



13th National Exhibition of the Polish Tapestry, Łódź 2016

*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

The National Exhibition of Polish Tapestry is the oldest of the exhibitions associated with the International Triennial of Tapestry. Since 1978, every three years, it has been presenting the latest achievements of Polish authors of fibre art. At this year's 13th edition 75 compositions accepted by the nationwide Jury, including works made by 14 artists nominated for the best work will be presented.

"For almost all, fascination with the textile medium is the result of the wide variety of materials, techniques, weaves, textures, patterns and colours it has to offer – in other words the limitless technical options which give a possibility to cross the borders and the 'limits' of traditional techniques, to combine with ease different branches of visual arts and to create a certain bridge between various artistic disciplines.

In actual fact, the soft medium truly is exceptional. It exists in a linear arrangement (thread, fiber), on a plane (fabric), and in a three-dimensional form. Without a doubt it encourages experimentation, discovery and it constantly generates new artistic solutions. 'It provokes curiosity, stimulates imagination and helps to find meaning but it requires vigilance, the skills of a sculptor and an architect, a painter's eye, and the responsiveness of an interior designer. It appeals to many senses, which is sometimes unattainable for other means of expression. Thus the so-called 'potential of textile art' seems limitless; as one of the richest media, it offers a wide spectrum, from painting to sculpture.

The textile medium also has the precious quality of tremendous 'closeness', as it is linked with our direct surroundings and in an exceptional manner with people and their bodies. It is an integral part of important rituals, where it plays significant and constant roles, thanks to which it gives one a feeling of lasting and continuity. Moreover it is a convincing, universal language which encourages the search for a new order and new perspectives. It is an expression of an appetite for reliable craft and principles.

What is also worth noting is the voice of the youngest artists for whom the 'Polish school of textile art' is only a part of history. They are the ones who draw attention to the fact that the textile medium is the one least susceptible to ideological influences (...).

They think that the inherent aspects of textile: that it is deeply rooted in tradition and its universality, create a possibility of capturing the most important thing which gives everything meaning and which links us with the sacrum. They see the value of referring to the past as a challenge for the future, where 'the new' is successfully combined with 'the old' as in the multistage, arduous work with embroidery or lace, in which one can find the meaning of textile art, the meaning of creative work and the feeling of communing with real art".

Małgorzata Wróblewska Markiewicz

The newest textile material works will be presented at the 13th National Exhibition of the Polish Tapestry. The cyclic exhibition, launched in Lodz in 1978, has been already organized by the Central Museum of Textiles for the fifth time. From May 9th to October 9th, 2016, 75 works selected in the competition will be on display, while on the opening day the winner of the award for the best work of the 13th edition of the exhibition will be announced.

Curator of the exhibition: Małgorzata Wróblewska Markiewicz

The exhibition catalogue presenting the recent Polish researches and solutions within the field of fiber art will be available. The catalogue will include a presentation of each participant of the exhibition and a documentation of his/her artistic activities, including the views of artists on textile medium and its role in the description of the present.

The exhibition catalogue was financially supported by the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage as well as the City of Lodz.