



„Rituals” – sharing Christmas wafer – sharing peace

Foto SHUTTERSTOCK

Sharing Christmas wafer is one of the most beautiful Polish traditions. Adam Mickiewicz Institute prepared exhibition „Rituals” presenting this tradition as well as Christmas wafers of different kinds.

This holiday season we take exotic and artistic trip to Expo 2020 in Dubai. It is first time that this exhibition (postponed due to Covid-19) is held in Arabian country.

It took two years, several conservators and almost 100 people in Adam Mickiewicz Institute to prepare four exhibitions repre-

sending cultural wealth and diversity of Polish culture and creativity of its artists.

The exhibition we would like to present to you is named „Rituals”. It shows Polish Christmas traditions, including Christmas wafer, which represents universal symbolism of breaking bread.

It is a gesture of peace, love and belonging to one community that is common for every culture and religion.

Christmas wafer shared on Christmas Eve in Poland is very

thin kind of bread produced with flour and water. It was mostly produced in Christian convents, but with time it became secular custom and wafers were baked at each household. They were even used as colorful ornaments.

Let us explore the main feature of „Rituals” exhibition – five modern interpretations of Christmas wafer, prepared by Polish designers: Beata Śliwińska, Kamila Niedzwiedzka, Nikodem Szpunar, Jakub Jezierski, Malwina Konopacka, Wiktor Lenart.

Exhibition is designed by Grynasz Studio and it is produced in partnership of National Ethnographic Museum in Warsaw. You can visit the exhibiton until 28th of December.

Adam Mickiewicz Institute is a national institution that aims to create interest in Polish culture worldwide. Institute collaborates with foreign partners and initiates

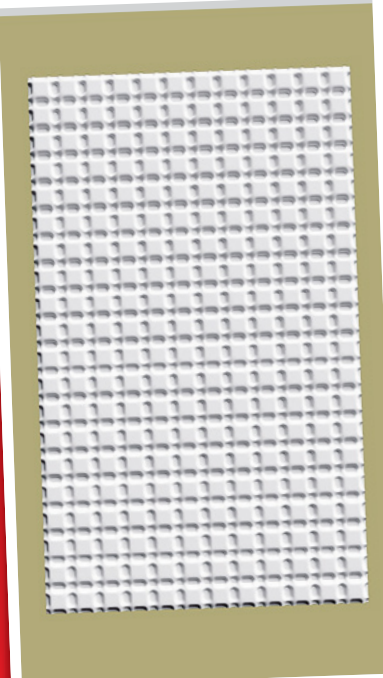
international cultural relations according to Polish foreign policy. The Institute arranged cultural projects in 70 countries on 6 continents, such as United Kingdom, France, Russia, Israel, Germany, Turkey, USA, Canada, Australia, Maroco, Ukraine, Lithuania, Latvia, China, Japan and Korea. It presented 38 strategic programmes that attracted 60 million visitors. Adam Mickiewicz Institute was created by the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage.

PEACE
Open hands
Symbolic white dove created with folded human hands – represents kindness and open heart. Everyone needs peace.
Project by: Barrakuz/ Beata Śliwińska



KINDNESS
You are good enough
Our loved ones accept and love as for who we are. Let us feel good enough at Christmas Eve.
Project: Pionty/ Jakub Jezierski

LOVE
To share equal amount of love
Traditional wafer breaks unevenly. Thanks to special punctures we can break the wafer in small and even pieces to share it with maximum amount of people.
Project: Kamila Niedzwiedzka and Nikodem Szpunar / Studio Szpunar



HAPPINESS AND HARMONY
Oval unity
Circular form represents simplicity, harmony and peace. Hole in the middle represents here and now. Let us focus on current moment and look in one direction.
Project: Wiktor Lenart

ENVIRONMENT CARE
Let's share life
Wafer is irregularly shaped, reminds us of graftwood that we can plant. It symbolises the importance of ecology as well as energy of circle of life.
Project: Malwina Konopacka

