

6.

In her notes from 1911–1913, she described the custom of Walking with Death, which took place the day before Easter Sunday. On that day, a girl dressed in white to represent Death would walk through the village with a procession of children. She would look inside houses while the children collected donations in the form of eggs or small change.

7.

Well-versed in the local terrain, she recommended Piekieniok in Orava to Bronisław Piłsudski for his exploratory research. She wrote to him: *I have never seen a village so beautifully situated, with so many lovely, stylish houses, as Piekieniok in Orava, near Czarny Dunajec, on the border between Austria and Hungary; just a few hundred paces away is Załuczne, already in Poland.*

8.

Between 1902 and 1914, her systematic work in the Podhale, Orava and Spisz regions enabled her to collect nearly 400 items: elements of regional costume, painted glass, ceramics, metal crosses, door locks, buttons, jewellery, buckles, hooks, as well as wooden spoons, small barrels, cheese moulds, sculptures, and even clamps for clogs and a queen bee cage.

9.

Bronisław Piłsudski recognised Bronisława Giżycka's dedication and hard work. In letters to Stanisław Witkiewicz, he wrote *about her passion for tracking down and buying extremely valuable and beautiful items*. He subsequently purchased nearly 50 items from her for the Tatra Museum's collection. These included paintings on glass, spoons, ceramic jugs, wooden sculptures, vessels and an interesting collection of jewellery, including rings and decorations for a horse head collar and a highlander hat.

10.

As the First World War approached, Bronisława Giżycka left to join her daughter in France. However, before doing so, she entrusted her collection to trusted individuals in Zakopane. Thanks to this, the collection survived those difficult times unscathed and was not destroyed.

11.

She returned to Zakopane in poor health, having lost all her wealth which had remained on the eastern border of Poland. In January 1921, she decided to sell the collection. Juliusz Zborowski, president of the Tatra Museum Society, tried to buy it, but he lacked the necessary funds and so was unable to do so. Ultimately, the collection was purchased by the Municipal Industrial Museum in Kraków. She died six months later. She was buried in Zakopane.

12.

Bronisława Giżycka. Ethnography. Podhale, Orava, Spisz

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Special thanks to the management of the Ethnographic Museum in Kraków for making the photographs available free of charge



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