

MICHAELA VÉLOVÁ MAUPICOVÁ (1982–2018)

8 May – 25 August 2019

Prague City Gallery

Colloredo-Mansfeld Palace, 3rd floor

Karlova 2, Prague 1

Open daily except for Monday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Exhibition Curator: Petr Vaňous

In 2018, the career of the young artist Michaela Maupicová (born 1982) came to a premature end. Her art is characterized by her understanding and exploration of the dividing lines and interstices between different media and between various artistic disciplines and genres. The relationship between drawings on paper and three-dimensional objects became central to her approach, as did her sense for “project-based thinking,” which was later expressed primarily through geometric structure, space, the architecturalization of shapes, and her work with surfaces (texture).

At the Academy of Fine Arts in Prague, she studied both drawing and intermedia art. During her first phase at the Academy under professor Jitka Svobodová, Maupicová clarified her position within the medium of drawing – how to work with or exclude drawing’s constant tendency to assert its narrative character. She later switched to intermedia art primarily because she felt the need for a broader and more open space in which to reflect upon the creative process as such. This step reinforced the conceptual foundation of her work, which also influenced how she approached drawing.

Three themes are central to understanding the surviving work of Michaela Maupicová as a whole, meaning her drawings, paintings, object art, and video works. The first is structure as a grid that is placed over ephemeral spaces and things. It is a substitute element for a methodological understanding of objects and their transformations while at the same time adjusting this approach through comparisons to organic processes and the transformation of human consciousness over time. Thus Maupicová’s proclaimed relationship to geometry and physicality, thus the parallels and analogies, thus her joining of the fundamentally contradictory temporal principles of moment and eternity.

The second theme is an awareness of how things appear – i.e., our relationship to phenomenological reality (her work with phenomena). In order to fully grasp this reality, Maupicová had to engage in a certain methodological reduction related to how she worked with geometry and with structure and its movement, and how her art is characterized by a certain constant number of elements that build and rebuild the world “anew.” Sometimes constructively, sometimes absurdly.

The third theme is the dramatization or, conversely, the calming of the visual layer as a form of its visual formatting. The surface of the image takes on a dynamic or static form depending on the nature of the event it is meant to reflect. This approach affects the potential viewer in the same way as music, poetry, and language do when they touch a nerve. The same element may evoke an inner tempest of a calm watery surface. All one has to do is rearrange the structure of elements, transform the construction of phenomena, and unify the two through formatting so that the image as a whole resonates in the right way at the right time – a quality that remains stored within the work for all eternity.

Petr Vaňous

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As part of the exhibition, Prague City Gallery is publishing an extensive monograph on the artist, with graphic design by Dragana Živanović Poláchová and texts by Magdalena Juříková, Petr Vaňous, Iva Mladičová, Terezie Zemánková, and Milan Perič.

Exhibition Curator: Petr Vaňous
Graphic Design: Dragana Živanović Poláchová

Media Partners: Art&Antiques, ArtMap, Artikl, Český rozhlas, Literární noviny, protisedi.cz, Radio 1, XANTYPA

Entrance Fee: CZK 60 full (adults) / CZK 30 reduced (students, senior citizens)

Press Contact Person: Michaela Vrchotová, +420 725 818 721, vrchotova@ghmp.cz
More Information: www.ghmp.cz, www.facebook.com/GHMP.cz

ACCOMPANYING PROGRAM

Guided tour of the exhibition with the curator Petr Vaňous
Wed 10 July 2019, 6 pm

Saturday Art Workshops

20 July 2019, 1–6 pm, *Order and Chance*, Education center at Colloredo-Mansfeld Palace
24 August 2019, 1–6 pm, *A-symmetry in the Ornament*, Education center at Colloredo-Mansfeld Palace

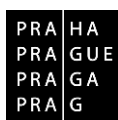
Art Workshops for Adults and Senior Citizens

Sun 14 July 2019, 3–6 pm, *Structures and Ornaments in the Painting I*, Education center at Colloredo-Mansfeld Palace
Fri 19 July 2019, 3–6 pm, *Structures and Ornaments in the Painting II*, Education center at Colloredo-Mansfeld Palace
Fri 26 July 2019, 3–6 pm, *Structures and Ornaments in the Painting III*, Education center at Colloredo-Mansfeld Palace

Interactive tours of the exhibition for all types of schools and other age and interest groups with the possibility of subsequent creative response in the form of their own work. We adapt the events in terms of time, theme and performance levels according to the specific requirements of each school. Reservation required

Price: Children under 10, students of art schools, teachers – CZK 5; children over 10 years – CZK 20
Contact Person: Lucie Haškovcová, lucie.haskovcova@ghmp.cz, 606 612 987, 608 216 418

In addition to the above-mentioned events, there will be other educational activities for other target groups, such as the disadvantaged visitors and parents on maternity and/or parental leave and their children.



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 in seven buildings: The Stone Bell House, Municipal Library – 2nd floor, Colloredo-Mansfeld Palace, The House of Photography, Villa Bílek, Troja Château and František Bílek's House in Chýnov.