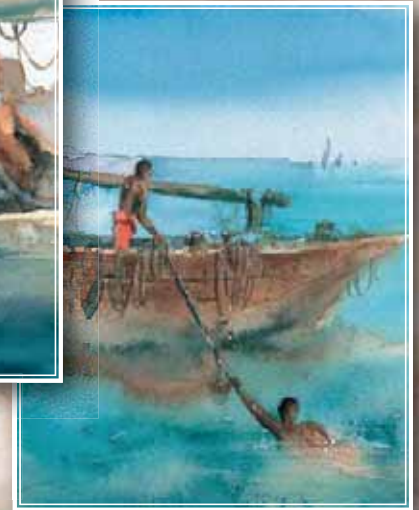




Pearl fishers. Antonio Tempesta. 1610. Louvre, Paris



Pearl catchers. Watercolour. Patricia Al-Fakhri. XXI century. Dubai



Asian pearl divers. 1683. Paris

The physiology of the Japanese divers - the so called "ama" or "women of the sea" - allowed those brave females to dive to desired depths and adapt to low water temperatures. Amazing endurance of ama permitted them to be under water for about two minutes at a depth of at least 20 metres.

In Korea, diving for pearls is also an ancient tradition. The craft was born more than one and a half thousand years ago. Pearl harvesting in Korea was dominated by women who were called haenyos. They dove underwater and searched for and caught fish, octopuses, squid, sea urchins, and shellfish from the ocean, staying at a depth of more than 30 metres for 1–1.5 minutes. Interestingly, today haenyos are most often women aged 40 to 68 years old.

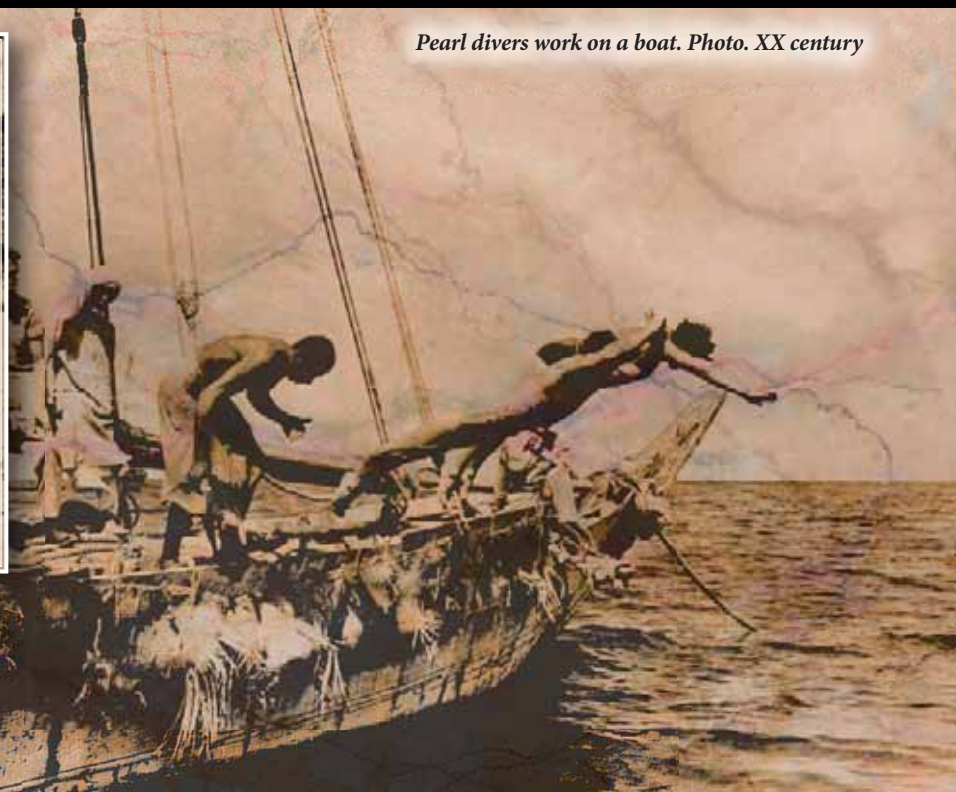
No less mysterious pearl divers are the sea gypsies - bajau (bajao) - who live in the seas of Southeast Asia. This ethnic group of people consists of several tribes of Indonesia, Malaysia, and the Philippines and lives a nomadic life in boats, in pile huts, moving freely in the Indian Ocean.

Sea gypsies cannot imagine their lives without the sea. They go ashore only to replenish food supplies and fresh water as well as to sell pearls.

Their diving technique is not much different from the ancient one. They submerge into the water from the boat, using a stone tied to the boat to go deeper into the water. After that, the stone is lifted up and passed to another diver. They perform from 30 to 50 dives a day.



Pearl divers with nose clips. Photo. XX century



Pearl divers work on a boat. Photo. XX century



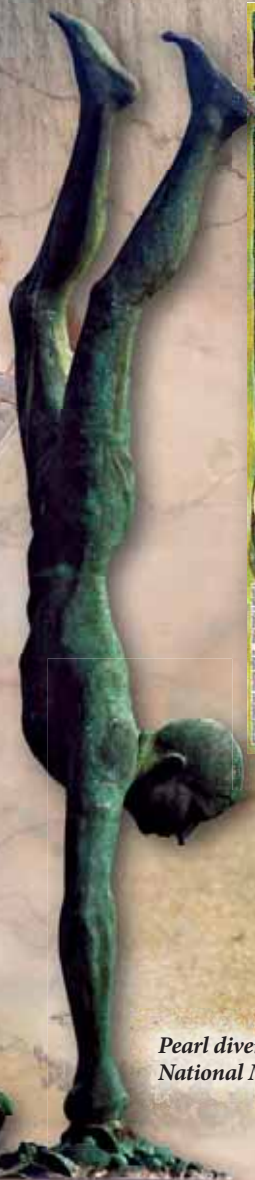
Pearl divers. Julianna Brion. XXI century. USA



Pearl diver. Bronze sculpture. Curtis Jere. XXI century. USA



Pearl divers. Patinated bronze sculpture. Richard Shiloh. XX century. Poland - USA



Under the sea. Art Nouveau poster. XXI century.



Pearl diver. Bronze sculpture. National Museum. Bahrain



Pearl divers. John Yato. Japan



La Quebrada. Diego Rivera. 1956. Mexico



Cliff diving

Cliff diving is one of the oldest adventure sports, where highly skilled athletes demonstrate the agility and beauty of the body when diving into the water from the rocks. Divers jump from a platform at a height ranging from 26 to 28 metres (85–92 ft). Competitions are held in a limited number of venues around the globe.

The history of cliff diving dates back 250 years and originates in Hawaii. The last ruler of the Maui Kahekili tribe dove from a 20-metre-high rock in 1770. He entered the water without making a single splash, for which he received the nickname “bird-man”. Legend has it that Chief Kahekili forced his warriors to dive from the cliffs into the water and land on their feet, thus proving their fearlessness, devotion, and courage. Later, during the reign of the first Hawaiian king, Kamehameh the Great, cliff diving became competitive, assessing the performance of the dive and the number of splashes during entry.

In the following centuries, that courageous hobby spread to the other parts of the world, and divers began to take a more balanced approach as to the specifics of the place where the dives are performed, and improving their skills. People who enjoy this activity have unique climbing skills, the ability to be in low water temperatures, to gauge the strength and direction of the wind and many other variables that determine the value of the dive.

Until recently, cliff diving was an extremely popular tourist attraction. The Mexican resort town of Acapulco on the Pacific coast became world famous, where



The last King of Maui, Kahekili II (full name of Kahekilimui'ahumanu, 1737–1794) was a great fan of cliff diving

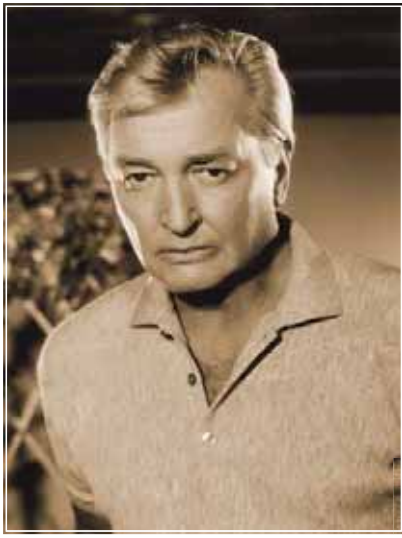


Portrait of King of Maui Kamehameha I. During his reign, cliff diving became a competitive sport

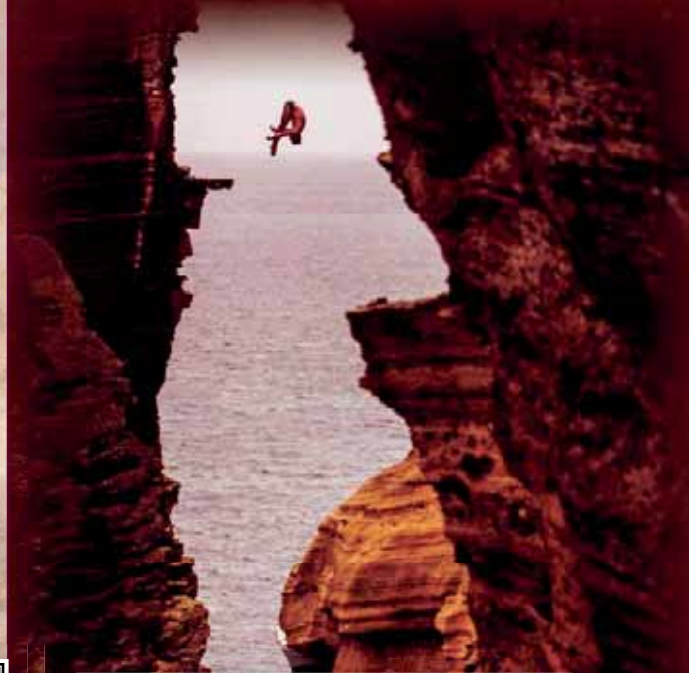
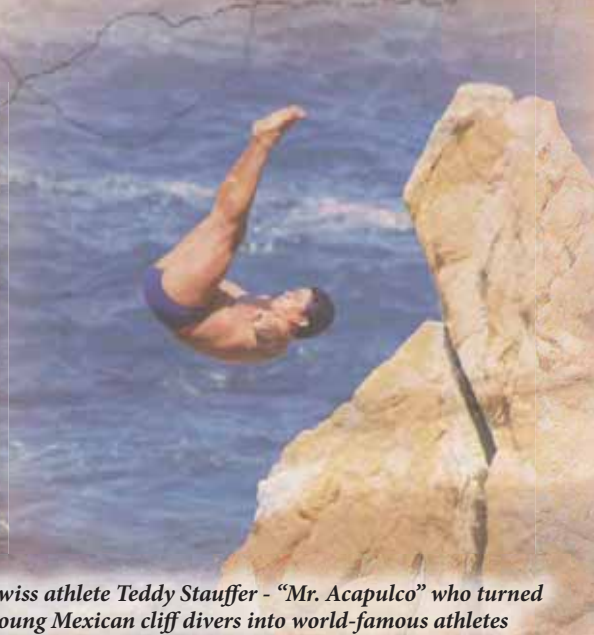


Raul Garcia - one of the most famous cliff divers of the 1940s in Acapulco





Swiss athlete Teddy Stauffer - "Mr. Acapulco" who turned young Mexican cliff divers into world-famous athletes



in the 1930s a group of professional divers began diving from a 35-metre cliff of La Quebrada. Since then, the place has hosted regular public shows and annual Christmas competitions.

Of course, the dives in Acapulco were carried out long before the La Quebrada. One of the most famous cliff divers was Raul Garcia. The name of the Swiss athlete Teddy Stauffer (1909-1991) is associated with the transformation of Acapulco into a world-class resort and young cliff divers into world-class stars. He is still called "Mr. Acapulco".

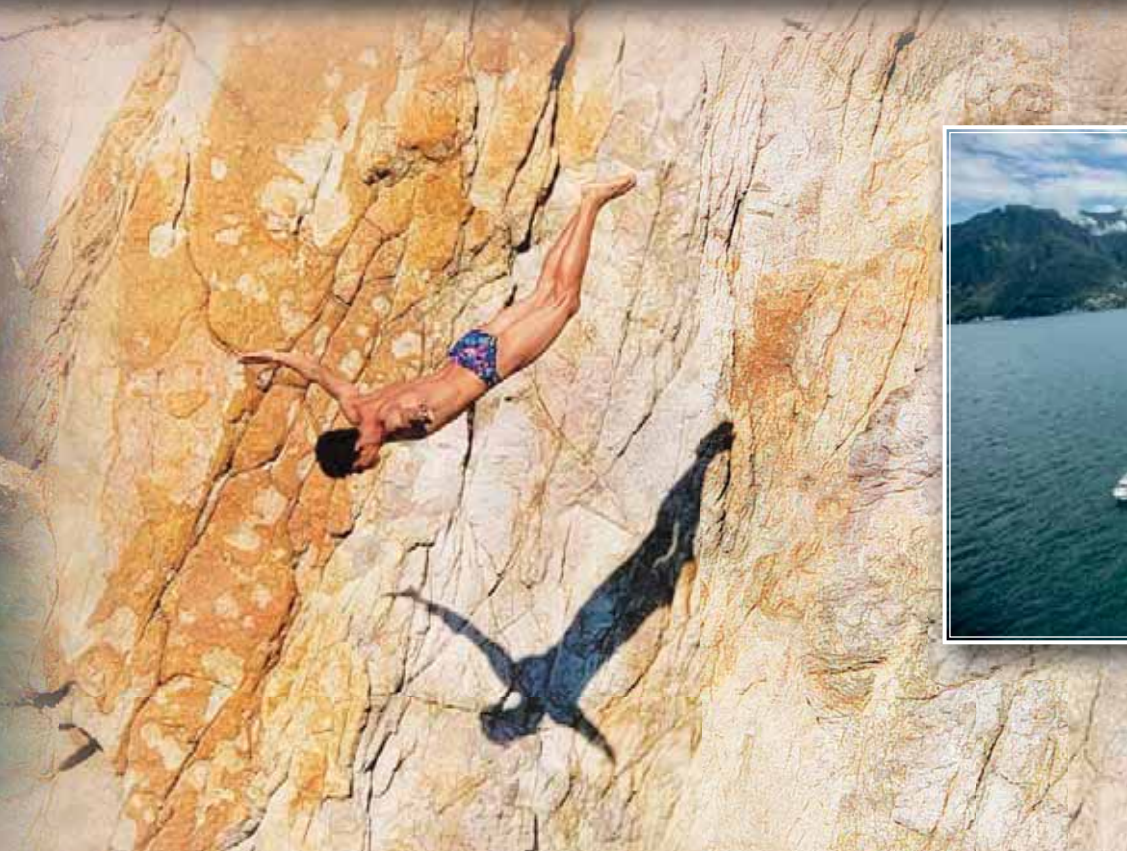
Modern divers do not cease to amaze the audience with their records. In 2015, a new world record was set when Brazilian athlete Laso Schaller dove from a height of 58.8 metres in Cascata del Salto (Switzerland).

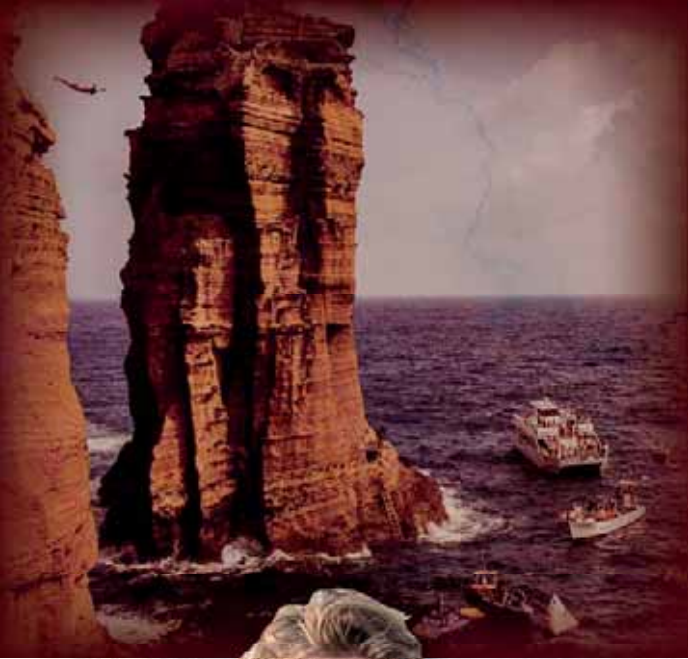
Top athletes dive from platforms ranging at height from 26-28 metres, women - from 20-23 metres, while the water depth should be 5-6 metres. During the fall, the diver can develop a speed of up to 100 km/h.

Introduced in 2009, Red Bull GmbH – a world-known sponsor of extreme sports events – organised an international series of cliff diving events. The season of the World Series consists of eight stages in which athletes dive from a height of up to 27 metres with multiple twists and somersaults. Cliff Diving World Series Champion is the athlete that scored the highest cumulated number of points in all competitions during the season.



Brazilian diver of the Swiss origin Laso Schaller





The first competitions of the World Series ended with the victory of Colombian diver Orlando Duque. Ukrainian athletes Andriy Ignatenko, Vyacheslav Polishchuk and Oleg Vyshyvanyov also took part in this event. Andriy Ignatenko came 4th.

The final competitions of the 2010 World Series were held in Polignano a Mare, Italy. The first prize was awarded to Gary Hunt from the UK. Ukrainian athletes Vyacheslav Polishchuk and Andriy Ignatenko got the 11th and 12th places respectively.

The finals of the World Series took place in La Rochelle (France) in 2011. The winner was again Gary Hunt. Ukrainian athletes Vyacheslav Polishchuk, Oleksandr Kutsenko, and Gennadiy Kutsenko became 4th, 8th, and 15th respectively.

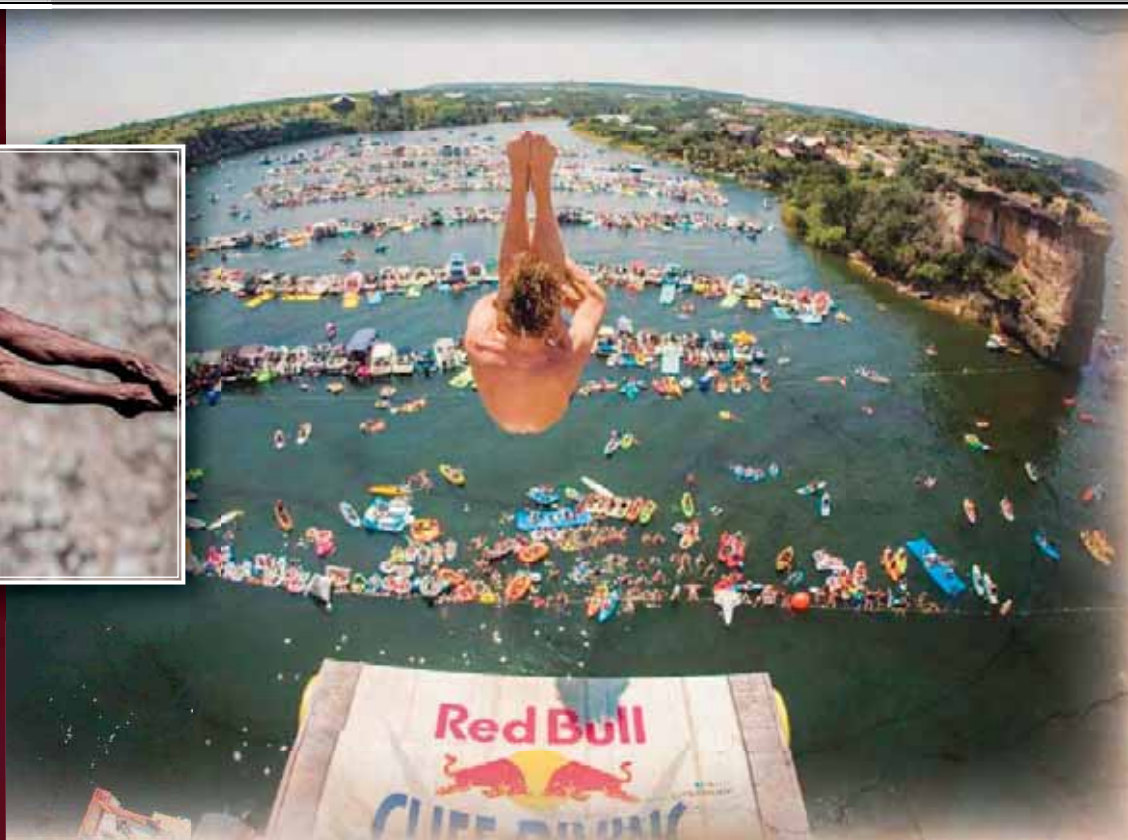
The venue for the finals of the 2012 World Series was Wadi Shab (Sultanate of Oman). Gary Hunt again became the winner. Ukrainians Anatoliy Shabotenko, Vyacheslav Polishchuk, Gennadiy Kutsenko, Oleksandr Kutsenko took the 7th, 15th, 19th and 21st places respectively.

In 2013, the final competitions of the World Series were held in Krabi (Thailand). Athlete from Russia Artem Silchenko came first. Ukrainians Anatoliy Shabotenko and Oleksandr Kutsenko were 10th and 17th respectively.

The final competitions of the 2014 World Series took place on the Yucatán Peninsula in Mexico and ended with the victory of Gary Hunt. Two Ukrainian male athletes took part in the competition: Anatoliy Shabotenko (Wildcard) 14th place, and Oleksandr Kutsenko (Wildcard) 16th place.

The first-ever Women's Championships were held the same year. The winner was Rachelle Simpson from the USA.

Gary Hunt - multiple winner of the Red Bull Cliff Diving World Series, two-time world champion in high diving (2015, 2019)





Orlando Duque - the first world champion in men's high diving (2013), winner of the Red Bull Cliff Diving World Series (2013)

The final competitions of the 2015 World Series took place in Bilbao, Spain. The winners were Gary Hunt and Rachelle Simpson. Ukrainian diver Anatoliy Shabotenko (Wildcard) finished 11th.

The final competitions of the world series were held in Dubai (UAE) In 2016. The Male winners were - Gary Hunt, and female - the Australian athlete Rhiannan Iffland.

The venue for the finals of the 2017 World Series was Chile's Lago Ranco. The winners in men's competition were Jonathan Paredes (Mexico), in women's - the Rhiannan Iffland (Australia). Ukrainian diver Oleksiy Prygorov (Wildcard) was the 19th.

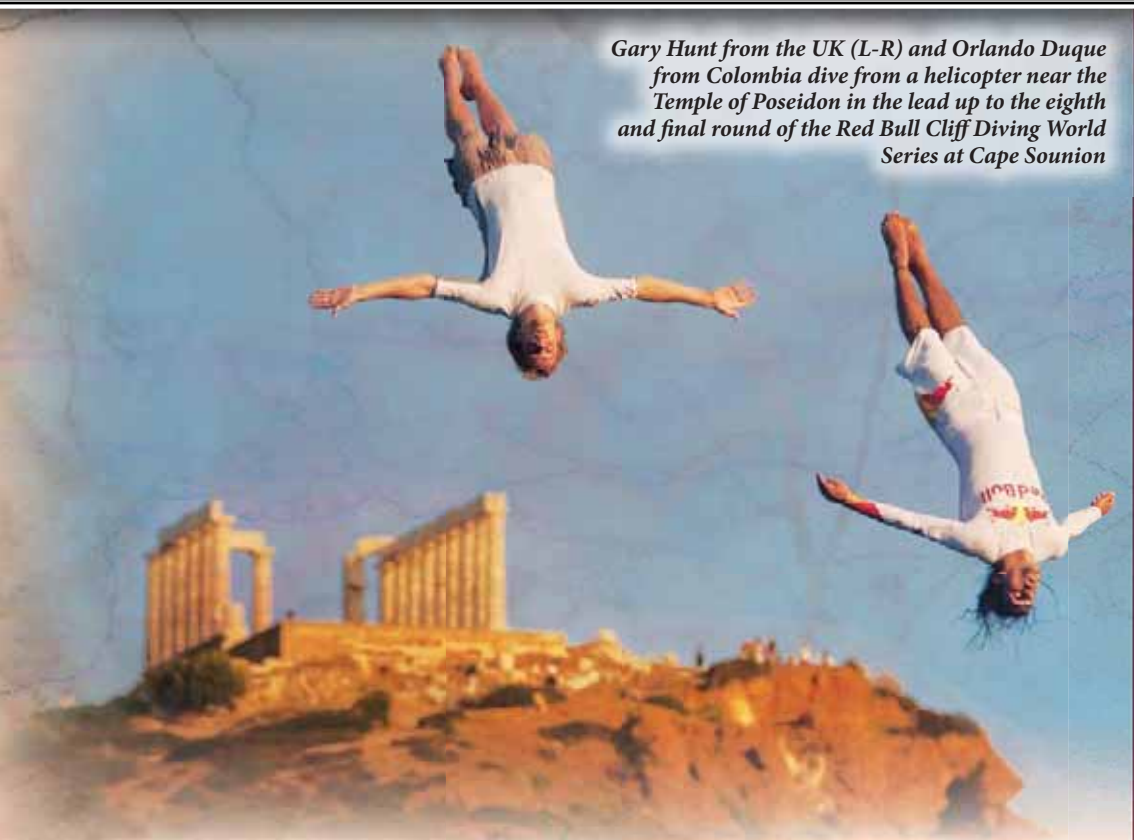
The final competitions of the world series took place in Polignano a Mare, Italy in 2018. Gary Hunt won the men's competition and Rhiannan Iffland won the women's event. Three Ukrainian athletes took part in the event: Vyacheslav Kolesnykov (Wildcard), came 15th, Oleksiy Prygorov (Wildcard) - 17th, Antonina Vyshyvanova (Wildcard) - was 8th in the women's event.

The final competitions of the 2019 World Series were held in Bilbao, Spain. The winners were Gary Hunt and Rhianna Iffland. Among the Ukrainian athletes Oleksiy Prygorov took the 7th place, Vyacheslav Kolesnykov (Wildcard) - 14th, and Antonina Vyshyvanova (Wildcard) came 10th in women's event.

The winners of the men's Red Bull Cliff Diving competition were Orlando Duque (2009), Gary Hunt (2010-2012, 2014-2016, 2018-2019), Artem Silchenko (2013), Jonathan Paredes (2017) and women's - Rachelle Simpson (2014-2015), Rhiannan Iffland (2016-2019). All of them were awarded the King Kahekili trophy.



Rachelle Simpson - winner of the 2014 and 2015 Red Bull Cliff Diving World Series



Gary Hunt from the UK (L-R) and Orlando Duque from Colombia dive from a helicopter near the Temple of Poseidon in the lead up to the eighth and final round of the Red Bull Cliff Diving World Series at Cape Sounion



High diving

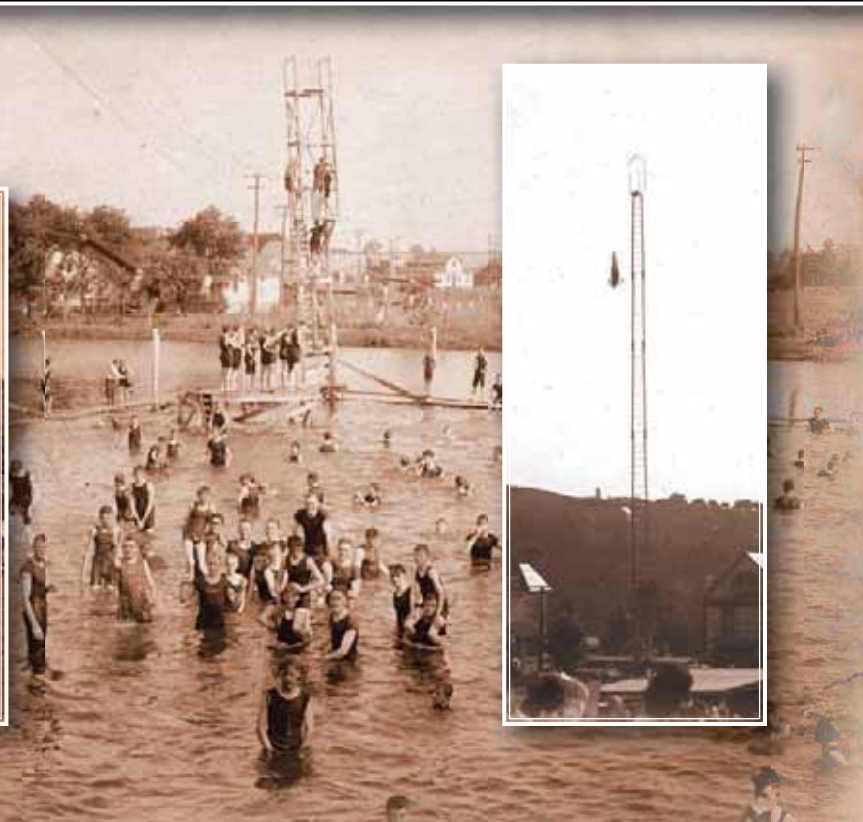
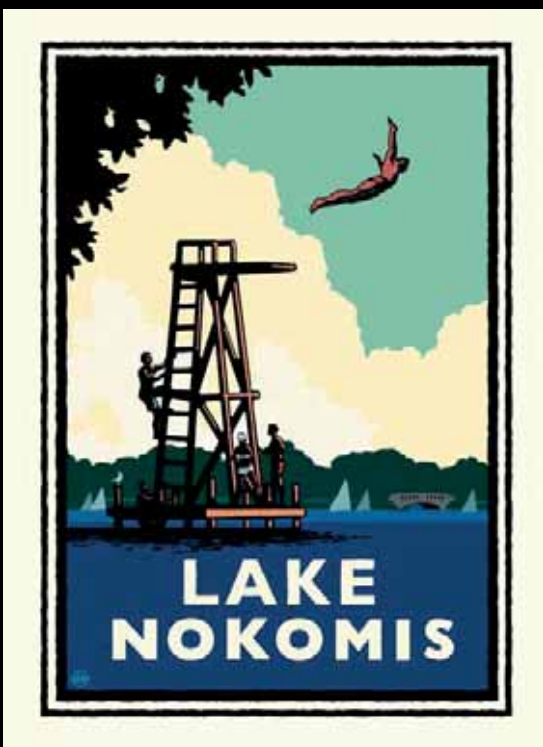
High diving is the act of diving into water from relatively great heights. The peculiarity of high diving is the special constructions that are used for jumping into the water. They must be made by an athlete himself and meet certain criteria. If a natural platform is used for diving, this type of diving will be called cliff diving.

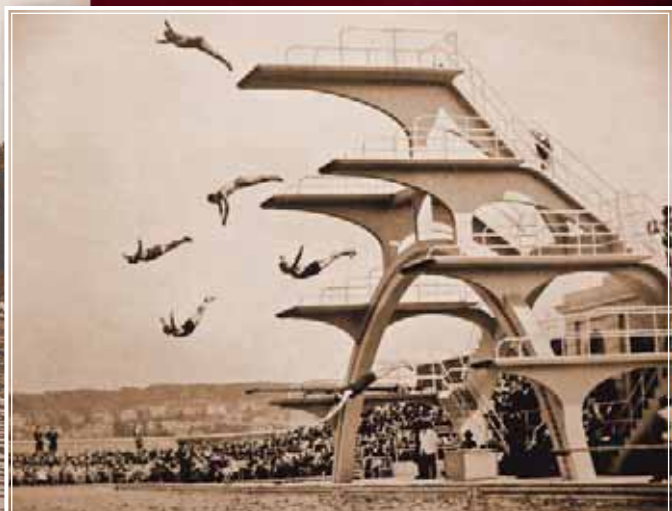
The proper platform should be located at a height of 27 m (men) and 20 m (women). Naturally, such facilities for training young athletes around the world are scarce. Normally temporary constructions are erected for the competitions, which are dismantled after their completion. No cranes or lifts are provided so all the participants climb to the height of a nine-storey building, which takes a lot of time and strength.

The depth of the natural pool for high diving is about 5-6 m.

Only those athletes who have reached a high professional level and have extensive experience in diving from such a height can take part in the event. This reduces the number of accidents, prevents injuries and, moreover, fatalities.

During the dive, the athlete's body plunges down at an average speed of 100 km/h. The impact on the water is extremely strong, and the loss of speed is very high. Moreover, weather conditions rarely pamper athletes. The presence of wind can greatly affect the trajectory of the dive.





If divers had to choose between fresh and sea water, they would opt for the first option. It is a little easier to dive into the river from the exceeding heights because the freshwater density is lower than that of salt water and it doesn't have waves.

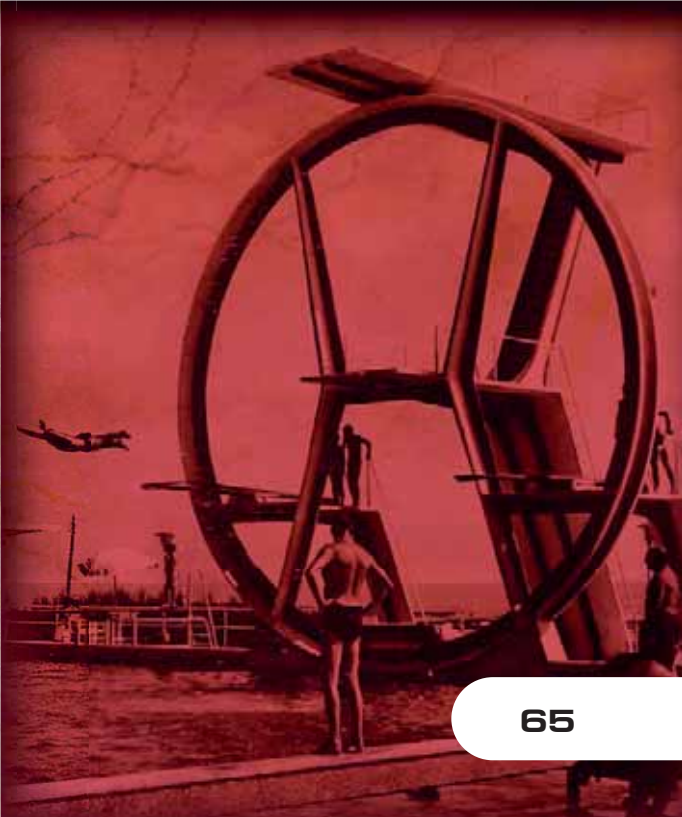
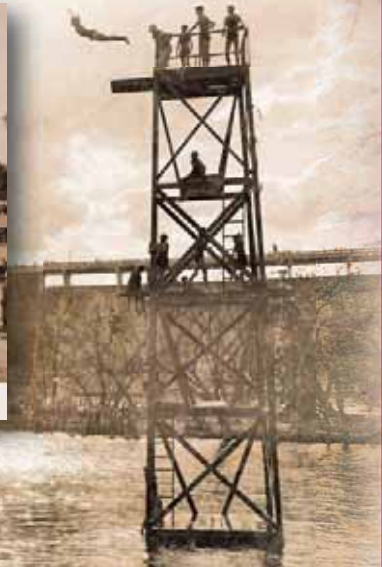
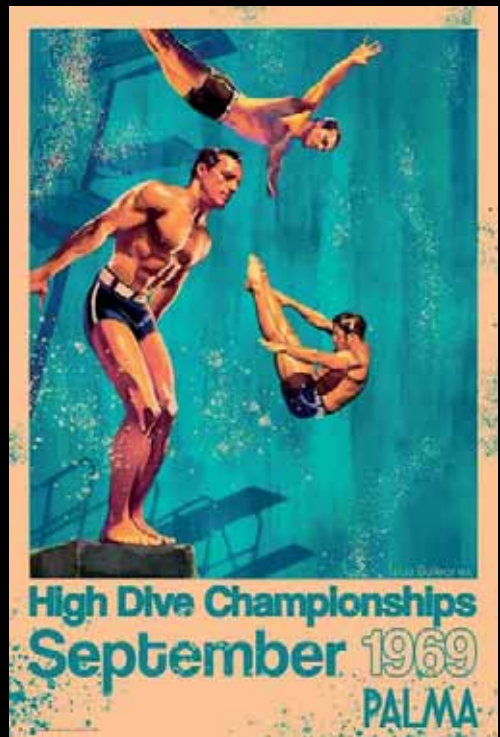
The supervision rescue team of scuba divers and medical staff is mandatory throughout diving events. Despite all these safety precautions, tragedies still happen. Most often, an athlete simply does not have time to take the correct position after performing the manoeuvre to enter the water with his feet, because the force of impact on the water surface is comparable to falling on a hard surface from a height of the fifth floor.

The task of the rescue team of scuba divers is not only to ensure the safe rise of the athlete from depth to the surface, but also to create ripples on the water. These ripples help the athlete to clearly distinguish the boundaries between air and water.

Dives are credited under two conditions: a dive from a high platform must be made with a rotation of more than 180 ° and the athlete should get out of the water on his own.

As mentioned before such dives are a very dangerous activity; however, there are many fans of this adventure sport in the world.

In 1982, David Lindl from the United States dove from the height of 51.82 m from a handstand; the athlete made a turn of 180 , but failed to enter the water, resulting in a fracture of the right clavicle. However, the courageous diver was able to get up on his own, and the dive was registered.





Dana Kunze from the United States dove from the height of 52.4 m at the World Record High Dive Challenge in 1983. He made a triple turn and came out of the water unscathed.

Olivier Favre from Switzerland dove from the height of 53.9 m in 1987. The athlete performed a double somersault back but failed to land and broke his back. The record was not credited because the second condition of the rules was not met.

Many athletes tried to dive from similar heights, but, unfortunately, no one was able to get out of the water on their own. Thus, Olivier Favre's record remains valid today.

The growing popularity of high diving in many countries has stimulated the creation of an organisation that would coordinate the development of this adventure sport in the world. Thus, in 1996, the World High Diving Federation was established in Switzerland, which holds Championships and World Cups

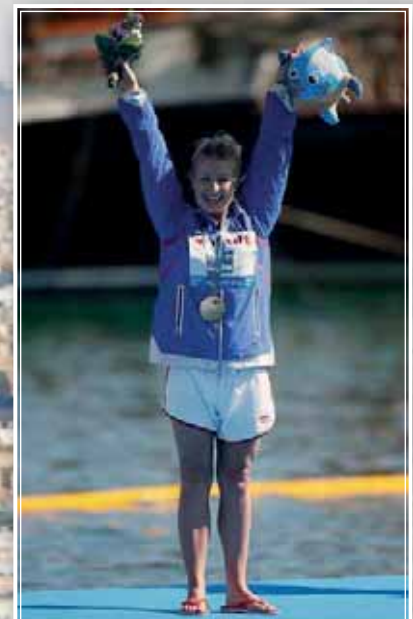
The World High Diving Championships were held as part of the 2013 World Aquatics Championships, where men performed a series of five dives from the height of 27 m, and women performed three dives from the height of 20 metres.

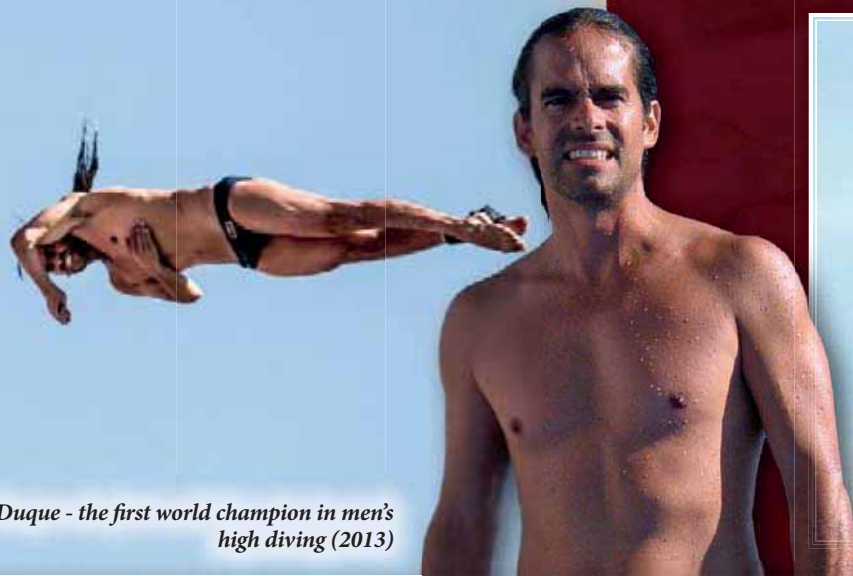
The first men's world champion was Colombian athlete Orlando Duque, women's - Cesilie Carlton from the USA (Barcelona, 2013).

At the Second World Championships, the victory was awarded to Gary Hunt from the UK and Rachele Simpson from the USA (Kazan, 2015).



Cesilie Carlton - American athlete, first world champion in women's high diving (2013)





Orlando Duque - the first world champion in men's high diving (2013)

At the Third World Championships in 2017 in Budapest, the best men's result was shown by the American athlete Steve LoBue, women's - the Australian diver Rhiannan Iffland.

At the Fourth World Championships in 2019 in Gwangju, South Korea, the winning title was awarded to Gary Hunt. In women's diving, Rhiannan Iffland became the two-time world champion.

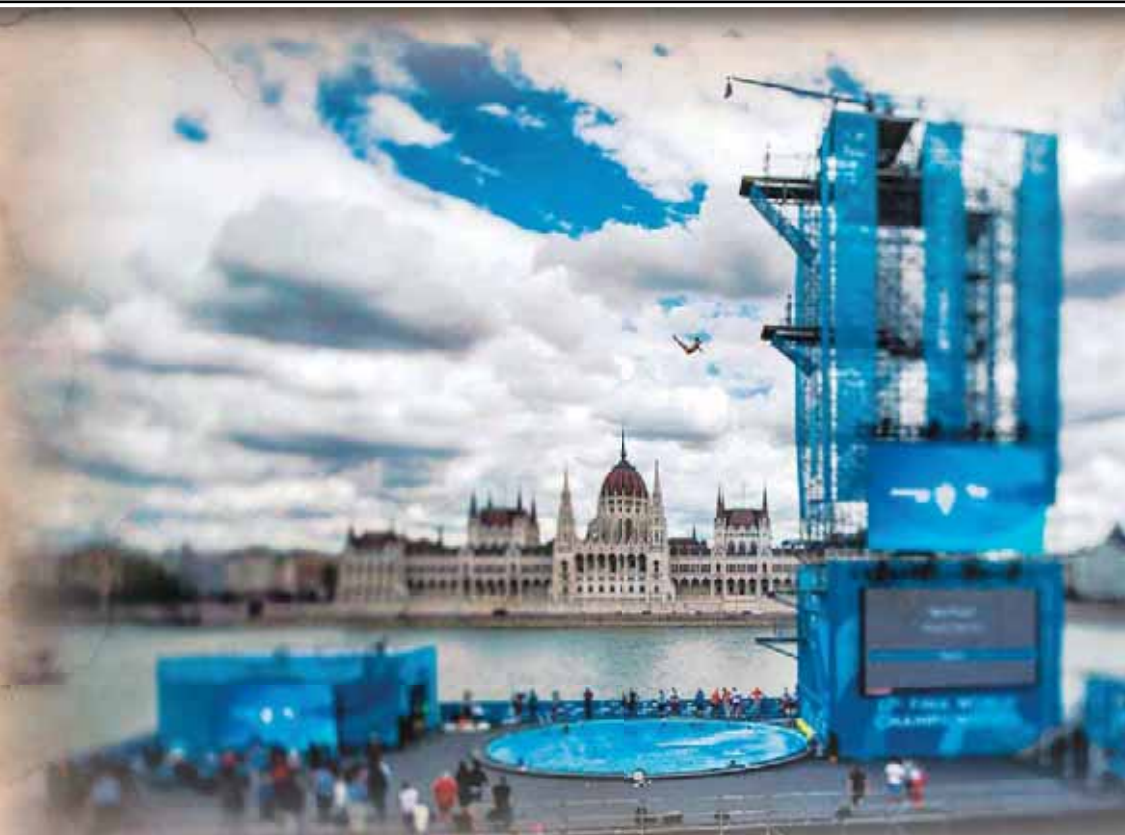
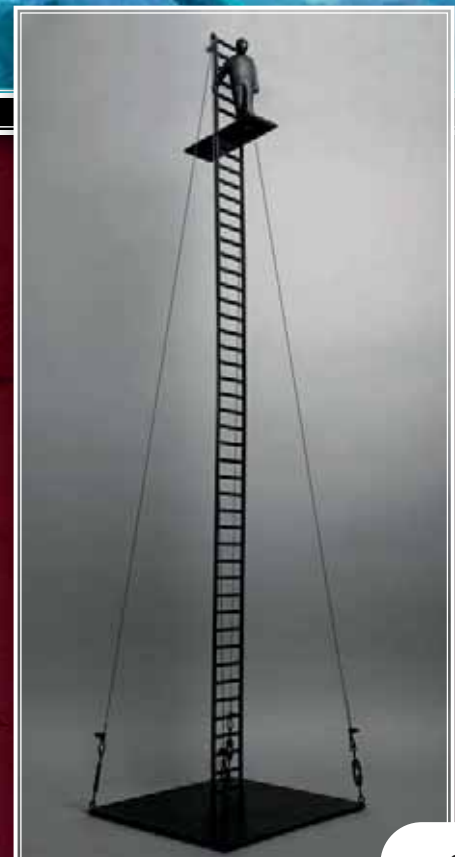
The First High Diving World Cup was held in 2014 in Kazan (Russia). The winners of the highest award were Gary Hunt (UK), Orlando Duque (Colombia) was in the second place, American Steve LoBue - in the third.

The Second High Diving World Cup (2015) in Cozumel, Mexico ended with the victory of a Russian athlete Artem Silchenko, Mexican diver Jonathan Paredes came second, Colombian athlete Orlando Duque was third.

The Third High Diving World Cup was held in 2017 in Abu Dhabi. The winner was again British athlete Gary Hunt, Ukrainian athlete Oleksiy Prygorov came 17th. In the women's competition, Adriana Jimenez from Mexico was first.

The Fourth High Diving World Cup was held also in Abu Dhabi (UAE) in 2018, resulting in a consecutive victory of Gary Hunt.

Ukrainian diver Oleksiy Prygorov came fourth, becoming the first diver in the world to perform an extremely difficult element - a somersault in four turns forward with two and a half screws in a bent position. Antonina Vyshyvanova came 6th in women's event.





High diving is a significant part of the Ukrainian Diving Federation headed by Oleg Vyshyvanov. Along with his fellow athletes Andriy Ignatenko and Vyacheslav Polishchuk, Oleg was at the origins of this sport in Ukraine paving the way for the Ukrainian divers on the international arena.

The International Swimming Federation made a suggestion to the International Olympic Committee to include high diving into the programme of the 2020 Games of the XXXII Olympiad in Tokyo, but a decision has not been made. It is hoped that high diving has every chance to become an Olympic sport in 2024 (Paris) and 2028 (Los Angeles).

High-diving events were introduced into the programme of the 2013 World Aquatics Championships in Barcelona. Ukrainian diver Anatoliy Shabotenko took the 7th place in the men's competition, and Diana Tomilina became 6th in women's event.

At the next 2015 World Cup in Kazan, Anatoliy Shabotenko was 12th, and Diana Tomilina was 9th.

In 2017, at the World Championships in Budapest, Ukrainian athlete Oleksiy Prygorov showed the 11th result.

At the 18th World Aquatics Championships in Gwangju, Korea, Ukrainian high-divers were more successful: Vyacheslav Kolesnykov took the 8th place in the men's event, and Antonina Vyshyvanova came 5th in the women's competition.



Rhiannan Iffland – the 2017 and 2019 world champion in high diving, the winner of the Red Bull Cliff Diving World Series in 2016–2019



A group of friends come together. (L-R): Oleg Vyshyvanov (Ukraine), Dmitry Sautin (Russia), Dustin Webster (The USA)

Participants of the FINA World Championships (L-R): Volodymyr Molchanov (Ukraine), Andrey Rublev (Russia), Vyacheslav Kolesnykov (Ukraine), Nikita Fedorov (Russia), Artem Silchenko (Russia), Igor Semashko (Russia), Dmitry Sautin (Russia), Oleg Vyshyvanov (Ukraine)



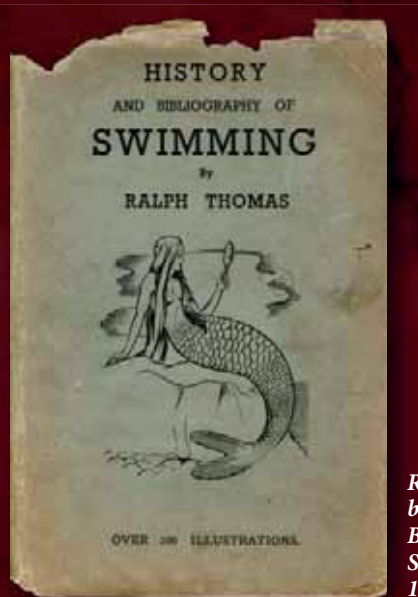
Participants of the World High Diving Championships Oleg Vyshyvanov and Antonina Vyshyvanova (5th place). 2019. Gwangju, Republic of Korea

2019.07.12. - 2019.07.28.

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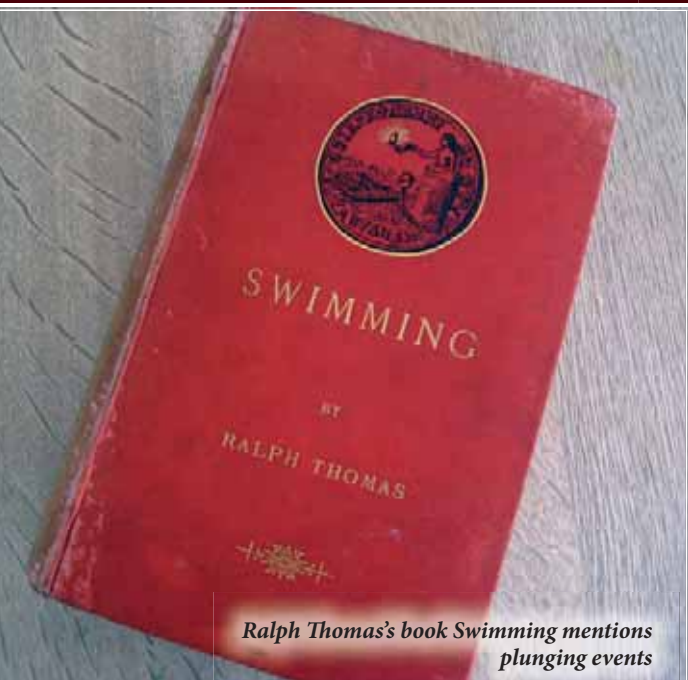
Ukrainian divers - participants of the 18th World Aquatics Championships. (L-R): Oleksiy Prygorov, Antonina Vyshyvanova, Vyacheslav Kolesnykov, and the national team coach Oleg Vyshyvanov. 2019. Gwangju, Republic of Korea



Ralph Thomas's book *History and Bibliography of Swimming* with 100 illustrations



View of the plunge for distance in the Ocean Park. Postcard. California, USA



Ralph Thomas's book *Swimming* mentions plunging events

Plunge for distance

This type of diving has been known for quite a long time and was very popular in Europe and the United States in the nineteenth-early twentieth century.

This is a dive from a stationary take-off which is free from spring at a height of 45,7 cm above the water. Upon reaching the water the plunger glides face downward for a period of 60 seconds without imparting any propulsion to the body from the arms and legs. A plunge for distance is not much different from a starting dive in swimming.

To date, there is evidence about records set in plunging for distance. So, the manual *History and Bibliography of Swimming* by English author Ralph Thomas, which was published in 1904, tells about the record set in this type of competition in 1865.

And in the 1877 edition of the *Manual of British Rural Sports* by John Henry Walsh, it is reported that Mr. Young made a plunge for distance of 17.06 m in 1870, and in 1845, a diver named Drake could overcome a distance of 16.15 m.

English Amateur Swimming Association (which at that time was called the British Swimming Association) first held swimming championships in 1883, which also included plunge for distance.

At the 1904 Games of the III Olympiad in St. Louis (USA), plunge for distance was part of the competitions. The prizes went to the swimmers of the New York Sports Club. The



E. H. Adams, N. Y. A. C., Plunge for Distance.

Edgar Holmes Adams - a member of the New York Sports Club, plunge for distance diver

William Eugene Dickey - champion of the 1904 Olympic Games in plunge for distance, member of the New York Sports Club



N. Y. A. C. OLYMPIC GAMES SWIMMING TEAM

NAME F. A. RUDDY W. E. DICKEY W. HESSE
 G. H. BRATTON C. J. GIANNINI, MGR. J. STREN
 J. WAHLE
 TEAM C. M. DANIELS J. B. GOODWIN M. A. KAPLAN



CHAMPION DICKEY,
 New York A. C.
 Winner of Plunge for Distance, Olympic Games



MR. HORACE DAVENPORT



Horace Davenport - famous British plunge for distance champion in 1884, 1885 and 1886



Charlotte Boyle - American athlete who set a US record in the plunge for distance

Olympic champion in this discipline was William Eugene Dickey, who set an Olympic record of 19.04 m; the silver medal was awarded to Edgar Holmes Adams; the bronze medal was awarded to Leo Joseph Goodwin.

However, in September 1902, W. Taylor from the UK showed the best result in Bootle (Great Britain), conquering 24.14 m.

In 1912, long-distance plunger S. B. Willis from the University of Pennsylvania reached 24.38 m.

Women also competed in the plunge for distance. An apprentice at the Northern High School in Detroit (Michigan, USA) Dorothy McWood plunged for 20.36 m in April 1922, and in 1925, Hilda Dand set a new world record of 21.64 m. The unsurpassed world record belongs to American athlete Francis Parrington, who covered 26.41 m in 1933.

In the United States, the last competition in this discipline was held by the National Student Sports Association in 1925, and the British Swimming Association continued such championships until 1937.

Long-distance plunges remain popular among athletes today. In June 2012, the Danish plunger Laura Funch successfully overcame 25 m.

Today, the University of Michigan annually holds competitions in this discipline among men and women following the rules of the early twentieth century.



PREPARING TO PLUNGE



PLUNGING FROM THE BOARD



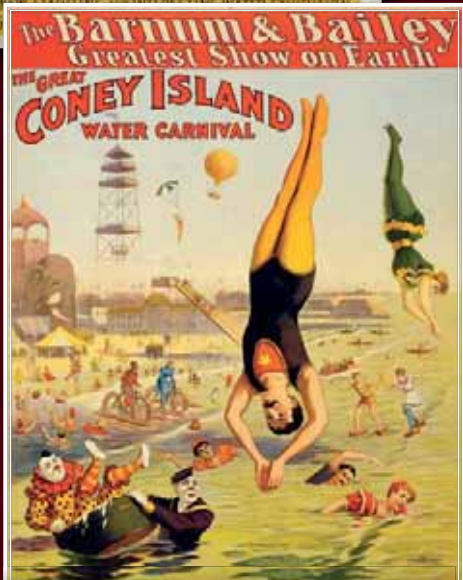
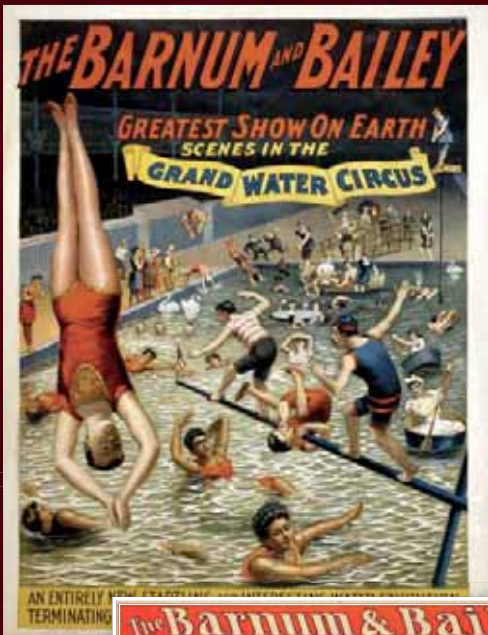
THE PLUNGE

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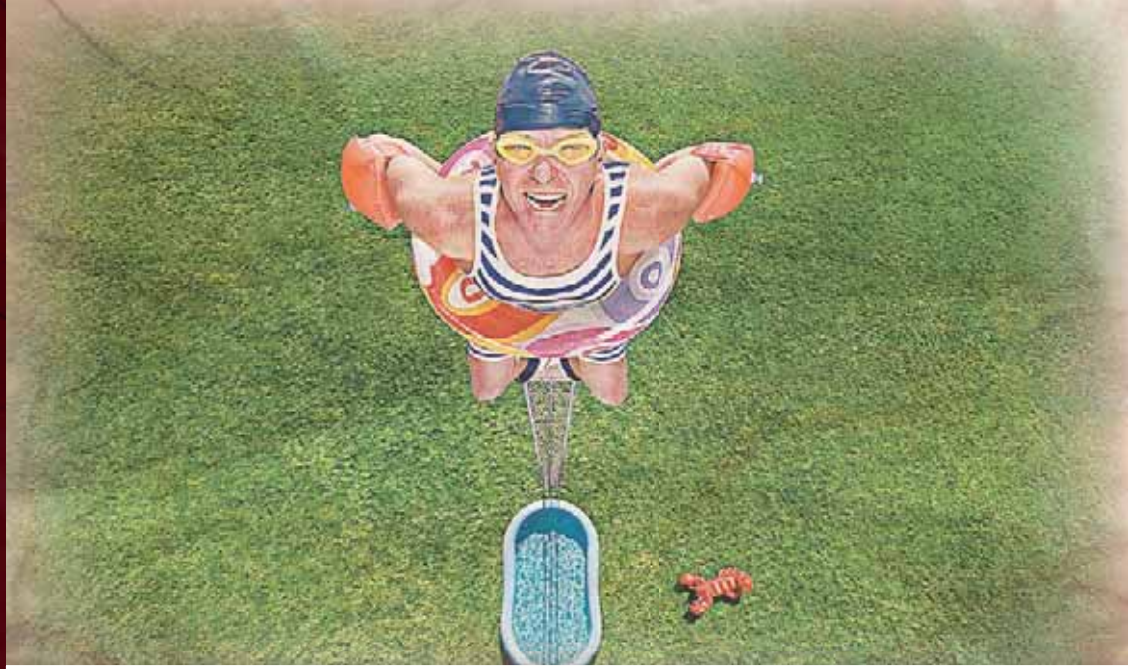
Illustrations of the British book *British Rural Sports* (1877) by John Henry Walsh, which mentions the plunge for distance



Danish plunger Laura Funch overcomes 25 m



Advertising posters of water diving circus shows



Shallow diving

Another type of adventure diving is called “shallow diving”, whereby enthusiasts attempt to dive from the greatest height into the shallowest depth of water, without sustaining injury. It is typically associated with traveling circuses along with the strongman, performing animals, clowns, and other such attractions. The technique of diving is simple - the more horizontally an athlete “lands” in the water, the more it slows him down.

This is a very dangerous trick that demonstrates extraordinary human abilities.

The first record holder was the British stuntman Roy Fransen (1916 1985), who became the first famous shallow diver to travel the world with his Dive of Death performance, shocking the audience. He even dove into the burning pool! Unfortunately, Roy died in 1985 while performing a stunt.

Back in 1948, Roy Fransen made a successful dive from a height of 33.5 m into a pool with a depth of 2.4 m. This record lasted almost half a century!

Today, numerous world records in this type of diving belong to Darren Taylor from the USA, better known as the Professor Splash, who has been engaged in such adventure diving for over 35 years. He dove from a height of 11.52 m into a children’s inflatable pool 30 cm deep, breaking his record for a successive 20th time.





Professor Splash entered the water at a speed of 53 km/h. This dive is registered in the Guinness Book of Records.

Unlike the usual method of diving, Professor Splash tries to fall into the water in a horizontal position, while spreading his arms and legs. Imagine what a blow the performer feels!

He does the exact opposite of what all professional divers try to do. When it comes to classic dives - athletes dive upside down, in high-diving - straight down but always vertically, so that the surface of contact of the body with water is minimal. "The main thing to do - during the landing is to try to pour as much water out of the pool. This is needed to get a kind of pillow effect," said Taylor about his technique. "That's why I'm trying to bulge my stomach and spread my arms and legs to get as much contact with the water as possible."

Darren Taylor made many dives in low ambient temperatures because the density of freezing water is much higher. This slows down the flight speed when the diver's body collides with it.

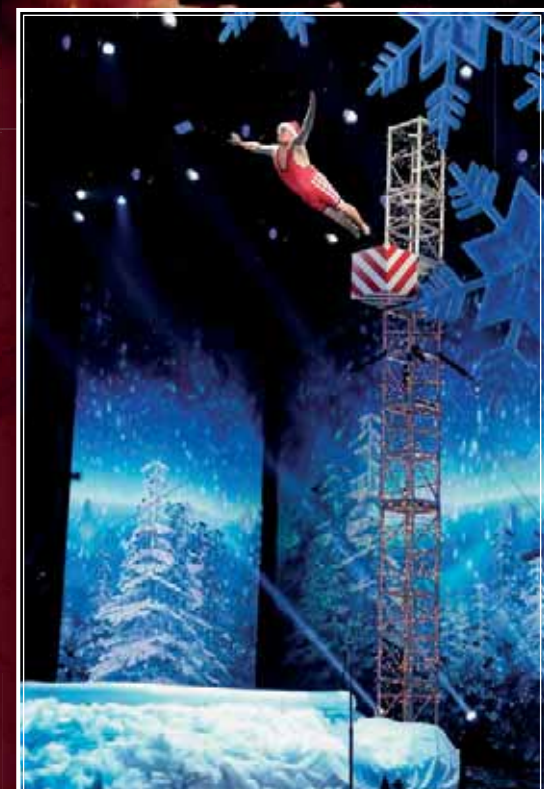
It is important to remember that such dives are extremely dangerous and should not be attempted at home.



A shallow dive into a children's inflatable pool from the height of 11.52 m performed by Darren Taylor



ROY FRANSEN
EUROPEAN HIGH and FIRE DIVING CHAMPION



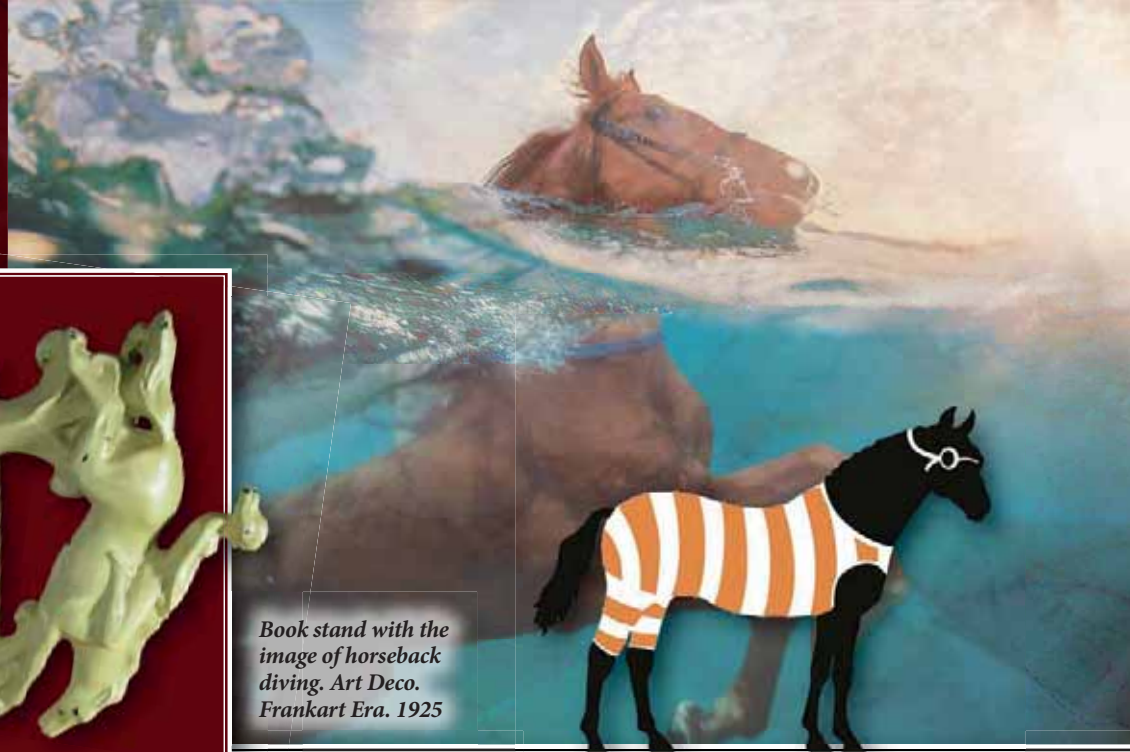
«Winter Show» Darren Taylor



Postcard with the image of horseback diving in Atlantic City (New Jersey, USA)



Book stand with the image of horseback diving. Art Deco. Frankart Era. 1925



Horse diving

Buffalo Bill's Wild West became the most popular amusement in America and remained so until the movie industry gained prominence in the 1930s. The shows went beyond the cowboy sport of rodeo in an effort to preserve a romanticized view of the American West and to entertain those in the East (and later in Europe) who were fascinated with the disappearing frontier of the United States. One of the fearless stars of this show was Mamie Francis. She was famous for her daring horse-diving act off a 15-metre platform into a pool of water from the back of the galloping horse. She came to the show in 1900 at the age of 15 and continued to perform for 14 years. A monument to this brave horsewoman was erected in the lobby of the Cowgirl Hall of Fame & Museum in Fort Worth (Texas, USA).

After the first dive, Mamie realized that her horse Snake was not suitable for such entertainment and replaced it with an Arabian mare, which she affectionately called Baby. Mamie's dazzling performances soon became the main sensation of the show. One of her fans was Sonora Webster Carver.

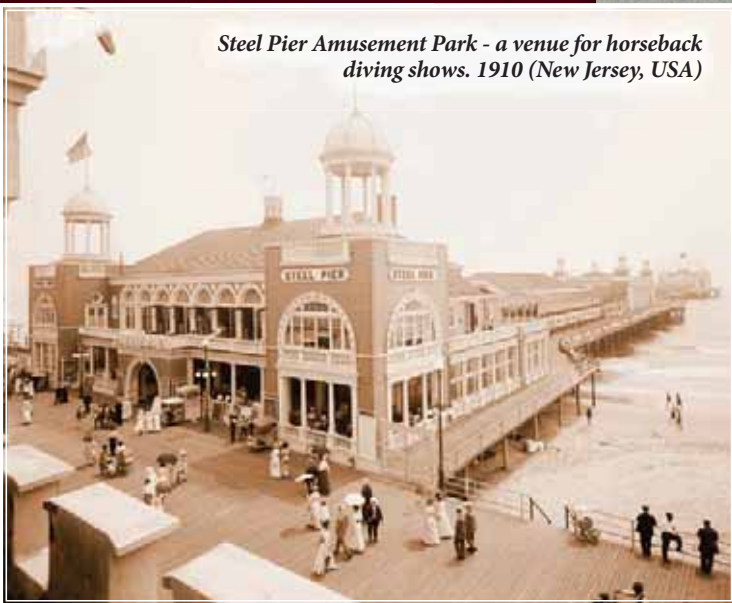
Traveling artist William "Doc" Carver was also making horse-diving shows. He claimed that the idea of diving into the water on horseback came to him after a dangerous accident when a bridge collapsed under the horse he was riding, and the horse and rider dove into the river from a height of 12-13 m. To Carver's surprise, the horse dove quite well and both were able to swim ashore. This event made him wonder if it was possible to teach a horse to dive like that.



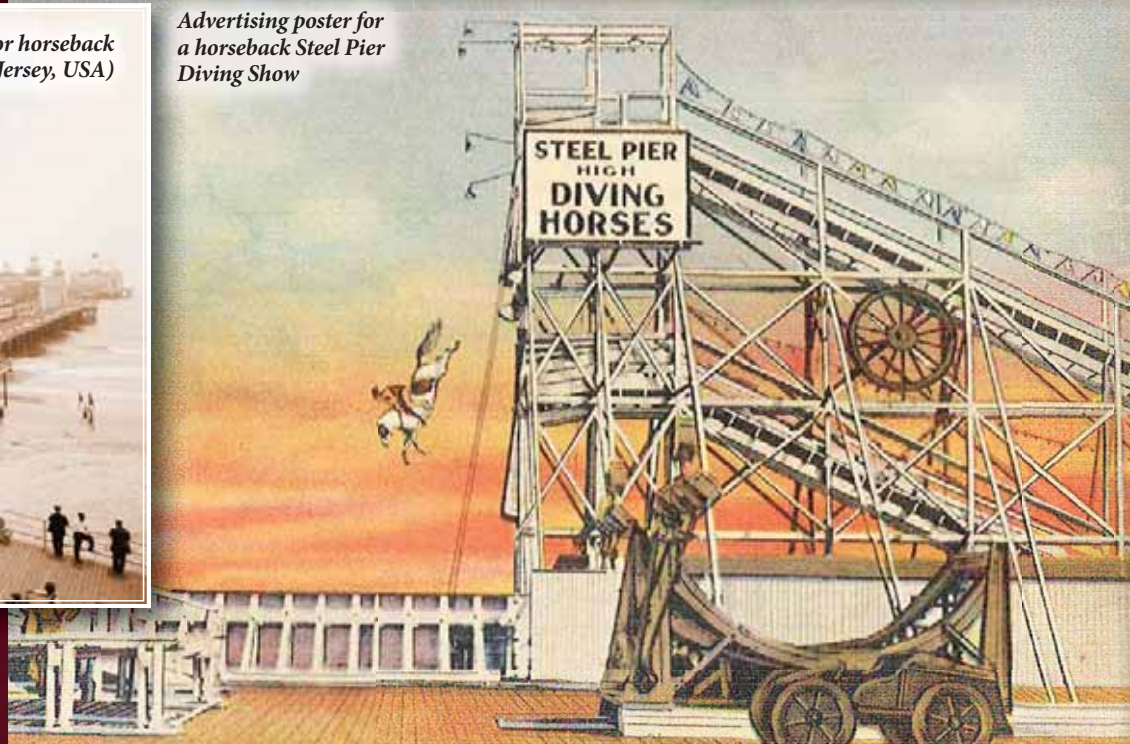
DR. W. F. CARVER,
CHAMPION RIFLE SHOT OF THE WORLD

Traveling artist William "Doc" Carver - the inventor of horseback diving

Steel Pier Amusement Park - a venue for horseback diving shows. 1910 (New Jersey, USA)



Advertising poster for a horseback Steel Pier Diving Show





Advertising poster for the Carver Show

Sculpture-monument to Mamie Francis in the lobby of the Hall of Fame of the National Museum of Cowboy Women. Fort Worth (Texas, USA)



Carver later created a show on the Steel Pier in an amusement park in Atlantic City, New Jersey, during which the rider and the horse dove into the water from a platform located at a height of 18 m (later - 12 m). The risky trick gathered huge crowds. In 1923, 19-year-old Sonora Webster Carver and her 15-year-old sister Annette joined the equestrian diving.

In 1931, Sonora was blinded while hitting the water off balance with her eyes open, but she did not give up diving and continued to do the show for another 11 years. Later on, she trained new generations of horse divers. Sonora Webster Carver lived for 99 years and died in 2003. The 1991 film *Wild Hearts Can't Be Broken* tells the real-life story of Sonora Carver.

In the second half of the twentieth century, the show's popularity began to decline due to the increasing public concern of animal mistreatment. It was stated that animals only "worked" 3 months a year, performing 4-5 dives a day, spending the next 9 months on a farm. Regardless of this, the Carver Show existed until 1978, when the horses were sold together with the pier at an auction in 1980.

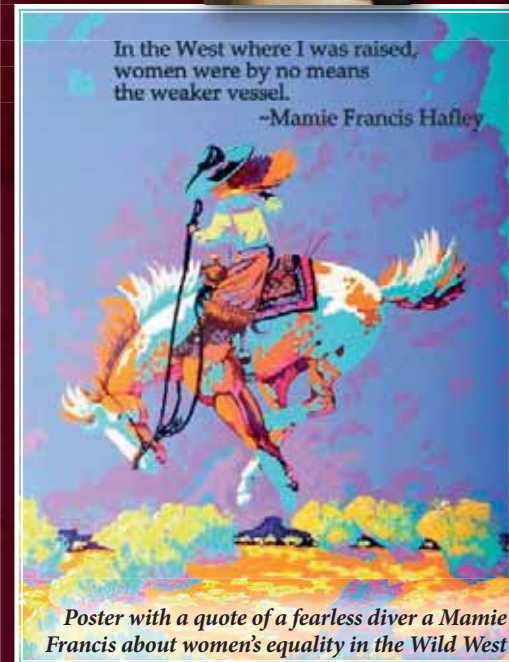
Horse diving was performed not only on the Steel Pier in New Jersey (USA). There are photographs from 1907 showing similar dives in Toronto.



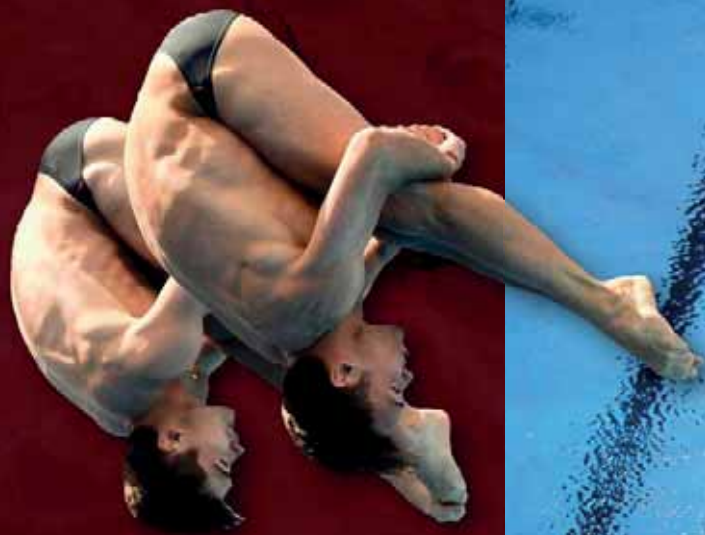
Sonora Webster Carver with a horse immediately after diving into the water. 1955
As a result of an unsuccessful dive at the age of 27, Sonora went blind but continued to perform for another 10 years. She later trained horse divers. Sonora died at the age of 99



Sculpture-monument to Mamie Francis in the lobby of the National Cowgirl Museum and Hall of Fame. Fort Worth (Texas, USA)



Poster with a quote of a fearless diver a Mamie Francis about women's equality in the Wild West



Synchronised Diving

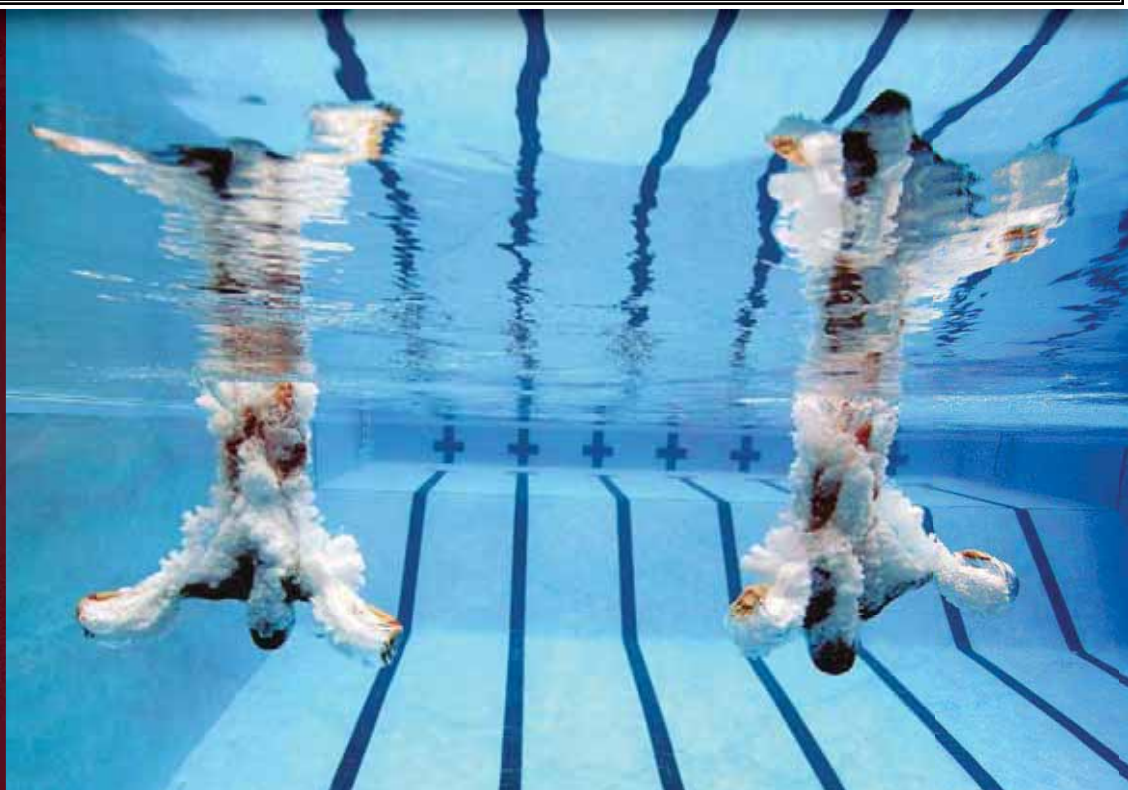
Synchronised diving (synchro diving) was first demonstrated in the early 1970s. The initiators of the "pair dives" were the Soviet athletes.

Many experts were sceptical about the upheaval. Synchronised diving, by definition, requires not only high individual skill, but also complete coordination in the actions of athletes. Questioners believed that this would be impossible to achieve, and the success of the duos was more of a gamble. The German divers with their confident victory in the unofficial competitions, had proven that the simultaneousness in diving is quite achievable. Gradually, the new discipline gained recognition in many countries around the world. Germans met serious competition among the athletes from Italy, China and Russia, which was later increased by the synchronised divers from Australia, Mexico and Ukraine.

Synchronised diving was first included into the programme of official competitions in 1997 (European Championships), and in 2000 became an Olympic event.

Four sets of Olympic awards are contested in synchronised diving: diving from a 3-metre springboard and a 10-metre platform (men and women). The final is preceded by a qualifying round. In synchronised diving, the winner is determined only by the results of the final part of the tournament.

The performance is evaluated by 9 (11) judges: 5 - simultaneousness of the dive and 2 (3) - individual technique of each of the participants of the pair.

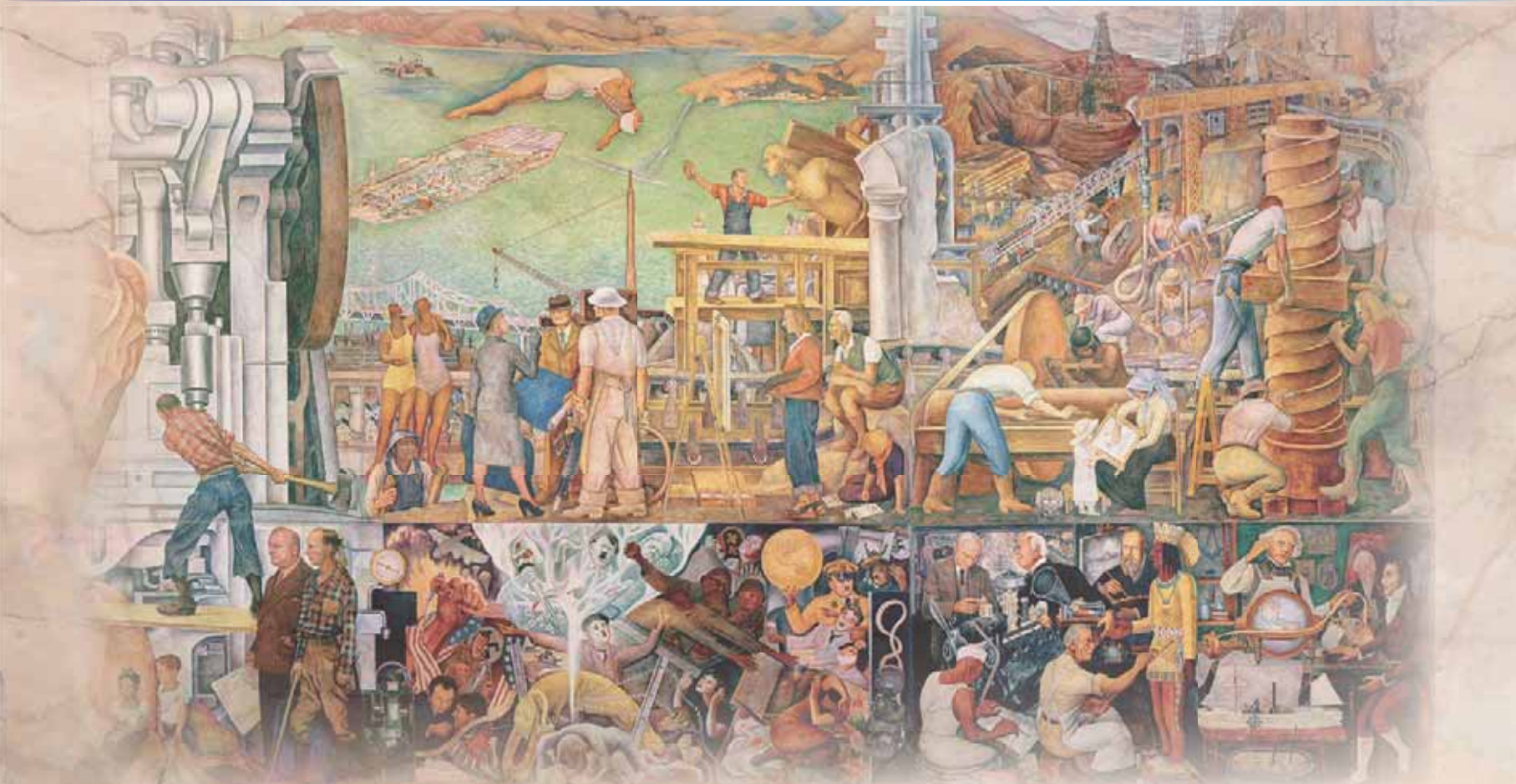


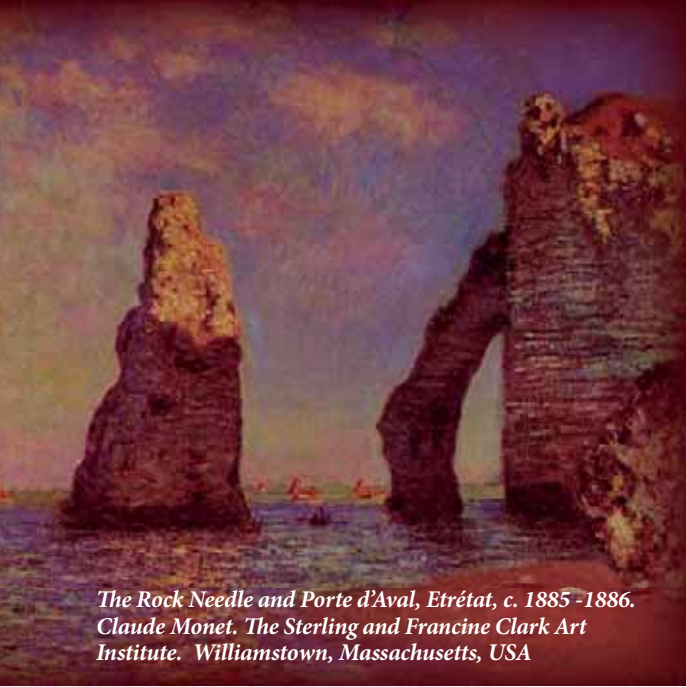




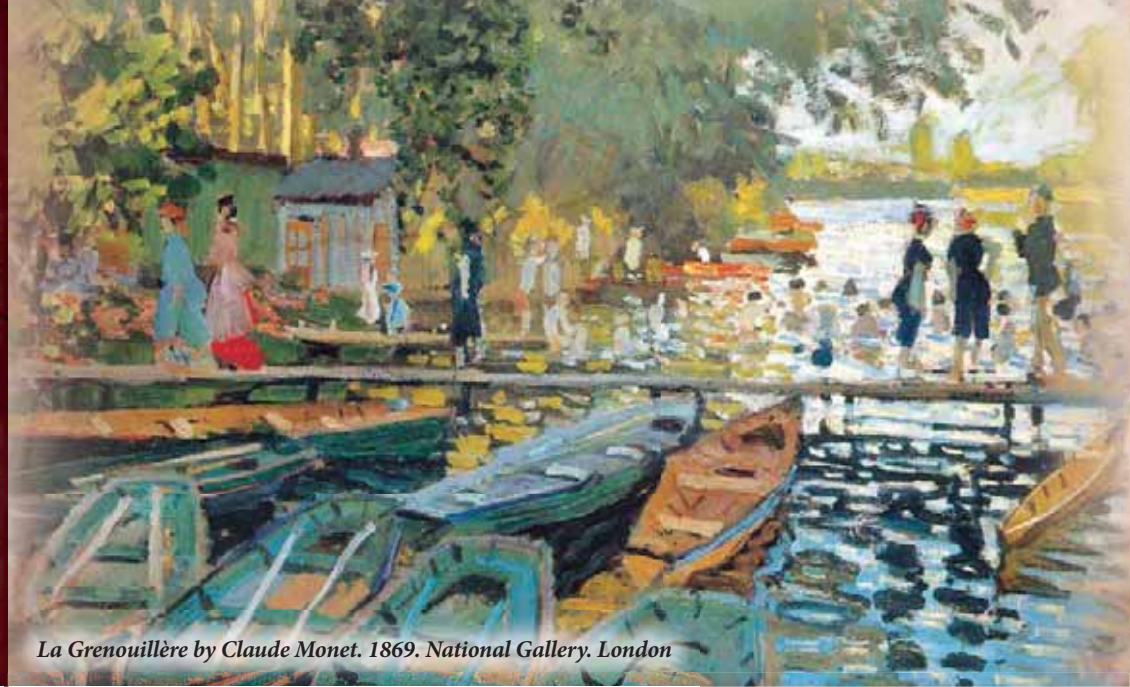


Part III. *D*iving in Art





The Rock Needle and Porte d'Aval, Etréat, c. 1885-1886. Claude Monet. The Sterling and Francine Clark Art Institute. Williamstown, Massachusetts, USA



La Grenouillère by Claude Monet. 1869. National Gallery. London

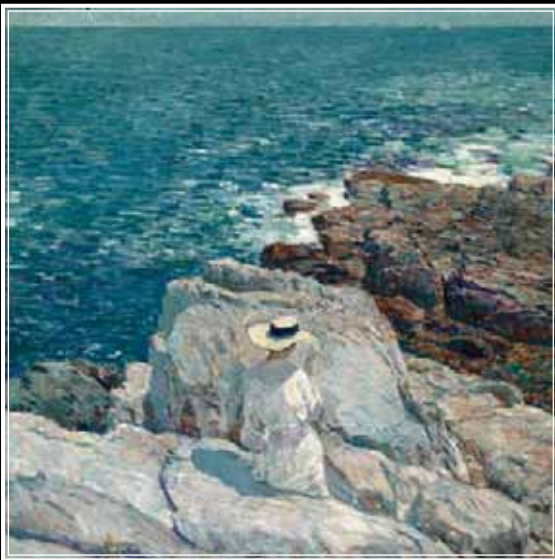
Diving in the Works of the Impressionists

Impressionism (from the French “impression”) is a 19th-century art movement characterized by relatively small, thin, yet visible brush strokes, open composition, emphasis on accurate depiction of light in its changing qualities. Its well-known masters are Claude Monet, Camille Pissarro, Édouard Manet.

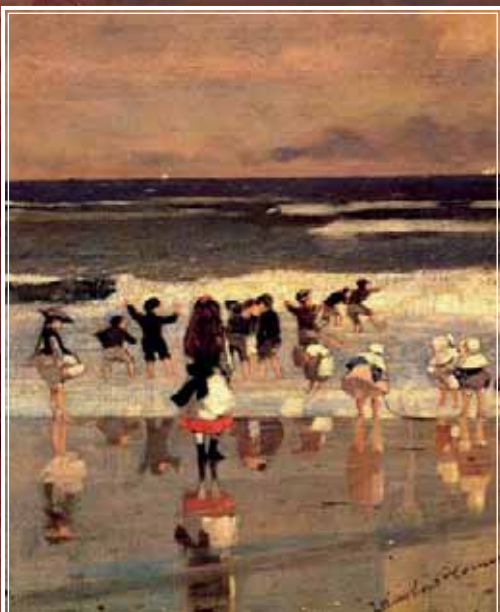
The first pieces of impressionistic art appeared in the 1860s in protest against academic painting, gaining prominence in the late 1870's.

Impressionists did not raise any philosophical issues. The main topics of the artists include everyday life, passage of time, and mood changes. Impressionist painters sought to convey the moment or impression, so their work was very emotional, full of deep meaning. Facts and realistic depiction of the surrounding world give way to feelings, the immaculate nowness, the subjectivity of perception of the world.

Impressionistic paintings seem somewhat vague and uncertain. These paintings are not recommended to be considered closely, because they are not important in details, but the image is perceived as a whole.



The South Ledges, Appledore. Childe Hassam. 1913. Smithsonian Museum of American Art. Washington



Beach Scene. Homer Winslow. Early XX century. USA



Bathing on the Seine (La Grenouillère). Auguste Renoir. 1859. State Hermitage. St. Petersburg

The Stormy Sea in Étretat. Claude Monet. 1881



Swimmer. Joaquín Sorolla. End of the XIX century. Spain



Diver. Gustave Caillebotte. 1877. France

In the XXI century, this trend develops in the format of post-impressionism, the "father" of which is considered to be Paul Cézanne.

An aquatic sport of diving could not leave impressionist artists aside. Athletes' artistry, emotions, the most difficult elements, and the superiority of human nature as well as the atmosphere that prevails in the bleachers during the competition - all this served as a plot and a source of inspiration for the creation of new works of art.

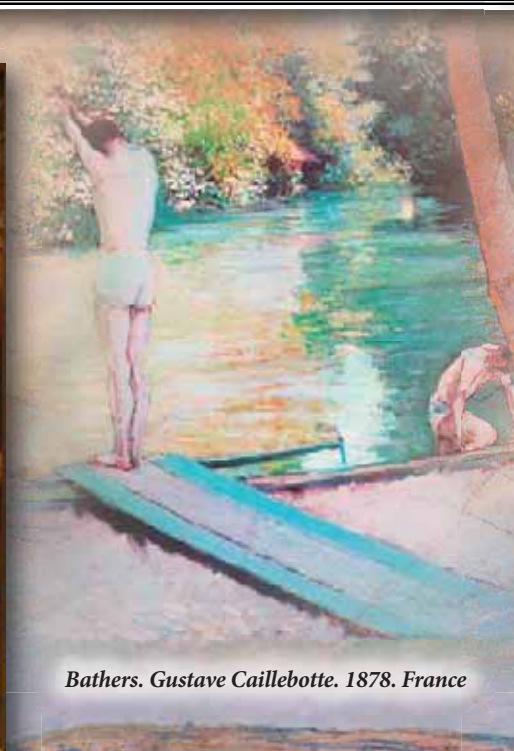
Impressionist paintings dedicated to the theme of aquatic sports came to prominence during the late 1870s and 1880s. Inspiring great masterpieces by such renowned artists as Gustave Caillebotte, Joaquín Sorolla, Claude Monet, Paul Cezanne and many others to come to life creating an inseparable unity of sport and art.



Diving into Water. Paul Cézanne. 1870. National Museum of Wales. Cardiff, United Kingdom



Bathers. Gustave Caillebotte. 1878. France



Bathers. Gustave Caillebotte. 1878. France



The Manneporte (Étretat). Claude Monet. 1883. Metropolitan Museum, New York



Dive. Art Deco print. 1920

Diving in Art Deco

Art Deco, sometimes referred to as Deco, is a style of visual arts, architecture, and design that first appeared in France in the early 1920s as a reaction against the austerity introduced during the World War One. The intention was to create a sleek and anti-traditional elegance that symbolized wealth and sophistication.

Art Deco has always been associated with glamour and colour. The style was widespread not only in the architecture, interior design, jewellery, sculpture but also in the fine arts - painting and graphics.

Art Deco is truly considered to be the most mysterious style of the twentieth century, which combines striking colour, correct composition, exotic themes, and symmetry.

The theme of aquatic sports and games has always attracted artists and sculptors in this style of art. Shapely bodies of athletes, beautiful compositions of aerial acrobats, the brilliance of performances could not but cause admiration and desire to immortalize what is seen.



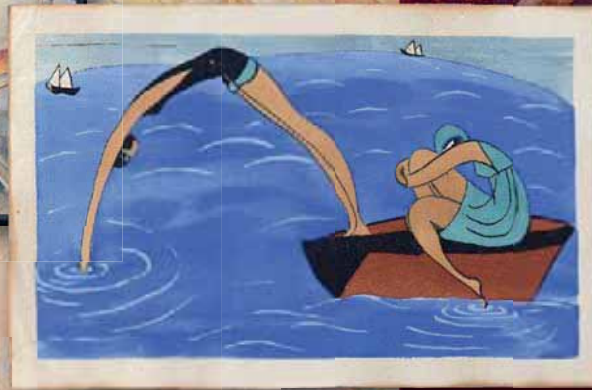
*Dive. André Édouard Marty.
The magazine La vie Parisienne.
1918. France*



*Bather. Raphael de Penagos.
XX century Art Deco. Spain*



Games in the pool. Early XX century. Art Deco. USA



Dive. Paper. Art Deco. 1920



Black and white. In the pool. Aleksandr Deineka. Charcoal watercolour. 1935. USSR



Diving woman. Art Deco. Lithography. 1970s

Dive. Art Deco. Poster



L'Eau (Water).
George Barbier. Art
Deco. 1925. France





Sea. Koga Harue. 1929



Sea Queen. Art Deco cigarette case. 1930

One of the founders of Art Deco is French artist and illustrator George Barbier. The artist became famous for his sketches of stage costumes for Diaghilev's Russian Ballet. He made art for major French fashion magazines. Among them were beautiful samples, light and airy, full of freshness, plots that reflected entertainment of beautiful ladies on the beaches of France in the first quarter of the twentieth century.

Another French artist, the faithful knight of Art Deco, André Edouard Marty, was an illustrator for such publications as Vogue, Harper's Bazaar, Vanity Fair, etc., which exposed the glamorous life of the early twentieth century, for many years.

American artist Robert LaDuke is the creator of nostalgic-like feelings, reminiscent of the bright and colourful years of the early twentieth century in the style of Art Deco.

Also notable are the works of Mary Catherine Solberg, Margaret McKay, Septimus Edwin Scott, Mads Berg, Ronald Martin, which accentuate the art of diving.



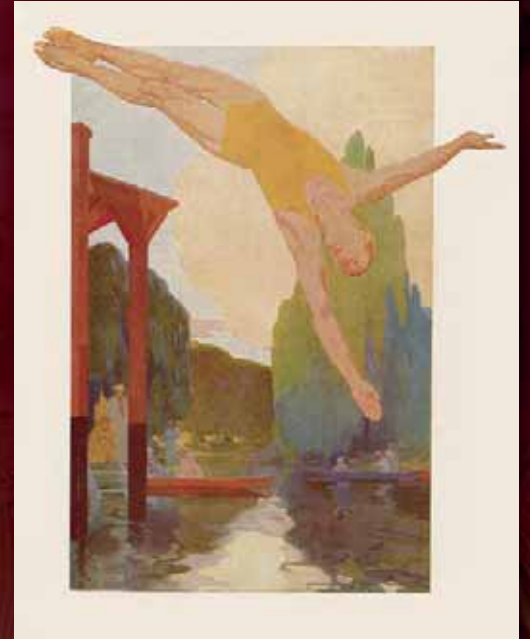
Summer. Thomas Rowlandson. 1928. Art Gallery. Manchester. Great Britain



Illustration to the book Floralia. 1917



*Davos - Strandbad.
Poster. Art Deco*

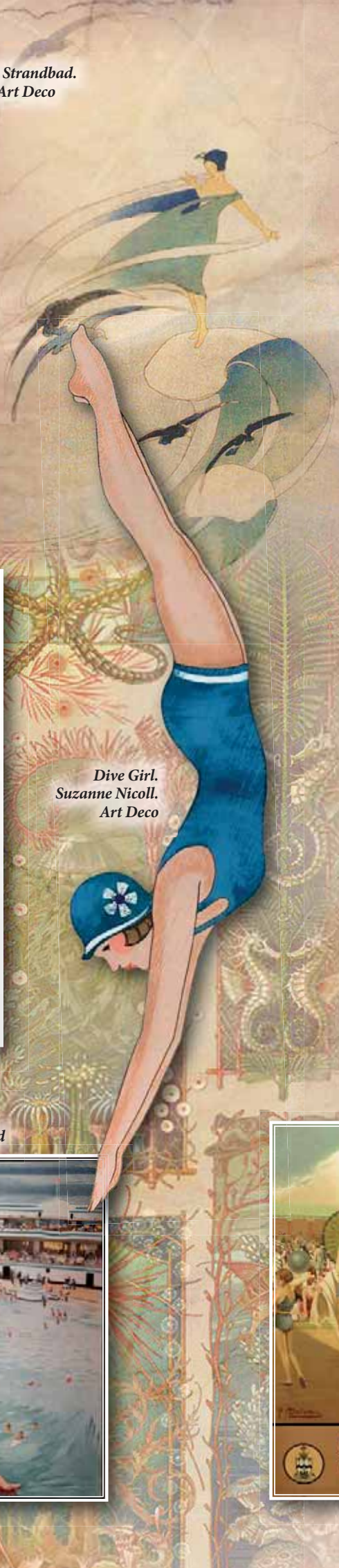


River Diver. Rene Lelong. 1920. Colour lithograph



Divers. Art Deco. Print

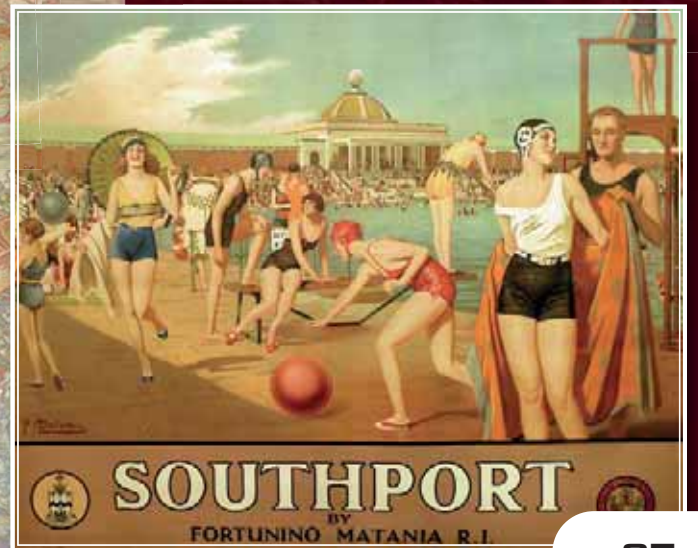
*Swimming pool in New Brighton. Scott Wallace.
1923. National Museum of Railway Societies. New Zealand*



*Dive Girl.
Suzanne Nicoll.
Art Deco*



*Advertising poster of the English resort
of Southport. 1929*





Aquatic sports in the La Vie Parisienne magazine

The French weekly magazine *La Vie Parisienne* (Paris Life) was founded in 1863. In the early twentieth century, it enjoyed great popularity because of the coveted topics on sports and culture.

La Vie Parisienne was extremely successful being able to combine stories about the glamorous life of the Parisians with full-page colour illustrations by leading artists of the time.

Art works in the issues of the magazine of the early twentieth century were predominantly made in the styles of Art Nouveau and Art Deco; the articles were intellectual, witty, and satirical.

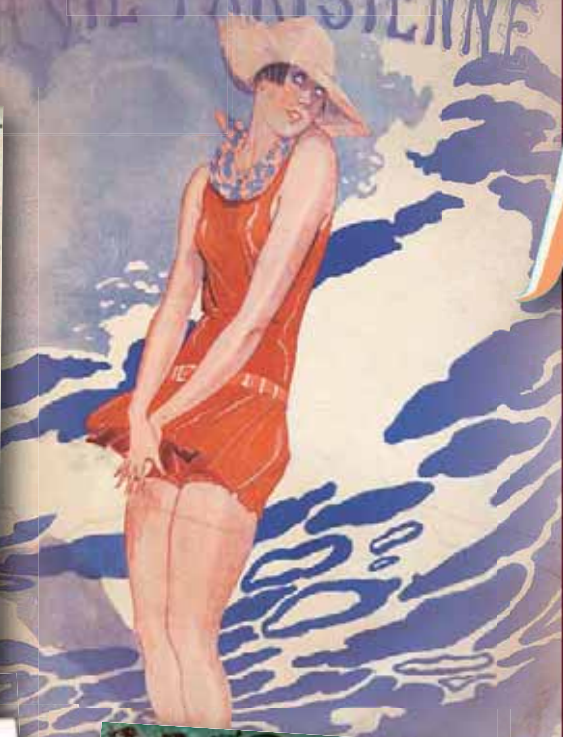
This magazine was illustrated by prominent artists George Barbier, Chéri Hérourd, George Leone, Maurice Minier, René Vincent, Umberto Brunelleschi that managed to create bright, cheerful, joyful, humorous images of young graceful ladies having fun diving into the water and swimming at luxurious resorts of the French Riviera.

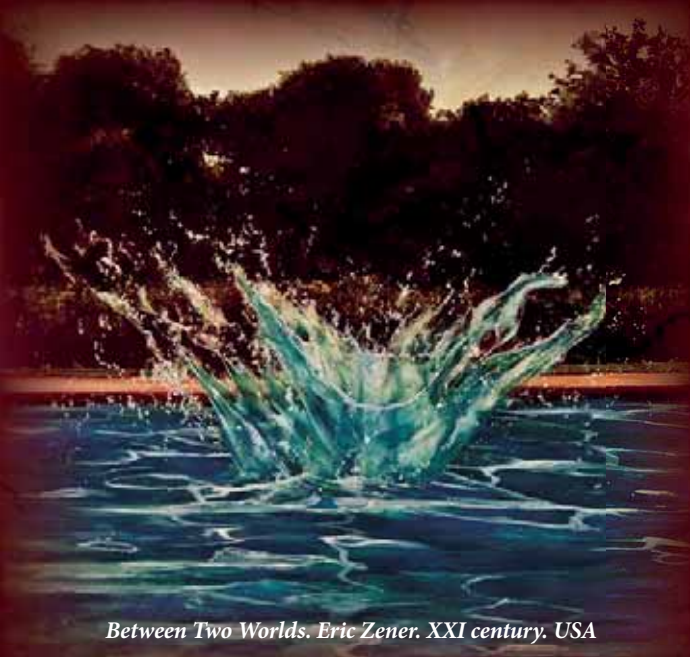
Girls on a Diving Board. René Vincent. 1930s





LA VIE PARISIENNE





Between Two Worlds. Eric Zener. XXI century. USA



Diving Boys around a Passenger Liner. William Lionel Wyllie. 1893. National Maritime Museum. London, UK

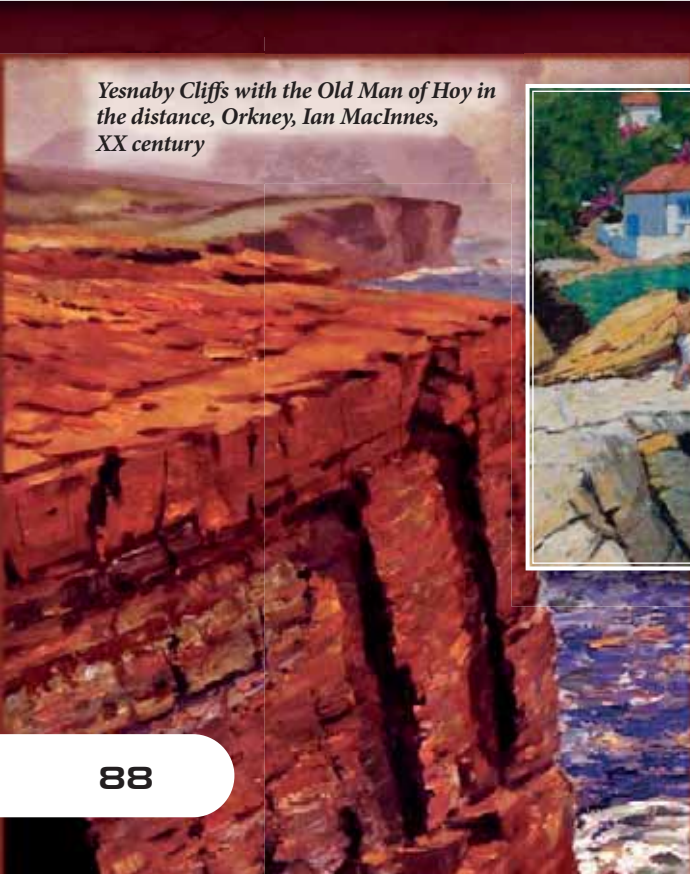


Young diver. Malcolm T. Liepke. 2017. USA

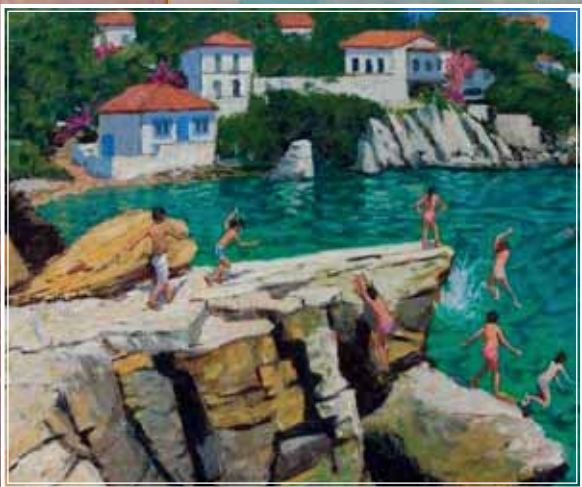
Diving in Realistic Painting

Realism, sometimes called naturalism, appeared in the second half of the XIX century in the art as a general attempt to represent the subject matter truthfully, without artificiality, and avoiding speculative fiction and supernatural elements. Realism has been prevalent in the arts at many periods and can be in large part a matter of technique and training, and the avoidance of stylization. The emergence of the term "realism in painting" is usually associated with the works of French artist Gustave Courbet.

Diving, like other aquatic sports, has been widely reflected in the realistic paintings of prominent artists. Among them are William Lionel Wyllie who gained prominence in the late 19th century, Hans Erni from Switzerland who dedicated most of his work to the Olympic sports, a contemporary Colombian artist Pedro Covo, an American artist and illustrator Laura Collins, a British artist living in Palermo, Italy, Nicholas Stedman. Quite pleasing are the bold and full of positive energy works of the contemporary British artist Andrew Macara, popular in both Europe and the United States. Notable is the work of Elizabeth Lennie, a Canadian artist, most of whose works are devoted to pastimes on the shores of Lake Ontario and the Caribbean. The paintings of the American artist living in Vienna, Sarah Morrissette, and the American artist Emily Olson are also worthy of attention.

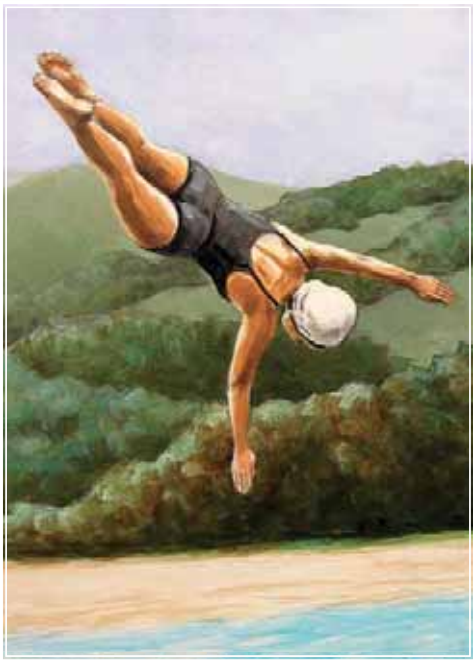


Yesnaby Cliffs with the Old Man of Hoy in the distance, Orkney, Ian MacInnes, XX century



Those who Dive into the Sea. Skiathos, Greece. Andrew Macara. 2015



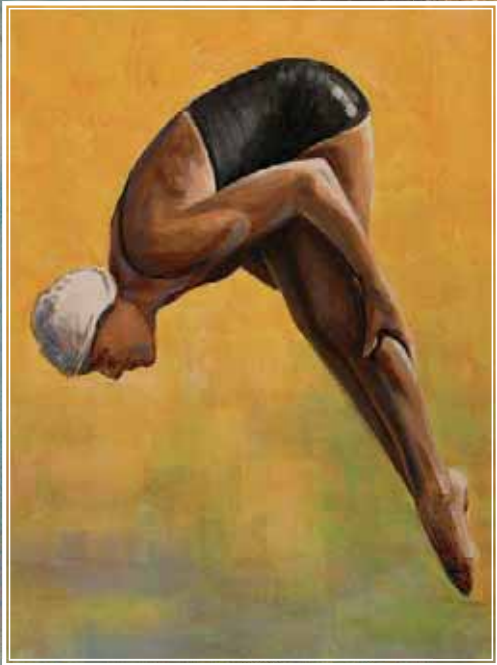


Diver. Sarah Morrissette. 2017

Diver over the river. Sarah Morrissette. 2017



Diving... Dancing in Air. Garth Bayley. United Kingdom. XXI century



Diver on yellow. Sarah Morrissette, 2017

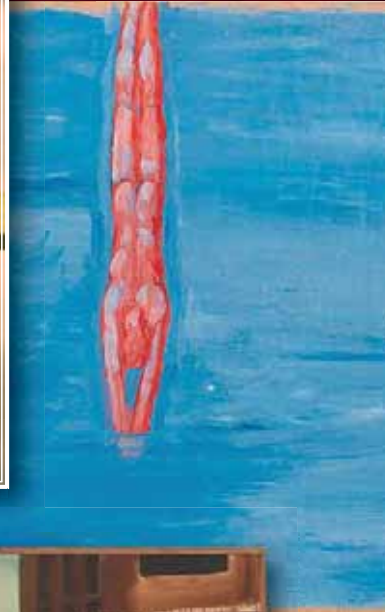


Diver. Eric Zener. 2005



Plunger. Eric Zener. 2006

Diver. Paul Thek. Hammer Museum. Los Angeles



Aruma D'Souza by Noah Davis. 1975. The Underground Museum. Los Angeles

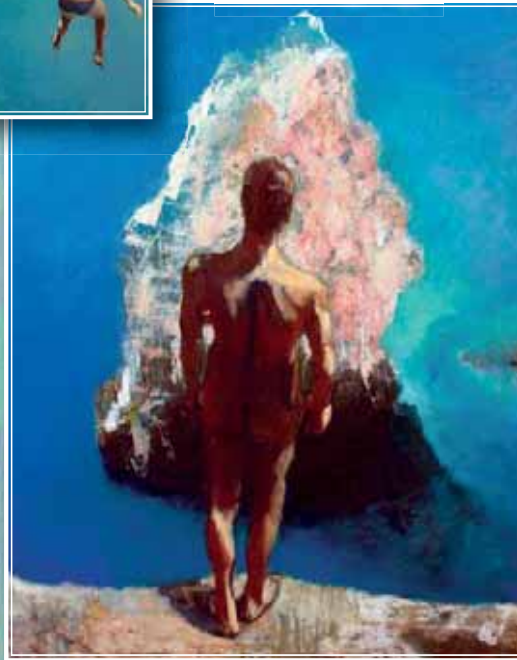
The dive. Nicholas Stedman. XXI century. Italy



Diver. Nicholas Stedman. XXI century. Italy



Swallow Dive. Mary Catherine Solberg



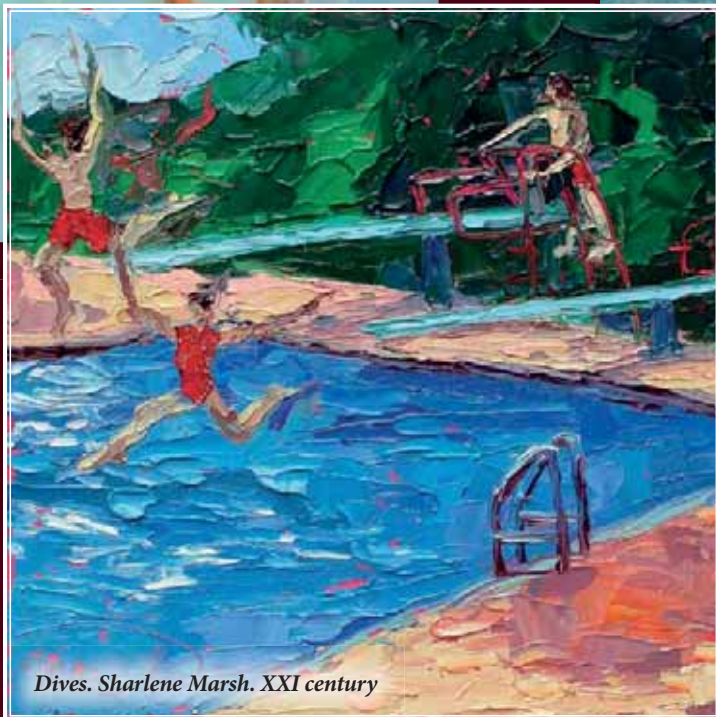
Dive. Samantha French



Dive. Sarah Robert. XXI century. Austria



Tethys. Elizabeth Lennie. 2019. Canada



Dives. Sharlene Marsh. XXI century



Princess Diana on a springboard. Laura Collins. XXI century. USA