



11th National Exhibition of the Polish Miniature Textiles

An exhibition associated with the “15 International Triennial of Tapestry, Łódź 2016”

Exhibition opening: May 9, 2016, at 15:00
Venue: Central Museum of Textiles,
ul. Piotrkowska 282, Łódź, Poland

As Zsuzsa Senes once said – textile miniature is a special kind of mail art in textile genre; it easily crosses borders of countries and continents, it is not troublesome when transported and it does not generate high shipping or exhibition costs, and so it is democratic in a specific sense. It enables at least a prefatory presentation of artistic activity - it gives brief information about the artist's explorations, solutions and achievements. And therefore, without a doubt, it is a convenient tool of communication in the world of the textile medium. [...]

“In the opinion of the artists their works sometimes are sketches for large format creations (although at times the process is reversed and the large format encourages some artist to explore possibilities of the miniature size). However, first and foremost miniature works are to them a separate artistic issue, characterized by a set of its own rules. What the artists value most in the small form is its concision and discipline of expression, the necessity to concentrate on what is important and on the appropriate balance between the idea and means of expression, the right combination of harmony and dynamics. In miniature works every detail is extremely significant and so is the intensity of the applied colours since their scale is a challenge for good composition and technical precision.

Despite the limitations imposed by their size, miniature textiles give enormous possibilities of expression. The spectrum of expressed ideas includes the surrounding world (especially the world of nature) with its unrestricted changeability and ‘unaffected perfection of nature’. The human being and interpersonal relations also become the centre of interest in some works, and, despite the intimate character of the small form, so do ‘great stories’ which take place in the passing time with its patina and destructive qualities. In the concise form artists search for universal elements, those real and those spiritual, the ones described in an objective, scientific manner and the ones expressed in a clearly poetical way.

For artists they are a ‘momentary flash’, a note on a concept ‘carried in one’s mind’, an idea for creating an ‘independent entity’ by hand and they give a possibility to quickly test an artistic thought. As they undoubtedly allow one to conduct technical experiments, give one freedom to improvise, explore the textile media in detail and confront them with other materials, they become a prelude to searching for a new quality and new contexts.

Intended for close viewing, these amusing, provocative, illuminating, impressive forms whose contents is presented ‘in a nutshell’ are great thanks to the greatness of their message – despite their small form”.

Małgorzata Wróblewska Markiewicz

National Exhibition of Miniature Textiles made a debut in Lodz in 1985. From the beginning, it was an overview of the widest range within this field. It has been held in the Central Museum of Textiles in Lodz since 1998 together with launching of the Protexstil Foundation. Since 2004 it has been organized by the Department of Textile Art of the Museum.

This year’s 11th National Exhibition of Miniature Textiles presents minitextiles and miniobjects created by 101 artists, selected in January by the nationwide Jury. The jury awarded nominations for the best work and selected the winner of the 11th contest exhibition.

The names of the nominees and, above all, the winner will be announced on the opening day - May 9th, 2016. The winner work as well as the other 150 works will be on display till the end of the summer holiday. The closing is scheduled for August 28, 2016.

Curator of the exhibition: Małgorzata Wróblewska Markiewicz

The exhibition was financially supported by the City of Lodz.

<http://muzeumwlokiennictwa.pl>