



T-72AV w Sarab-1
"Syria 2016"
Modelcollect
1/72

SERGEY GOLIKOV

AK. Sergey, your 1/72 armor models can easily beat 1/35 ones in detailing and weathering. How did you choose the Braille AFVs instead of more common 1/35th scale or 1/72 aviation?

In the early 90s I build aviation models. It was interesting period and experience. But when I saw a 1/72 tank model in a shop, I fell in love with it. In 1999 I felt that I found what really interests and drives me. Now, 20 years later I can say that back then I made the right choice to realize my creative potential.

AK. You build models of all eras: WW2 & modern. How do you choose your next subject, what drives you: the tank itself, models available, camo scheme, anything else?

It was not always the case. In the beginning I liked only WW2 tanks. Then my area of interest expanded and today I build WW2 and Middle Eastern conflicts vehicles. Different factors affect the choice of the next subject. It can be a new model, an interesting photo or other reasons. The main goal is to make my model distinct from others.

AK. What is more important for you: scratch-building small details or painting and weathering? Can one build a 1/72 OOTB and still get a descent level of detail?

Each modeler has own view of the limits of detailing, painting and weathering. For me



the important thing is the balance between good detailing and using effectively looking artistic techniques. I try to avoid overdoing any of them. When you see a finished model, you can always understand whether it was built with enthusiasm and knowledge or it's just one more item in a collection. Theoretically you can build an OOTB 1/72 model to look like a bigger scale. In practice, however, even the most perfect models need additional detailing.

AK. Which specific tools and techniques do you use for building and finishing your 1/72 models to look as 1/35? What are your know-how, tools and paints of choice?

Last year my book describing tools, painting and weathering techniques was published. Good tools have always been an important part of a good quality work. For building models I use Japanese tools because of

their high quality. They are the same that modelers use for the 1/35 scale. I also use several scratch-build chisels. For painting and weathering I use Spanish acrylics and effects. Focusing on the details, I reach the better result, as in 1/35. This is the secret.

AK. In recent years more high quality 1/72 models appear on the market and the topic becomes more popular among modelers. What do you think about that?

There have been waves of interest to the 1/72 scale. Today the main waves of popularity come from China. Each month new models are released and technologies are constantly improving. 10 years ago nobody could imagine such a variety and quantity of models. I think it will continue this way. It is great for the popularization of the 1/72 scale!

AK. If a modeler builds a 1/72 tank after years of building 1/35, what will be the main challenges to overcome and tricks to learn?

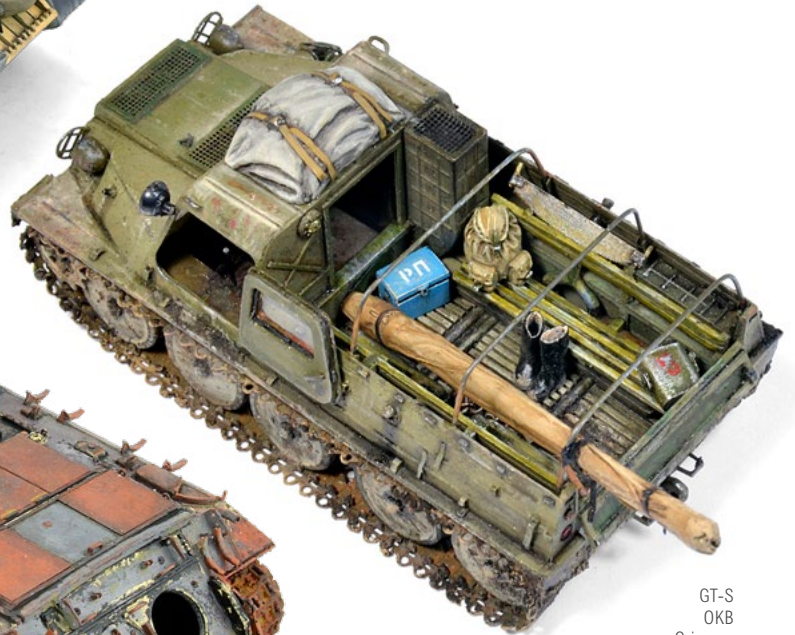
The main issue is feeling the scale and understanding that the subject is 72 times smaller than the real thing. Imagine you are a bus driver that now drives a small taxi car. Here you need some time and practice to get used to the smaller thing. I tried building 1/35 models several times. I always thought that the thing is too big and I don't feel it good enough. Eventually I entirely switched to the 1/72.



JS-2
"Berlin 1945"
Italeri
1/72



Challenger II
"OIF"
Trumpeter
1/72



GT-S
OKB
Grigorov
1/72



JS-3
"Rust"
Trumpeter
1/72



M-36B2
"Yugoslavian Civil War"
UM
1/72



Tiger I
"Kursk 1943"
Zvezda
1/72



T-34/85
"Suvorov"
Dragon
1/72



Stug.E-100
"Panzerwaffe 1946"
Modelcollect
1/72



Serbian T-55
Trumpeter
1/72



M4a4 Sherman
"Balaclava"
Dragon
1/72



M-551 Sheridan
"Vietnam War"
S-Modell
1/72



BTR-152
"IDF"
ICM
1/72



M-1070HET
"OIF"
Balaton Model
1/72



Sd.Kfz.7/1
Revell
1/72



AC-8,5-255B
"Chechen War 2001"
Ogurets Project
1/72