

Medium and Support ink, paper

Measurements 22,9 x 10,3 cm

Historical context

This cover of the brochure presenting the Ethiopian pavilion at Expo 67, the world's fair held in Montreal in 1967, highlights the country's history and religious heritage.

The title of the brochure already announces the importance of Lalibela. This is an isolated site in north-central Ethiopia where, in the 12th century, King Lalibela had a group of eleven churches carved out of the mountain rock. A replica of one of these churches, the Biete Ghiorgis (House of St. George), is one of the attractions of the Ethiopian pavilion at Expo 67. This high point of Ethiopian Christianity, the largest Christian site in Africa, has been a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 1978. The cover of the brochure features an Ethiopian processional cross. This religious object occupies a central place in Ethiopian Orthodox Christianity, and comes in several styles, all notable for their elaborate motifs.

Finally, in the top right-hand corner of the front cover appears a Judean lion, the royal insignia of the Ethiopian Empire. A lion holding the green, yellow and red flag of Ethiopia topped the roof of the Ethiopian pavilion at Expo 67.

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