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Summary

The PhD thesis titled “*The Royal Attributes in the Depictions of Alexander the Great. An Iconographic-archaeological study*” examines iconography of artefacts which are considered as the depictions of Alexander the Great. The study covers the reign of Alexander and the years of the Successors (336-281 a.C.).

The author’s aim is to define and describe the royal attributes of Alexander the Great. The analysis is based on written, archaeological, iconographic and numismatic sources. The study attempts to determine the function of the royal attributes featured in the representations of Alexander III, the way his person was perceived due to the addition of those attributes and the reactions elicited by his depictions. After presenting the introductory information, which is done in Chapter I, in Chapter II the author turns to describing the sources analysed in the thesis. Chapter III deals with the usage of royal attributes in Macedonia in the light of archaeological evidence. Chapter IV is devoted to the analysis of the royal attributes of Alexander which include the decorations of the head, elements of royal dress and armour, and also divine attributes. The final Chapter V contains conclusions from the research on determining the motivation for using the specific royal attributes in the representations of Alexander III. They indicate the diversity of the iconography connected with this monarch. The originality and innovation of his depictions undoubtedly come from this multiplicity of applied iconographic elements. Moreover, the mortal king was equipped with divine attributes for the first time.

The employment of such a great number of royal attributes in the depictions of the king had never occurred in the Greco-Macedonian world before. Furthermore, those attributes carried political messages through expressing the monarchical concept created by Alexander the Great for his new empire.