

## **A Memento of Eliza Orzeszkowa's Botanical Passion in the Collection of the National Museum in Krakow**

### **Summary**

This paper is concerned with a dried flower arrangement done by a famous Polish novelist Eliza Orzeszkowa (1841–1910), which is evidence of her passion for botany. The work is one of a number of flower arrangements and herbaria – artistic albums made by Orzeszkowa as gifts for her friends, institutions and other well-known figures. Based on the herbaria and flower arrangements known from literature it can be said that Orzeszkowa devoted a lot of time and energy to making them and that she gained considerable expertise in preserving plants. The arrangement in the collection of the National Museum in Krakow is not a herbarium from a botanical point of view, but an artistic composition, which, however, does not diminish its aesthetic or scientific value.