

# Fibremen

Historically women and the textile media have always been closely linked. Even in the words, which are used to describe the art works done by women we feel preferential role of women. Delicate, tiny, small... Can men make tiny, delicate art works? Frequently the word - simple - is used in description of art works done by women. Simple sample, simple pattern... Simple for whom? Can be this pattern simple for men?

Such womenlike terminology devalues the works done by women and diminishes the real status of any textile work.

The role of men in Ukraine is not traditionally connected with textile media, like in most countries of the world. But there are still men in textile art world, who have made outstanding success. The amount of men in textile art is strong enough everywhere in the world. But it is undeniable that the majority of textile artists are still women.

With this exhibition I would like to give more exhibition space and to support male textile artists. This exhibition will be for those of them, who continue to pursue their work and have success in the art world.

There is still in the world wave of women textile exhibitions. But today it is more and more common to see men expressing their experience of being male in this world through their textile art works. They weave, sew, embroider, make quilts, and make innovative fabrics. They work in fashion and textile industries. Lots of them are curators, lecturers of prestigious universities. This list of men's achievements in the sphere of textile is unlimited.

William Pollack in his book "Real Boys" wrote: "Society is judging the behaviour of boys against outmoded ideas about masculinity. By placing a boy in this gender straight jacket, society is limiting his emotional range." As a project founder I don't want in any way to limit men in their emotional range and in creativity. So no limits as for textile techniques and textile materials.

I hope to see in Ivano-Frankivsk art works of textile artists, who dedicated their life and their biggest love to Textile.

Ludmila Egorova