

**FLOWERS FROM THE DEPTHS OF THE EARTH
- PERMANENT EXHIBITION**

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ABSTRACT

"Mine flowers" are identified as samples collected from underground galleries or openings of some quarries consisting of one or more minerals that make up a special piece due to the aesthetic qualities, shape, color, dimensions or varieties of the component crystals. The first people who came into contact with these beauties were miners, and to differentiate them from common minerals, they called them "mine flowers".

Key words: minerals, exhibition, museum

Introduction

Formed from the Precambrian or Postcambrian, the "mine flowers" are expressions of the metallogenetic unit in the area of the Banat and Apuseni mountains, where the most important volcanic manifestation on the territory of Europe took place.

These wonderful "mine flowers" are formed only after the volcanoes cease their activity, when the emanating gases continue to rise from the depths. The hydrothermal solutions originating from the magna in the form of gaseous emanations, later condensed, depositing metalliferous minerals in the voids through which they circulate, crystallizing, giving them special aesthetic qualities.

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Material and methods

The realization of the exhibition involved a series of specific activities, which took place during 2012:

- Proposal/technical drafting of the thematic project;
- Realization of the technical project;
- the purchase of materials necessary for the realization of the exhibition
- Making the stands where the minerals were exhibited;

- Creation of auxiliary and complementary exhibits: panels, labels, molds, interactive applications, etc.;
- Setting up the exhibition according to the technical project;
- Creation of cultural marketing materials (leaflets, banners, invitations);
- Preparation of the exhibition file.

Results and discussions

The exhibition brings before the visiting public, numerous varieties of "mine flowers" minerals of great aesthetic and scientific value from the heritage of the Natural Sciences Museum Complex "Ion Borcea".

The first people who came into contact with these beauties were miners, and to differentiate them from common minerals, they called them "mine flowers". In the gaps left inside the veins, called geodes, there were particular conditions (of pressure and temperature) for the formation and development of minerals, being a surprise of nature because the geodes in which they are formed cannot be prospected. Many of these minerals, due to their rarity, perfection, size, paragenesis, rise to the value of cultural heritage.

Legends talk about the use of crystals to store and regenerate physical and psychic energy. So, mine flowers occupy an important place in alternative medicine. These "jewels of darkness" (agat, amethyst, quartz crystal, etc.) have therapeutic importance on the human body.

Mine flowers also have a special aesthetic and scientific value. The aesthetic aspect is given by the way of crystallization, depending on the structure of the minerals and the conditions of formation.

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minerals such as: volcanic tuff, salt, agate, quartz and pyrite. The large piece represents a fragment of volcanic tuff that was formed by successive deposits of volcanic ash.

The salt sample comes from the Târgu Ocna salt pan. This lump of salt is supposed to have formed 23 million years ago.

Agate is one of the oldest semi-precious stones, used since ancient times to create amulets, talismans and other jewelry.

Quartz is the most abundant and widespread mineral found on the Earth's surface, being distributed in all parts of the world. It forms at all temperatures. It is found in igneous, metamorphic and sedimentary rocks. It is highly resistant to both mechanical and chemical weathering.

The last exhibit is represented by pyrite. The name of the pyrite crystal is derived from the Greek term "pyrites" meaning "of fire" or "on fire". Through the prism of its properties, pyrite is also called the stone that attracts well-being. Moreover, due to its golden glow, pyrite is also known as "fool's gold".

Conclusions

The exhibition "Flowers from the depths of the Earth" brings before the visiting public varieties of minerals of great aesthetic and scientific value from the heritage of the "Ion Borcea" Museum Complex of Natural Sciences, thereby making use of the geological collection of our museum.

Rezumat

Expoziția aduce în fața publicului vizitator numeroase varietăți de „flori de mină”, minerale de mare valoare estetică și științifică, din patrimoniul Complexului Muzeal de Științe ale Naturii „Ion Borcea”.

Expoziția oferă informații despre modul de formare și originea mineralelor, despre principalele forme pe care le au mineralele în natură și simetria acestora, despre proprietățile fizice și clasificarea lor. Ultima parte a expoziției aduce informații despre minerale și semnificația lor.

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