



May I Give This Ukrainian Bread to All People in This Big Wide World by Maria Prymachenko

Resources:

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Maria Prymachenko

1908-1997

Marie Prymachenko was a self-taught Ukrainian folk artist who worked in a naïve art style. Her media included drawing, painting, embroidery, and ceramic, and her topic drew from local mythology, folklore, and her own dreams.

Prymachenko's works have been widely exhibited and featured on stamps and coins in Ukraine. After viewing her work, Pablo Picasso declared, "I bow down before the artistic miracle of this brilliant Ukrainian."

Most recently many of her works, considered national treasures, were believed to be destroyed in a fire during the invasion of Russian forces in Ukraine. The Maria Prymachenko Family Foundation reports all of the museum's Prymachenko paintings were heroically rescued by a local resident.

Questions:

1. Why do you think someone would risk their lives to save pieces of art?
2. Prymachenko suffered from polio as a child and gained empathy for the suffering of others. How is this expressed in her work on the left?