

	<b>Object:</b> Decoration of Bridle
	<b>Museum:</b> Національний музей історії України вулиця Володимирська, 2 01001 Київ +380442784864 history_museum@nmiu.org
	<b>Collection:</b> Скарбниця НМІУ, Пам'ятки ювелірного мистецтва доби бронзи та раннього заліза
	<b>Inventory number:</b> АЗС-3755/2

## Description

Cheek piece is a decoration of a horse's bridle, which depicts the so-called "Thracian hero" – a rider and a lion under the horse's legs. Different variations of this image are quite common on the reliefs of the Hellenistic and Roman periods in the Balkans – mainly in Thrace, Macedonia, Thessaly and Moesia – from about the 4th century BCE, but the cult reached its most widespread in the 2nd and 3rd centuries CE. He is often mentioned with the epithets *sōtēr* ("savior") and *iatros* ("healer"). Little is known about the cult itself, which was most likely a combination of Greek and Thracian beliefs. In its heyday, it was associated with the idea of life after death and healing. In the first half of the 4th century CE, the cult of the Thracian horseman was transformed into the veneration of St. George, and the iconography characteristic of him continued to be used for the Serpent Killer.

14 burials of horses that accompanied the Scythian rulers to the underworld were discovered in the Ohuz mound. The wife or daughter of the Scythian ruler was buried in the northern grave of the barrow, so the finds were dominated by small gold ornaments and plate-appliques of clothing – about 6,000 items in total. At the entrance there are the skeletons of three horses in silver bridles of the "Thracian type". Similar products became widely distributed in the Northern Black Sea region in the 4th century BCE thanks to connections with Thrace.

## Basic data

Material/Technique: Silver, forging, embossing, chasing  
Measurements: h 130 , w 83 mm

## Events

Created	When	4. century BC
	Who	
	Where	Thrace
Found	When	1980
	Who	Болтрик Юрій Вікторович (нар
	Where	Nyzhni Sirohozy
Buried	When	330-310 BC
	Who	
	Where	Курган Огуз поблизу смт. Нижні Сірогози, Херсонська область
[Relation to person or institution]	When	
	Who	Таврійська експедиція ІА АН УРСР
	Where	

## Keywords

- Доба раннього заліза
- Скіфи
- скіфська доба
- скіфська культура

## Literature

- Болтрик Ю.В. (1980-81/22): Отчет о раскопках кургана Огуз. Науковий архів ІАНАНУ за 1980 р.
- Болтрик, Ю. В., Фиалко, Е. Е. (2016): История исследования кургана Огуз.. Старожитності степового Причорномор'я і Криму, XIX
- Болтрик, Ю., Фіалко, О (2005): Кінь як складова поховальної церемонії скіфів.. Старожитності степового Причорномор'я і Криму, XII
- Фиалко Е.Е. (1994): Погребальный комплекс кургана Огуз. Древности Скифов.- Київ