

## "Tour of Gerdany Regions of Ukraine"



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of Ukraine

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Visual presentation was launched at Ukrainian Museum-Archives, OH – Aug 12, 2011

### About the presentation:

"Gerdany" is a generic term for neck adornments of beadwork-Ukrainian style. Gerdany-making flourished in Western Ukraine from the 18th century thanks to the mechanization process of fine seed beads and their accessibility. Craftspeople strove to further adorn their costumes by creating beadwork styles with local patterns and ornamentation. For geometric designs, they primarily used multi-needle weaving to create netted or right angle woven (R.A.W.) bands, medallions and collars. Loomwork was ideal to recreate charted geometric and floral embroidery patterns. Many beadwork names were derived from the style, i.e. ("komirets"), technique ("sylvianka") or motif ("rozetkovyj") of the beadwork. The long style medallion style was the original "gerdan". Now most seed beadwork is affectionately called "gerdany".

Beadwork was an integral part of the costume in the Carpathians and Western part of Ukraine and believed to protect the wearer. "Gerdany" were worn alone or combined with strings of coral ('korali'), pearls, Venetian beads, "zgardy" metal crosses, "dukaty" coins. They adorned the necks of all classes during holidays, festive occasions and occasionally were worn everyday. "Sylvianky" were also worn as headbands, used as components of head dresses and trim around men's hats.

Come tour the regions where "gerdany" ruled until the mid 20th century. We'll visit the Hutsuls, Boykos, Lemkos, and regions of Pokuttia, Opillia, Bukovyna and more.

### Presentations:

- Ukrainian Museum-Archives, Cleveland, OH – Aug 2011
- Educational Center of Prykarpattia, Ivano-Frankivsk, Ukraine – Aug 2011
- National Museum of Hutsulshyna & Pokuttia, Kolomyia, Ukraine – Aug 2011
- UCWLC, Toronto Eparchial XXVIII Convention, Toronto, ON – Oct 2011

### Speaker:

Maria Rypan is a worldwide respected bead artist, researcher and recognized expert on "gerdany", Ukrainian-style of beading. Her work is featured in many beadwork publications. Since 1995 Maria teaches, produces a kit line and lectures on beading and global folk arts. <http://www.rypandesigns.com>, <http://rypandesigns.blogspot.com>