

THINKING THROUGH THE IMAGE: THE VISUAL EVENTS OF MIROSLAV PETŘÍČEK

1. 10. 2023 – 28. 1. 2024

Prague City Gallery

Municipal Library, 2nd floor

Mariánské náměstí 1, Prague 1

Tue–Wed, Fri–Sun 10 am – 6 pm, Thu 10 am – 8 pm

Curator: Jitka Hlaváčková

Exhibition Concept: Jitka Hlaváčková, Miroslav Petříček, Kateřina Štenclová

“Images are names for what we cannot name.”
Miroslav Petříček

Philosopher Miroslav Petříček has written on visual art for several decades. He has summarized his observations in, among other things, the book *Thinking Through the Image: A Guide to Contemporary Philosophical Thought for the Non-Intermediate* (2009), which formed the impulse for this exhibition held by the Prague City Gallery in their exhibition venue in the Municipal Library of Prague. The exhibition *Thinking Through the Image* subtitled *The Visual Events of Miroslav Petříček* is a wide-reaching project, presenting artworks of more than 40 artists. It's also the outcome of a long-lasting interaction of curator Jitka Hlaváčková, philosopher Miroslav Petříček and artist Kateřina Štenclová. The exhibition *Thinking Through the Image* challenges the visitor to contemplate many things, including such fundamental concepts as what makes a painting. It also conveys a physical experience, facilitated by the architectural concept by Studio Richard Loskot.

The exhibition's form is to a great extent determined by the selection of works by artists about whom Petříček previously wrote in his texts. The main idea behind the exhibition was the presupposition that an encounter with an image is primarily a VISUAL EVENT. We seek to emphasize that the languages of words and of images are closely related but that their material is different: an image or expression cannot be simply translated into words or

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concepts. An image does not show; it causes something. It is more than an illustration, nor is it a mere visual mediator of an idea; it is a specific way of inciting the mind to think of what has been painted. THINKING THROUGH THE IMAGE is a response to the encounter with a visual event.

For this reason, our exhibition has replaced explanatory commentary with a spatial concept capable of bringing body and mind together. The architecture creates an immersive environment into which one can delve physically. It also produces transitive places – views that offer a space for various forms of encounter and reflection. The exhibition guides the viewer through a labyrinth of visual events, from abstract sensory percepts via the search for shapes and concepts all the way to the construction of an idea: from the mysterious interface between chaos and order or light and darkness to metaimages of the contemporary world. The exhibition space has also been structured using IN-BETWEEN spaces that form frameworks, transitions, and boundaries in which viewers try to find their own POSITION towards a work and in which the shadow and echo of philosophers' words immanently hover.

We would like for the exhibition to become a SPACE FOR JOYFUL THINKING that presents viewers with a visual event in the form of a transformative aesthetic experience inciting the emotions, the imagination, and ideas – the kind of experience felt by the organizing team while planning this exhibition.

The exhibition is accompanied by a publication with texts by Miroslav Petříček, Jitka Hlaváčková, Václav Janoščík, Milena Bartlová and Jiří Přibáň.

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Artists: Karima Al-Mukhtarová, Ateliér radostné tvorby (Marie Kúsová, Lukáš Paleček, Vojtěch Proske, George Radojčić), Zbyněk Baladrán, Mária Bartuszová, Jana Bernartová, Rudolf Fila, Tomáš Hlavina, Václav Janoščík and Adam Trbušek, Magdalena Jetelová, Magdaléna Kašparová, Michal Kindernay, Julie Kopová, Zdeněk Košek, Tom Kotik, Eva



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 Bielek, Troja Château and František Bielek's House in Chýnov.

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Koťátková, Václav Krůček, Kristina Láníková, Jiří Matějů, Maxmilián Aron Mootz, Pavel Mrkus, Jiří Načeradský and Jaroslav Nešetřil, Jaromír Novotný, Milan Paštéka, Ondřej Přebyl, Jiří Skála, Kateřina Šedá, Miloš Šejn, Adriena Šimotová, Josef Šmíd, Kateřina Štenclová, Dagmar Šubrtová, Eva Vápenková, Vladimíra and Miroslava Večeřovy, Martin Velíšek, Petr Veselý, Lenka Vítková, Martin Zet

Graphic Design: Adéla Svobodová

Architecture Design: Studio Richard Loskot

The exhibition programme of the Prague City Gallery is supported by the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic.

Media partners: Art&Antiques, ArtMap, Artalk, Flash Art, A2, Artikl, Revolver Revue, Artyčok.tv, protisedi.cz, Radio 1, Český rozhlas Radio Wave

Entrance fee: CZK 150 full (adults) / CZK 60 discounted (students) / CZK 20 seniors

Contact for Journalists:

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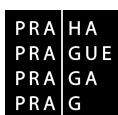
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ACCOMPANYING PROGRAMME

A film series organized in collaboration with the Ponrepo Cinema, featuring films chosen by Miroslav Petříček and accompanied by his commentary:

Tue 7 Nov. 2023, 8:30 pm

Ivetka and the Mountain, Vít Janeček, 2008, 83 minutes

Tue 21 Nov. 2023, 8:30 pm

Celebration in the Botanical Garden, Elo Havetta, 1969, 83 minutes

Tue 5 Dec. 2023, 6 pm

322, Dušan Hanák, 1969, 95 minutes

Guided tours of the exhibition

Thu 2 Nov. 2023, 6 pm

Thu 23 Nov. 2023, 6 pm

Thu 11 Jan. 2024, 6 pm

Philosophy for Kids

11 Nov. 2023, 3 pm

20 Jan. 2024, 3 pm

Join a philosophical workshop for children ages 8 to 15 inspired by the work of the eminent Czech philosopher and aesthetician Miroslav Petříček. At the workshop we will explore ideas associated with visual art and its influence on our perception. We will explore how images become events and how art can present us with new ways of seeing the world around us. On the basis of Petříček's ideas, we will discuss how the language of art influences our thinking. Come and join us as we delve into the world of images and ideas.



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EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

Saturday art workshops

Sat 4. Nov. 2023, 1–6 pm,
*The Physicality of the Image, the Image of
Physicality*, Municipal Library, 2nd floor

Sat 16 Dec. 2023, 1–6 pm,
Transformations of the Image, Educational
Center

Art workshops for adults and senior citizens / integrational and intergenerational program

Thu 2 Nov. 2023, 3–6 pm,
Drawing, Text, and Memories, Municipal
Library, 2nd floor

Sun 5. Nov. 2023, 3–6 pm,
Transformations and Playing with Color,
Educational Center

Thu 9. Nov. 2023, 3–6 pm,
Drawing, Text, and Memories, Municipal
Library, 2nd floor

Sun 12. Nov. 2023, 11 am – 2 pm,
Transformations and Playing with Color,
Educational Center

Sun 5. Nov. 2023, 11 am – 2 pm,
Transformations and Playing with Color,
Educational Center

Sun 12 Nov. 2023, 3–6 pm,
Transformations and Playing with Color,
Educational Center

Interactive tours of the exhibition for all types of schools and other age or interest groups, with the chance of subsequently responding to the exhibition through art. The events can be adapted (in terms of time, themes, or level of difficulty) to the specific needs of each school.

Contact:

edukace@ghmp.cz

For workshop dates and for information about other educational activities for other target groups such as socially disadvantaged visitors or people on parental leave, visit ghmp.cz/edukace.