

National Gallery Prague Annual Report 2022

National Gallery. That is 400,000 works of art and seven impressive buildings. These are the values that 250 people take care of, develop and make accessible every day with a fascination that transcends the boundaries of employment. This list is not "just" a report of what we have inherited. For us, it is synonymous with the future. In each of these items there is a future promise.

In 2022, we were proud to be part of the Czech Presidency of the Council of the European Union. The *Flower Union* project had a detached perspective, it refreshed and connected. The project was able to reflect the strengths of the Czech art and craft tradition, but at the same time the values conveyed by this project were as up-to-date as possible. It brought up the issue of responsible behaviour towards nature and the use of resources. The question of the role of woman, her tasks – does she have any at all? What defines a woman today? The very essence of the *Flower Union* was based on cooperation.

The Czech Presidency has chosen as its motto the title of Václav Havel's lecture from 1995: *Europe As a Task*. It was appreciated both at home and abroad. It offered dynamics and thought exercises. In the lecture itself, however, Havel talks about the Akkadian origin of the name Europe, which means 'twilight'. In addition to its poetics, with regard to its many connotations, it evokes in us rather sadness, perhaps even a feeling of frustration. Fear of the end. Feelings that often surround us today.

In his essay, however, Havel takes his analysis of metaphor to an extremely inspiring conclusion: "It seems to me that the time has come when we need to pause and think about ourselves. It seems to me that this is a time of great historical challenge. A call to finally understand and begin to live up to the best meaning that can be given to the word 'twilight'. That is, to stop understanding the current state of Europe as a state of twilight of its energy, but rather as a state of recollection and self-reflection. Like a state in which the physical rush ceases for a while, and with the setting of the sun the domination of the spirit spreads." We believe that this extended motto is a challenge and an opportunity not only for European society, but also for us personally at the NGP.

An absolutely unique achievement – which has brought us to the attention of the European context and proved that the level of our work is already there – is the fulfilment of the memorandum of cooperation with the Centre Pompidou in Paris. Our participation in his traditional festival *MOVE*, which explores the relationship between intimacy and politics, was reflected in both the French and Czech environments. Thanks to this success, we can discuss other forms of this prestigious cooperation.

Our successful exhibition called *Forgeries? Forgeries! (Falza? Falza!)* was based not only on the adventure of art, but also on critical thinking. The exhibition *The Buddha Up Close (Buddha zblízka)*, organized together with the Museum Rietberg Zürich, received a great response from visitors. Under the title *ZENGA*, we presented for the first time a part of the unique collection of Japanese Zen painting and calligraphy from the Kaeru-an collection, which was bequeathed to the NGP by the Dutch artist and collector Felix Hess. Meditatively, but in a completely different way and again successfully, visitors were presented with a thematic excursion into the lost world of smokers called *Amidst Smoke Rings (V kroužcích dýmu)*.

We have expanded the exhibitions with a case study that overcomes the stereotypes of the Iron Curtain: *1956–1989: Architecture for All (1956–1989: Architektura všem)*. Of all the acquisitions, let us mention the unique medieval statue of the *Madonna on the Angel Throne* from Havraň by the Master of the Bečov Madonna.

We want to be up-to-date and relevant not only by continuing to change the internal structure of management, when we change the classical pyramidal arrangement into organic units. We are getting closer to the audience even outside our buildings, we are approaching them.

In 2022, the *Old Masters II* exhibition in the Sternberg Palace was added to the series of 360° virtual tours. Its involvement in the global Google Arts & Culture project, thanks to which more than 2,500 works and artefacts of Czech art have become part of a global digital exhibition, is very significant.

The mission entrusted to the National Gallery combines values that are highly human and of the utmost importance today. We are a memory institution, a place that celebrates creativity and stimulates sensitivity.

National Gallery. That is the legacy. Wealth. But also the content that everyone has an opinion on. There are many associations bound with it, which can also be a burden.

Not for us.

Alicja Knast

General Director

Content

Visitor Numbers and Key Projects

Exhibitions and Permanent Exhibitions

Educational and Public Programmes

Documentation of Collections, Acquisitions, Restoration, Methodological Centre for Museum of Fine Arts

Publications, Science and Research

Economic Activities and Statistics

Support of the National Gallery Prague

VISITOR NUMBERS AND KEY PROJECTS

Visitor Numbers

Although the activities of the National Gallery Prague in all areas have been fully restored after the covid years, it did not reach the number of visitors of the pre-pandemic years in 2022. The number of visitors was also affected by the war conflict in Ukraine.

NGP Visitor Numbers in 2022

Trade Fair Palace	178,099
Sternberg Palace	34,644
Schwarzenberg Palace	38,978
Salm Palace	12,831
Convent of St. Agnes	31,258
Convent of St. Agnes – architecture, gardens	63,170
Kinský Palace (closed)	481
Waldstein Riding School	30,348
Courses Fundamentals of Art History	76
Gift vouchers and membership cards of the NGP Friends Club ONLINE	1,419
TOTAL	391,304

Key Projects of 2022

THE BUDDHA UP CLOSE (Buddha zblízka)

The exhibition, organized by the NGP together with the Museum Rietberg Zürich, presented more than 100 objects from Swiss collections and over 70 works from Czech collections, mostly from the Collection of Asian and African Art. Sculptures, paintings and other works of Buddhist art created in the period from the 2nd to the 20th century in various places in Asia reflect the basic idea of the project – to present the multicultural character of Buddhism, in which there is not just one direction, but several different teachings and traditions.

DIGITAL PROXIMITY (Digitální blízkost)

The *Digital Proximity* exhibition dealt with the transformation of the perception of our privacy and intimacy after the virtual experience intensified by the pandemic and its impact on human relationships. Through the works of young artists, the exhibition raised the question of whether further development would be more in line with the spirit of dystopian sci-fi films, or whether virtual interconnectedness would help us solve at least some of the burning problems of today's world.

FORGERIES? FORGERIES! (Falza? Falza!)

The exhibition called *Forgeries? Forgeries!* presented imitations of medieval paintings and sculptures. Forgeries created in the style of Dutch masters of the 17th century as well as forgeries of paintings by well-known Czech painters of the 19th century and the first decades of the 20th century. The forgeries entered the NGP's collections under various circumstances,

such as post-war confiscations. Often, however, they were also purchased directly by the gallery in good faith that they were originals.

FLOWER UNION (Květinová unie)

The exhibition project, realized by a group of nine young Czech artists, textile designers and graphic artists, took place in two buildings of the Council of the European Union: Justus Lipsius and the Europa Building, and was later transferred to the Trade Fair Palace. The main motifs of the project were unity in diversity and a period of care and healing, themes embodied in a wreath of 12 flowers symbolizing the stars on the flag of the European Union. However, the motive was also recycling and upcycling, reflected in the materials and production techniques used throughout the project. The exhibition was held with the support of the Office of the Government of the Czech Republic as an official cultural presentation of the Czech Presidency.

COLLECTION EXHIBITION 1956–1989: Architecture for All

Collection exhibits have been expanded with a case study that overcomes the stereotypes of the Iron Curtain. It also focuses on lifestyle as a phenomenon in which inner and experience and everyday experience intersect with architecture and design as creative disciplines.

ATLAS: Studio of creation and laboratory of associative dreaming

The opening of a new type of visitor space on the walkway of the Small Hall of the Trade Fair Palace.

The year 2022 was also significant for the NGP's acquisition activities, the gallery expanded its collections by 27 works of art with a total value of CZK 7.2 million. Among the acquisitions, the purchase of a unique medieval statue of the *Madonna on the Angel Throne* from Havraň by the Master of the Bečov Madonna stands out.

EXHIBITIONS AND PERMANENT EXHIBITIONS

Monastery of St. Agnes of Bohemia

Permanent exhibition

Medieval Art in Bohemia and Central Europe 1200–1550

Authors and curators: Jiří Fajt, Štěpánka Chlumská

The permanent collection exhibition located on the first floor of the convent area presents the transformations of the form and function of the work of art over the course of three centuries in more than two hundred exhibits from the fields of painting, sculpture and arts and crafts. The oldest works of art from this exhibition come from the period of the Přemyslov dynasty, to which St. Agnes – the founder of the convent – also belonged.

Sculpture Garden

Curator: Irena Nývltová. Cooperation: Štěpánka Chlumská

The convent gardens are open all year round and free of charge, with a tour dedicated to the architecture of the convent and sculptural works created by outstanding Czech artists – including Veselý, Róna, Kolíbal and Malich. The concept of the exhibition of works of art created by contemporary artists is complemented by one of František Bílek's first sculptural realizations, the monumental sculpture of *Golgotha*.

Tour and Lapidarium

Curators: Štěpánka Chlumská, Helena Dáňová

The ground floor of the complex offers a tour dedicated to the history of the double convent and its foundress. It includes a lapidarium in the convent of the Poor Clares and Friars Minor with an important set of architectural fragments from the times of the convent construction, consecration plaques, altars and tombstones.

Tactile exhibition of casts of sculptures of Czech medieval art of the 13th–15th centuries.

Exhibition

In Depth and On the Surface

6/12 2022 – 23/4 2023

Author and curator: Štěpánka Chlumská

This exhibition presented the diversity of the practical use of specialized computed tomography methods for the exploration of works of old art. Part of the exhibition was the children's studio called "Check on It", inspired by the themes of research into works of art in collection practice. This part has remained in operation even after the end of the exhibition and enriches the offer for children visitors to the Convent of St. Agnes of Bohemia.

Salm Palace

Exhibition

ZENGA – Japanese Zen Paintings from the Kaeru-An Collection

27/5 2022 – 18/6 2023

Curators: Markéta Hánová, Jana Ryndová

External Cooperation: Felix Hess, Christiaan Jörg, John Stevens, Filip Suchomel

For the first time ever, the National Gallery Prague presented part of an exceptional collection of Zen painting and calligraphy, which was donated by the Dutch collector Felix Hess in 2019. This comprehensive example of the Zen Buddhist approach to ink painting and calligraphy is quite unique in a non-Japanese (at least European) context.

Zenga – literally "Zen paintings" – comprising both painting and calligraphy, undoubtedly have their own special appeal, thanks to the technique of brush and ink. Zen aesthetics represents beauty in the simplicity, asymmetry and black-and-white colours of the ink brushstroke that resonate with the principle of beauty in everyday shabbiness (*wabi*). The exhibition has been repeatedly extended.

Schwarzenberg Palace

Permanent Exhibition

Old Masters

Author a Curator: Marius Winzeler

The collection presents a selection of the most important masterpieces from the NGP's Collection of Old Masters – for the first time in a concept that connects Czech and European art. Paintings by Agnolo Bronzino, El Greco or Brueghel can be seen together with works of Karel Škréta or Petr Brandl. The first floor is dedicated to the Baroque period and offers visitors to admire masterpieces of Peter Paul Rubens, Rembrandt, Jan Kryštof Liška, Matthias Bernard Braun and Václav Vavřínek Reiner. In addition, a new graphic cabinet has been opened on the ground floor of the palace.

Graphic Cabinets

- *Miracula mundi. Wonders of the Ancient World in 16th and 17th Century Graphics*

22/2 – 22/5 2022, Curator Petra Zelenková

- *The Lombard Heritage of Antonio Maria Viani: Drawings from the Regional Museum in Teplice*

31/5. – 4/9 2022, Curator Dalibor Lešovský

- *The Oldest of European Graphics*
6/9 – 27/11 2022, Curator Alena Volrábová
- *Holy Night*
6/12 2022 – 5/3 2023, Curator Blanka Kubíková

Sternberg Palace

Permanent Exhibition

Old Masters II

Authors and Curators: Martina Jandlová, Olga Kotková, Lucie Němečková

The Old Masters II collection exhibition is a follow-up to the Old Masters exhibition located in the opposite Schwarzenberg Palace. Both exhibitions complement each other to form a coherent whole, while presenting unique artwork in various contexts. On display is an exceptional collection of Italian painting of the 14th and 15th centuries, which was largely collected by Franz Ferdinand d'Este. This is the largest collection of so-called Italian primitives preserved outside the territory of Italy. It allows visitors to understand the art of the Italian cities of Siena, Florence, Venice and Padua.

Exhibitions

Forgeries? Forgeries!

19/11 2021 – 1/5 2022

Author and Curator: Olga Kotková

How do we tell originals from fakes? Imitations of outstanding works of art are still made today and pose a threat to museums and galleries alike, as they do for private collectors. The exhibition showcased not only imitations and iconic fakes, but also the methods used to verify the authenticity of works of art. In this way, visitors were introduced to the behind-the-scenes work of the entire NGP team of experts – from the curator to the restorer and the chemists in the laboratory.

Clay Sculptures: Terracottas by 15th–19th Century Italian Masters in the Collection of the National Gallery Prague

8/11 2022 – 26/3 2023

Authors: Radka Šefců, Olga Kotková

Curator: Olga Kotková

This intimate exhibition was based on many new findings about how and why these specific sculptures had been created. It was prepared in cooperation with the University of Chemistry and Technology in Prague and the Institute of Archaeology of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic.

Waldstein Riding School

Exhibition

The Buddha Up Close / Buddha zblízka

3/12 2021 – 24/4 2022

Chief curators: Markéta Hánová, Johannes Beltz

The history of Buddhist art since its beginnings was presented in the Czech Republic for the first time. The exhibits, created from the 2nd and 3rd to the 20th centuries, consisted of a selection of the most important sculptures, paintings and other works of Buddhist art from the collections of the Museum Rietberg Zürich and the National Gallery Prague. Through artworks, audio-visual, and interactive elements, the exhibition guided viewers through thematic chapters of Buddhist art to educate them about the origins and spread of Buddhism in Asian cultures, including its reflection in the Czech lands.

Fair Trade Palace

Permanent Exhibitions

1796–1918: Art of the Long Century

Authorial and curatorial team: Veronika Hulíková, Otto M. Urban, Filip Wittlich

The project consciously and naturally connects domestic art with foreign art. The exhibition does not contain loans, but shows what the National Gallery has collected in a broad context over the course of its existence. The final selection is represented by more than four hundred and fifty works by 150 authors in three main chapters: *Man*, *World* and *Ideas*. In addition to painting, the exhibition also includes sculpture. Free sculpture accompanies paintings, public sculpture forms a special section which, with regard to the selected approach and the accessibility of the exhibits, paraphrases the three basic themes in the sections *Architecture*, *Monument* and *Tombstone*.

1918–1938: First Czechoslovak Republic

Curatorial team: Anna Pravdová; Cooperation Lada Hubatová-Vacková

The exhibition was created on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the establishment of the Czechoslovak Republic and presents the rich artistic work and artistic operation of the young state in the years 1918–1938. In addition to paintings and sculptures by outstanding Czech, Slovak, Czech-German and Carpatho-Russian artists (Václav Špála, Josef Čapek, Jindřich Štyrský, Toyen, August Brömse, Maxim Kopf, Wenzel Hablik and others), the exhibition also includes works from the famous French collection (Paul Gauguin, Henri Rousseau, Pablo Picasso, Vincent van Gogh and others) which the Czechoslovak state purchased shortly after its establishment in the 1920s and 1930s.

1956–1989: Architecture for All

From 7/12 2022

Curator: Helena Huber-Doudová

This exhibition is focused on architecture and lifestyle between 1956 and 1989. It captures the phenomenon in which everyday and inner experience intersect with architecture and design as creative disciplines. It presents important works from the Collection of Architecture of the National Gallery Prague by authors such as Václav Aulický, Věra and Vladimír Machonin, František Cubr, Karel Prager, Alena Šrámková, artistic teams such as Sial Liberec and others. The exhibition is expanded to include photographs, films from the National Film Festival and publications from this period.

Exhibitions

Markéta Othová: Coming Soon

29/4 – 30/10 2022

Curator: Adéla Janíčková

Markéta Othová belongs to a strong generation of women artists who established themselves on the art scene in the post-revolution 1990s. At the solo exhibition at the NGP, her work was presented with a new project called *Coming Soon* and a retrospective lookback at her previous work. The exhibition was accompanied by the publication of a monograph.

Festival MOVE: Intimacy as Resistance

June 2022 (Fair Trade Palace) + October 2022 (Centre Pompidou, Paris)

Curators: Caroline Ferreira, Michal Novotný

Intimacy and the ways in which it is exhibited were the focus of the prestigious MOVE event organized by the Centre Pompidou in Paris, this time in cooperation with the NGP.

Amidst Smoke Rings: Portrait of a Modern Artist

23/9 2022 – 8/1 2023

Curator: Petra Kolářová

The motif of the depiction of the artist as a smoker in Czech fine art from the Baroque to the interwar period. The exhibition mapped how, in the self-portraits of prominent Czech artists, the smoking attribute became a symbol of the modern artist, it was a badge of a bohemian, dandy, decadent and social rebel, or a metaphor for artistic creative activity. The exhibition also included an international context as well as applied art, which outlined the context of the smoking culture of the time.

Eva Kotátková: My Body Is Not an Island

7/12 2022 — 4/6 2023

Curatorial team: Sandra Patron and Rado Ištok

The space was dominated by a huge installation of a body - part fish, part human. Each part of the exhibition by an outstanding contemporary Czech artist brought a number of stories, the captivating litany of which reverberated throughout the exhibition space. As if the spirit of the whole installation was a call for a life in which there is more room for empathy and in which bodies face less normative pressure. This was expressed by one of its protagonists: "I dream of a body equipped with many skins."

Graphic Cabinets:

Graphic Cabinets in the Exhibition 1796–1918: Art of the Long Century

- *The Deadly Sins of James Ensor*
15/2 – 15/5 2022, Curator Petr Šámal
- *The Elements Cycle by Mikoláš Aleš*
15/2 – 15/5 2022, Curator Markéta Dlábková
- *The Work of Art in the Age of Graphic Reproduction – The Premium Prints Phenomenon I.*
17/5. – 28/8 2022, Curator Markéta Dlábková
- *Visions of Antiquity and the Middle Ages in the Drawings of Ludvík Kohl*
17/5 – 28/8 2022, Curator Petr Šámal
- *The Work of Art in the Age of Graphic Reproduction – The Premium Prints Phenomenon II.*
30/8 – 27/11 2022, Curator Markéta Dlábková
- *Vincenc Morstadt – The Early Drawings of a Bohemian Vedute Luminary*
30/8 – 27/11 2022, Curator Petr Šámal
- *The Work of Art in the Age of Graphic Reproduction – The Premium Prints Phenomenon III.*
29/11 2022 – 23/4 2023, Curator Markéta Dlábková

*** No exhibitions were held in the Kinský Palace in 2022.**

Local and International Cooperation

Naturally, the previous years were strongly affected by the pandemic in the area of cooperation, but despite this 2022 was a success in strengthening and developing existing cooperation and looking for new opportunities.

An extraordinary and unusual achievement is the fulfilment of the Memorandum of Cooperation with the Centre Pompidou in Paris through participation in *the MOVE Festival*. The outputs were presented in both French and Czech environments. The result of the international cooperation is the well-received exhibition *The Buddha Up Close* prepared in cooperation with the Museum Rietberg Zürich.

On the international scene, the NGP and its work were presented in the context of the political background. On the occasion of the Czech Presidency of the Council of the European Union, two buildings in Brussels were decorated by nine young Czech artists and designers. Through their artistic work *Flower Union*, they decided to express the values that the European Union symbolizes for them and which, in their opinion, it should continue to uphold in the future. The exhibition of Milena Dopitová: *Even Odd* is again an international project initiated on the same occasion.

As far as cooperation on the domestic scene is concerned, let us mention the organization of a symposium in cooperation with the Faculty of Humanities, Charles University: *Silent Mail between Bohemia and Buddha – Penetrations of Buddhism into European Thought and Imagination*.

As part of the audience education, the NGP traditionally took part in *the Day of Architecture* and hosted *the Lunchmeat Festival*, an event of contemporary electronic music and multimedia. *The Prague Open House Festival* also brought new visitors to the Trade Fair Palace. Based on the cooperation with other important cultural partners, a discussion was held on the topic *Gender equality policies in cultural institutions: What transformations?* as part of the program of the exhibition *MOVE: Intimacy as Resistance* and the French-German project *FEM2:2. Das Jahr de l'egalité*.

In cooperation with SE. S.TA. *the Dance in the Gallery: Artist at Work* program took place in 2022.

Throughout 2022, the department of the Collection for Prints and Drawings was being intensively involved in the preparation of the exhibition and publication *From Michelangelo to Callot: Mannerist Prints*, in cooperation with the Musée du Louvre.

The Paris reprise of *Toyen: L'écart absolu* was performed in cooperation with the Collection of 19th Century Art and Classical Modernism. In this context, curator Anna Pravdová gave a lecture *Toyen et Jindřich Štyrský à Paris: De l'artificialisme au surréalisme* at the Musée d'art moderne de Paris. The NGP has also presented this or related topics at several lectures and conferences in the USA, Germany and the Czech Republic.

The NGP has received a great honour thanks to our curator Anna Pravdová who has been awarded the prestigious international Award of the Order of Arts and Letters in the Degree of Knight for her professional work, for which we would like to express our thanks.

EDUCATIONAL AND PUBLIC PROGRAMMES

The National Gallery Prague works with the general public not only through exhibitions, but also through segmented programmes. In its offer, it takes into account the needs of different target groups of audiences and the level of difficulty. The NGP offers a range of programmes from low-threshold programmes and programmes that support general knowledge, as well as activities that allow for in-depth and lifelong learning.

In 2022, the gallery prepared a total of 1,725 programs across departments, which were attended by 37,627 people. The scope of the programmes thus approached the situation before the COVID-19 pandemic and represented an increase of more than 140% compared to the previous year.

School Programmes

The gallery's team of professional lecturers has prepared 749 programs for 14,343 pupils, students and teachers.

Especially on the basis of current exhibitions, a number of guided tours, study materials and inspirational videos have been created as methodological support for teachers. Methodological materials and instructions for artistic work with pupils and students inspired by art from the NGP's collections are a matter of course.

The gallery also organized an accredited seminar for primary education teachers called *Gallery as Inspiration*. As part of the cooperation with NIPOS Artama, the second preparatory seminar for the 17th national exhibition of art works of children and youth *Near and Far* was created. In the *Learning through Play* concept, we have prepared attractive project days with the support of the LEGO company.

Eighteen educational programs were organized for teachers, including free guided tours. Throughout the year, the NGP continued to cooperate with the Faculties of Teaching of Charles University and the University of Hradec Králové.

Traditionally, the NGP also contributed to the organization of the "You Have a Talent for Artistic Sense" (*Máš umělecké střevo*) initiative, intended for high school students. In November, the institution, as a stakeholder of the AMASS project, hosted the final presentation of its researchers.

Programmes for Children

Intergenerational programs open the gallery as a space for meeting, creating and experiencing art.

The NGP organized a total of 405 live programmes which were attended by 11,571 people within the permanent exhibitions, exhibitions, studios, gardens and the generously spacious Pop-up Korzo.

During the summer holidays, we prepared 5 week-long summer art studios for children in the gallery. During the school year, there were three art studios organized for children every week, including the already popular *Playroom* for children aged between one and a half and five years (accompanied by adults).

With a bit of exaggeration, we can say that NGP educates and entertains people from the age of a year and a half and throughout their lives. At the same time, the development programmes emphasize creativity, visual literacy, awareness of art history and critical thinking. Through their children, adults get to or return to art and gallery visits which means that the programmes have a multi-generational character.

To name one example for all, the music and art workshops for children and playful adults PICOLLI, prepared in cooperation with the musical ensemble Collegium Marianum, combined the Middle Ages with the present and visual arts and architecture with music.

A new small playful guide has been created for the exhibition of medieval art for children from the age of 4 accompanied by adults as part of the "Where is it hiding?" (*Kde se skrývá?*) series. The folding book serves as a simple guide with questions and tasks to the key and attractive paintings that are to be searched for and discussed by the child with the assistance of an adult. These materials were available free of charge with the ticket.

As part of the *Day of Architecture* festival, the NGP prepared a popular search game in and around the Convent of St. Agnes and the Schwarzenberg Palace. During their visit to the functionalist Trade Fair Palace, visitors could explore its nooks and crannies in the "Trade Fair Programme for Young and Old" (*Veletržák pro malé i velké*).

Interactive Studios

Special spaces with an interactive programme prepared within exhibitions serve as an indirect form of education. We prepared interactive studios and zones for the exhibitions *ZENGA*, *Amidst Smoke Rings* and *My Body Is Not an Island*. Similarly arranged spaces also worked well in the previously opened exhibitions *Forgeries? Forgeries!* and *The Buddha Up Close*. In these zones, visitor's direct perception of a work of art is combined with the possibility of one's own process of creation or reaction and receiving stimuli from the exhibition.

At the end of 2022, a completely new type of visitor space was opened on the gallery of the Small Hall of the Trade Fair Palace under the title *ATLAS: Studio of Creation and Laboratory of Associative Dreaming*. The curatorial team consisted of an educator, a curator of a contemporary art collection and an active contemporary artist. Other artists were then invited to join in and together with the architects they have built a space with different functional zones.

Programmes for Adults

In 2022, 9,918 people attended some of the 471 events for adults.

Guided tours, lectures and discussions are a permanent and sought-after offer of the National Gallery Prague. Our ambition is to offer the possibility of expanding the general overview, but also to enable our adult visitors to get acquainted with certain topics in detail, on the border of expertise. To provide an opportunity to learn in context and meet with experts and specialists. Last but not least, the aim of the programmes for adults is to popularise the outcomes of professional research on the NGP's collections.

Our offer for adults also includes creative programs and workshops, focusing mainly on painting, drawing and photography.

For those interested in art history, the gallery organizes courses in several program series: *Get to Know Art in the NGP's Collections*, the *Focus on Art* series, and the *Basics of Art History* seminar. In addition, two runs of the *Summer School of Art History* took place in the summer. The public programme offered a wide scope of formats: artistic performances, theatre, dance, music performances and projections which enlivened the exhibitions and unique architectural spaces of the NGP with site-specific activities throughout the year, as well as the gardens of the NGP palaces during the summer programme.

Online Programmes

The project created during the covid pandemic – the *NGP on Air* cycle continued in 2022 in a reduced scope. It is based on video programs with gallery experts and invited guests, moderated by educators. A total of 18 videos were viewed by almost 10,000 people.

In total, the videos had over 80,000 views, and in addition to *NGP on Air*, there were also accompanying videos to current exhibitions.

The video production included also a series of videos in Czech Sign Language.

A new and significant achievement in the field of digital communication was the launch of the podcast *Sound of Art*. During 2022, the first two parts of the ten-part series were released. The series brings a behind-the-scenes look at the gallery in a variety of audio genres – from reportage to docudrama. It reveals not only the stories of works of art and particular artists, but also the way in which an exhibition is prepared, who takes care of the largest art collections in the Czech Republic, and how many kilometres a custodian has to walk in one day.

The Gallery as a Place of Social Inclusion

The NGP continues to focus on visitors with special needs. In 2022, for example, it organized tours interpreted into Czech Sign Language, a programme for the blind with a tactile exhibition in the Convent of St. Agnes of Bohemia. An informal professional meeting was also held with staff of organisations helping the disadvantaged.

We are expanding activities that accentuate the needs of the deaf in the form of informational videos about individual NGP buildings.

To remove barriers to social accessibility, free admission days are organized. Within these days a number of free popularization and educational activities took place in 2022.

Popularization and educational publications

Books are another important medium that spreads art outside the gallery walls and independently of exhibitions.

Within the "Pocket Paintings" series the 4th title was published in 2022, dedicated to Josef Mánes and aimed at mediating the artist's thinking. Preparatory work has been carried out also on other titles in this series, dedicated to Emil Filla and Eva Kmentová. The publications have been created by the NGP educators and graphic designer Bohumil Vašák.

The exhibition *1796–1918: Art of the Long Century* was accompanied by a publication for younger children, *What Colour Is the Longest Century*, by educator Monika Švec Sybolová.

Statistics of Programmes and Participants in 2022

Target Group of the Programme	Programmes	Participants
Kindergartens	73	1,186
Primary Schools	398	7,817
High schools and Universities	240	4,570

Groups of people with special needs	11	157
School groups of foreign language students	9	146
Teachers	18	467
SCHOOLS TOTAL	749	14,343
ADULTS (art workshops, courses, guided tours, lectures)	537	11,610
ADULTS ONLINE	31	86
ADULTS with special needs	3	17
NGP FOR CHILDREN – Children and families (art workshops, playrooms and studios)	405	11,571
TOTAL	1,725	37,627

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

Documentation, Digitization and Protection of the Collection Fund

At the end of 2022, a total of 400,484 collection items were listed in the Central Register of Collections of the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic as the "Collection of the National Gallery in Prague", according to the following sub-collections:

Sub-collections	Number of collection items
Paintings	16,870
Sculptures	9,134
Contemporary Art and New Media	792

Graphics	269,005
Drawings	67,048
Asian and American Art	13 184
Architecture	23,234
Facsimile	1,217
TOTAL	400,484

In 2022, the Modernization of the Digitization Workplace plan progressed through project preparation to supplier selection and preparation for moving. A total of 29,918 collection items were inventoried as part of the care of the collection.

The digitization of the collection also continued. More than 3,000 collection items in a total volume of almost 12,500 partial photographs and derivatives are now captured in digital form.

The VADEMECUM presentation module has been launched on the NGP website, which, to a limited extent, allows the presentation of a substantial part of the collection items with basic identification data. At the end of 2022, the binder's volume contained more than 44 thousand collection items, and almost 30 thousand of them had pictorial documentation attached.

The priority of the NGP's digital transformation project is the purchase and implementation of a new collection system, as well as the digitization of collection items stored in the Trade Fair Palace. This activity is also connected with the preparation of the works for transport to the planned new depository in Prague - Jinonice and is part of several years of efforts to find a solution to the complicated situation associated with the collection database and the actual implementation of systematic digitization.

Restoration

During 2022, 278 works of art were comprehensively restored, of which 42 were restored with the help of external restorers.

A significant part of the activities of the Restoration Department was related to the preparation of a new exhibition of the Collection of Modern and Contemporary Art for the 2nd floor of the Trade Fair Palace. For this purpose, an extensive binder's volume of selected works of art was inspected and treated.

Among the works that have been the subject of more complicated restoration interventions are, for example: *Nikdy to nevidím celé* (I Never See the Whole Thing), Ján Mančuška; *Elektra*, Helen Escobedo de Kirsebom; *Zarůstající ostrov*, (An Overgrown Island), František Hodonský; and especially the painting with a very complicated restoration issue *Protiválečný motiv IV* (Anti-War Motif IV), Karel Šlengr.

A significant amount of work is required for the restoration of the new acquisition of the polychrome statue of the *Madonna of Havraň*. The statue was subjected to a detailed restoration survey. This is followed by probing of secondary colour layers.

A project placing high demands on the restoration department is the preparation of an exhibition dedicated to Petr Brandl (2023). The restorers have inspected the complete exhibits from the NGP's collections, as well as paintings from external lenders. A similarly demanding project has been the preparation of the exhibition of Josef Mánes (2023).

As a follow-up to the very demanding and successfully completed project of restoration of two light sculptures, *Male and Female Torso* and *Reclining Torso* by Zdeněk Pešánek, the staff of the department organized a professional seminar with foreign participation: *Plastics in the Restoration of Modern Art: Problems and Perspectives*, 7–8 June 2022, Trade Fair Palace. The project and seminar were supported by The Pudil Family Foundation.

In connection with the planned depository area in Prague - Jinonice and the expected scope of work, it is necessary to start a restoration check of the condition of the individual works and their preparation for transport at least five years before the move. A new specialized restoration studio was therefore established in the Trade Fair Palace.

Chemical-Technological Laboratory

About 110 art objects were subjected to scientific research and about 240 microsamples of painting, polychromy, wood and textiles have been processed.

An extraordinary material survey was carried out as part of the purchase of a new acquisition – the work of the *Madonna of Havraň* and the statues of the *Virgin Mary* and *St. John the Evangelist*. Laboratory research of several tens of works of French provenance also continued. A significant volume of works came from the Collection of Modern and Contemporary Art, where surface treatments were monitored on metal sculptures to verify and distinguish artificial patinas, and on works where the presence of asbestos in the art materials used was suspected.

In addition, the laboratory carried out a follow-up survey of other reverse glass paintings from the Collection of Asian and African Art. Extensive exploratory work using the methods of non-invasive analysis and subsequent analysis of samples taken from the sites of interest was carried out on the works of Josef Lada and Kamil Lhoták. As part of the Pešánek project, the publication *Pešánek. Torza* (Pešánek. Torsos) was edited and authored in Czech and English versions, which elaborated and presented to the professional public the process of exploration of Zdeněk Pešánek's light-kinetic sculptures *Male and Female Torso* and *Reclining Torso*. Experts also actively participated in a workshop dedicated to this topic. A documentary film was also made.

In 2022, the department continued to work on the security project *Development of a Strategic Cluster for Effective Instrumental Technological Procedures in the Detection of Counterfeits of Modern Art Artworks in the Forensic Field*. The title is being solved within the programme of the Strategic Support for the Development of Security Research of the Czech Republic 2019 to 2025 under the supervision of the Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic and is created in cooperation with the Institute of Criminalistics of the Police of the Czech Republic and the Faculty of Chemical Technology of the University of Pardubice.

As part of the NAKI II project *Technology for the Treatment and Identification of Degradation Processes of Ceramic Finds from the Hradčany Palaces – Methods of Restoration and Conservation of Porous and Sintered Ceramics and Porcelain*, an exhibition *Clay Sculptures: Terracottas by 15th–19th Century Italian Masters in the Collection of the National Gallery Prague* was organized, accompanied by a publication with the same title in cooperation with the director of the Collection of Old Masters Olga Kotková.

As part of the NAKI II grant project *Mobile Devices for Imaging and Analysis of Layered Painting and Polychromy of Old Art Works*, the main output of the project was prepared in cooperation with curator Štěpánka Chlumská: an exhibition and an accompanying publication *In Depth and On the Surface*.

In 2022, in the area of the scientific task *Comprehensive Survey of Art Materials in Art Objects from the 13th to the 19th Century and the Creation of a Database of Microscopic and Spectroscopic Data*, expert researchers from the Chemical-Technological Laboratory continued to obtain and collect data from standard, precisely defined art materials.

In 2022, thanks to a grant of CZK 2,400,000, the NGP also modernized the instrumentation for scientific analysis, thus significantly modernizing the laboratory equipment.

In 2022, the experts of the Chemical-Technological Laboratory were awarded by the Minister of the Interior for their extraordinary results in the field of security research, experimental development and innovation. The prize was awarded for the results achieved within the scientific project *Complex Instrumental Methodology for Assessing the Authenticity of Works of Art, Database of Materials of Colour Layers of the 20th Century*.

Professional Management of Depositories

Continuous monitoring of the indoor climate in depositories is carried out in cooperation with the Department of Technical Management of Buildings and the regular inspection and measurement of the presence of undesirable organic impurities and moulds is the responsibility of the Chemical-Technological Laboratory.

Humidification outages occurred all year-round in the exhibition areas and depositories of the Trade Fair Palace due to a malfunctioning steam generator. The situation was resolved (in spring and autumn) by placing mobile humidifiers and purchasing new humidifiers. In the summer months, on the other hand, the relative humidity rose significantly and the depositories were equipped with mobile dehumidifiers.

Due to the reconstruction of the Trade Fair Palace planned for later, it will be necessary to repair the technological equipment maintaining the climate in order to ensure suitable conditions for the storage of works.

Acquisitions

In 2022, the Prague National Gallery purchased 27 works of art worth a total of CZK 7.2 million for its collection. Part of the costs (CZK 4.915 million) was covered by subsidies from the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic, the remaining amount was covered by the NGP from its budget.

Among the acquisitions, the purchase of a unique medieval statue of the *Madonna on the Angel Throne* from Havraň by the Master of the Bečov Madonna stands out. This unique object, sometimes also called *Madonna with Music Playing Angels* has been purchased by the NGP from private property thanks to financial funds provided by the program of the Integrated System for the Protection of Movable Cultural Heritage of the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic. The rare wood carving is now being restored and will subsequently be exhibited in the Convent of St. Agnes of Bohemia.

Since 2000 the carving of *St. Peter* from the group of *Apostles from Lnáře* (southwestern Bohemia, 1510–1520) has been part of the exhibition in the Convent of St. Agnes of Bohemia, as a work presenting the high level of artistic production of southwestern Bohemia at the time. With regard to the quality and attributional context of the work, the National Gallery took the advantage of obtaining this long-term loan.

Another purchase, this time for the Collection of Graphics and Drawings, also drew attention. The work *Allegorical Celebration of the Holy Trinity and the Lažanský Family* (*Alegorická oslava Nejsvětější Trojice a rodu Lažanských*) has been purchased from a private owner. The author of this work of art is Karel Škréta the Elder (1610–1674) and/or Karel Škréta the Younger (1646/1650–1691). This is a completely unique example of the perfect drawing art of both Škréta the Elder and the Younger, and their cooperation with the important family of Lažanský from Buková in their period. The attention of the public was also attracted by several acquisitions connected with the works of František Drtikol for the Asian and African Art Collection.

As for the Collection of Modern and Contemporary Art, let's mention video art and the installation created by the activist group Rafani.

Methodological Centre for Fine Art Museums

In 2022, the updated "Concept of the Activity of the Methodological Centre for Museums of Fine Arts in the National Gallery in Prague for the years 2017 to 2022", on which the centre's specific annual plans were based, expired.

The Ministry of Culture entrusted the Methodological Centre for Museums of Fine Arts (hereafter referred to as MC MVU) with the elaboration of a new concept for the years 2023 to 2027, which was prepared and sent to the Independent Department of Museums in the autumn of 2022.

The preparation of the MC MVU events planned for 2022 was halted at the end of February by the news of Russia's military attack on Ukraine. MC MVU was actively involved in the search for help for Ukrainian museums and the subsequent preparation of a methodology for updating the crisis documents of Czech Museums, which mostly had not expected the war conflict on the European territory.

In accordance with another profile task of the NGP and in cooperation with the Security Department, the Methodological Centre organized an international workshop on crisis management in the autumn and also ensured the translation of the ICCROM international methodology "First Aid to Cultural Heritage in Times of Crisis".

Two workshops and one seminar were organized in 2022 as part of the methodological activity that MC MVU implements as a public service for owners and administrators of fine art collections in accordance with Act No. 122/2000 Coll., on the protection of museum collections.

In cooperation with the Department of Photographic Documentation, the workshop "*Statue and Its Photographic Image*" was held with the aim to improve the quality of photo documentation of three-dimensional collection objects. At the beginning of October, in cooperation with the Department of Museums of the Ministry of Culture, the seminar "*International Mobility of Collections – Immunity Against Confiscation*" was organized summarizing ten years of experience with the application of immunization of collections in the Czech Republic, as well as current problems related to the agenda of permitting the temporary

export of collection objects from the Czech Republic abroad according to the collection of the law.

MC MVU also cooperated with the Department of Security and Asset Protection and the Director of the Operations and Investments Section of the NGP on the international workshop “*Crisis Management in Museums*“. The workshop summarized the organization's current crisis preparedness procedures, provided basic guidelines and suggested processes for updating the museum's crisis documentation. During the content preparation of the event, a manual of the same name for museum management was also made.

NGP also participated in the international ICOM conference, where it provided several off-site committee meetings and the programme.

The publishing activity of MC MVU was accomplished at the end of 2022 with the publication of the translation of the second volume of the crisis methodology by a collective of authors led by Aparna Tandon *First aid for Cultural Heritage in Times of Crisis* published in 2018 by the International Centre for the Study of Conservation and Restoration of Cultural Heritage (ICCROM) based in Rome. Part Two: *The Manual*, subtitled *Crisis Preparedness, Coordinated Response and Safeguarding Tangible and Intangible Cultural Heritage* is available on the gallery's website.

PUBLICATIONS, SCIENCE AND RESEARCH

Publishing

The Publishing Department is responsible for the publishing activities of the NGP in close cooperation with art historians, curators, lecturers, restorers, the archive, the library and other workplaces. In 2022, in addition to the traditional type of printed matter – catalogues for successful exhibitions of the same name (*ZENGA – Japanese Zen Paintings from the Kaeruan Collection*; Markéta Othová: *Coming Soon*; *In Depth and On the Surface. Natural Sciences and Arts*; *Clay Sculptures: Terracottas by 15th–19th Century Italian Masters in the Collection of the National Gallery Prague*) and two periodicals – an interdisciplinary monograph *Pešánek. Torsos* was also published. They were accompanied by smaller publications intended primarily for young audience.

In 2022, the NGP published a total of 25 publications, most of them in foreign language versions, some bilingual or with an English summary. Thanks to its professional and visual quality, the institution's extensive book production has once again entered the awareness not only of the Czech but also of the international professional and general public.

Exhibition catalogues and monographs

Markéta Hánová – Jana Ryndová (eds.), *ZENGA – japonské zenové obrazy ze sbírky Kaeruan*

Czech, English resume, 152 pages, 120 reproductions

Adéla Janíčková (ed.), *Markéta Othová: Již brzy*
Czech, English, 144 pages, 80 reproductions
/Adéla Janíčková (ed.), *Markéta Othová. Coming Soon*
Štěpánka Chlumská – Radka Šefců (eds.), *V hloubce a po povrchu. Přírodní vědy a umění*
Czech-English, 120 pages, 40 reproductions
Olga Kotková – Radka Šefců (eds.), *Sochy z hlíny. Terakoty italských mistrů 15. až 19. století ze sbírek Národní galerie v Praze*
Czech, English, 128 pages, 40 reproductions
/Olga Kotková – Radka Šefců (eds.), *Clay Sculptures. Terracottas by 15th to 19th Century Italian Masters in the Collections of the National Gallery in Prague*
Helena Huber-Doudová (ed.), *1956–1989: Architektura všem*
Czech, English, 228 pages, 160 reproductions
/Helena Huber-Doudová (ed.), *1956–1989: Architecture for All*
Markéta Dlábková – Veronika Hulíková, *Josef Mánes. Člověk – umělec – legenda*
Czech, English resume, 192 pages, 150 reproductions
Rado Ištok (ed.), *Eva Kořátková. Moje tělo není ostrov*
Czech, English, 24 pages, 10 reproductions
/Rado Ištok (ed.), *Eva Kořátková: My Body Is Not an Island*
Petra Zelenková, *Miracula mundi*
Czech-English, 36 pages, 25 reproductions
Petr Šámal, *Smrtelné hříchy Jamese Ensora*
Czech, English resume, 56 pages, 30 reproductions
Blanka Kubíková, *Grafiky s rodokmenem* (online)
Czech-English, 36 pages, 25 reproductions
Irena Nývltová – Radka Šefců – Klára Velíšková (eds.), *Pešánek. Torza*
Czech, English, 194 pages, 200 reproductions
/Irena Nývltová – Radka Šefců – Klára Velíšková (eds.), *Pešánek. Torsos/ Art in the Archives*
Radka Heisslerová (ed.), *Malíři Nového Města pražského v období baroka*
Czech, English resume, 280 pages, 40 reproductions
Periodicals
Martin Musílek (ed.), *Bulletin NGP XXXII/2022*
Alena Volrábová (ed.), *Ars linearis XII/2022*
Exhibition guide
Helena Huber-Doudová, *1956–1989: Architektura všem*
Czech, English, 56 pages, 20 reproductions
/Helena Huber-Doudová (ed.), *1956–1989: Architecture for All*
NGP for Children
Monika Švec Sybolová – Lenka Jasanská, *Jakou barvu má nejdelší století*
Czech, 152 pages, 120 reproductions
Blanka Kařková, Hana Rosenkrancová, *Mánes. Obrazy do kapsy*
Czech-English, 60 pages, 40 reproductions
Ida Muráňová, Šárka Matoušková, Alice Němcová, *Filla. Obrazy do kapsy*
Czech-English, 60 pages, 40 reproductions
Alice Němcová, Ida Muráňová, *Kmentová. Obrazy do kapsy*
Czech-English, 60 pages, 40 reproductions

Science and Research

Scientific and professional activities in the NGP are closely linked to the basic tasks of the institution. Statutory, these include, in particular, the administration of collections, exhibitions, publishing, education and making collection items accessible to the general public.

It covers a wide range of activities, from basic research (research activities, most often culminating in a book monograph) through experimental research (chemical and natural science surveys of works and their materials) to applied research (exhibition projects, online databases, certified methodologies).

The extensive international scientific research cooperation with the Staatliche Kunstsammlungen Dresden continued in 2022 with short-term internships as part of exchange stays for curators, restorers and lecturers of the NGP. The NGP's experts have also cooperated on exhibition projects with the world's leading art museums: the Centre Pompidou, the Rijksmuseum, the Kunsthistorisches Museum in Vienna, the Fondation Custodia – Lugt Collection and the Musée du Louvre.

Domestic research activities include the processing of collections in professional cooperation with Masaryk University in Brno, Charles University in Prague, Palacký University in Olomouc, the Olomouc Museum of Art, the Moravian Gallery in Brno and the Institute of Philosophy of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic.

In 2022, the company's own professional and scientific research activities and research cooperation included the implementation of international and domestic exhibition projects, as well as the preparation of exhibition catalogues and other accompanying publications.

A unique achievement of domestic scientific research activities is the award of the Minister of the Interior for extraordinary results in the field of security research, experimental development and innovation for 2022. The was given for the cooperation of the NGP and the Institute of Criminalistics of the Police of the Czech Republic.

The award-winning achievement was the creation of a Comprehensive Instrumental Methodology for Assessing the Authenticity of Works of Art, a database of materials of colour layers of the 20th century. The project was implemented between 2017 and 2021 and is unique on a global scale not only for its interdisciplinary connection, but also for its focus on tools for detecting counterfeits of modern art.

Grant Projects

2021–2025

Rozvoj strategického klastru pro efektivní instrumentální technologické postupy při odhalování padělků výtvarných děl moderního umění ve forenzní oblasti / Development of a Strategic Cluster for Effective Instrumental Technological Procedures in the Detection of Counterfeits of Modern Works of Art in the Forensic Field (Ministry of the Interior, VJ01010004, principal investigator for NGP Radka Šefců, project in cooperation with the Institute of Criminalistics of the Police of the Czech Republic and the University of Pardubice)

2021–2023

Architektura (ž.). Ženy, emancipace, architektura v druhé polovině 20. století / Architecture (f). Women, Emancipation, Architecture in the Second Half of the 20th Century (Czech Science Foundation, GA 21-22749S, principal investigator for NGP Helena Huber-Doudová, project in cooperation with the Academy of Arts, Architecture and Design in Prague)

2019–2022

Malíř Josef Mánes (1820–1871) – mezi romantismem a realismem, uměním užitým a „krásným“, národním a mezinárodním, akademismem a modernitou / The Painter Josef Mánes (1820–1871) – Between Romanticism and Realism, Applied and "Beautiful" Art, National and International, Academism and Modernity (Czech Science Foundation, GA 19-10562S, principal investigator for NGP Markéta Dlábková, project in cooperation with the Institute of Art History of the Czech Academy of Sciences – Public Research Institution)

2019–2022

Karel Škréta (1610–1674) a univerzitní teze v českých zemích / Karel Škréta (1610–1674) and University Theses in the Czech Lands (GAČR, GA 19-18098S, principal investigator for NGP Petra Zelenková)

2019–2022

LINDAT/CLARIAH-CZ: Digitální výzkumná infrastruktura pro jazykové technologie, umění a humanitní vědy / LINDAT/CLARIAH-CZ: Digital Research Infrastructure for Language Technologies, Arts and Humanities (Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, LM 2018101, principal investigator for NGP Tomáš Vavříčka)

2018–2022

Mobilní zařízení pro zobrazování a analýzu vrstevnaté malby a polychromie děl starého umění / Mobile Equipment for Imaging and Analysis of Layered Painting and Polychromy of Works of Old Art (MK, NAKI II, DG18P02OVV006, principal investigator for NGP Štěpánka Chlumská, project in cooperation with the Institute of Theoretical and Applied Mechanics of the Czech Academy of Sciences and the Czech Technical University in Prague)

2018–2022

Technologie ošetření a identifikace degradačních procesů keramických nálezů z hradčanských paláců – Metody restaurování a konzervování pórovité i slinuté keramiky a porcelánu / Technology of Treatment and Identification of Degradation Processes of Ceramic Finds from Hradčany Palaces – Methods of Restoration and Conservation of Porous and Sintered Ceramics and Porcelain (MK, NAKI II, DG18P02OVV028, principal investigator for the NGP Radka Šefců, project in cooperation with the University of Chemistry and Technology in Prague and the Institute of Archaeology of the Czech Academy of Sciences – Public Research Institution, Prague)

Library

The NGP Library is a specialized library focused on fine arts, architecture, art history and theory. It provides library and information services not only to the institution's employees, but also to the public. It makes its collections available for full-time study.

The library's collection offers professional publications focused on fine arts, exhibition catalogues of Czech and foreign artists and collections. An important part is the exhibition and collection catalogues of the National Gallery, compiled since 1821. A specific part of the library consists of auction catalogues. An interesting part of the library's collection is a collection of professional publications focused on oriental art. Also important is the extensive historical

collection, which includes publications from the original library of the Society of Patriotic Friends of the Arts, including old prints.

In 2022, the restoration of 3 titles from the library's historical collection was completed. It contains engravings by famous masters of the Electoral Palatinate Academy of Fine Arts in Düsseldorf from 1780: *Recueil de desseins gravés d'après les fameux maitres tirés de la collection de l'Academie Electorale Palatine des beaux Arts á Düsseldorf*. Paris, 1780. Further, it is a collection of drawings and short theoretical studies containing illustrative copperplate engravings and etchings: *Preißler, Johann Daniel, Die durch Theorie erfundene Practic, oder, Gründlich-verfasste Reguln, deren man sich als einer Anleitung zu berühmter Künstlere Zeichen-Werken bestens bedienen kan*. Nürnberg, 1765. The third restored volume consists of biographies of military and political figures, illustrated with engraved portraits from 1674: *Gualdo Priorato, Galeazzo, Vite, et azzioni di personaggi militari, e politici*. Vienna, 1674.

In the course of the year, the library made two more titles from its historical collection available in digital form. In addition to the extensive collection catalogue from 1786, which presents the famous pictorial collection of Philip II. The Orleans, exhibited at the Palais Royal in Paris, it was supplemented by the catalogue of the Gemäldegalerie in Dresden from 1765 and the catalogue of the collection of the Kaiserliche Gemälde-Galerie in Vienna from 1783.

The documents are accessible in the digital library of the Portaro catalogue.

The NGP has also begun work on cataloguing the donation of Naděžda Blažíčková-Horová's personal library. This eminent art historian was the long-time director of the 19th Century Art Collection. The collection contains valuable publications in the field of fine arts and art history, especially on 19th-century art and classical modernism. This is a very important enrichment of the library's book collection, as it includes publications acquired from the family estate of the academic painter Oldřich Blažíček, a representative of modern landscape painting, and Oldřich Jakub Blažíček, an important art historian, following in the footsteps of Antonín Matějček in his scientific work.

An important source of professional information are electronic information resources and licensed professional article databases. The library is involved in the CzechElib project, which is guaranteed by the National Library of Technology and the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports. Through the project, the NGP gained access to EBSCO's Art & Architecture Source database, which is one of the most important information sources in the field of fine arts, architecture and related fields. The NGP also offers access to the equally important foreign electronic article database JSTOR. In 2022, the important full-text database *Lexikon der christlichen Ikonographie online* published by Brill was also acquired for the library's collection. In 2022, the library provided its readers with access to the National Digital Library (NDL), operated by the National Library of the Czech Republic – *Works Unavailable on the Market (DNNT)*.

One of the most important sources of acquisition of Czech and foreign literature is the exchange of publications with similarly oriented international and domestic institutions and their libraries. In 2022, the library received 336 professional titles in exchange.

In 2022, work on the Union Catalogue of Art History Libraries (ARTlib) also continued. Its aim is to search for art history literature in parallel in the catalogues of all participating libraries of the project simply and from one overarching environment (NGP, Academy of Fine Arts in

Prague, Museum of Decorative Arts in Prague, National Technical Museum, National Film Archive, Gallery of Fine Arts in Ostrava, Moravian Gallery in Brno, Museum of Art in Olomouc, Museum of West Bohemia in Pilsen, Gallery of West Bohemia in Pilsen). Cooperation has been established with another partner institution – the Institute of Art History of the Czech Academy of Sciences. The portal is also accessible through the NGP website.

The library was visited by 721 readers who borrowed 2,438 professional publications (1,963 in person and 475 off-site). At the end of 2022, the library owned 129,083 library items in its collection. There is also an extensive collection of professional periodicals, which includes titles of Czech and foreign provenance since 1839.

The Archives

The Archives of the National Gallery in Prague are among the so-called specialized archives in the system of archives of the Czech Republic. Its activities are based on the relevant provisions of Act No. 499/2004 Coll., on Archives and Records Management, as amended. The mission of the Archives is to acquire, professionally process, register and protect archival materials and to make documents accessible to NGP researchers and the professional public. In 2022, the staff of the Archives continued to inventory the archival funds and collections and thus make them accessible to the wider research public. The most important processed or revised collections include the archival collections of Lubor Hájek, Bořivoj Žufan, František Bílek, the Prague Painters' Brotherhoods, the National Gallery in Prague (the period 1976 to 1980), the Documentation of the NGP exhibitions (the period 1976 to 1980), the Varia Collection and the Collection of Exhibition Posters. The published list of NGP exhibitions for the period 2005 to 2015 has also become an important asset for researchers.

The archive creates a research environment for experts in the field of fine arts and their history from the Czech Republic and abroad. In 2022, it provided its facilities to 87 researchers who completed 219 research visits. Archivists processed 255 research queries.

With the acquisition of several major acquisitions, the so-called personal funds in particular have grown. A unique addition to the archive is a set of letters addressed to the sculptor Josef Václav Myslbek. Manuscripts, correspondence and photographs were also added to the collections of the painter Oldřich Blažíček and the art historian Oldřich Jakub Blažíček. The archive also acquired a new personal collection of sculptor Jiří Korec.

Twenty pieces of exhibition posters were restored. They were selected not only on the basis of their condition, but also with regard to their artistic and historical value. These were mainly posters for the exhibitions of the Fine Arts Union and the Mánes Association of Fine Artists. In 2022, the staff of the Archive published several expert studies and editions, of which the independent publication *Painters of the New Town of Prague in the Baroque Period* should be highlighted. It was published in the book series *Art in the Archive (volume no. 7)*. In Czech: *Malíři Nového Města pražského v období baroka. Edice písemných materiálů novoměstského malířského cechu, Umění v archivu (svazek č. 7)*.

The Archives closely cooperated with the Institute of Art History of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic on web databases (*Database of Art Exhibitions in the Czech Lands; Quirin-Lexicon. Materials for the History of Fine Arts of the 17th and 18th Centuries in the*

Czech Lands). The Archives have also lent archival materials to the exhibitions *Amidst Smoke Rings: Portrait of a Modern Artist* (NG), *Ivan Meštrović (1883–1962): Sculptor and Citizen of the World* (Prague City Gallery), and have provided digitized archival materials for exhibitions and publications, e.g. for the exhibition *Prague Pallas and Moravian Hellas 1902, Auguste Rodin in Prague and Moravia* (Prague City Gallery), *The Language of Posters 1890–1938* (Museum of Decorative Arts in Prague) and the monograph *Minka Podhajská* (Museum of Decorative Arts in Prague).

ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES AND STATISTICS

In 2022, the NGP, in the position of a state-funded organization, fulfilled its purpose - i.e. to professionally collect, manage and make accessible collections of a museum nature. After the previous two-year limited operation, the organization was fully restored. However, the level of attendance has not yet reached pre-pandemic levels. The war conflict in Ukraine also had an impact on the interest of viewers.

Economically, the biggest impact on the institution's financial performance was the sharp increase in energy prices and the 10% increase in salary scales. Contributions for the NGP's operations and cultural activities received on the basis of the 2022 Financial Plan and updated data on the predicted increased costs of energy purchase enabled the organization to cope with the price increase for this cost item. The gallery also drew contributions to compensate for the aforementioned 10% increase in salary scales, which the government made by adjusting the pay scales from 1 September 2022.

Capital expenditures financed through subsidies from the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic focused on the Administration of State-Owned Property (SMVS), and were also associated with the care of works of art and the operation of exhibition and service spaces.

An extraordinary acquisition became an investment in the expansion of the portfolio of works of art. With financial funds provided by the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic from the Integrated System for the Protection of Movable Cultural Heritage, the NGP purchased a unique medieval statue of the *Madonna on the Angel Throne* from Havraň from the Master of the Bečov Madonna from private property. Among the extraordinary acquisitions from the funds of the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic, we must mention the purchase of a painting by Karel Škréta entitled *Allegorical Celebration of the Holy Trinity and the Lažanský Family*.

The overall economic result of the National Gallery Prague was positive in 2022. The institution reported a profit from its main activity in the amount of CZK 971,119. A profit of CZK 686,973 was also reported in other (economic) activities. The NGP's overall profit was CZK 1,658,092.

Profit or Loss from Other (Economic) Activities

As part of its economic activities, the NGP generated a profit from other activities in the total amount of CZK 686,973. Revenues in this part of the economy came exclusively from advertising, especially for Media Club and Book World.

Costs

In 2022, the NGP's main activities totalled CZK 463,508,651. Costs related to extra-budgetary sources of financing amounted to CZK 4,134,400 and were fully covered by revenues from these sources.

Services were significantly affected by inflation-related price growth, especially in the second half of the year.

The total amount of costs spent corresponds to 96.4% of the budget. The difference is mainly the amount transferred to compensate for the increased costs of purchasing energy in 2023.

Yields

In 2022, NGP reported total revenues from its main activity of CZK 468,614,169. Revenues linked to extra-budgetary sources of financing amounted to CZK 4,134,400.

The difference between the budgeted revenues and the actual situation arose as a result of unused compensation for increased energy purchase costs. Another shift in drawing was the subsidy for the Josef Mánes exhibition to be implemented in 2023.

The 2022 budget reflected the previous two-year period, which was significantly affected by the impact of the pandemic. Other financial income includes exchange rate differences that are not budgeted.

The decline in NGP's own revenues caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, which occurred in 2020, stopped in 2021. In 2022, own revenues started to grow again, especially in terms of sales of own products, sales of services, rental and other income from activities.

Own Revenues (in CZK)

Category	Budget	Reality 2022
Revenues from the sale of own products	1,500,000	3,686,415
Revenues from the sale of services	30,000,000	31,599,648
Rental income	7,300,000	12,107,889
Revenues from the sale of goods	1,000,000	211,296
Other revenues	40,000	75,767
Contractual penalties and penalties	0	26,614
Other income from activities	3,000 000	9,043,170
Total own revenues	42,840,000	56,750,799

Off-budget Sources of Funding

The NGP has received extra-budgetary sources of funding for the budget. These were mainly donations in the total amount of CZK 8,783,193. The most important donor was Komerční banka (CZK 6,500,000). Another extra-budgetary source of funding in 2022 were subsidies and grants, namely subsidies from the Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic for the development of a strategic cluster for effective instrumental technological procedures in detecting counterfeits of works of art of modern art in the forensic field. Furthermore, there were subsidies from the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports of the Czech Republic for a digital research infrastructure for language technologies, arts and humanities. In 2022, extra-budgetary resources were used from the Czech Science Foundation to present and interpret the creative activities of women architects who have so far been pushed into the background and to complete projects from 2021 (Karel Škréta and Josef Mánes). As part of the preparations for the Venice Biennale 2023 exhibition, we received a subsidy from the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic from the National Recovery Plan program.

Organization Financial Funds

Remuneration Fund

The Remuneration Fund intended to cover funds for employee bonuses was drawn in the amount of CZK 1,439,492 in 2022.

Reserve Fund from other Titles

This fund is created by the NGP from the donations received. In 2022, it increased by CZK 8,783,193. The most important donor was again Komerční banka, which provided funds in the amount of CZK 6,500,000 for cultural projects and related activities. In 2022, the NGP drew CZK 1,678,229 from this fund.

Property Reproduction Fund

The account of this fund accounted for creation in the amount of depreciation (CZK 46,151,346) and drawing in the amount of prescribed levies to the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic (CZK 19,193,315). In addition to the mandatory levy to the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic, the Property Reproduction Fund was drawn in the total amount of CZK 22,935,030 in 2022. The highest expenditure items were the acquisition of works of art in the amount of CZK 2,298,071, the purchase of mobile humidifiers in the amount of CZK 3,072,529, the purchase of an X-ray memory scanner in the amount of CZK 3,629,068 and the supply of 4 steam sources in the amount of CZK 2,549,954.

Fund for Cultural and Social Needs

The fund was drawn in accordance with the Collective Agreement. The largest part was made up of a contribution to meals and a contribution to cultural and sports purposes. Other benefits that are drawn from it include contributions to supplementary pension insurance, gifts on the occasion of a work anniversary or the employee's first retirement.

Gratuitous transfers of assets

There were no gratuitous transfers of assets in 2022.

SUPPORT OF THE NATIONAL GALLERY PRAGUE

The importance of support from private and corporate donors continues to grow. Thanks to its partners and supporters, the National Gallery Prague can carry out its activities to the fullest extent. We spend the funds mainly on extraordinary exhibition or educational projects that present works of art to the general public.

The NGP perceives a growing pressure on economic self-sufficiency and at the same time the financial demands of maintaining a high-quality program and operation. That is why we are working intensively on the acquisition of new partners and individual donors. At the same time, we do not stop looking for new forms and opportunities to refresh and expand existing cooperation. With our partners, we strive to create a mutually beneficial but also inspiring ecosystem that will help ensure the long-term stability of cooperation and thus of the institution.

Club of Friends

The Club of Friends, based on a closer connection between the gallery and its regular visitors, has seen a significant increase in the number of purchased memberships compared to the previous year. By the end of the year, the membership base numbered over 3,600 members. After a long-term unfavourable situation caused by the closure of exhibitions, the Club of Friends is returning to the pre-pandemic state. The greatest interest was in the exhibitions *Amidst Smoke Rings: A Portrait of a Modern Artist, ZENGA – Japanese Zen paintings from the Kaeru-an Collection* and *The Buddha Up Close*. Last year, the membership program was mainly based on guided tours of current exhibitions, which were attended by 770 members of the club.

In December 2022, we adjusted the prices of individual Club of Friends memberships, increasing the price by about 10%. At the same time, we have changed the membership benefits for the Senior category, which can now enjoy reduced admission to public guided tours and discounts to the NGP bookstore. A new category has been introduced, which is intended for young people between the ages of 16 and 26. This category was introduced on the basis of the cancellation of free admission for visitors under 26 years of age. In addition to unlimited access to all exhibitions and permanent collections, holders of this type of membership in the NGP Club can attend membership events free of charge, take advantage of discounts to the Kolektor and Anežka cafés and other interesting benefits.

We have simplified the operation of the club, for example, it is now much easier to renew memberships. Since the end of the year, this can be done electronically, via a QR code. This eliminates the need to re-enter personal data and replace the membership card. We have thus completed the last phase of a two-year project to modernize and improve the customer service of the Automation of the NGP Friends Club.

Partners & Supporters

Corporate supporters can establish long-term cooperation with the gallery and become a partner of the gallery, but they can also choose a specific exhibition, project or selected educational activity.

For private donors, the gallery prepares exclusive benefits such as private tours of exhibitions, meetings with artists and curators, invitations to openings and other social events.

Not only mutual fulfilment, but also forms of cooperation are therefore very variable.

An important fact remains that the NGP relies on the prestigious name of the institution, follows trends and is constantly looking for new ways to communicate with donors and partners.

Traditionally, Komerční banka, a.s. was the general partner in 2022.

The exhibition and educational activities of the NGP were financially supported by NET4GAS, s.r.o., and Hodinářství Bechyně, s.r.o., LEGO Trading s.r.o. and the French Institute in Prague.

The National Gallery Prague would also like to thank the following subjects for their support and cooperation:

Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic
Academy of Fine Arts in Prague
Archbishopric of Prague
Archive of Fine Arts, Prague
Art and Antiques
Art District 7
Artalk.cz
ArtMap
Big Media
Biograf 16
Bohemian Heritage Fund, Endowment Fund
Brainz Disruptive
Camera Team, spol. s r.o. / Camera Team, LLC
Codart, international network of curators of Dutch and Flemish art
CzechTourism
Czech Centres
Česká pošta, s.p., Poštovní muzeum / Czech Post, s.p., Postal Museum
Česká televize / Czech Television
Český rozhlas / Czech Broadcast
CTU in Prague – Klokner Institute
Deník N
Den Architektury (Spolek KRUH)
Faculty of FNSPE CTU

French Institute in Prague
Hamburger Kunsthalle
Hausboot Production s.r.o. / Hausboot Production LLC
Hlavní město Praha / The Capital City of Prague
Hodinářství Bechyně, s.r.o. / Hodinářství Bechyně, LLC
Indigoprint
Institut plánování a rozvoje hlavního města Prahy / Prague Institute of Planning and Development
Katolická teologická fakulta Univerzity Karlovy / Catholic Theological Faculty, Charles University
Komerční banka, a.s.
Institute of Criminalistics of the Police of the Czech Republic
Kunsthalle Praha
Kunsthistorisches Museum Wien
LEGO Trading s.r.o. / LEGO Trading LLC
Městská část Praha 1 / Prague 1 City District
Městská část Praha 7 / Prague 7 City District
Městská galerie Vysoké Mýto / Vysoké Mýto City Gallery
Martin Mík
Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic
Monitora Media
Moravská galerie v Brně / Moravian Gallery in Brno
Munchmuseet, Oslo
Musée d'Art Moderne de Paris
Musée du Louvre
Museum Rietberg Zürich
Muzeum hlavního města Prahy / The City of Prague Museum
Muzeum města Brna / Brno City Museum
Národní filmový archiv / National Film Archive
Národní muzeum – Historické muzeum / National Museum – Historical Museum
Národní muzeum – Náprstkovo muzeum asijských, afrických a amerických kultur / National Museum – Náprstek Museum of Asian, African and American Cultures
Národní památkový ústav / National Heritage Institute
NET4GAS, s.r.o.
Oblastní galerie Liberec / Liberec Regional Gallery
Památník národního písemnictví v Praze / Museum of Czech Literature in Prague
Prague City Tourism
Radio 1
Sdružení Hapestetika / Hapestetika Association
Senate of the Parliament of the Czech Republic
Slovenská národní galerie / Slovak National Gallery
Spyron

Státní oblastní archiv v Plzni, Pracoviště Klášter u Nepomuka / State Regional Archives in Pilsen, Klášter u Nepomuka
Studio Hrdinů
Technical Museum in Brno
The Pudil Family Foundation
The Robert H. N. Ho Family Foundation
Uměleckohistorická společnost / Art History Society
Uměleckoprůmyslové museum v Praze / Museum of Decorative Arts in Prague
Institute of Art History, Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic
Embassy of France in Prague
Východoslovenská galerie, Košice / East Slovak Gallery, Košice
Východoslovenské muzeum v Košicích / East Slovak Museum in Košice
Academy of Arts, Architecture and Design in Prague
University of Chemistry and Technology, Prague
Wallraf-Richartz-Museum & Fondation Corboud
and others

Národní galerie v Praze / National Gallery Prague
Staroměstské náměstí 12
110 15 Praha 1
+420 224 301 122
info@ngprague.cz
www.ngprague.cz
www.facebook.com/ngprague
www.facebook.com/NGPdetem
www.instagram.com/ngprague
© Národní galerie v Praze, 2023