



Embassy of the Czech Republic



Czech and Slovak films
will be presented during
the exhibition
(with English subtitles):

“TWO OF A KIND” EXHIBITION OF CZECH AND SLOVAK VISUAL AND GRAPHIC ARTISTS

The Embassies of the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic
in Athens in co-operation with CHEAPART, CAMP!

Part I, Wednesday 9 April - Wednesday 23 April 2014

Opening hours: Tuesday-Saturday 14:00–21:00

Part II, Saturday 26 April - Thursday 8 May 2014

Opening hours: Tuesday-Saturday 14:00–21:00

The exhibition and the screenings will take place at
CHEAPART.HALANDRI
(13, Stratachou Papagou Str. – Chalandri – 152 34 Athens)

Who wants to kill Jessie?
Czechoslovakia 1966, Director: Václav Vorlíček,
Black and White, 80’
Friday April 11, 2014

Love me or leave me
Slovakia 2012, Director: Mariana Čengel Solčanská, Colour, 95’
Wednesday April 23, 2014

Fimfárum
Czech Republic 2002, Directors: Vlasta Pospíšilová & Aurel Klimt,
Colour, 101’
Saturday May 3, 2014

She Kept Crying for the Moon
Czechoslovakia 1982, Director: Štefan Uher, Colour, 78’
Wednesday May 7, 2014

The screenings will begin at **20:00 hrs.**

J I Ř Í A N D E R L E

was born in 1936 in Pavlův, Czech Republic. He studied at the Academy of Fine Arts Prague. During his time as an assistant at the College of Applied Art in Prague (1960-1973), he inspired one of the most significant trends of Czech graphic art in the 1970s, often termed the "imaginative realism of Sklenář's school" (Z. Sklenář was the director of the studio). Anderle's original metaphor, based on consistent figuration, his capillary drawings seemingly penetrated by X-rays, primarily fascinated young artists, who saw in it the possibility of depicting both eternal and contemporary human themes in the evocative, allegorical portrayal of the Theatro Mundi.

Working in both painting and printmaking provided Jiří Anderle with the logical basis for his subsequent artistic development, which did not mean become enclosed within himself but opening himself up to impulses from outside. Anderle likes creating enclosed cycles out of his paintings, drawings and prints. The most recent of them *Apassionata humana*, was inspired by the Velvet Revolution and created the basis for the publication of the essay "A Word about the Word" by Václav Havel (which was written as the keynote speech at the German Booksellers Peace Award ceremony in 1989).

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M I K O L Á Š A X M A N N

was born in 1955 in Prostějov, Czech Republic, studied at the Academy of Fine Arts in Prague. His graphic art is marked by the need for continual experiment and craft precision. Out of the broad range of graphic art techniques, he has in the recent past focused his attention on lithography. At the moment, Axmann is the only artist who devotes himself to the technique of stone lithography, which contemporary Czech lithography has largely abandoned in favour of offset lithography because it can be a difficult and time-consuming process.

Axmann's black-and-white lithographs are one of the most significant contributions to contemporary graphic art. They are characterized by a particular sensitivity for the vegetative metamorphosis of a micro-macrocosm into a highly individual, almost surreally conceived metamorphosis of the continually self-renewing stream of natural changes, processes and biorhythms.

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J A R O S L A V K R Á L Í K

(1924, Rokytnice - 1999 Prague). He studied at the Academy of Fine Arts and the Academy of Arts, Architecture & Design in Prague. The permanent range of subjects of Králík's dry-points - pebbles, thread, shells, matches and old documents - are related to the mythology of childhood, but it also has a multiple significance of cultural symbols. They show an artist's relationship not only to Cubism and Surrealism, but to all art of metaphysical subject matter, especially that of Dutch art. He is the only person to use the technique of trompe d'oeil, emphasizing the bewitching optics of objects on a white background. The almost Platonic idealism of Králík's pictures grows up from his generation's ethos on the objective validity of art and its harmonising essence.

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K V Ě T A P A C O V S K Á

was born in 1928 in Prague. She studied at the Academy of Arts, Architecture & Design in Prague with Emil Filla. The cornerstone of her drawings, collages and book art became the symbiosis of word and image, with her basic means of expression being paper. The principle of "analogical" and sparsely-used children's cut-outs allowed the spacial development of other material - tin, wire and wood. The basic alphabet of her symbolism can be compared to a system of construction in which the individual elements preserve their independence and where collage and assemblage become a "natural" part of the logic of a child's imagination. Her approach to the book as an artistic whole with rational and emotional components is developed on the principle of constructivist typography, conceptual art and visual poetry. They are all the more remarkable for being designed to develop children's creativity and intellect.

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J I Ř Í Š A L A M O U N

was born in 1935 in Prague, studied at the Academy of Fine Arts Prague. He is a leading figure of the Czech school of animated film, illustration and applied graphic art, in particular poster design. He draws on his experience in these fields to make free prints, using his favourite technique of colour lithography. Šalamoun loves the epic dimension of a story and admires the element of fantasy in folk literature, especially its earthy humour, grotesque situations and feeling for fairy-tale adventure. He then combines in a highly individual manner the sarcastic view of an intellectual with the wise detachment of humorous commentary. Šalamoun is also a writer, poet and essayist, and the narrative character of his art explains the close links with letter signs, texts and calligraphy, which join together fresh dimensions of semantic connotations in his drawing.

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L U B O M Í R P Ř I B Y L

was born in 1937 in Prague. During the period 1963-1974 a strong trend of constructivism emerged in the Czech art scene. However, from the very beginning it contained currents which differed in their ideas, often departing from the strict conception of the trend as a whole towards freely formulated geometrical interpretations. The painter and graphic artist Lubomír Přibyl was one of those whose work from the middle of the 1960s developed in this direction, which nowadays is classified as the post-geometric trend. His strictly black-and-white prints feature a combination of the logarithmic spiral, the parabola, radials, diagonals and segments of them. With sharp contrasts between light and shade, these create a characteristic spatial plasticity of centripetal or eccentric lines of force. The sensual disruption of the rational concept by the unpredictable play between light and shade of photogravure techniques generates the disturbing and ever-changing energy of surface structures which appear almost like reliefs.

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V R A T I S L A V Š E V Č Í K

was born in 1953 in Prostějov, Czech Republic, studied Secondary Art School of Václav Hollar in Prague (1968 - 1972) and Academy of Fine Arts Prague, specialized studio of graphic art of Prof. Ladislav Čepelák (1972 - 1978). Since 1980, he has been teaching drawing and painting at the Czech Technical University, Faculty of Architecture in Prague, since 1995 as senior lecturer.

Ševčík has been creating oil and acryl paintings, lithography and other graphic techniques, digital prints, photography and graphic design. His works are full of expression searching for an optimal abstraction of human bodies in movement and a co-existence of internal and external spaces.

His works have been exhibited not only in the Czech Republic and Greece, but also in other European countries (e.g. Denmark, France, Belgium, Italy) and he is represented in collections such as the National Gallery of Prague, the Municipality of Prostějov, Frederikshavn Kunstmuseum in Denmark, Huis Hellems Gemeentelijk Kunstcentrum in Egedem, Belgium and others. Ševčík has been awarded numerous prizes: Academy of Fine Arts Studio Award, Prague 1978, Prize of Poldi Steelworks, Kladno 1978, Print of the Year Prague 2005, 2006, 2008 and 2009.

Since 2010, Vratislav Ševčík has been living in Athens.
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E V A V A S D E K I

was born to a Greek father and a Czech mother in Wiesbaden, Germany. She studied at the American College of Aghia Paraskevi in Athens and later on Archaeological Restoration Art at the Petra Institution. In 2002, she received a state scholarship to study at the School of Fine Arts in Florence, Italy. Between 2007 and 2009, she received again a scholarship to complete an artistic project at the Department of Etching in Athens. She has graduated with honours from the Athens School of Fine Arts and the Accademia di Belle Arti di Firenze in Italy.

She specializes in various etching techniques and has exhibited her printing works all over Greece and abroad. In 2008, she received an award at the Etching Biennale of Rokycany in the Czech Republic. Eva also works as a byzantine icon painter and has travelled to several countries to icon-paint churches.

Last but not least, she is an active member of several ecological organizations, has worked as a volunteer for the Greek child counselling organization "The Smile of a Child" and recently she became a certified First Aid Red Cross worker.

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J O A N N A V A S D E K I

was born to a Greek father and a Czech mother in Athens, Greece. She is a writer, curator, teacher and practitioner of photography. She has been teaching photography in Athens, Greece, since 2005, where she has also been active organizing, exhibitions, workshops and lectures. She participates in several of Europe's leading photography festivals as a portfolio reviewer, including Rencontres d' Arles and Rhubarb Rhubarb, among others.

Joanna has published a significant number of exclusive interviews with prominent Greek and foreign photographers and artists for local and international cultural magazines. She was also responsible for covering the arts in 'Photographos magazine' (formerly published with Kathimerini) and was a member of the editorial board of the European photographic magazine 'Imago'. Joanna is a practicing photographer having exhibited at various spaces in Athens.

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I G O R B E N C A

The graphic artist was born in 1958 in Topoľčany and studied at the Academy of Arts from 1981 to 1987 under prof. Albin Brunovsky. Since 1991 he has been a university professor at the Department of Visual Arts and Education at the Pedagogical Faculty of the University of Constantine the Philosopher in Nitra. In 2001 he was the dean at the Faculty of Visual Arts in the Academy of Arts in Banská Bystrica.

He works across different media: graphic print, painting, illustrations, stamp design and public art. He regularly participates in exhibitions in Slovakia and abroad. He focuses on figural sign in his works. His recent artworks can be linked to contemporary neo-abstract tendencies. He is a member of the Slovak Union of Visual Arts and the Association of Graphic Printmakers G – point. He has been awarded numerous national and foreign art prizes.

K A R O L F E L I X

was born in 1961 in Slovakia. In 1981-1987 he studied at the Academy of Fine Arts in Bratislava under prof. Albin Brunovsky. From 1990 until 2005 he was a visiting artist in Belgium, France, in the USA, UAE and in South Africa. In his art he focuses on creating of graphic work, paintings and drawings. His art expresses the world of intense human feelings, behind his paintings you can read human stories and the artist convinces us that the impossible becomes possible, and the invisible visible.

Karol Felix participated in about 50 individual and 100 collective exhibitions. He was awarded many times for creating post stamps design, free graphics and for book illustration (e.g. in 1993 - Main Prize at the International Competition „Woman in Ex libris“, Kiev (Ukraine), in 1994 - Medal for the Best collection at the XVth International Biennale Ex libris Malbork (Poland), in 1995 - 2nd Prize for printmaking at the 10th Annual International Exhibition of Miniature Art, Toronto (Canada), in 1996 - Prix Charbonnel "Ex libris XXI. siècle", Paris (France) and Award at the 9th Space International of Miniature Print Biennale in Seoul (Korea), in 2007- 1st place at the 6th China Best Foreign Stamp Annual Poll, in Beijing.

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R Ó B E R T J A N Č O V I Č

Distinguished graphic artist, painter, visual artist and sculptor was born in 1958, in Šaľa, in Slovakia. He studied at the Academy of Fine Arts in Bratislava under the famous prof. Albin Brunovsky.

Robert Jančovič has had several gallery and museum individual as well as collective exhibitions, e.g. in France, Germany, Japan, USA, Canada, Czech Republic, Belgium, Poland, Israel, etc.

J A N A P A L Á T O V Á

was born in Humenné, Slovakia. As early as during her secondary education she studied drawing and classical graphic techniques in the studio of the famous Slovak graphic artist Peter Kocák.

She specialized in graphic arts at the Charles University of Prague where she studied Fine Arts and English Philology. Her Masters dissertation was in graphic arts and art education. Grants she received for her performance included a scholarship at the University of Turku, Finland.

She taught art education in art schools in Prague and art therapy in Athens. In 2011, she turned to applied art studying handmade jewellery and jewellery design at the goldsmith college Mokume in Athens. She creates wearable limited edition jewellery with touches from classical graphic art and sculptural jewellery. With her work she has participated in several exhibitions in Slovakia, the Czech Republic and Greece.

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K A T A R Í N A V A Š Í Č K O V Á

was born in 1981 in Nitra, Slovakia. In 2002 she moved to Greece, where she has been living until today and developing her artistic skills by attending seminars of painting and co-operating with the well-known Russian painter Anna Golovinskaya. She participated in many collective exhibitions and arts festivals, such as the Fringe Festival in Athens and various UNESCO exhibitions. Her first individual exhibition took place in Athens in the Parnassos Literary Society in 2013. In September 2013 she participated at an exhibition that was organized by the Embassies of the Czech and Slovak Republic in Athens. She focuses on contemporary modern techniques such as pointillism and abstraction. Use of vivid colours is typical for her paintings. Her work is represented in many private collections and public places. She is an active UNESCO member and participates as a volunteer in art activities for children.

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V L A D I M Í R G A Ž O V I Č

The painter, printmaker and illustrator was born in 1939 in Slovakia. He studied in 1961 - 1967 in Bratislava at the Academy of Fine Arts, Department of graphic art and book illustrations under prof. Vincent Hložník. His work is based on the heritage of Symbolism, Art Nouveau, Expressionism, Surrealism and the latest artistic tendencies. Even during the study he tended to fantastic realism, but then he moved Slovak imaginative graphic art into new contexts. Plasticity became an important expressive element which he uses mainly for modeling the figures. Gažovič connects his usage of figure (notably female figure) with sarcasm and irony and this combination creates distinctive atmosphere of his works. He discloses hypocrisy, careerism and false chastity.

He has won many awards at international exhibitions. The author exhibited individually, as well as in collective exhibitions. His works are represented in the collections of prestigious cultural institutions and in private collections (for example in Amsterdam, Chicago, Hamburg, New York, Brussels, Krakow, Prague, Basel, Wisconsin, Vienna, Washington, Philadelphia, Tucson etc.).

D U Š A N K Á L L A Y

Dušan Kállay, born in 1948 in Bratislava, studied from 1966 to 1972 in Bratislava at the Academy of Fine Arts under prof. Vincent Hložník. He has long been considered to be a unique phenomenon on the Slovak, as well as on the international art scene. This is confirmed not only by the number of important prizes, but first by the extraordinary interest in his work, presented in different parts of the world. He is justly considered one of the most well-known and acknowledged Slovak artist abroad.

Dušan Kállay is also one of the artists that help to maintain the continuity of development of Slovak graphic arts and illustration. He also uses other techniques such as painting, drawing, posters, animated films, designing postage stamps, etc. He has illustrated over 200 books. Dušan Kállay's illustrations are represented by illustrations of Andersen's fairy tales, Tales from the thousand and one nights, and Anton Schneider. In 1981, the publishing house Mladé letá commissioned Kállay to illustrate Alice in Wonderland by Lewis Carroll. In his large-scale gouache illustrations he created a dreamlike magical world full of unexpected adventures, magical stories and distinctive atmosphere. It is not a coincidence that he received the Grand Prix BIB '83 for these illustrations and became the only Slovak illustrator to be awarded the Hans Christian Andersen Prize. The largest project in the history of Slovak children's book illustration began in 2001 when Dušan Kállay and his wife Kamila Štanclová were commissioned by Brio Prague and Grund Paris publishers to illustrate all 156 fairy tales by Hans Christian Andersen.

E L I Š K A T U R A N S K Á

was born in Slovakia. In 2000, she graduated from the Faculty of Architecture of the Slovak Technical University in Bratislava.

Whilst she was living in Athens, from 2003 until 2010, she was collaborating with several Greek architects, among others with the studio Ioannis & Alexis Vikelas associates & architects, where she was in charge of the editorial layout of the book Ioannis & Alexis Vikelas Projects and of the design of the exhibition which took place at the Benaki Museum in Athens, Greece (June 2010). She is the author of the chapter dedicated to the contemporary Greek architecture in the Encyklopaedia Beliana and has written several articles about Greek architecture for the magazine Project.

Since she left Greece (in 2011), she has been designing projects of ecological architecture and creating wooden and metal art installations, mostly for buildings planned by herself. Her works shown on this exhibition are samples of big scale wall paintings created with use of clay plaster.

K A T A R Í N A V A V R O V Á

was born on 1964 in Slovakia. In 1984-1990 she studied at the Academy of Fine Arts and Design in Bratislava under prof. Albin Brunovsky. She focuses on free graphic art, bookplates, painting and drawing. She uses classical painting techniques on paper, graphic and digital print. Her work is highly poetic, imaginative, dreamlike and very evocative. The themes have their roots in literature and arts, historical events and persons. One can see traces from biblical events and from the time of the great discoveries, but also something from the outer world as well as from the inner parts of the human soul. In her work the world of fantasy and dream melds with reality, and desire with experience.

She participated in many Slovak and international exhibitions as e.g. in Belgium, Turkey, USA, Czech Republic, Austria, Japan, Nederland, etc. She is a winner of many international awards such as: in 2008 – Special prize for graphic at the 1. International Biennale in Istanbul, Turkey; Honorary Award for Ex Libris at the 32. International Biennale competition in Beijing, China; Prize for the Nicest Book of Slovakia; in 2005 – Grand Prix – at the Tokio International Mini-Print Triennial, in Japan and in 2003 in Thailand – Grand Prix at the International Print and Drawing Exhibition.

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