

Brilliant Art from Estado de México exposed in the Mexican Pavilion

Mexican Pavilion
Art exposition from July 1 to 15

Mexico State is one of 32 federal entities that comprise Mexico. Named after the nation itself and after the national capital it is located in a central area of the country. For 2 weeks, several potters and textile artisans will make some unique pieces for the public in the Mexican pavilion.

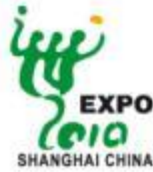
Embroider

These embroiders, which originate in the Mazahua culture, have pre-Hispanic motifs. They are handmade in loin or double needle.

Textile artists produce blankets, belts, folders and many other personal and decorative articles. Normally, artisans use three types of materials: wool, cotton and linen. Generally, wool is painted with plants, roots or animals. The colors are usually navy blue, sky blue, black, wine red, ocher and green.

The designs are often composed of different patterns with various meanings. For example, the fleshy deer, which means strength and freedom; the wild deer, freedom; the Mazahua flower, fertility; the corncob, fertility and abundance; the





rooster, authority; the dog, happiness and youth; the rabbit, beauty, and the star, the universe.

Artisan Carlos Delgado told us that "there are very similar elements between Mexico and China. For Mazahuas it is important to get to know the Chinese culture in order to exchange our cultural and artistic heritages."

Tree of Life from Metepec

This craft also originates in the Mazahua culture. Typically, these crafts are made from three main materials: black clay, red clay and sandy mud. These clays come from hard stones to be grinded into a powder, mixed with water and a flower. Then, the resulting mass is smoothed using a wooden tool called 'ocote'. Then the piece is baked at a temperature of 800 degrees.

The common designs are inspired in natural elements such as plants, flowers and animals, especially butterflies. According to the artisan Hilario Sánchez, "it is a type of butterfly which comes from Canada to Mexico for reproducing." This is a traditional element of Mexican culture.

The pieces of clay and hand-embroidered shawls will be presented in the pavilion and will be sold in the pavilion's store.

