

VLADIMÍR HAVLÍK / RUDOLF SIKORA SNOW STONE STAR TREE

12 May – 27 September 2020

Prague City Gallery

Colloredo-Mansfeld Palace

Karlova 2, Prague 1

Open daily except Monday from 10 am to 6 pm

Curator: Jakub Král

The joint exhibition of works by Rudolf Sikora and Vladimír Havlík takes a look at two paths by which one can arrive at the same worldview. While Sikora's objectivizational strategy explores the place of the individual in the cosmos, Vladimír Havlík, by comparison, looks at social relationships built on a foundation of non-spectacular gestures. Both artists explore man's relationship to nature and to each other, our responsibilities, our intimate relationship to the world and the universe, and the construction of utopian ideas in an attempt at defining how we think about the present day while looking to the promise of the future.

Introducing a famous television debate between two leading 20th-century philosophers, the host stated that both speakers were like mountain climbers scaling the same mountain, but from opposite sides. Although the two exhibiting artists come from different generations and different intellectual backgrounds, they have one thing in common, and that is their identification of the mutuality of our shared experience and their shaping of the world through two strategies: Sikora's "large-scale" view from above, and Havlík's observation of minor shifts in our relationships.

In five thematic sections, the exhibition broadly constructs the human consciousness along an axis stretching from the macrocosm of the universe to the microcosm of nature. The first section looks at endurance as a universal constant in which the position of the individual is understood as a unique point in space. In the second section, we allow this point to become a part of society, after which we look at the same single point – which in the meantime has grown larger as we have drawn nearer – as an eternal value within a segment of the universe. And finally, we abstract this value into the form of a utopia forming the artificial horizon of our own consciousness.

Jakub Král

Exhibition Curator: Jakub Král

Architect: Matěj Smrkovský

Graphic Design: Kryštof Novák, David Šrot

Media Partners: Art&Antiques, A2, ArtMap, Artiki, Český rozhlas Vltava, ExpresFM, Flash Art, Literární noviny, protisedi.cz, Radio 1, XANTYPA

Admission: 60 CZK full admission (adults) / 30 CZK reduced admission (students, senior citizens)

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More information: www.ghmp.cz
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PLANNED ACCOMPANYING PROGRAM (dates will be updated on the website www.ghmp.cz)

Important notification: Due to the coronavirus crisis, the accompanying program schedule may be affected or changed. Please check our website www.ghmp.cz for updated information. The program may be subject to change.

Guided tours and performances

guided tours with exhibition curator Jakub Král

performance: Martin Zet, Vladimír Havlík – *The Fifty-Ninth*

guided tour with art theoretician and professor at Masaryk University in Brno Radek Horáček

performance: Barbora Klímová, Vladimír Havlík – *Nearby*

guided tour with art historian and expert on Slovak actionist art Ján Kralovič

performance: Zuzana Žabková

Saturday art workshops

Education Center, Colloredo-Mansfeld Palace

Stars and Constellations

Paths, Traces, Imprints

In our interactive tours and art workshops, we will respond to the art and artistic approaches of the two exhibited artists while also learning about the principles of conceptual and actionist art. We will look at topics such as the global world, visions of the future, utopias, hope, skepticism, and feelings of mutuality and responsibility. Important areas of interest include ecology, the environment, nature, the cosmos, energy, and mankind's connection with nature. We will work with a wide range of artistic technique (drawing, painting, collage, three-dimensional objects, site-specific installations, etc.), and will also be creating performances and reconstructing selected art actions. During the workshops, we compare the artists' approaches and use this comparison to try to identify parallels, similarities, and differences. Like Rudolf Sikora, we will, through a "view from above," respond visually and symbolically to aspects and attributes of contemporary life (environmental and global crises, materialism, consumerism). In making our art, we will work with Sikora's iconic stars, arrows, and crosses. Inspired by his *Constellation of the Hand*, we will explore the question of basic symbols and their visual representation. In response to the work of Vladimír Havlík, we will "observe minor shifts in interpersonal relationships". Using imprints, footprints, etc., we will artistically record the trajectories of human connections, forms of communication, and expressions of emotion. We will also attempt to create a work inspired by Havlík's *Black Hand Action*. Participants will create black hand prints that they can then take out of the gallery and install in a place of their choosing. If possible, we will try to document the outcome of our action. In this way, the workshop's participants become creators of their own personal actionist gestures.

Art workshops for adults and senior citizens

Education Center, Colloredo-Mansfeld Palace



Prague City Gallery is one of the most important galleries in the Czech Republic, which in its exhibition activity focuses in particular on modern and contemporary art. It collects, protects and professionally processes art collections of the City of Prague. Currently, the Prague City Gallery exhibits at seven venues: The Stone Bell House, Municipal Library – 2nd floor, Colloredo-Mansfeld Palace, The House of Photography, Villa Bilek, Troja Château and František Bilek's House in Chýnov.

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Gestures, Imprints and Collages I
Gestures, Imprints and Collages II
Gestures, Imprints and Collages III
Experimental Graphic Art I
Experimental Graphic Art II
Experimental Graphic Art III

Through our interactive workshops, we will familiarize ourselves with the work of both artists and look at the topics that they explored in their art: man's relationship to nature, interpersonal relations, personal responsibility, the global environmental crisis, the environment in general, and many other pressing social issues. We will use our own work as a means of communicating the current, complicated epidemiological situation. The first cycle of workshops will focus on mixed media: Participants will create their own reflections on the current situation using techniques such as collage, drawing, painting, and work with paper and marbling, inspired by the artisanal technique of stucco lustro, which was used to decorate the historic interiors of the Colloredo-Mansfeld Palace. In the workshops' second part, we will focus on unusual graphic techniques using simple, everyday items. We will also explore the monotype technique from the perspective of both painting and printmaking.

Interactive tours of the exhibition for all types of school and other age and interest groups with the possibility of practical follow-up creative work. We will make every effort to meet the specific requirements of every school in terms of date, theme and level of difficulty.

Reservation necessary

Fee: children up to 10, art-school students, teachers – CZK 5; 10 years old and above – CZK 20

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In addition to the activities referred to above, there will be other educational activities aimed at other target groups, such as disadvantaged visitors or parents with children on parental leave.



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