

NATIONAL GALLERY
PRAGUE

NOVA



ANNUAL REPORT 2019



Gustav Klimt, *Virgin*, 1913

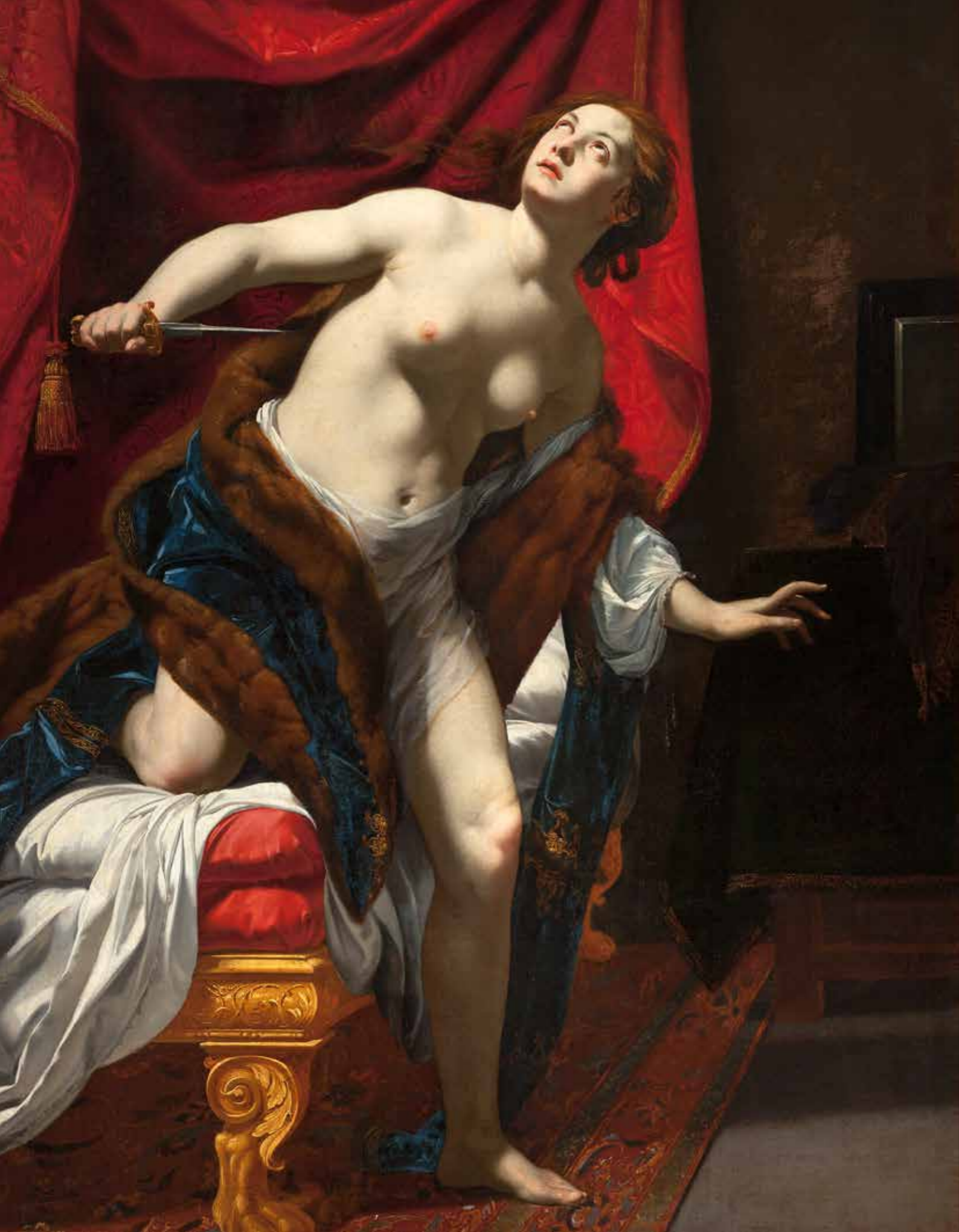


VISION AND MISSION

The National Gallery Prague manages the most extensive collection of art in the Czech Republic. It is an institution with more than two hundred years of history, offering a representative view of the evolution of art in the Czech lands and presenting important aspects of Central European, European and worldwide artistic developments. In accordance with its Statutes, it collects, records, studies, exhibits, publishes and mediates artworks in all disciplines, from ancient times to the present day.

The objective of the NGP is to stimulate interest in the fine arts and visual culture, to contribute towards their discovery, and to inspire visitors to reflect on art both on the national and international level. To this end, it presents and reinforces the importance of the fine arts and visual culture in the value system of the global community. In this way, it expands the creative abilities of individuals and provides spiritual enrichment to the whole of society, emphasising the positive perception of cultural diversity.





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INTRODUCTION BY THE GENERAL DIRECTOR



The National Gallery is alive – even after a year of major staffing changes. The gallery twice changed both its General Director and Finance Director, and once its Director of Science and Research. In the short space of a year, it has been able to fully benefit from the professionalism of its key employees and from the vision and programme defined in recent years, without compromising its reputation during a period of turbulence. The National Gallery has preserved important partners at home and abroad, while also maintaining the support of visitors. First of all, in cooperation with its founder, the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic, and the NGP Guarantee Council, as the advisory body of the Minister, the gallery has gained the opportunity to establish multi-level control mechanisms to prevent sudden and unsystematic changes in the future.

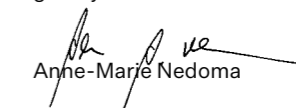
In 2019, the Collection of Modern and Contemporary Art and the Collection of 19th Century Art and Classical Modernism were also newly separated. The dividing line was set at around 1945, extending to 1948 for Czech art. In general, the demarcation is identified by the transformation of interwar avant-garde approaches in an artistic response to the experience of World War II and the post-war division of the world.

The continuity of the NGP's high-quality programme has been most visible in exhibition activities, along with acclaimed accompanying events, education, publications, collections initiatives and scientific research outputs. Without diminishing the importance of other projects, I will highlight at least those that were exceptional in their own way – because of the challenges of preparation, attendance, the need for institutional and international cooperation, or otherwise.

A new perspective on what is national and international, and how art works regardless of former or current geographical and mental boundaries, is well documented by two new permanent exhibitions: *1796–1918: Art of the Long Century*, on the fourth floor of the Trade Fair Palace; and the appropriately-titled *Old Masters*, in the Schwarzenberg Palace. The same topic resonated in the unique project *Wenceslaus Hollar and the Art of Drawing* in the Kinsky Palace. The exhibition of masterpieces from the Danish Ordrupgaard collection, *French Impressionism*, presented in the Kinsky Palace, proved very popular with a high number of visitors. The retrospective exhibition of *Alberto Giacometti* in the Trade Fair Palace was exceptionally challenging in many aspects, while this was also the first exhibition to introduce one of the most important sculptors of the 20th century to the Czech audience.

The principal mission of the NGP is to make accessible the treasures that it stores and protects in its collections. Therefore, I consider the ongoing work to digitise and present our collections online to be of great importance. So far, almost two and a half thousand high-resolution images of artworks have been published. In 2019, the preparation of tender documents continued, to enable the transition to a new electronic collection database system from the NGP's current central collections catalogue and ProMuseum. A public tender for the system is due to take place in 2020.

At the very end of the year, the NGP prepared for a fundamental change in its organisational structure, effective as of 1 January 2020. The purpose is to transform it into a modern and efficient institution of the 21st century: moving from rigid and inflexible hierarchical structures to flat, project-based management of core activities, to a collaborative environment, but also to a higher degree of freedom in decision-making and the necessary personal responsibility. It was an important step towards delivering on the gallery's vision and mission, regardless of which year it is.


Anne-Marje Nedoma

VISITOR NUMBERS

In 2019, the NGP welcomed more than 660,000 visitors. The most visited building was the Trade Fair Palace. The highest-attended exhibition of the year was *French Impressionism: Masterpieces from the Ordrupgaard Collection* in the Kinský Palace, viewed by more than 100,000 people. The Trade Fair Palace offered the first retrospective in the Czech Republic of sculptor and painter Alberto Giacometti, attracting nearly 50,000 visitors. Other successful exhibitions included presentations of *Josef Šíma*, *Josef Bolf*, *Milan Grygar* and *Stanislav Sucharda*, and the international project *Bohemia – Saxony: So Close and Yet So Far*.

National Gallery Prague in 2019

Exhibitions	41
Accompanying programmes	2 140
Visitors	663 492

Visitor Numbers in 2019

Trade Fair Palace	231,271
Kinský Palace	140,154
Waldstein Riding School	53,119
Convent of St Agnes of Bohemia	50,772
Salm Palace	41,677
Sternberg Palace (open until 16 September 2019)	26,702
Schwarzenberg Palace (open from 6 November 2019)	12,714
Gardens and public events	107,083
Total	663,492

Most Popular Exhibitions in 2019

	Total Visitor Numbers	Daily Visitor Numbers
French Impressionism: Masterpieces from the Ordrupgaard Collection	100,233	1,101
Katharina Grosse: Wunderbild*	79,439	226
Alberto Giacometti	48,447	414
Bonjour, Monsieur Gauguin: Czech Artists in Brittany 1850–1950*	44,280	422
Salm Modern #1: Dimensions of Dialogue*	43,509	139
400 Asa: Photographs	32,375	196
1989	31,278	386
Josef Bolf: A Premonition of Shadow**	30,540	359
Milan Grygar: 2019*	29,805	350
Josef Šíma: The Road to Le Grand Jeu	28,994	333
Wenceslaus Hollar and the Art of Drawing	17,806	223

* exhibitions starting in 2018 and continuing into 2019

** exhibitions starting in 2019 and continuing into 2020

KEY PROJECTS IN 2019

The Success of French Impressionism

In 2019, the NGP in collaboration with the Danish Ordrupgaard state art museum prepared an exhibition project featuring a rich collection of masterpieces of impressionism, as well as other trends extending beyond this one artistic movement. Most of these works of major painters of the era were available to view for the first time by visitors in the Czech Republic. The exhibition sparked great interest among both domestic and foreign audiences and, with more than 100,000 visitors, it became the country's most visited exhibition of the year.

Alberto Giacometti Retrospective for the First Time in the Czech Republic

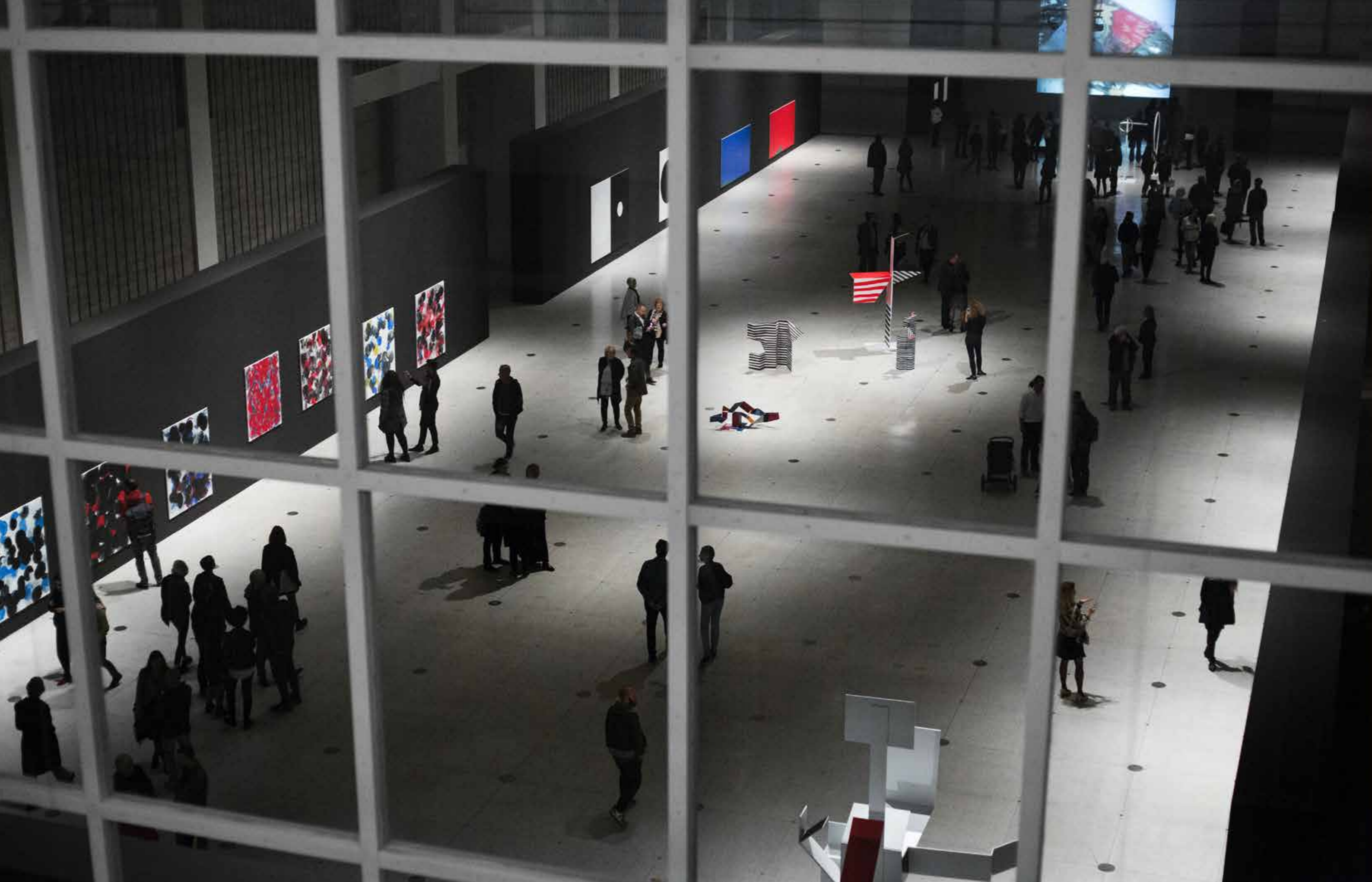
The exhibition showed for the first time in the Czech environment the art of one of the most important artists of the 20th century, sculptor and painter Alberto Giacometti. The retrospective was prepared by the NGP in cooperation with the Fondation Giacometti, Paris. Over a hundred sculptures were displayed, together with paintings and drawings from all Giacometti's creative periods, from the 1920s to the 1960s. The architecture of the exhibition space was designed by Eva Jiříčná and Georgina Papathanasiou.

Anniversary of 1989

The year 2019 marked the 30th anniversary of the Velvet Revolution, as well as the canonisation of Agnes of Bohemia. The NGP contributed to the celebrations with a number of thematic exhibitions and public programmes.

More projects were dedicated to the anniversary of the Velvet Revolution, including the 1989 exhibition that mapped the atmosphere of the last pre-revolutionary year and the November events through photography. The NGP also introduced a project called *Three Artists – Three Generations*, presenting separate exhibitions of three Czech artists of different generations – Milan Grygar, Jitka Hanzlová and Josef Bolf. A series of interviews with Czech artists was screened under the title *Interview 89*, reflecting historical changes in the society and the art itself.





EXHIBITIONS

EXHIBITIONS

Kinský Palace

Temporary Exhibitions

Bonjour, Monsieur Gauguin: Czech Artists in Brittany 1850–1950

16/11 2018 – 17/3 2019

Curators: Anna Pravdová, Kristýna Hochmuth

The exhibition was the first to chronicle the activities of Czech artists in Brittany in 1850–1950, showing how they depicted the region's rough landscape as well as its traditional culture, customs and the local population. Works by Czech artists – including Chitussi, Mucha, Čapek, Kupka, Zrzavý and Toyen – were compared to paintings by their French contemporaries, such as Gauguin, Bernard and Sérusier. The exhibition was prepared by the NGP in cooperation with the Musée départemental Breton.

French Impressionism: Masterpieces from the Ordrupgaard Collection

29/6 – 13/10 2019

Curators: Petr Šámal, Petra Kolářová

The most successful exhibition in 2019 in terms of visitor numbers was the display of artworks by French impressionists from the Ordrupgaard museum in Denmark, seen by more than 100,000 guests. The exhibition mainly featured the work of impressionists such as Monet, Degas, Renoir and Sisley, but also of representatives of other artistic trends that expanded beyond the impressionist movement. Romantic paintings were represented by Delacroix, while the exhibition also included realism by Courbet and artists of the Barbizon school. The master works of the post-impressionists Cézanne and Gauguin stood out in this collection of sixty paintings.

Wenceslaus Hollar and the Art of Drawing

22/11 2019 – 23/2 2020

Curator: Alena Volrábová

The exhibition *Wenceslaus Hollar and the Art of Drawing* focused almost exclusively on the drawings by this prominent Czech artist, their artistic quality and meaning, underlined by comparison with the drawings of his predecessors, contemporaries and successors. The ambition was to show not only Hollar's roots as a draughtsman and other possible inspirations, but also his uniqueness and importance within 17th-century European art. The exhibition showcased a number of masterpieces loaned from important European collections, such as the British Museum in London, Kupferstichkabinett in Berlin, Albertina in Vienna, and many other museums and private collections.





CLAUDE
MONET
Claude Monet painted Fontainebleau for
The Cliffs Road Through the Forest at Fontainebleau
oil on canvas
1890



CLAUDE
MONET



EXHIBITIONS

Convent of St Agnes of Bohemia

Temporary Exhibitions

Beautiful Madonnas

6/12 2019 – 19/4 2020

Authors of the concept: Ivo Hlobil (Institute of Art History), Hermann Mayrhofer (Leogang), Štěpánka Chlumská and Marius Winzeler (NGP)

Curators: Štěpánka Chlumská, Marius Winzeler

The exhibition presented around 20 masterpieces of the Salzburg Beautiful Style, some of which had only been discovered in recent years, while some works were displayed for the first time and others were for the first time presented together with closely-related artworks. A joint project of the NGP and the Mining and Gothic Museum in Leogang, this exhibition was also supported by the Czech Academy of Sciences, the Federal Chancellery in Vienna, and other museums and church institutions as well as private collectors.

Artworks of the Season

Artwork of the Season – The Pietà from Bílsko: A Restored Late-Gothic Treasure from Southern Bohemia

10/4 – 15/9 2019

Curator: Štěpánka Chlumská

Permanent Exhibitions

Medieval Art in Bohemia and Central Europe 1200–1550

Curators: Jiří Fajt, Štěpánka Chlumská

The long-term exhibition of medieval and early Renaissance art on the first floor of the convent displays more than two hundred works of painting, sculpture and craft, depicting the transformation in artistic form and function over three centuries.

Sculpture Garden

Curator: Irena Nývltová

Both convent gardens – showcasing the building's architecture as well as sculptures by leading Czech artists such as Veselý, Róna, Kolíbal and Malich – are open to the public all year and free of charge. These contemporary works are complemented by one of František Bílek's first sculptural pieces, a monumental statue of *Golgotha*.

Tour and Lapidarium

Curators: Štěpánka Chlumská, Helena Dáňová

The ground floor of the compound offers a tour examining the history of the double convent and its founder. It also contains the lapidarium in the Convent of the Poor Clares and Friars Minor, with an important collection of architectural fragments from the convent's construction phases, as well as altar consecration plaques and tombstones.



Convent of St. Agnes of Bohemia, U Milosrdných Tr., Prague 1





EXHIBITIONS

Sternberg Palace

Temporary Exhibitions

Bohemia–Saxony: So Close and Yet So Far

24/5 – 15/9 2019

Curators: Doreen Mölders (smac), Marius Winzeler and Olga Kotková (NGP)

For the first time, a large exhibition was dedicated to the theme of the vicinity of Bohemia and Saxony, focusing on the dynamic relations between the two regions, close links among their inhabitants, mutual conflicts and subsequent reconciliation. It made it possible to take a broad approach to the historical framework and to clarify both the differences between Saxony and Bohemia and their unity in the European context. The aim of the project, resulting from cooperation between the Staatliches Museum für Archäologie Chemnitz (smac) and the NGP, was to present this multi-faceted and dynamic history of long-standing interrelations, from the Stone Age to the present day. In a symbiosis of art and history, the exhibition was divided into nine sections that focused on both the daily and economic lives and historical events associated with the ruling class. The Prague part of this international project showed particularly exceptional artworks, many of which were on display in the Czech Republic for the first time.

Permanent Exhibition

European Art from Antiquity to Baroque

until 15/9 2019

Curators: Helena Dáňová, Martina Jandlová, Olga Kotková, Petr Příbyl, Andrea Steckerová, Lenka Stolárová, Anja K. Ševčík, Vít Vlínas

Selected from the collections of the NGP, this exhibition over three floors of the palace displayed German, Austrian, Italian, French, Spanish, Flemish and Dutch artworks from the Middle Ages to the end of the 18th century.





EXHIBITIONS

Schwarzenberg Palace

Permanent Exhibitions

Old Masters

from 6/11 2019

Curator: Marius Winzeler

In late 2019, a new permanent exhibition of Old Masters opened in the Schwarzenberg Palace. It presents a selection of the most important masterpieces from the NGP's Collection of Old Masters – for the first time with a concept that interconnects Czech and European art. Bronzino, El Greco and Brueghel are shown side by side with Škréta and Brandl. Meanwhile, a new Graphic Cabinet was created on the ground floor of the palace. The concept and architecture of the exhibition was developed in close cooperation with the AP Atelier of architect Josef Pleskot.

Graphic Cabinets

Line, Light, Shade

6/11 2019 – 9/2 2020

Curator: Petra Zelenková

The opening exhibition of the Schwarzenberg Palace Graphic Cabinet presented a selection of masterpieces of European printmaking and drawing of the 16th and 17th centuries. In addition to a series of works by prominent artists from the Renaissance and Mannerist periods, visitors could also see Giuseppe Arcimboldo's famous self-portrait. To protect the artwork, this exceptional drawing was displayed for only two months and then replaced by delicate drawings on vellum.





EXHIBITIONS

Salm Palace

Temporary Exhibitions

Salm Modern #1: Dimensions of Dialogue

2/12 2018 – 1/12 2019

Curators: Marion Ackermann and Pirkko Rathgeber (SKD), Erika Hoffmann and Elke Giffeler (Sammlung Hoffmann), Jiří Fajt, Veronika Hulíková and Otto M. Urban (NGP)

The exhibition was the outcome of a collaboration between the NGP and Staatliche Kunstsammlungen Dresden (SKD). It assembled a selection of works from the Schenkung Sammlung Hoffman of the SKD – including those by Araki, Abramović, Basquiat, Bonvicini, Gormley, Mueck, Stella, Warhol and Wesselmann – together with selected works of contemporary Czech artists from the NGP and private collections, including Bolf, Černický, Díaz, Kintera, Kolíbal, Pinkava, Skála, Skrepl and Šedá. The goal of this joint project was to promote and foster artistic dialogue within the space of Central Europe.





EXHIBITIONS

Waldstein Riding School

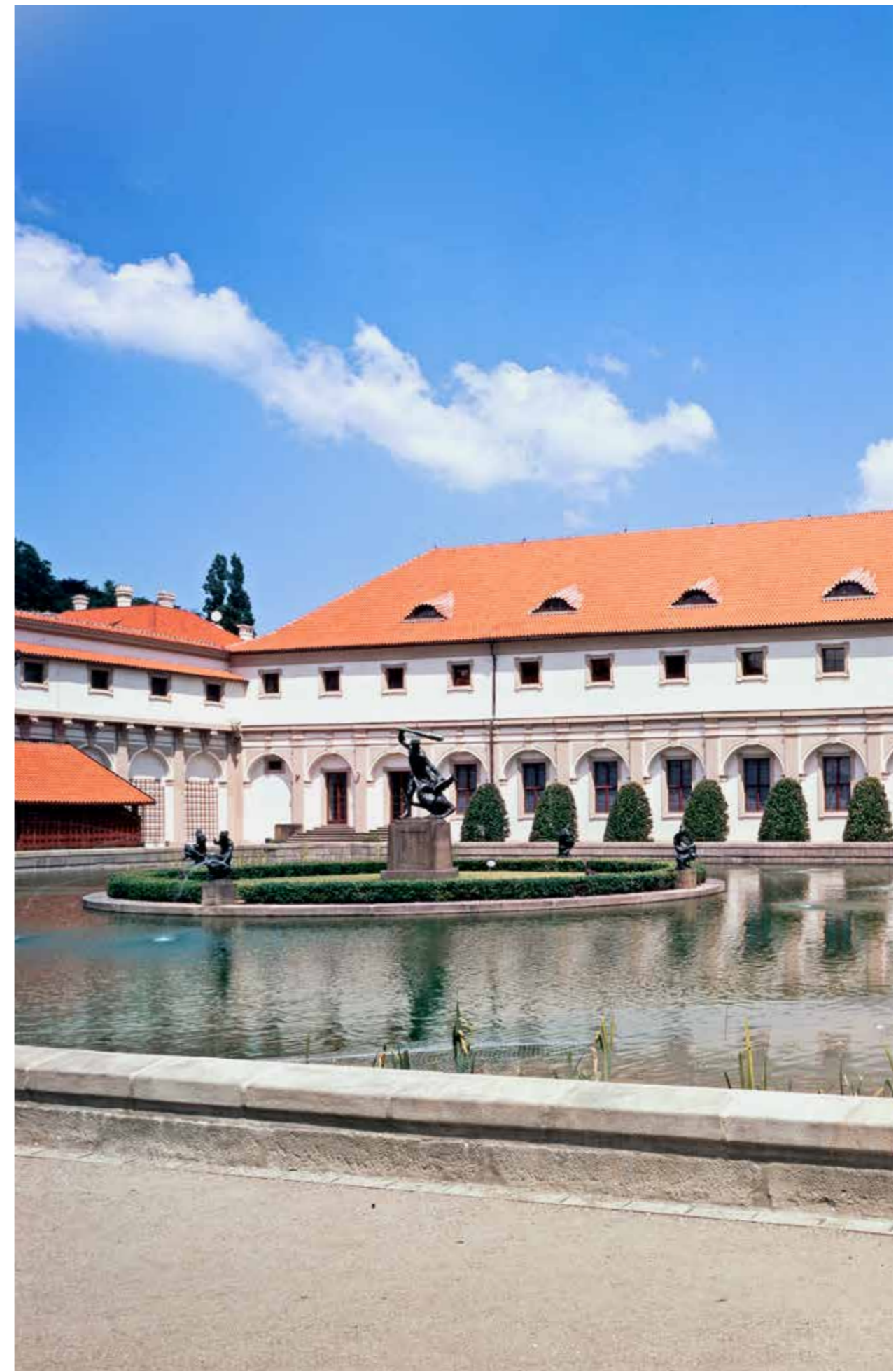
Temporary Exhibitions

Josef Šíma: The Road to Le Grand Jeu

19/4 – 28/7 2019

Curators: Anna Pravdová, Petr Ingerle

The Road to Le Grand Jeu intended to present the earlier works of Šíma – starting from his beginnings in Brno to his meeting with the poets of the remarkable French group, Le Grand Jeu – and to show how his participation in this adventure was one of the key impulses for his oeuvre. During the short period of 1929–1931, Šíma became the group's chief fine artist, while the other poet-members focused on the interpretation of his work. For the first time in the Czech Republic, artworks of other fine artists of the group are presented, as well as documents mainly from French museums, galleries and private collections. The exhibition was organised by the NGP in cooperation with the Moravian Gallery in Brno.





EXHIBITIONS

Trade Fair Palace

Temporary Exhibitions

Katharina Grosse: Wunderbild

16/2 2018 – 31/3 2019

Curator: Adam Budak

Katharina Grosse conceived a large-scale painterly installation that radically redefined painting as a performative and architectural medium, responding directly to the gallery's industrial space in the functionalist style of the late 1920s. Her "Wunderbild" was an architectural painting, a spatial image that the viewer inhabited with their body and mind. The colour gained volume, the flat surface turned sculptural and the pictorial field crossed the limits of the visual.

Truth (Usually) Prevails! Images Not Only from Czech History

24/10 2018 – 3/2 2019

Curator: Markéta Dlábková

This exhibition, displaying artworks from the early 17th century to 1918, sought to ponder stereotypes linked with the presentation of historical events in the Czech lands. The project focused on works on paper as a means of mediating a specific and present moment, through leaflets, popular prints, authentic records and magazine illustrations. Thus, the use of the same media may lead to the simultaneous presentation of official, officialised and sometimes even contradictory views of a given event.

400 ASA: Photographs

1/3 – 8/9 2019

Curator: Josef Moucha

The core concern of the seven distinguished photographers of two generations from the association of Czech photographers, 400 ASA, is mankind and the human community, especially in those manifestations that are declining and threatened with oblivion. The exhibition entitled *400 ASA: Photographs* presented each photographer monothematically, by a single part of their work that is, in all cases, much broader. The photographers were Alžběta Jungrová, Antonín Kratochvíl, Karel Cudlín, Jan Dobrovský, Tomáš Němec, Jan Mihaliček and Martin Wágner.

National Gallery Prague: The Future Palace

1/3 – 22/9 2019

Curator: Helena Doudová

The Future Palace reminded us by a narrative arc of the existence of the Trade Fair Palace during the last ninety years. Today, the building uses its stark modernist architecture to present modern and contemporary art. The project complemented the current collections exhibition *1918–1938: The First Czechoslovak Republic*.

New in the Collections of the National Gallery Prague 2013–2018

22/3 – 26/5 2019

Curators: Alena Volrábová, Markéta Hánová, Marius Winzeler, Michal Novotný

In 2019, the NGP collections were expanded by 255 artworks, and the collections curators selected some interesting examples of acquisitions from the past five years, with an emphasis on artworks that had not yet been exhibited at the NGP. The exhibition featured a variety of works, from Baroque oil paintings of the early 18th century, through to a Chinese ink painting of the Shanghai School and Czech video art. The aim was not only to present the works to the public, but also to highlight the fundamental importance of collecting and the need to expand the support from both state resources and private donors.

Alberto Giacometti

18/7 – 1/12 2019

Curators: Julia Tatiana Bailey (NGP), Catherine Grenier and Serena Bucalo-Mussely (Fondation Giacometti)

This retrospective exhibition showed for the first time in the Czech environment the art of one of the most important artists of the 20th century, sculptor and painter Alberto Giacometti (1901–1966). His main theme was the human figure. He was made famous especially by the existentially urgent elongated figures created after World War II, but equally compelling is his work from the interwar period, when he belonged to the heart of the Parisian avant-garde. The exhibition was prepared by the NGP in cooperation with the Fondation Giacometti, Paris, which manages the artist's estate. The selection of exhibits from its collections included over 100 sculptures (including rare plaster originals), paintings and drawings from all Giacometti's creative periods, from the 1920s to the 1960s. The architectural solution of the exhibition space was designed by Eva Jiříčná and Georgina Papatthanasiou.

Josef Bolf: A Premonition of Shadow

20/9 2019 – 5/12 2020

Curator: Otto M. Urban

The exhibition *A Premonition of Shadow* presented visitors with the works of contemporary Czech painter Josef Bolf. At the core of the exhibition were paintings created in the last year, which were complemented by older artworks – including a series of never before exhibited works that illustrate the context of the development of the artist's work. In his new artworks, Bolf returned to the scratching paint technique which was previously typical of him. He also further developed some of the previously featured topics, such as the existential solitude of an individual in the modern world. A completely new artwork, a site-specific drawing on a mirror, was created for the foyer of the first-floor gallery of the Trade Fair Palace. The exhibition was held as part of the celebrations of 30 years of freedom and was part of the exhibition cycle *Three Artists – Three Generations*.







STAROVĚKÁ
INSPIRACE
INSPIRATION
FROM
ANTIQUITY



EXHIBITIONS

Trade Fair Palace

Temporary Exhibitions

Milan Grygar: 2019

20/9 2019 – 5/1 2020

Curator: Michal Novotný

The exhibition in the Great Hall of the Trade Fair Palace summed up in a comprehensive installation the work of this most distinguished Czech artist, combining sound, image and physical gesture. It presented video documentation of major events and drawings with the sound recordings of their creation. The exhibition also incorporated the artist's later comeback to painting, as a visual representation of the sound and light dynamics, and a series of spatial scores – sculptural realisations of the original paper designs. The whole exhibition was supplemented by a large series of contemporary paintings made in the previous two years. The exhibition was held as part of the celebrations of 30 years of freedom and was part of the exhibition cycle *Three Artists – Three Generations*.

Interview 89

15/11 2019 – 2/2 2020

Project author and director: Adéla Janíčková

The 30th anniversary of the Velvet Revolution was marked by a series of interviews with artists who reflected on historical changes and references. The turning point in 1989 represented an opportunity to introduce a new political and economic system. The interviews clarify the context that lays the foundations for further discussion and awareness of oneself at present times. The project originated thanks to artists Jetelová, Kafka, Daučíková, Baladrán and Jansa, who follow the events in our society and are part of it through their creations.

Living in Art

15/11 2019 – 2/2 2020

Curator: Petr Šámal

The *Living in Art* exhibition offered the theme of architectural decorations of residential buildings. It focused on painting, sculpture and sculpture-plaster decorations of exteriors and interiors of tenement houses, as well as on entrepreneurs' palaces and villas. The exhibition presented the work of the famous artists Mikoláš Aleš, Josef Václav Myslbek, Viktor Barvítius and Josef Mánes, as well as less well-known artists and decorating companies, which also played a major role in shaping present-day Prague and its artistic diversity.

Jitka Hanzlová: Silences

15/11 2019 – 16/2 2020

Curator: Adam Budak

Jitka Hanzlová's exhibition was the first comprehensive presentation of the artist's work in her home country. It presented three decades of her practice, including a new cycle of photographs created specifically for the exhibition at the NGP. The exhibition was held as part of the celebrations of 30 years of freedom and was part of the exhibition cycle *Three Artists – Three Generations*.

1989

15/11 2019 – 16/2 2020

Curator: Tomáš Pospěch

The exhibition *1989* was created on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the Velvet Revolution and as part of the project *Havel to the Castle!* Its aim was to critically evaluate the state of Czech photography in 1989 from a distance of three decades. Emphasis was placed on strong photographic projects and long-term approaches. In many cases, the curators in cooperation with the artists had gone through their archives and tried to choose the most distinctive photographs that would stand the test of three decades, and would be understandable in today's context and to a generation that had not experienced this period.

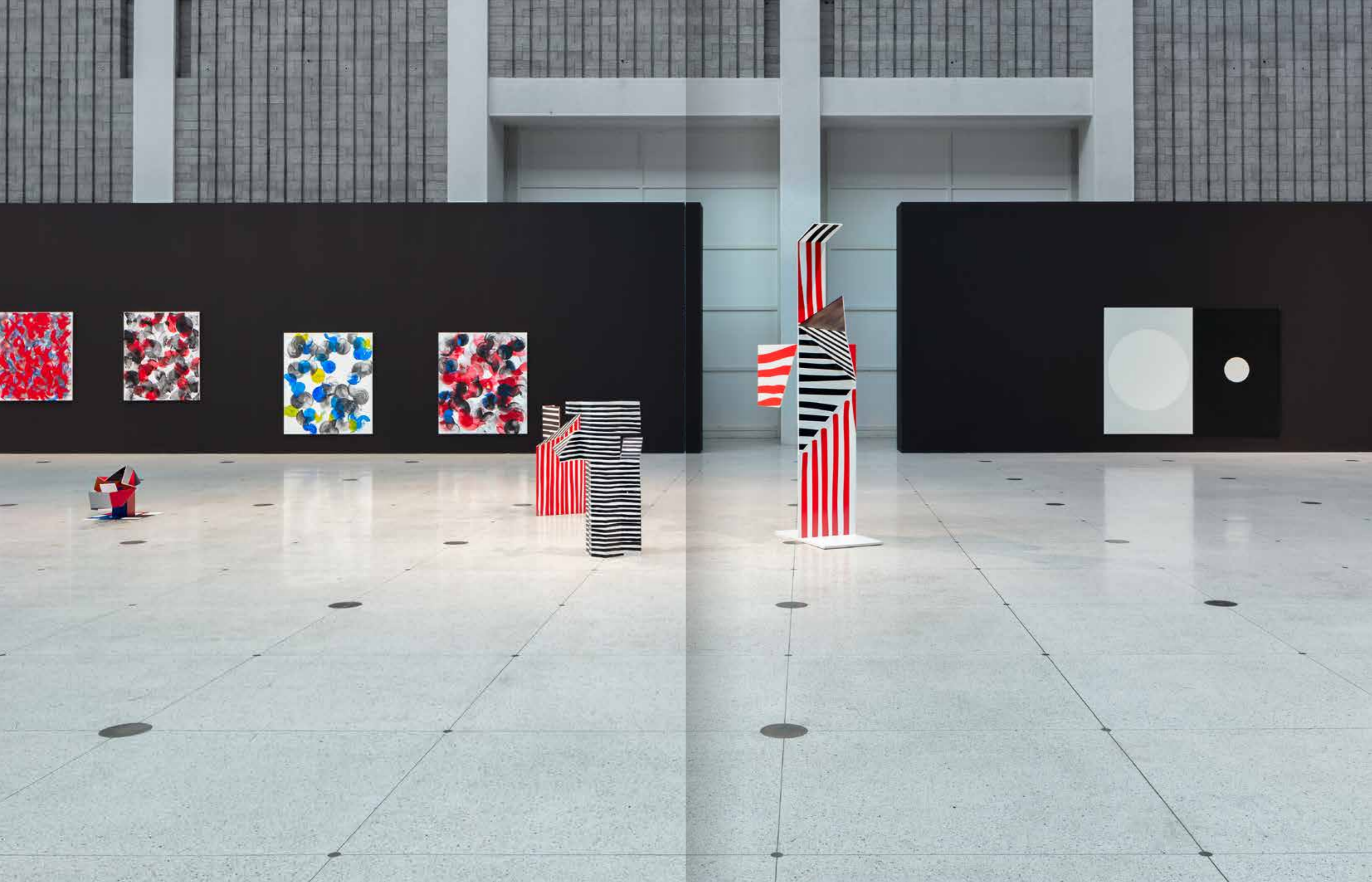
Stanislav Sucharda 1866–1916: The Creative Process

15/11 2019 – 25/10 2020

Exhibition author: Martin Krummholz

Curator: Veronika Hulíková

The exhibition presented a major Czech sculptor of the turn of the 19th and 20th centuries, whose multifarious work combines an interplay between the region and the country's capital, the transformation from 19th-century traditions to modernism, and the gradual local acceptance of progressive European styles. This first comprehensive presentation of Sucharda's mostly unknown work is the outcome of the joint project *Footprints of Work*, which was carried out by the Faculty of Restoration of Pardubice University and the Institute of Art History of the Czech Academy of Sciences, processing Sucharda's unique estate.



Antonín Kratochvíl

Karel Cudlín

Jan Dobrovský

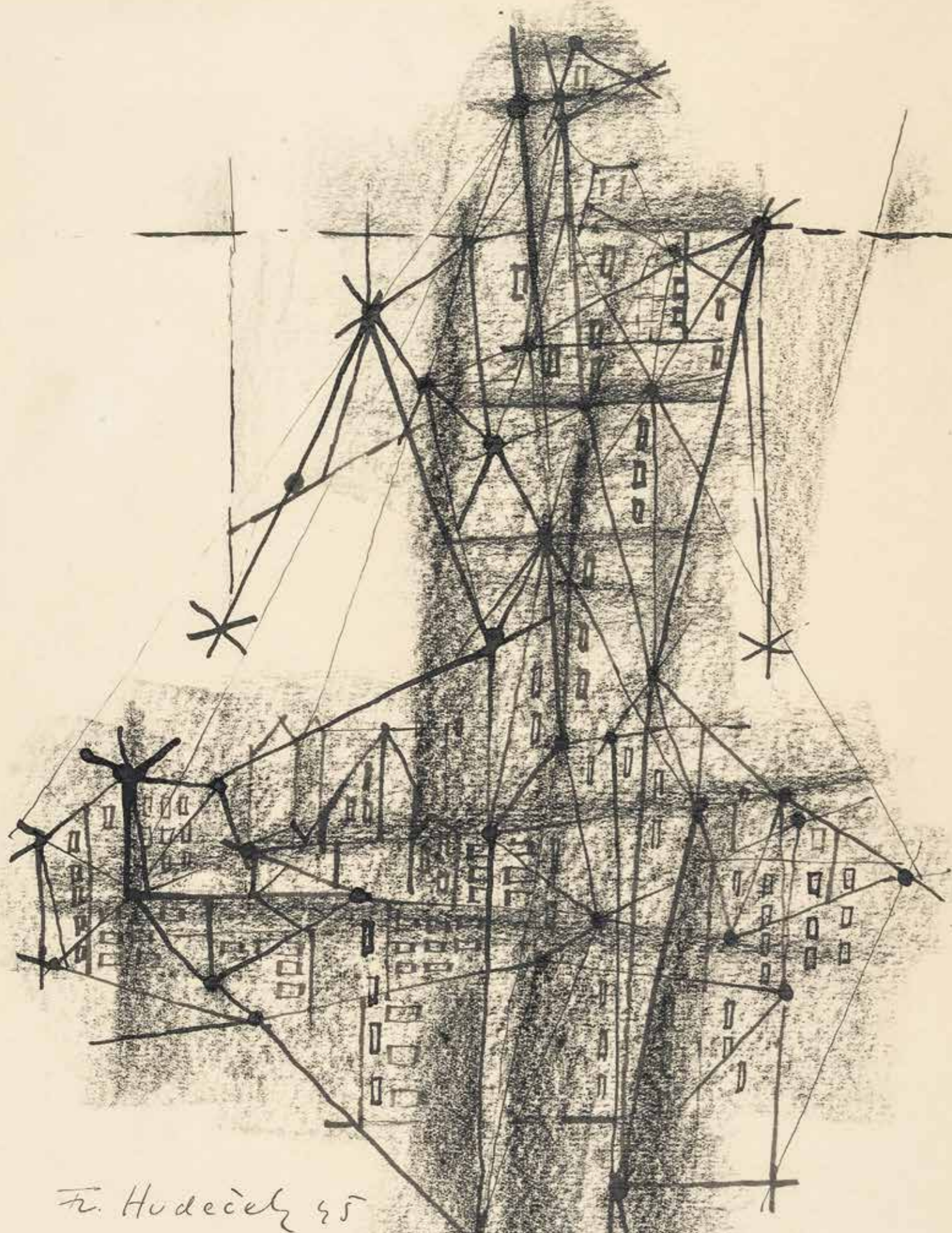
Tomáš Měnes

Jan Mlýnský

Marie Weyss

Marie Weyss

XXIV: UYSTAVA: SDOU
U: U: MANES: U: PRAZE
ANGLICKE: LEPTY
U: DAVILLONU: POD: ZA
HRADOU: KINSKYCH
HRABOS: DO: 15: LE



EXHIBITIONS

Trade Fair Palace

Graphic Cabinets

František Hudeček (1909–1990): Drawings and Graphics from the 1940s

2/10 2018 – 27/1 2019

Curator: Zuzana Novotná

The Graphic Cabinet mapped drawings and prints by František Hudeček from the 1940s, when first appeared the artist's significant theme: the night walker.

Group 42

14/5 – 18/8 2019

Curator: Zuzana Novotná

This selection presented works on paper – drawings and prints – by members of Group 42 during the time that they shared an artistic mindset, created during the war years, starting from the Protectorate, to the post-war period.

Emil Filla – Heracles Fights the Bull

20/8 – 17/11 2019

Curator: Adriana Šmejkalová

This small exhibition presented Filla's graphic work from the 1930s and 1940s, namely the cycle *Fights and Struggles* (1937) and the album *Heracles* (1945).

Drawings and Illustrations by Jan Preisler (1872–1918) in *Volné směry* Periodical

15/11 2019 – 1/3 2020

Curator: Zuzana Novotná

This exhibition presented artworks from the extensive set of drawings by Jan Preisler, which contributed to the radicalisation of Czech art and showed the inclination towards European modern art.

Cubist Drawings by Otto Gutfreund

15/11 2019 – 1/3 2020

Curator: Petra Kolářová

This Cabinet introduced the drawings of Czech sculptor Otto Gutfreund, a member of the Group of Fine Artists. Its main theme was the human figure subjected by the artist in 1910–1914 to shape deformations in the Cubist style.

Group Ra: Messages on the Present Hour

26/11 2019 – 12/7 2020

Curator: Adriana Šmejkalová

The Cabinet in the permanent exhibition of modern and contemporary art presented Group Ra through drawings, prints and photographs from the collections of the NGP and the Museum of Decorative Arts in Prague.



EXHIBITIONS

Trade Fair Palace

Contemporary Art Cycles

This year, the NGP again presented contemporary artists as part of freely accessible exhibition cycles on the ground floor of the Trade Fair Palace. The projects were curated by Adam Budak.

Moving Image Department #9: Desire in Language

24/10 2018 – 3/2 2019

Introducing Valentýna Janů: I'm Sry

24/10 2018 – 3/2 2019

Poetry Passage #7: Egill Sæbjörnsson, The Stairs

24/10 2018 – 3/2 2019

Moving Image Department #10: Based on Real Events

1/3 – 28/7 2019

Introducing Viktor Dedek: The Place of Family

1/3 – 28/7 2019

Moving Image Department #11: IMAGE (of) SILENCE

20/9 2019 – 5/1 2020

Introducing Sara Enrico: The Jumpsuit Theme

20/9 2019 – 5/1 2020

Permanent Exhibitions

1796–1918: Art of the Long Century

from 15/11 2019

Curators: Veronika Hulíková (NGP), Otto M. Urban, Filip Wittlich

In 2019, a new permanent exhibition was opened in the Trade Fair Palace that transformed the previous selection, entitled *1850–1900: Czech Modern Art*. The replacement exhibition *1796–1918: Art of the Long Century* purposefully and organically connects Czech and international art. Its aim is to show in the broad context works amassed by the NGP in the course of its over 220-year history. Therefore, the artists are naturally represented in an uneven manner – with concise and representative sets on one hand, and more or less accidental or occasional acquisitions on the other. The resulting selection shows more than 450 artworks by 150 artists in three major chapters: Man, The World, and Ideas. The exhibition presents painting as well as sculpture: free sculpture accompanies paintings, while public sculpture forms a separate section. Therefore, the work of artists of different directions and very different generations can be seen in the exhibition side by side.

1918–1938: First Czechoslovak Republic

Curators: Anna Pravdová, in collaboration with Lada Hubatová-Vacková

A new permanent exhibition on the third floor of the Trade Fair Palace was created on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the founding of independent Czechoslovakia. It introduces the rich fine art scene in the young country between 1918 and 1938, including the works of Josef Čapek, Václav Špála, Toyen, Paul Gauguin and Pablo Picasso. The exhibition looks at the art of the first Czechoslovak Republic through the eyes of the art-loving viewer of that time, through

major galleries, art associations and other cultural institutions, and presents present-day visitors with important cultural centres. In the given temporal and spatial framework, the project presents significant events of the art scene of that time, with an emphasis on the cosmopolitan and multinational character of the Czechoslovak state.

1930–present: Czech Modern Art

Fine art curator: Michal Novotný

Architecture Cabinets curators: Radomíra Sedláková, Helena Doudová

Czech art produced after 1930 includes works by František Muzika, Josef Šíma, Jindřich Štyrský, Toyen, Zdeněk Sklenář, Jan Kotík and Václav Bartovský. The permanent collection explores artistic movements from the 1960s to the present: Art Informel, Action Art, New Sensitivity and postmodern art.

The NGP's collection of architecture presents five cabinets dedicated to key moments of architectural development, using examples of iconic works, original models, plans and sketches. Models of the Czechoslovak Pavilion at Expo 58, the Prague-Podolí swimming stadium, and the Ještěd TV tower are newly displayed. Also presented are some unrealised projects whose implementation was stopped or met with incomprehension by the then jury, such as the projects by the Machonins or Karel Prager.

Open Storage of the Art of Asia

Concept and Curation: Markéta Hánová, Zdenka Klimtová, Michaela Pejšochová, Jana Ryndová

The open storage (Schaudepot) is a new exhibition format at the National Gallery Prague. It optimises the number of artworks accessible for immediate study by displaying them in glass showcases that allow a three-dimensional view. The open storage thus makes more than 600 artworks of Asian provenance from the National Gallery Prague available for viewing. Sculptures and arts and crafts ranging from the oldest works of the archaic period to the 20th Century comprise most of what is displayed.

A view of the permanent exhibition 1918–1938: First Czechoslovak Republic, Trade Fair Palace

p. 62 Moving Image Department #9: Desire in Language, Trade Fair Palace

p. 64 A view of the permanent exhibition 1796–1918: Art of the Long Century, Trade Fair Palace





EXHIBITIONS

Venice Biennale Czech and Slovak Pavilion

Stanislav Kolibal: *Former Uncertain Indicated*

11/05 – 24/11 2019

Curator: Dieter Bogner

The Czech and Slovak Pavilion at the 58th Venice Biennale hosted a project of distinguished Czech artist Stanislav Kolibal. The exhibition entitled *Former Uncertain Indicated* developed the key themes of Kolibal's work – time and instability – as a critical response to the challenging political and social context in Czechoslovakia and nowadays. During the six-month event, an incredible 593,616 visitors saw the exhibition.





EXHIBITIONS

Local and International Cooperation

In 2019, many exhibitions took place at Czech and foreign museums and galleries, to which the NGP provided significant loans. There were 287 works loaned from the NGP's collections to 41 exhibitions in the Czech Republic.

Cooperation with institutions abroad has continued successfully, mainly in EU Member States, notably Germany and Austria, as well as Slovakia, Hungary, Finland, France, Belgium and Italy. Artworks were also loaned by the NGP to Switzerland, Russia and Japan. A total of 81 works were loaned to 26 exhibitions abroad.



EDUCATIONAL AND PUBLIC PROGRAMMES



EDUCATIONAL AND PUBLIC PROGRAMMES

The NGP programme aims to appeal to the general public with a specific approach to each target audience group. In 2019, there were 2,140 programmes in total, organised for 48,293 participants. A further 2,663 people took part in the *Anežka LIVE!* special project, spanning 62 events.

School Programmes

In 2018, our team of professional lecturers delivered 1,074 programmes relating to temporary and permanent exhibitions, for 20,615 pupils and students. Schools were most interested in permanent exhibitions in the Convent of St Agnes of Bohemia and the Trade Fair Palace.

The greatest number of programmes were carried out in relation to the following exhibitions: *French Impressionism: Masterpieces from the Ordrupgaard Collection* (60), *Alberto Giacometti* (54), *Salm Modern #1: Dimensions of Dialogue* (47), *Katharina Grosse: Wunderbild* (41) and *Josef Šíma: The Road to Le Grand Jeu* (39). A total of 14 new educational programmes were created in relation to exhibitions.

The programme methodology responded to the specificities of individual artworks. The programmes were aimed at applying diverse approaches to artistic production and comparison of different interpretations of artworks. They offered works primarily through sensory experience and authentic creation by pupils and students, who were able to unravel inspirations and contexts of the art of the past and to encounter live audiovisual art.

As part of the cooperation with the Municipal District of Prague 14, pupils of the second level of elementary schools could again participate in Project Days held in the Salm and Trade Fair Palaces. The Project Days consisted of thematic workshops. Students could choose from silk-screen printing, video animation, polaroid photography or improvisation with their body and words, and experience a dialogue between more artistic works in the gallery in small groups.

On the occasion of the Day of Architecture, a special event for 12 schools was organised in collaboration with LEGO®, to support the concept of #learningthroughplay. Pupils learned about how architecture responds to extreme environmental conditions and formed their own experimental buildings using Lego building bricks.

A total of 34 guided tours and presentations of the educational programme methodology were carried out as part of the further education of teachers and university students in teaching disciplines. Five new study materials were developed for the most significant exhibitions, containing methodological suggestions and inspiration for teaching work. The materials are still available on the NGP's website, even after the exhibitions are over, as a methodological support for the further education of teachers. For teachers responsible for leisure activities and kindergarten teachers, two two-day accredited seminars at the gallery were organised. The seminars were attended by 29 teachers, who learned about new approaches and methods to mediate art and how to use them in pre-school education.

NGP for Children – Programmes for Children and Parents

The gallery is an open space for meetings, inspiration, learning and the creative experience. For children and parents, a total of 320 programmes for 10,346 visitors were organised in permanent and temporary exhibitions, studios, gardens and the generous space of the pop-up Korzo.

Preparation of a popular playroom format for children aged from one and a half to five included not only cooperation with guests from the current art scene, but also with the SE.S.TA – Centre for Choreographic Development, the *Malá inventura* festival of new theatre and Czech Radio. The Korzo area was newly supplemented by a play studio focusing on one of the ongoing temporary exhibitions. The concept of the playroom entitled "Art is all. Play is more", focusing on art events and performances, was honoured at a nationwide presentation of children's artistic creation called *Shared Imagination*, organised by NIPOS Artama.

Visitors also attended regular Weekends – creative workshops focused on the art of all periods, encouraging children and adults to collaborate in creative play and joint learning.

The NGP also prepared programmes during the summer holidays. A total of 155 children and teenagers had the opportunity to visit nine summer studios, try a range of visual, dramatic and motion activities, spend summer days close to artworks and meet inspiring personalities of various artistic professions.

The Convent of St Agnes of Bohemia was visited by 350 children and parents who attended the Piccoli event, organised in cooperation with the Collegium Marianum Foundation. It combined music, dance and art workshops. The *Agnes to Children* garden party had a similar response.

On the occasion of the International Museum and Gallery Day, an open LEGO®IN / LEGO®OUT workshop was held, which saw creations of generous structures made of these bricks: an infinite relief, walls with infinite vistas and large-format graphic prints. A total of 210 children with parents participated in the event.

EDUCATIONAL AND PUBLIC PROGRAMMES

Interactive Studios

These inspirational studios with original content are incorporated into selected exhibitions and made available to all visitors. They are a tool for indirect education and art experience. They are developed by educators in collaboration with artists and exhibition curators. A number of themes were identified in each of the exhibitions that were suitable for developing into the creative activities. Original aids were made for them. The studios were also supplemented with a selection of literature. Visitors had the opportunity to try working with various materials, to explore in detail sources of inspiration for artworks and to get inspired by artistic ideas. In 2019, interactive studios were part of the following exhibitions: *Josef Šíma: The Road to Le Grand Jeu; Bohemia–Saxony: So Close and Yet So Far; Beautiful Madonnas; French Impressionism: Masterpieces from the Ordrupgaard Collection; Alberto Giacometti; Wenceslaus Hollar and the Art of Drawing;* and the new permanent exhibition *Old Masters*, where interactive and didactic stands are integrated into some of the panels with painting.

Courses on Art History and Lectures

Traditional courses on art history opened for members of the public and students wishing to gain deeper knowledge of art history. Their main benefit is the opportunity to learn in the presence of extraordinary original artworks.

The *Focus on Art* course is accredited by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports within the further education of pedagogical employees system, under case number MŠMT-14222/2018-1-550. In 2019, its programme focused, among other things, on a new exhibition entitled *1918–1938: First Czechoslovak Republic*, mapping the art scene and its topography in conjunction with design and architecture, and with an emphasis on the pioneering work of female artists. It also reflected and contextualised works of impressionism and the art of the second half of the 20th century in connection with the exhibitions *Salm Modern #1: Dimensions of Dialogue* and *Alberto Giacometti*. In May and June, there were weekend ArtTour trips to Olomouc and Ostrava.

The *Sunday with Art* course expanded on the interpretation of artworks and thematic iconography of nature or the Old Testament, the importance of art groups and the influence of the environment of temples, treasuries or world exhibitions on the creation and perception of artworks. The *Art History Basics* course offered a primary orientation in European and Czech art history. The cycle of lectures entitled *From the Gothic to Modern Style* covered six permanent exhibitions, offering insight into the transformation of art from the Middle Ages to the beginning of modernism, thanks to the NGP's unique collections. The cycle of lectures on *Masters of European Painting* introduced monographic profiles of the key Old Masters.

The temporary and permanent exhibitions were also presented to visitors in the form of thematic lectures and guided tours conducted by specialists from various artistic and historical perspectives, not only in the Czech, but also in English and French. Some of them were held in cooperation with the French Institute in Prague.

Creative Workshops for Young People and Adults

One-day workshops, weekend workshops and longer courses focused on the mediation of artistic thinking and creative techniques. Contact with original artworks in the gallery offers a starting point for art education.

Portrait and Figure after the Masters, a series of fifteen full-day figural workshops, was designed for those interested in developing their painting skills, followed by a course called *A Walking Figure Across Time Since the Dawn of History*.

In spring and autumn, there was a preparatory course for entry exams to secondary schools specialising in fine art, conducted for pupils in the 8th and 9th grades of elementary schools. Students learned the basics of drawing, painting and printmaking, or how to create sculpture and spatial works.

Other full-day workshops called *Sea, Waves, Landscapes* focused on the themes of nature, open-air painting under the Říp hill, and the creation of oil pastels, watercolours, line drawings, collages and scratched drawings, led by Czech artist Josef Bolf. A week-long summer plenary school of landscape painting was intended for those interested in intensive painting. It focused on the artworks of the impressionists.

The Gallery as a Place of Social Inclusion

The NGP is open to visitors with special needs. They could experience art through a permanent tactile exhibition in the Convent of St Agnes of Bohemia dedicated to medieval art, exhibition tours conducted in sign languages, or an offer of educational programmes on demand.

Permanent exhibitions are opened several times a year completely free of charge, to make them accessible to all, without any barriers. Original programmes are presented as part of these events. In 2019, these were largely linked to celebrating the 223rd anniversary of the founding of the Society of Patriotic Friends of the Arts (predecessor of the NGP), International Museum and Gallery Day, Prague Museum Night, the Different City Experience festival, Architecture Day, and participation in the local Art District 7 project – under the *We Are Open* event organised by the Municipal District of Prague 7. The NGP also participated in Art Week and the Open House architecture festival. A number of programmes were developed in collaboration with artists in the field of performing arts – dance, theatre, music and performance.





EDUCATIONAL AND PUBLIC PROGRAMMES

Special Events

For the *Moving Image Department #9: Desire in Language* exhibition project, an international event entitled *Art's Birthday 2019* was organised by Czech Radio. The ground floor of the Trade Fair Palace hosted seven exclusive projects of more than 20 artists from the fields of fine art, literature, theatre and music.

To conclude the *Charter Story* exhibition, a special programme entitled *Magor and His Underground* was organised in the Salm Palace. Zuzana and Eugen Brikcius presented the role of Ivan Martin Jirous in the foundation of Charter 77. Further guests of the programme included Františka Jirousová, Viktor Stoilov, František Stárek Čuñas, Petr Blažek, Ivan Chvatík, Ivan Havel, Ondřej Kohout, Vladimír Drápal Lábus and David Němec. The Velvet Revival underground band performed at the event.

A special *Vidění stínu – Spannungsbogen* programme was held within the framework of Josef Bolf's exhibition *A Premonition of Shadow*, featuring the screening of documentary films about the author and a demonstration of virtual reality (entering Bolf's paintings using HTC Vive).

A literary evening with reading of excerpts from texts of artists and poets of *Le Grand Jeu* was developed in collaboration with the French Institute in Prague.

The Small Hall of the Trade Fair Palace premiered Martin Talaga's solo performance, *Faunus*.

Performer Sophie Jung responded during her event to the *Alberto Giacometti* exhibition, while reflecting the existential themes resonating in Giacometti's oeuvre from today's perspective. In collaboration with the Fresh Eye association for visual culture, a lecture evening on perspectives in relation to tradition and new visualisation technologies was organised on the occasion of the Giacometti exhibition.

The *Milan Grygar: 2019* exhibition inspired a performance by audiovisual artist Julie Lupačová, with her own music interconnecting visual and auditory perceptions using analogue and digital instruments. The purpose of the programme was to link various strategies and media that can be used as part of sound visualisation by means of hypertext.

There was also cooperation with the Los Amargados music group as part of the programme dedicated to Milan Grygar's birthday. Petr Vrba, George Cremaschi, Elia Moretti and Jan Chalupa set Grygar's acoustic drawings to music.

The Prague Improvisation Orchestra (PIO) in collaboration with French pioneer of live electronics Jérôme Noetinger transformed the Small Hall of the Trade Fair Palace into a temporary audio installation.

The year-round programme also included cooperation with long-term partners, SE.D.TA, Dance Prague and the Czech Dance Platform, bringing site-specific performances by contemporary artists and choreographers to the gallery premises.

The third year of the *Anežka LIVE!* summer programme offered a variety of activities: concerts, walks, workshops, yoga classes and film screenings, all in the gardens and surroundings of the Convent of St Agnes of Bohemia.

Programme and Participant Statistics in 2019

Programme Target Group	Number of Programmes	Number of Participants
Kindergartens	96	1,723
Elementary schools	543	10,317
Secondary schools and universities	395	7,773
Groups of people with special needs	7	170
Teachers	34	544
Schools total	1,075	20,527
Adults (art workshops, courses, guided tours, lectures)	746	17,332
NGP for children (workshops, playrooms and studios)	320	10,346
Adults and children total	1,066	27,678
Anežka LIVE!	62	2,663
Total	2,203	50,868





DOCUMENTATION OF COLLECTIONS, ACQUISITIONS,
CONSERVATION AND RESTORATION, METHODOLOGICAL
CENTRE FOR MUSEUMS OF FINE ARTS, PUBLISHING

DOCUMENTATION OF COLLECTIONS

At the end of 2019, the collections of the National Gallery Prague were registered in the Central Register of Collections kept by the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic and contained a total of 401,470 items in the following categories:

Sub-collections	Number of collection items
Paintings	17,004
Sculptures	9,229
Contemporary Art and New Media	755
Prints	269,095
Drawings	66,987
Asian, African and American Art	13,753
Architecture	23,506
Facsimiles	1,141
Total	401,470

Under the care of the NGP's collections fund, an inventory of 27,581 items was conducted in 2019.

The digitisation of the collections continued, with visual documentation completed for 5,500 collection items, comprising approx. 10,000 photographs.

ACQUISITIONS

Under the plan to develop its collections, acquisitions by the NGP in 2019 focused on works of extraordinary gallery quality, which could be incorporated into permanent exhibitions.

Purchases

Karel Škréta (1610–1674), *Death of Princess Drahomíra*, 1641
In 2019, the NGP received a grant from the Ministry of Culture to purchase a painting that belongs among of the most important works of early Baroque painting in Bohemia. The painting is a cultural monument and the Czech state has exercised its first option to buy through the NGP.

Anonymous, *Guanyin as Madonna with a Child*, China, Dehua workshops, c. 1700, white glaze porcelain and residue of polychromy and gold plating

Johann Hiebel (1679–1755), *Ora pro nobis – mural design for the Mirror Chapel at the Clementinum*, drawing with red chalk, c. 1723

Zbyněk Sekal (1923–1998), 30 prints

Jiří Petrbok (1962), 5 paintings

Daniel Pitín (1977), 7 paintings

Donations

Felix Hesse's Collection of Japanese Zen Buddhist paintings and calligraphy
In 2019, the NGP acquired from a donor from the Netherlands a unique collection of classical and modern works by Zen masters of the 16th to 20th centuries, consisting of more than 500 works and representing a unique collection of Zen art in Europe.

Marian Karel (1944), *Prism*, 1999, glass and steel

Daniel Pitín (1977), *White Room II*, 2018, oil and acrylic on canvas

Agenda for Exporting Objects of Cultural Value

The NGP performs activities associated with exporting objects of cultural value from the Czech Republic in accordance with Act No. 71/1994 Coll., on the sale and export of objects of cultural value. In 2019, 387 applications for export certificates were received and 367 were issued, 234 of those being permanent exports and 133 being fixed-term export certificates for works to be exhibited abroad.





CONSERVATION AND RESTORATION

Department of Conservation and Restoration

During 2019, a number of challenging conservation projects were carried out in relation to the preparation of the NGP's new permanent exhibitions and loans to domestic and foreign galleries and institutions.

For the *Old Masters* exhibition in the Schwarzenberg Palace, a number of important works were restored – for example, Angolo Bronzino's *Portrait of Cosimo I de' Medici*, as well as completion of a very challenging conservation project of the large-scale *Polyptych of the Adoration and Saints* by Antonio Vivarini da Murano. Another technologically challenging task was to restore two double-painted *Wings of the Hohenburg Altarpiece* by Hans Holbein the Elder, made possible by the generous support of BNP Paribas Czech Republic and Slovakia and the BNP Paribas Foundation. In addition, a number of expert interventions were carried out on most of the works displayed.

A very demanding project was also the restoration of a large selection of paintings and sculptures as part of the preparations for the *1796–1918: Art of the Long Century* permanent exhibition in the Trade Fair Palace. A long list of restored works included, for example, Josef Mánes's *Josefina* and *The Egg Market in Prague* by Luděk Masold. Part of the restoration work for this exhibition was carried out in collaboration with external experts, as well as teachers and students from the Prague Academy of Fine Arts.

A total of 180 artworks were treated, 69 of them in collaboration with external experts.

Chemical and Technological Laboratory

In 2019, a scientific survey was carried out on about 140 objects, and about 300 micro-samples of paintings, polychromy, wood and textiles were processed. A total of seven laboratory protocols were prepared within the framework of expert activities, to check the authenticity of artworks for the Police of the Czech Republic and private owners.

The laboratory's experts conducted comprehensive non-invasive analysis of dozens of works from the NGP's collections.

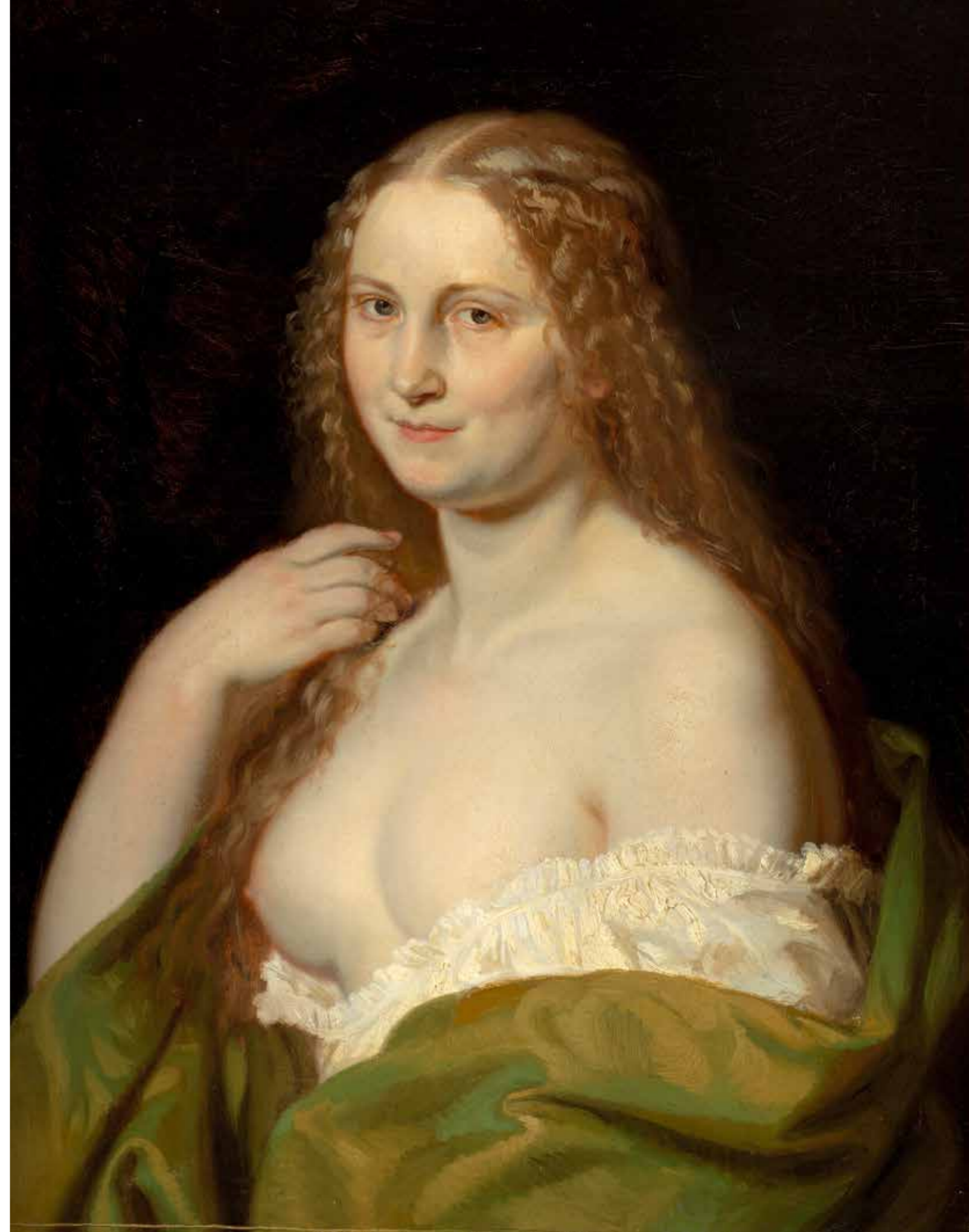
METHODOLOGICAL CENTRE FOR MUSEUMS OF FINE ARTS

The activities of the Methodological Centre for Museums of Fine Arts are an expanded form of public service provided by the NGP for the owners and managers of fine art collections, in accordance with Act No. 122/2000 Coll., on the protection of collections of a museum nature.

In 2019, the Methodological Centre provided consultation and advisory services based on public demand. The Centre organised two workshops on the *Work of Museum Registrars*, which presented the participants with basic rules for the proper administration of museum exhibitions and related rules for the international mobility of collections. There was a workshop held on *Framing of Paintings*, with practical examples of good practice in framing, and a seminar on *Plaster in Museum Collections*, where participants learned about various aspects of the care of plaster collection items.

As part of its editorial activity, the Centre published a second publication in its series of collection-care methodologies, entitled *How to Administer a Museum Exhibition? A Methodological Manual for Museum Registrars*.

Information about the Centre's activities, including documents from past events, is regularly updated on the Centre's website (www.mc-galerie.cz).



PUBLISHING

The Publishing Department of the NGP is responsible for the institution's publishing activities, in close cooperation with art historians, curators, lecturers, the library and other workplaces. In 2019, in addition to traditional printed materials – catalogues, exhibition guides and periodicals – it published the extensive monographs *Japanese Woodblock Prints and Collectors in the Czech Lands*; *Emissary from the Far East: Vojtěch Chytil and the Collecting of Modern Chinese Painting in Interwar Czechoslovakia*; and *Norbert Grund (1717–1797)*. The publishing activity also included three co-edited publications: the catalogue *Schöne Madonnen aus Salzburg: Gussstein um 1400*, in collaboration with the Mining and Gothic Museum in Leogang; the monograph *Nürnberg als Kunstzentrum des Heiligen Römischen Reiches*, with the participation of Deutscher Kunstverlag; and the publication *UNES-CO aneb Divadýlko pro turisty*, with the participation of the Egon Schiele Art Centre in Český Krumlov and Kateřina Šedá.

The NGP released a total of 35 publications in 2019, most of them in Czech and English. Thanks to their expert and visual quality, NGP publications have increasingly drawn the attention of not only Czech but also international specialists and the wider public.

Monographs

- 1 Markéta Hánová, *Japanese Woodblock Prints and Collectors in the Czech Lands* (Czech and English)
- 2 Michaela Pejšochová, *Emissary from the Far East: Vojtěch Chytil and the Collecting of Modern Chinese Painting in Interwar Czechoslovakia* (Czech and English)
- 3 Kateřina Šedá (ed.), *UNES-CO aneb Divadýlko pro turisty* (Czech)
- 4 Marcela Vondráčková (ed.), *Norbert Grund (1717–1797)* (Czech)
- 5 Jiří Fajt, *Nürnberg als Kunstzentrum des Heiligen Römischen Reiches* (German)

Catalogues and Guides

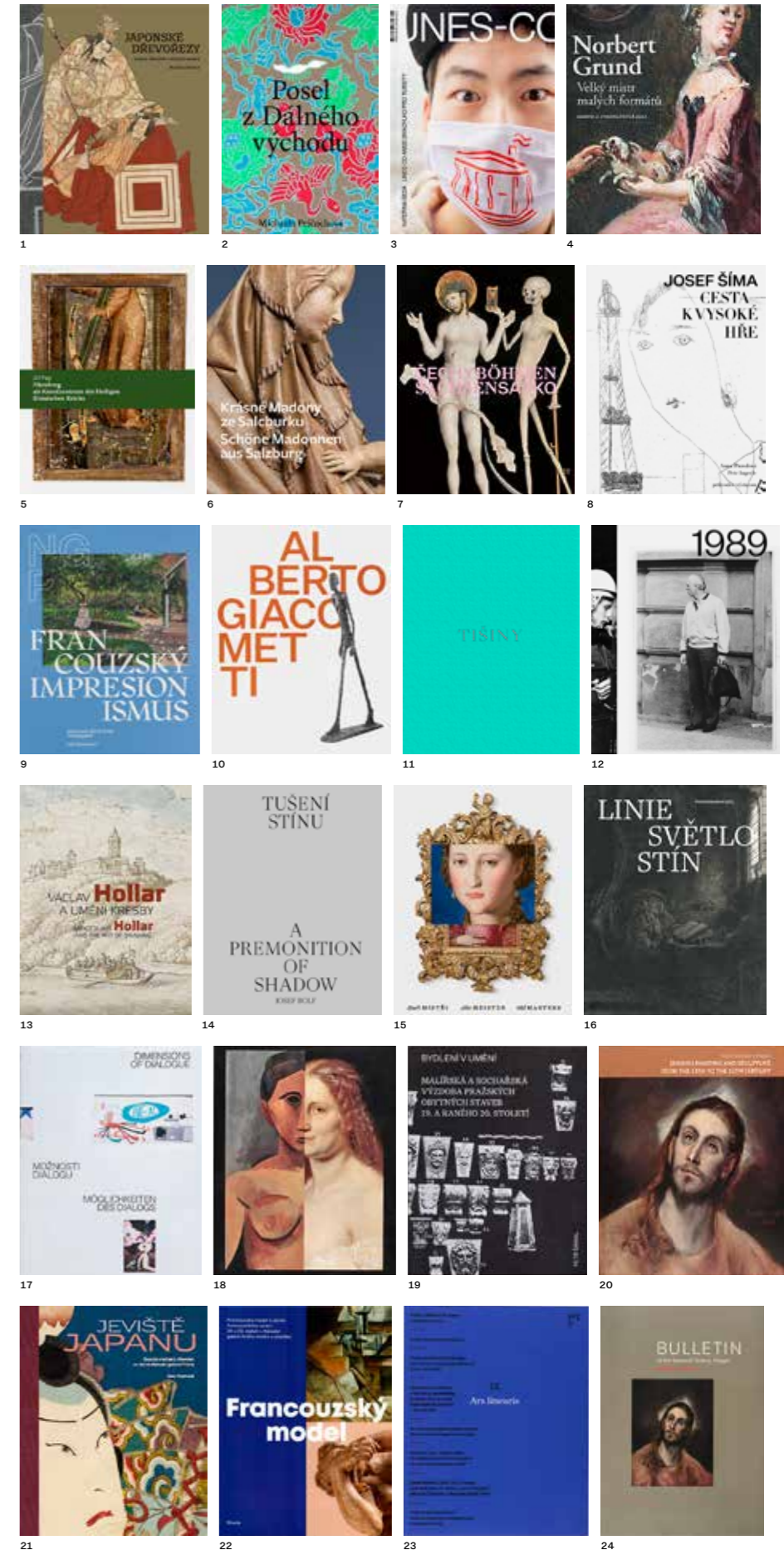
- 6 Ivo Hlobil – Hermann Mayrhofer – Marius Winzeler – Štěpánka Chlumská (eds.), *Schöne Madonnen aus Salzburg: Gussstein um 1400* (Czech–German)
- 7 Olga Kotková – Marius Winzeler (eds.), *Böhmen–Sachsen* (Czech–German)
- 8 Anna Pravdová (ed.), *Josef Šíma: The Road to Le Grand Jeu* (Czech and English)
- 9 Petr Šámal (ed.), *French Impressionism* (Czech and English)
- 10 Julia T. Bailey (ed.), *Alberto Giacometti* (Czech and English)
- 11 Adam Budak – Jitka Hanzlová (eds.), *Jitka Hanzlová: Silences* (Czech and English)
- 12 Tomáš Pospěch, *1989* (Czech–English)
- 13 Alena Volrábová, *Wenceslaus Hollar and the Art of Drawings* (Czech–English)
- 14 Josef Bolf – Otto M. Urban (eds.), *Josef Bolf: A Premonition of Shadow* (Czech–English)
- 15 Marius Winzeler (ed.), *Old Masters* (Czech–English–German)
- 16 Petra Zelenková (ed.), *Line, Light, Shade: Selected Masterpieces of European Drawings and Prints from the 16th and 18th Centuries* (Czech and English)
- 17 Julia T. Bailey (ed.), *Dimensions of Dialogue* (Czech–English–German)
- 18 Veronika Hulíková – Otto M. Urban – Filip Wittlich (eds.), *Art of the Long Century 1796–1918* (Czech and English)
- 19 Petr Šámal, *Living in Art: Painted and Sculpted Ornamentation of Prague Residential Buildings in the Nineteenth and Early Twentieth Centuries* (Czech and English)

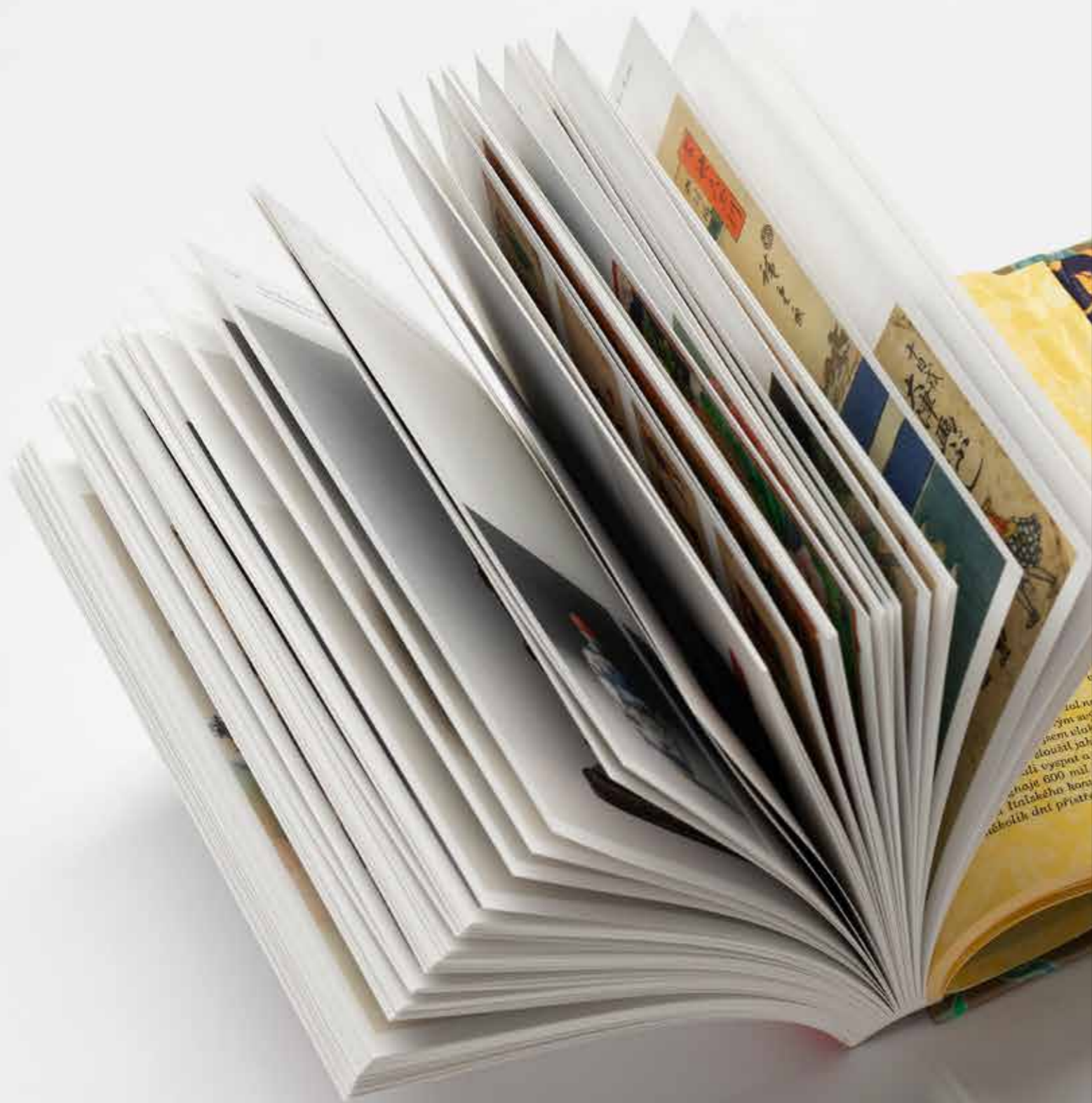
Inventory Catalogues

- 20 Pavel Štěpánek, *Spanish Painting and Sculpture from the 13th to the 19th Century* (English)
- 21 Jana Ryndová, *Japan's Stage: Osaka and Kyoto Woodblock Prints in the Collection of the National Gallery Prague* (Czech and English)
- 22 Markéta Theinhardt (ed.), *The "French Model" and the Collection of French Art of the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries. Part 1* (Czech and English)

Periodicals

- 23 Alena Volrábová (ed.), *Ars linearis IX* (Czech–English)
- 24 Martin Musilek (ed.), *Bulletin of the National Gallery Prague XXIX/2019* (Czech–English)





...zima 1919
...zde mám
...z Vladivostoku,
...řekina, posílám něco
...váš i album fotografií.

...na cestu oholo světa s třemi
...mými přáteli, které jsem vezl
...jsem elabem projel celou Sibiř a Asii.
...dlouhý jako pomocník kucharšky, utíral
...dělá výšpat a najíst. Projel jsem Japonskem
...je 600 mil. nahoru do Han-Kou, kam jsem
...Hankého konventu (státuto cansonstorno). Tam
...několik dní přístřeší a po dlouhé době jsem se doeyt



Knihu s úctou věnuji
MUDr. Mariánu Grácovi,
prapravnouci Vojtěcha Chytila,
který s celou rodinou
střeží památku Vojtěcha Chytila
až do dnešních dní.



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SCIENCE AND RESEARCH

Scientific and expert activities at the NGP are closely linked to the main tasks under its Statutes, in particular, managing the collections and exhibiting, educating and making the most valuable works accessible to the general public. It covers the whole spectrum from basic research to applied research and the development of new certified methodologies, and the creation of databases for the research community in the Czech Republic and abroad and other interested parties.

Long-term tasks include preparing unique materials and digitising data stored in the Archive. The NGP Library has a valuable collection, which is being continuously and systematically developed through the institutional support of the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic. The NGP continues to expand instruments and technological equipment in the chemical laboratory and restoration workshop in line with the professional capacity of its employees, which is made possible thanks to grant projects and subsidies from the Ministry of Culture and other ministries. This gives rise to unique expertise, whose significance goes beyond the realm of galleries and museums and makes the NGP a sought-after partner for institutions in other academic and practical fields.

Our institution has established partnerships in the field of applied research with a number of universities, research institutes and investigative bodies of the Police of the Czech Republic, with a focus on examining the materials used in fine arts linked to other fields of research, preserving cultural heritage, authenticating artefacts and creating databases of samples for use in forensic testing, etc. An integrated approach using accurate analyses and art history methodology brings a whole range of new insights and perspectives.

In 2019, short-term traineeships and exchanges of NGP curators, restoration experts and lecturers with the Staatliche Kunstsammlungen Dresden continued through the *Dresden-Prague Exchange Programme*. Participating staff members represented the NGP's professional and scientific research activities and research cooperation, and during exchange stays, each participant carried out their own research project. Other examples of international and local cooperation include exhibition projects in partnership with institutions such as Ordrupgaard, the British Museum in London, the Royal Collection in Windsor, the Devonshire Collection at Chatsworth, JRUL Manchester, Kupferstichkabinett Berlin, Hamburger Kunsthalle, Kunsthalle Karlsruhe, Museum Rietberg Zürich, and others.

In the field of cooperation with other Czech research institutions, a success was the addition of articles from the *Bulletin of the National Gallery Prague*, published with the institutional financial support of the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic, to the Ebsco – Art Source world online database, one of the largest specialist e-resources in the field of art, architecture and design.

Grant Projects

2019–2021

Painter Josef Mánes (1820–1871) – Between Romanticism and Realism, Applied and Fine Art, National and International Academism and Modernity (GACR, GA 19-10562S, NGP Principal Investigator: Dr. Markéta Dlábková) In cooperation with the Institute of Art History of the Czech Academy of Sciences

2019–2021

Karel Škréta (1610–1674) and University Theses in the Czech Lands (GACR, GA 19-18098S, NGP Principal Investigator: Dr. Petra Zelenková)

2017–2020

Comprehensive Instrumental Methods for Assessing the Authenticity of Artworks, a Material Database of Twentieth Century Colour Layers (MV VI20172020050, NGP Investigator: Ing. Radka Šefců)

2018–2022

Mobile Device Devoted to Imaging and Analysis of the Layered Paintings and Polychromy of the Works of Old Art (NAKI II, DG18P020VV006, NGP Investigator: Mgr. Štěpánka Chlumská) In cooperation with the Institute of Theoretical and Applied Mechanics of the Czech Academy of Sciences and the Czech Technical University in Prague

Technology of Treatment and Identification of Degradation Processes of Ceramic Finds from Hradčany Palaces – Methods of Restoration and Conservation of Porous and Dense Ceramics and Porcelain (NAKI II, DG18P020VV028, NGP Investigator: Ing. Radka Šefců) In cooperation with the University of Chemistry and Technology, Prague and the Institute of Archaeology of the Czech Academy of Sciences

2019–2022

LINDAT-CLARIAH-CZ: Digital Research Infrastructure for Language Technologies, Arts and Humanities (LM 2018101, NGP Investigator: Tomáš Vavříčka)

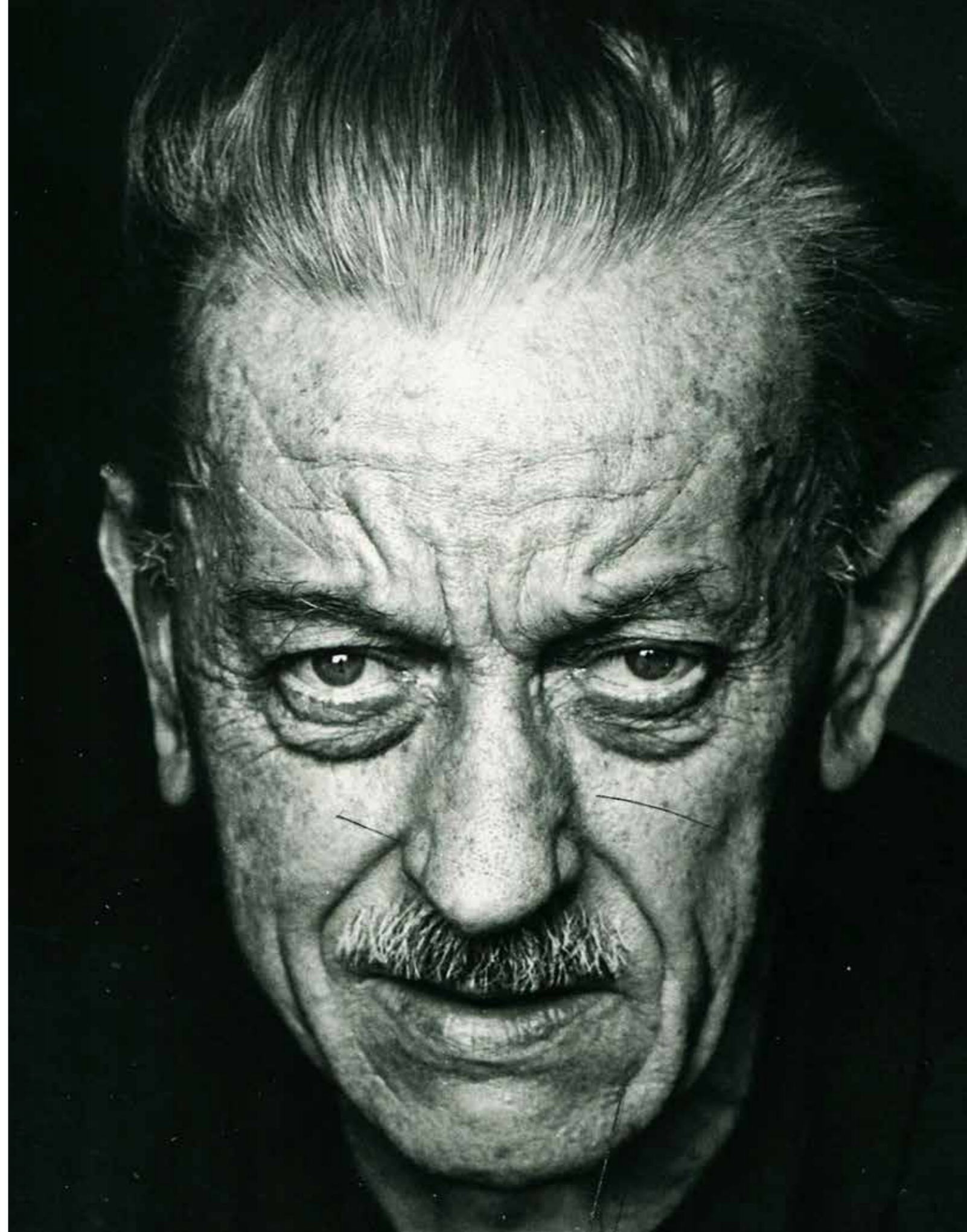
Colloquiums

28/5 2019

Workshop on Survey of Paintings of the First Half of the 20th Century – Imaging, Non-invasive and Non-destructive Techniques, organised by the NGP in collaboration with the Institute of Criminalistics of the Police of the Czech Republic, in the framework of the VI20172020050 project – Comprehensive Instrumental Methods for Assessing the Authenticity of Artworks, a Material Database of Twentieth Century Colour Layers

9/12 2019

Ars Linearis Colloquium: Colloquium on Art on Paper and Vellum (since 2013), organised by the NGP together with the Institute of Art History of the Czech Academy of Sciences, the Institute of Christian Art of the Catholic Theological Faculty of Charles University, Moravian Gallery in Brno and other scientific institutions in the Czech Republic.





SCIENCE AND RESEARCH

Conferences with Contributions by NGP Employees

NGP employees regularly visit and present at a number of important Czech and international conferences. Last year, they presented their contributions at the following international expert meetings: *Contemporary Takes on Kupka* in Helsinki; the Annual Conference of the Association for Asian Studies in Denver; and *TechnArt: the European Conference on the Use of Analytical Methods for Characterization of Works of Art* in Bruges, Belgium.

Library

The NGP Library is a specialised library dedicated to the fine arts (painting, sculpture, prints and drawing), architecture, art history and art theory. It provides library and information services to NGP staff for their professional and scientific work, as well as to the public, making its collection available for in-house use. The Library also provides search and interlibrary loan services from Czech and foreign book collections.

The Library offers research services via Verbis, the electronic library catalogue, which contains as many as 118,175 publication entries (of a total 119,968 in the Library's book collection), due to ongoing retrospective processing. Apart from publication and magazine processing, the library also proves beneficial through analytical descriptions of periodical and compendium articles (as of 2019, the Verbis database had a total of 30,394 articles). The readers have the opportunity to use Portaro, the Library's online catalogue available to the public via the NGP's website, allowing for searches in a user-friendly environment. The NGP Library also contributes its records to the Union Catalogue of the Czech Republic.

Furthermore, professional information is provided by public information sources and licensed professional article databases. Since 2019, the NGP has been involved in the CzechElib project through which the NGP received access to the Art & Architecture Sources by EBSCO. The guarantor of the project is the National Technical Library and the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports. The database is an important information resource for the fine arts, architecture and cognate fields. The NGP Library also offers access to *JSTOR*, an equally important foreign electronic article database.

The Library's collection consists of specialist publications on the theory and history of the fine arts, and exhibition catalogues of Czech and foreign artists and collections. Auction catalogues form a specific and important part of the collection, as well as the large professional periodical collection, which includes texts of Czech and foreign origin dating since 1860. The book collection also comprises reference libraries of individual collections and professional departments of the NGP, which the Library manages. The reference libraries of the Collection of Asian and African Art, the Collection of Prints and Drawings and the Collection of Modern and Contemporary Art have particularly rich book collections.

A sizeable historical book collection, which includes publications from the former Library of the Society of Patriotic Friends of the Arts, comprising old prints, forms a significant part of the NGP Library collection.

In 2019, the NGP started working with the National Museum Library on the Provenio project, a virtual reconstruction of scattered provenance Bohemian book groups in domestic and foreign libraries.

International exchange with similar world institutions and their libraries represents an important source of foreign literature: 2019 saw the NGP Library acquire 622 professional publications by exchange.

The NGP Library participates in the *Subject Gateway Art and Architecture* (ART) project, organised with the help of the VISK 8/B grant programme of the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic. The project's purpose is to use a single overarching interface for simple searches of art studies literature in the catalogues of all participating libraries at once. Apart from a search engine, the *Subject Gateway Art and Architecture* (ART) portal provides information about the exhibitions, book publishing and events of the participating institutions. The portal is also accessible via the NGP's website.

In 2019, 1,086 readers visited the NGP Library, borrowing 3,274 professional publications (2,562 for reference only, 712 off-site loans).

Archive

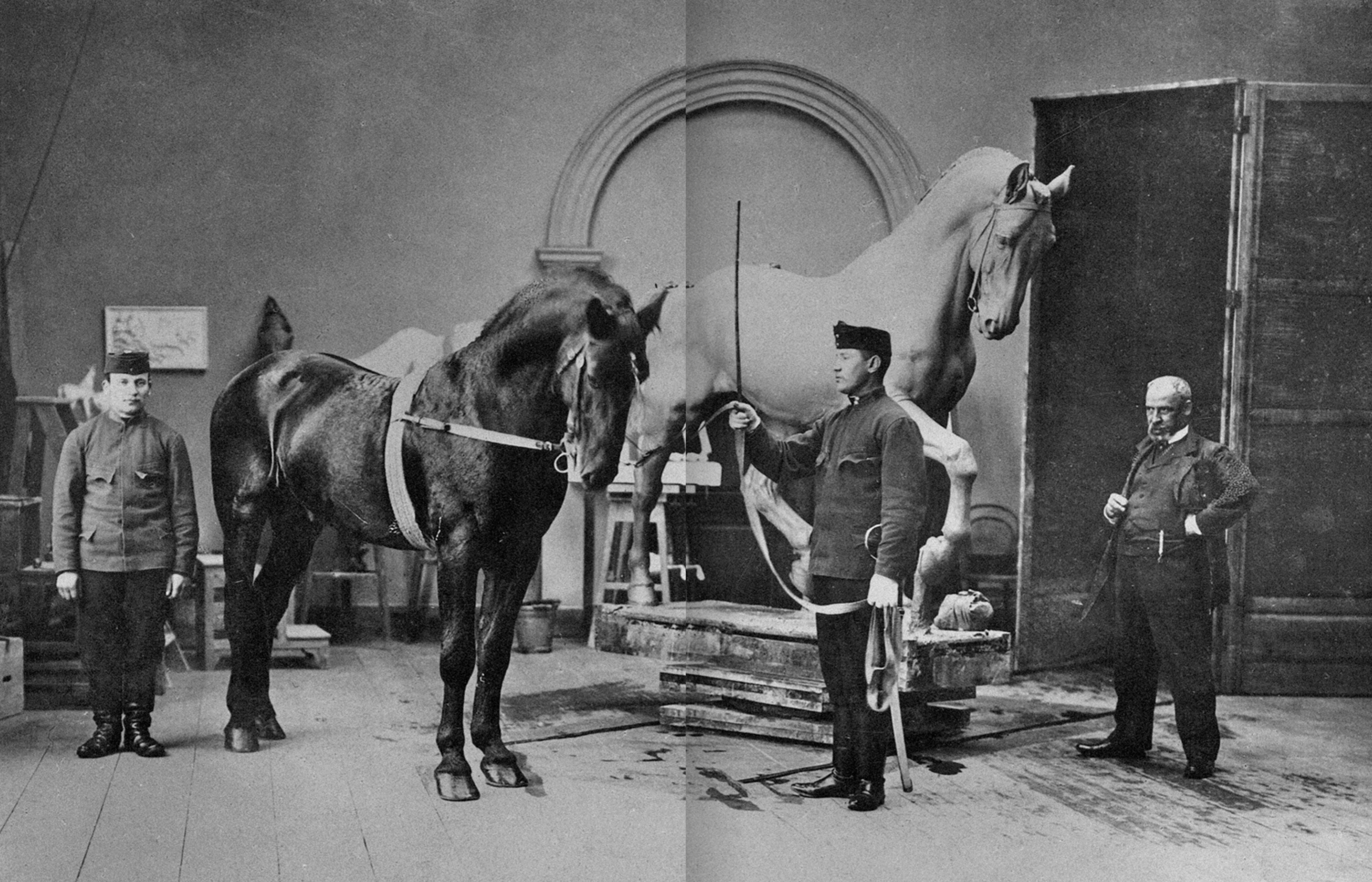
In the system of archives in the Czech Republic, the NGP Archive has the status of a specialised archive. Its activities are based on the relevant provisions of the Act No. 499/2004 Coll., on archiving and records management, as amended. The Archive's purpose is to acquire, process, register and protect archival materials and thus provide NGP researchers as well as experts with access to documents.

In 2019, the Archive staff continued to process archival collections, making them available to researchers via inventory lists. The most important newly processed items include the archival collections of Ota Bubeniček – Jindřich Bubeniček, Lev Nerad – Rudolf Ryšavý, Luděk Marold, the State Collection of Old Masters, documentation of NGP exhibitions (1945–1964) and the Collection of Posters (1969–1980). Eight collections were newly processed and made accessible, 16 new archive aids were published.

The Archive is a research base mainly for fine arts and art history experts both from the Czech Republic and abroad. In 2019, 126 researchers visited the Archive, carrying out 308 research visits. The Archive staff also answered 160 research queries.

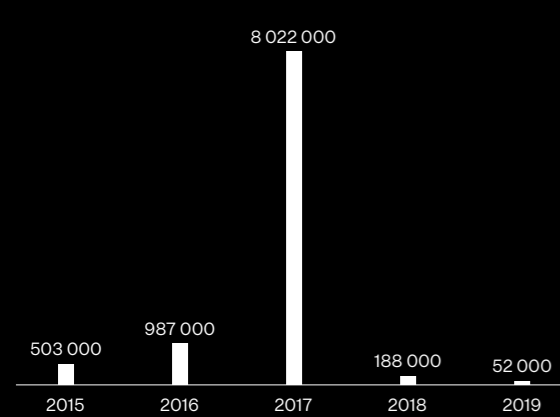
In 2019, the NGP Archive acquired two major personal collections, namely the estates of painters and printmakers Jaromír Stretti-Zamponi and Mario Stretti. The photography estate of sculptor Emanuel Kodet was integrated into personal collections. Stanislav Sucharda's personal collection was supplemented by an extensive set of photographs of his work. The Archive was significantly expanded to include documents of the Collection of Modern and Contemporary Art. Throughout the year, cuttings, catalogues and posters evidencing the NGP's activities in 2019 were collected.

Preparations continued for the publication of an edition commemorating painter Ferdinand Engelmüller (1867–1924). It is planned to be part of the *Art in the Archive* publishing series. Cooperation continued with the Institute of Art History of the Czech Academy of Sciences on the database of art exhibitions in Bohemia (1820–1950).

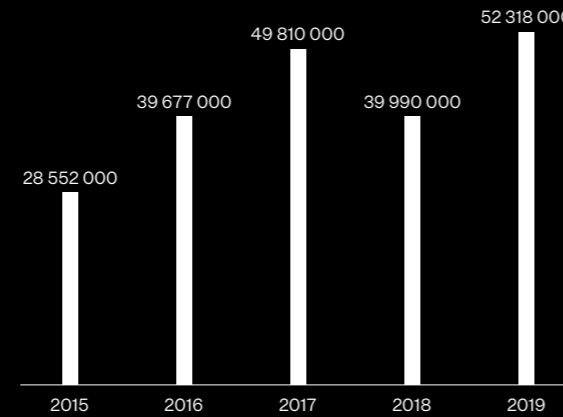


ECONOMIC ACTIVITY AND STATISTICS

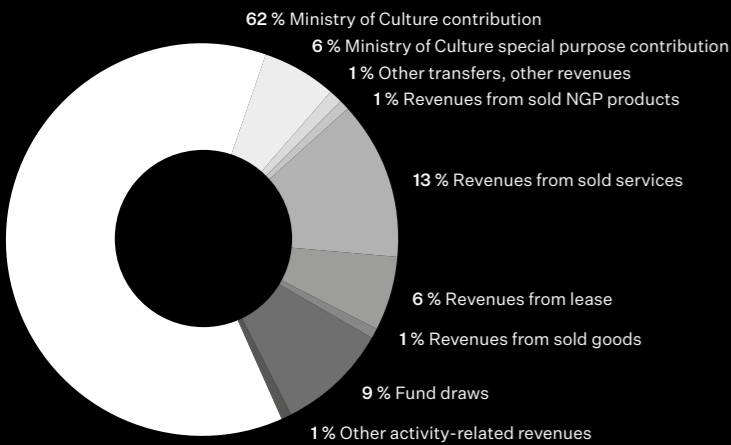
Year-on-year net income comparison (in CZK)



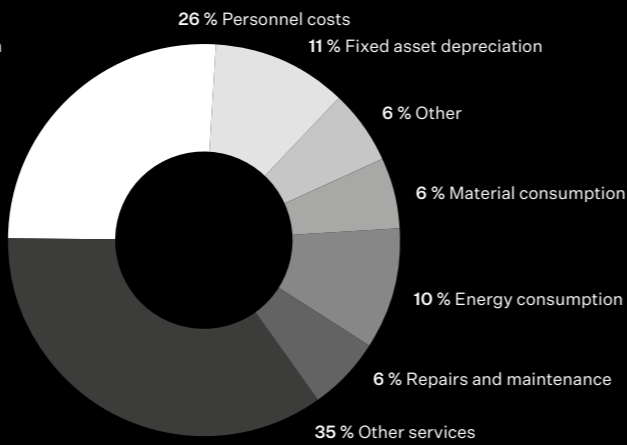
Year-on-year admissions comparison (in CZK)



Revenues from core activity in 2019



Core activity costs in 2019



Net income

In 2019, the net income from the NGP's core activity amounted to CZK -3,711,093, and from its economic activity to CZK 3,763,022. The organisation achieved a net income of CZK 52,000 (as compared to CZK 188,000 in 2018, CZK 8 million in 2017 and CZK 987,000 in 2016).

Thanks to an additional transfer from the Ministry of Culture, the NGP managed to keep this year's net income in line with the established trend. It has shown long-term stability since 2012 and was influenced by exceptional circumstances only in 2017.

Economic activity

The NGP's economic activity generated a total net income of CZK 3,763,022. Important advertising revenues, mainly from ŠKODA AUTO, a.s. and Komeční banka, a.s., amounted to CZK 2,500,000 and CZK 500,000, respectively.

Planned budget and achieved results comparison

The 2019 planned budget was based on the costs and revenues of previous years. The main issue was lack of drawing on non-investment funds related to the administration of state-owned property contracts, which accounted for more than one third of the budgeted costs of repair and maintenance (account 511).

Conversely, account 501 – Material consumption, where the highest item is the purchase of consumables for the exhibition activity, was overdrawn.

Revenues

The NGP's total revenues in 2019 amounted to CZK 474,408,867, of which CZK 322,068,976 was accounted for by a contribution from the Ministry of Culture. Main revenues consisted of the aforementioned contribution by the Ministry of Culture, revenues from sold services (13%) and drawing on funds (9%).

In 2019, the NGP's core activity generated CZK 62,755,467 in total revenues from sold services (as compared to CZK 49,894,590 in the previous year). The year-on-year increase in revenues from sold services was caused especially by the year-on-year increase in admission revenues: in 2019, admission revenues amounted to CZK 52,318,000, as compared to CZK 40,000,000 in 2018. This increase was thanks to the appropriate choice of exhibition projects, especially the very successful *French Impressionism* exhibition in the Kinsky Palace.

Revenue from sold NGP goods remained approximately the same as in 2018 (CZK 6,322,000 compared to CZK 6,321,000). There was a significant increase in revenue from sold goods (CZK 4,844,000 as compared to CZK 3,887,000 in 2018).

Revenues from lease totalled CZK 25,550,000 in 2019, which represents a year-on-year increase of nearly CZK 8,650,000 (as compared to CZK 16,900,000 in 2018).

Costs

Core activity costs amounted to CZK 474,348,648. In 2018, they totalled CZK 442,048,386 and only CZK 427,396,651 and CZK 433,638,052 in 2017 and 2016, respectively. Service costs (35%), personnel costs (26%), asset depreciation (11%), and energy consumption (10%) continued to represent the largest cost groups.

Other services

Other services costs amounted to CZK 166,529,000, while the approved budget was CZK 168,067,000. Building security (CZK 53,537,000; 32%) and exhibition services (CZK 34,863,000; 21%) represented the biggest cost items.

ECONOMIC ACTIVITY AND STATISTICS

Extra-budgetary sources of financing

Extra-budgetary sources of financing included two grant projects financed by the Grant Agency of the Czech Republic (GACR). In 2019, the NGP obtained CZK 1,400,000 through these means. Thanks to funds from these two grants, NGP curators were able to carry out expert research that will result in a professional publication. The grant topics are closely linked to and help to process and popularise the NGP's collections.

Donations from private entities amounted to CZK 19,288,000 in 2019. Komerční banka, a.s. was the biggest donor (CZK 7,500,000).

NGP funds

A detailed description of the creation, draws and planned use of individual funds is provided opposite.

Free-of-charge property transfers

There were no free-of-charge property transfers in 2019.

Trend of funds in 2019 (in CZK)

	Opening balance	Creation	Draws	Closing balance
NGP fund total	75,086,574	72,498,516	87,573,953	60,011,137

Remuneration Fund (in CZK)

Opening balance (as of 01/01/2019)	Creation	Draws	Closing balance (as of 31/12/2019)
3,613,557	150,730	1,448,844	2,315,443

Reserve Fund (in CZK)

Opening balance (as of 01/01/2019)	Creation	Draws	Closing balance (as of 31/12/2019)
42,663,506	19,288,825	30,341,866	31,610,464

Property Reproduction Fund

Opening balance	Creation	Draws	Closing balance	Purpose/Project
27,666,529				
	51,235,076			Creation from depreciation
		20,095,700		Depreciation deduction
		21,192,162		Acquisition of small tangible fixed assets
		13,001,416		Acquisitions
	37,683			Property Reproduction Fund made up of improved net income
	51,272,759	54,289,278	24,650,009	

Social and Cultural Fund

Opening balance	Creation	Draws	Closing balance	Purpose/Project
1,142,981	1,786,202			
		1,300,584		Food allowance
		15,000		Non-refundable social assistance
		43,880		Bonuses and donations
		134,500		Pension insurance
			1,435,219	

SUPPORTERS OF THE NATIONAL GALLERY PRAGUE

SUPPORTERS OF THE NATIONAL GALLERY PRAGUE

Support by private and corporate donors is essential for the NGP. Thanks to this support, we can carry out all activities in full, present extraordinary artworks to the general public, and take care of them so that they are maintained for future generations.

The NGP has consistently worked to acquire new individual supporters or club membership applicants, and developed and improved relations with existing donors and corporate partners.

A wide range of attractive benefits were prepared for private donors in 2019: from private tours of exhibitions and meetings with artists and curators, to invitations to opening nights and other social events. Corporate supporters could choose from a variety of options of how to establish a long-term and functional partnership – becoming a partner of the institution, or supporting a specific exhibition, a project or a selected educational activity. In the long-term, we strive to cultivate the ground for mutually beneficial respectable partnerships and to develop good partnership relations. The NGP relies on its reputation, follows trends and is constantly looking for new ways to communicate with its partners and supporters.

NGP Club of Friends

In 2019, the NGP Club of Friends enjoyed a significant increase in membership and the number of friends exceeded 4,000. By the end of 2018, the whole NGP started using its new visual identity and this meant also the visual transformation of the NGP Club of Friends. This was gradually reflected in all forms of communication about the membership programme. Along with graphic innovations, two new categories – Family and Senior – were introduced. This was immediately reflected in a new stratification of members in each category, dominated by Senior (48%) and Friend Plus (24%).

In 2019, a total of six types of guided tours were organised for members of the NGP Club of Friends on 48 occasions, which were attended by nearly 1,000 members. Among them, there were exclusive guided tours of the *František Kupka* and *Bonjour, Monsieur Gauguin* exhibitions outside of normal opening hours, and the continuation of the popular *Meet the NGP* cycle. Thanks to this programme, members of the Club of Friends had an opportunity to get acquainted in detail with the NGP's collections. For the first time, members were also given guided tours in English. A workshop was organised for the Family and Supporter member categories. There were four thematically diverse workshops where children tried out how to make a gallery, how to buy a painting, and also discovered how the master sculptor of the 20th century, Alberto Giacometti, created his sculptures.

Club of Patrons

In 2019, there were several changes made to the concept of the Club of Patrons. Benefits were adjusted to make access to the NGP's collections and temporary and permanent exhibitions simpler and more convenient. The aim was to bring the patrons closer to the gallery and give them an opportunity to experience what a regular visitor will not experience.

A number of exceptional experiences were prepared in 2019 for members of the Club of Patrons and those interested in individual support, such as a gala dinner to support Stanislav Kolíbal's exhibition project for the Venice Biennale. It was followed by a short accompanying programme in the Giardini itself during the opening of the event.

Traditional – and among the patrons, very popular – VIP previews were also organised for the exhibitions *Josef Šíma: The Road to Le Grand Jeu* in the Waldstein Riding School and *Alberto Giacometti* in the Trade Fair Palace. Senior representatives of the NGP partners could participate in a special benefit auction prepared in collaboration with the Via Foundation, which took place on the occasion of the *French Impressionism* exhibition.

NGP Partners

Komerční banka, a.s. remains the NGP's general partner. Thanks to this partnership, children and young people up to 26 years of age could continue to visit all NGP exhibitions free of charge in 2019. The successful cooperation expanded to cover also Komerční banka's employees, for whom the NGP prepared an open day in October. During the event, they could visit the Trade Fair Palace and all of its temporary and permanent exhibitions, and take part in guided tours and workshops for children.

The successful partnership with ŠKODA AUTO, a.s. also continued in 2019. The NGP prepared guided tours for the company's employees and a family workshop in the Convent of St Agnes of Bohemia. Also a unique event took place in November in the Trade Fair Place – the world première of the new Škoda Octavia.

The Pudil Family Foundation, which supported the restoration of Zdeněk Pešánek's works from the NGP's collections, continued its generous support. This restoration work should be completed in 2021.

The *Alberto Giacometti* exhibition received extremely generous support from the Pro arte investment fund and Libor Winkler, which made it possible for this extraordinary project to be implemented.

The Zdeněk Sklenář Gallery significantly supported the *Milan Grygar: 2019* exhibition project in the Great Hall of the Trade Fair Palace.

Bohemia Sekt, s. r. o. remained a partner of the NGP Club of Friends in 2019, supplying sparkling wine to NGP previews and other events.

Karlovarské minerální vody, a. s. became the NGP's new partner, providing soft drinks for the NGP's educational programmes in 2019.

Our cooperation also continued with Bosch, which supplied technical equipment for the preparation and implementation of exhibitions.

The NGP's exhibition activities were further supported by Pictoart, which secured the adjustment of works for the 1989 exhibition. This exhibition was financially supported also by the Committee of Good Will – the Olga Havlová Foundation.





SUPPORTERS OF THE NATIONAL GALLERY PRAGUE

Acknowledgements

Academy of Arts, Architecture and Design in Prague
Academy of Fine Arts in Prague
Archdiocese of Prague
Architecture Day (KRUH Association)
Art District 7
Art for Good
Artalk.cz
ArtMap
Biograf 16
BNP Paribas Czech Republic and Slovakia
BNP Paribas Foundation
Bohemia Sekt, s. r. o.
Book World
Bosch Czech Republic
Café Jedna
Capital City of Prague
Czech Academy of Sciences
Czech Centres
Czech Radio
Czech Television
CzechTourism
Embassy of the French Republic in Prague
Fondation Giacometti
French Institute in Prague
Goethe Institute in Prague
Institute of Art History of the Czech Academy of Sciences
Karlovarské minerální vody, a. s.
Komerční banka, a. s.
Libor Winkler
Lunchmeat
Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic
Monitora Media
Moravian Gallery in Brno
Municipal District of Prague 1
Municipal District of Prague 7
Museum of Decorative Arts in Prague
National Heritage Institute
NET4GAS
Ordrupgaard
Pelikán Krofta Kohoutek law firm
Prague City Tourism
Pro arte
Radio1
SE.S.TA – Centre for Choreographic Development
Senate of the Parliament of the Czech Republic
ŠKODA AUTO, a. s.
Staatliche Kunstsammlungen Dresden
Staatliches Museum für Archäologie Chemnitz
Studio Hrdinů
The Mining and Gothic Museum in Leogang (Bergbau- und Gotikmuseum Leogang)
The Pudil Family Foundation
Václav Dejčmar
Václav Havlůj
Vogue CS
Xantypa
Zdeněk Sklenář Gallery



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