

NATIONAL GALLERY
PRAGUE

MINGA P



ANNUAL REPORT 2023



Petr Brandl, *Self-Portrait*, known as *The Lobkowitz Self-Portrait*, photo: David Stecker



OPENING REMARKS BY THE GENERAL DIRECTOR

Dear readers,

We are the custodians of a unique cultural heritage – the most important collection of fine art in the Czech Republic and the valuable historical monuments in which it is housed. This heritage binds us, and we approach it with respect and responsibility. Every year our work tries to answer the question of how to make all our buildings as accessible as possible, how to manage our national heritage, how to prepare attractive and meaningful exhibitions and accompanying educational programmes, how to educate, publish and research, how to invest in major projects, how to motivate our staff and other collaborators, and all this with the responsibility of “good stewards” who, however, have a more limited budget than they would like.

You can read how we answered this complex question in 2023 in this year’s Annual Report. First, I would like to draw your attention to some of our key achievements over the past period.

In 2023 we opened eight temporary and permanent exhibitions, only a few of which can be mentioned here. These exhibitions gave hundreds of thousands of visitors a unique artistic experience, after which the works returned to their original places and other artists filled the space. Transience has a permanent place in human life: our work comes into being, exists in space and disappears. But we believe that something intangible, perhaps greater than ourselves, remains. An experience, knowledge, an emotion, a change of perspective, an enrichment.

We represented our country at the 18th Venice Architecture Biennale. We organised the conference Communicating Vessels: Art and Cultural Policy of the 1990s in the Czech and Slovak Republics. We hosted the Designblok, the Jindřich Chaloupecký Society, the Prague Quadrennial and the Fotograf Festival at the Trade Fair Palace. In 2024, we will turn our attention to building relationships with institutions and other stakeholders at home.

The exhibition *Petr Brandl: The Story of a Bohemian* attracted seventy-five thousand visitors and was awarded the Gloria Musaealis prize as the best museum exhibition of 2023 by the organisers of the prize, the Association of Museums and Galleries, the Ministry of Culture and the Czech ICOM Committee.

Initially, we noticed a certain reluctance on the part of the professional community towards exhibitions of Czech artists. However, it turned out to be a good step and we are very pleased and proud of our colleagues who prepared them. Apart from Brandl, other successful exhibitions included the *Watercolour between Prague and Vienna*, the Josef Mánes exhibition and the exhibition devoted to 100 years of the National Gallery’s French Collection. In the Trade Fair Palace, we opened a permanent exhibition of post-war art entitled *1939–2021: The End of the Black and White Era*.

In total, our permanent and temporary exhibitions attracted more than 430,000 visitors in 2023. That is 15 per cent more than last year. Our Club of Friends now has nearly five thousand members. We welcomed a thousand new members last year, which is very encouraging. We are also delighted that nearly 46,000 children and adults took part in our educational and public programmes last year.

Another important event in 2023 was the appointment of the NGP Scientific Council. The Council is our advisory body on scholarly research. It is composed of renowned experts from prestigious international and domestic institutions. I am grateful to my colleagues on the Scientific Council for their advice, feedback and inspiration.

Our mission is to inspire the public and to be a place of free dialogue where the visual arts are presented in a contemporary context and with an awareness of tradition. I believe that the above, and the Annual Report as a whole, show that we also strive to make art fully accessible, understandable and stimulating. We will continue to focus our efforts in this direction.



Alicja Knast, General Director of the National Gallery Prague

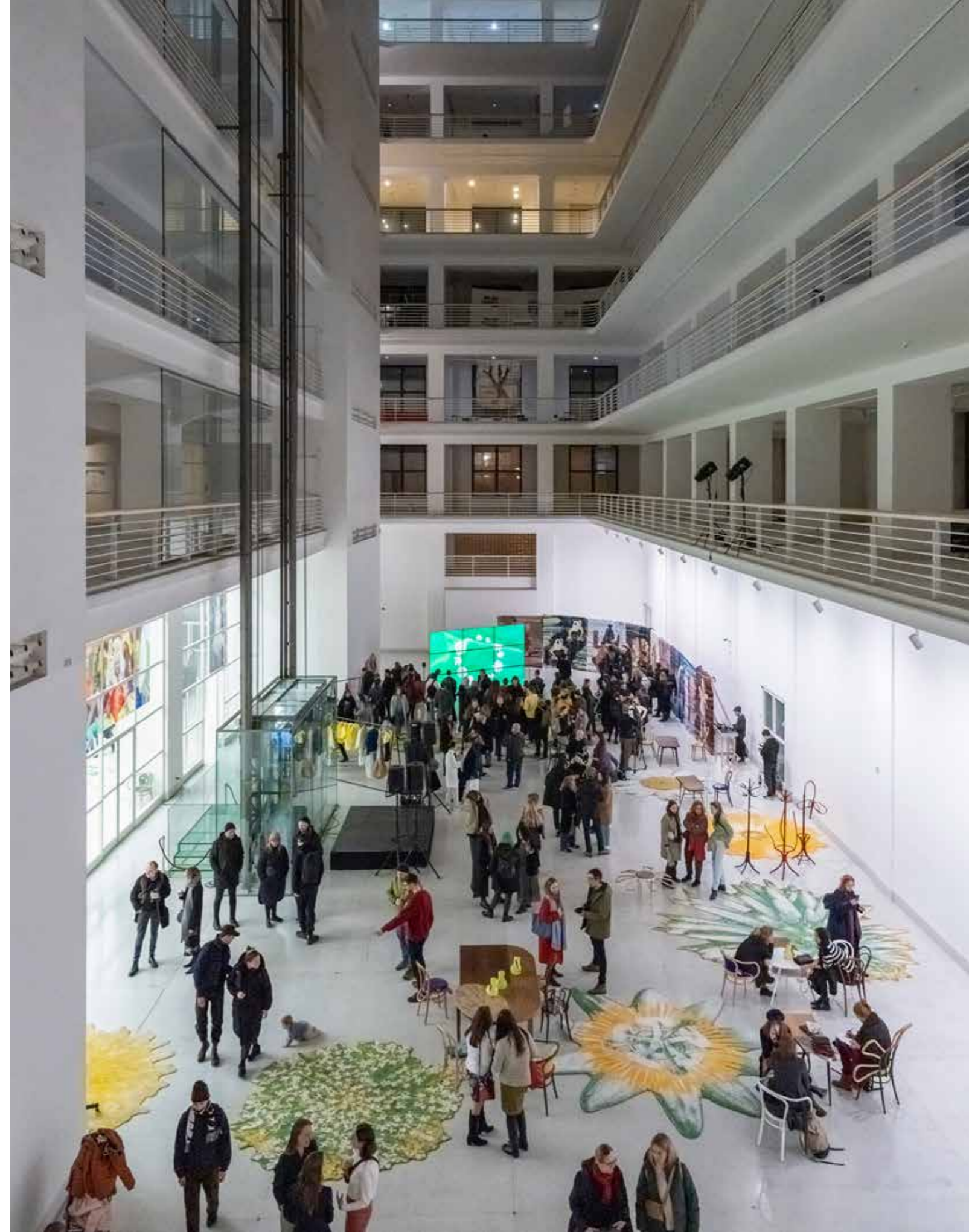




TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introductory Remarks by the General Director	6
Key Projects	12
Visitor Numbers	24
Organisational Structure	27
Activities of the Collections: Collection Care, Documentation, Inventorying, Loans	30
Activities of the Collections: Research and Publication	56
Acquisitions, Documentation, Digitisation and Preservation of the Collections	66
Science and Research	76
Education and Public Programmes	86
Other NGP Activities and Collaborations	98
Methodological Centre for Museums of Fine Arts	103
Financial Management of the Institution	104
Support for the Institution, Acknowledgment of Supporters and Partners	112
Scientific Council of the National Gallery Prague, 2023	117

KEY PROJECTS, VISITOR NUMBERS AND ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

KEY PROJECTS (in Chronological Order)

Josef Mánes: Man – Artist – Legend

31/3 – 16/7 2023, Waldstein Riding School

Markéta Dlábková (SGK), Veronika Hulíková (SMU)

The exhibition presented the main areas of Mánes's work – history painting, landscapes, portraits, illustrations and designs for the applied arts – supplemented by comparative material covering the work of both his Czech contemporaries and foreign artists who influenced the Czech environment. The overall picture was completed by excerpts from Mánes's correspondence, contemporary texts and photographs and, importantly, information on new discoveries made during the restoration of Mánes's works. The exhibition aimed to look beneath the layer of decades-old stereotypes associated with Mánes's work. The authors have placed his extensive and varied oeuvre in the context of Czech and Central European art, focusing on his artistic legacy and the reflection on his work in the period after his death.

1939–2021: The End of the Black and White Era

Open from May 2023, Trade Fair Palace

Curatorial team: Michal Novotný (SMU), Eva Skopalová (SU45), Adéla Janíčková (SMU)

The long-awaited permanent exhibition complements the previously opened exhibitions at the Trade Fair Palace. The curatorial team, led by Michal Novotný, Director of the *Collection of Art after 1945*, set out to show that there were several parallel conceptions of quality in art at the time. The basic polarities of contemporary art – official and unofficial, abstract and figurative, formal and socially engaged – conditioned each other's existence, but they almost never existed as black and white opposites. In a chronological order, the visitor can observe how quickly the idea of artistic quality changed over time, even for individual artists. The exhibition presents art as a testimony to the times: the result not only of purely artistic forces, but also of social, political and economic ones. It consists of more than 300 works drawn exclusively from the NGP's collections. It is not based on a hierarchical selection of the best, but on an attempt to understand the motives behind what art was being made at the time and why, complete with examples of exhibitions and stories of acquisitions.

18th Venice Architecture Biennale

20/5 – 26/11 2023, Venice, Italy

Concept: Eliška Havla Pomyjová, David Neuhäusl and Jan Netušil

Curator: Helena Huber-Doudová, curator of the Architecture Collection at the NGP

For the Czech presentation at the 18th Architecture Exhibition La Biennale di Venezia 2023, NGP prepared the project *The Office for a Non-Precarious Future*. The exhibition highlighted the current pressing problems of the architectural profession that young architects are forced to face. How can architects design a better world when they themselves operate in a toxic working system? The exhibition was organised by Helena Huber-Doudová, curator of the Architecture Collection at the NGP, and the artists were Eliška Havla Pomyjová, David Neuhäusl and Jan Netušil.

Due to the reconstruction of the Czech and Slovak Pavilion in the Giardini della Biennale, the Czech Republic was exceptionally represented at the 18th Architecture Biennale in the Arsenale. Thanks to the National Renovation Plan (NPO), the NGP and the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic found a suitable alternative venue for 2023. The historic building of the Czech and Slovak Pavilion served as a digital hub to complement the main exhibition.

A view of the exhibition *Josef Mánes: Man – Artists – Legend*, Waldstein Riding School, photo: Adéla Kremplová

p. 14 A view of the exhibition *The End of the Black-and-White Era*, 2022, photo: Adéla Kremplová

p. 16 Venice Biennale of Architecture, photo: Morgane Renau





How might we as architects
participate in creating
Sustainable U.S.

Precarious conditions	Third residence	Urban inhabitation	Public networks
Equal opportunities	Disseminated profession	Formal practices	Network



Take away

Residency

The Office for
a Non-Precarious Future
Residency programme





KEY PROJECTS

1923–2023: Centenary of the State Purchase of French Art

17/10 – 17/12 2023, Trade Fair Palace, 3rd floor Respirium

Curators: Anna Pravdová, Ruth Peterová

In 2023, the NGP commemorated the 100th anniversary of the generous purchase of French art by the Czechoslovak state under the auspices of President T. G. Masaryk. The purchase was the result of the Czech cultural scene's long-standing interest in French art and was also intended to demonstrate the friendly relations between the young Central European state and France at the level of official cultural and political diplomacy. The state art collections acquired several dozen paintings, sculptures, drawings and prints by artists such as Georges Braque, Paul Cézanne, Camille Corot, Gustave Courbet, Honoré Daumier, Eugène Delacroix, André Derain, Charles Despiau, Paul Gauguin, Vincent Van Gogh, Henri Matisse, Claude Monet, Pablo Picasso, Camille Pissarro, Auguste Renoir, Henri Rousseau, Georges Seurat and others whose works can be seen today in the permanent exhibitions *1796–1918 Art of the Long Century* and *1918–1938 The First Republic*.

On the occasion of the centenary, the NGP produced a documentary film, *Purchase of the Century – 1923: The Birth of the French Collection* in cooperation with Czech Television and organised a series of activities for the general public. On 2 and 3 November, a conference on the subject was held in the Convent of St Agnes of Bohemia, and an audio guide in Czech, English and French was produced for the twenty works by the aforementioned artists on display in the exhibition.

Petr Brandl: The Story of a Bohemian

20/10 2023 – 11/2 2024, Waldstein Riding Hall

Curator: Andrea Steckerová

The NGP's largest exhibition in 2023, *Petr Brandl: The Story of a Bohemian*, was conceived by its curator, Andrea Steckerová, as a narrative of two parallel stories – the painter's work and his life. The artist's life, for which we have many archival documents, is remarkable for its "bohemianism" and rebelliousness even for today's viewer, but we can also find interesting connections with the problems of our time. Brandl was a lifelong debtor; impressed by the lifestyle of the aristocracy, he wanted to indulge in luxury, but his debts landed him in prison on several occasions and he also went through protracted legal disputes with his wife Helena over alimony. Brandl often failed to meet the terms of his contracts, causing problems with the patrons of his work. Nevertheless, his distinctive artistic style, which can be compared to Rembrandt's painting, made him probably the best-paid artist of his time. X-rays and macro-photographs of Brandl's work, which accompanied the exhibition, gave visitors a glimpse into the inner workings of his painting. The unique architectural design created a powerful and evocative atmosphere in the Waldstein Riding Hall and attracted more than 75,000 visitors. In the spring of 2024, the exhibition won the Gloria musaealis award from the Association of Museums and Galleries as the best museum exhibition of 2023.

Watercolour between Prague and Vienna

22/9 2023 – 7/1 2024, Trade Fair Palace

Concept: Petr Šámal, Institute of Art History, Faculty of Arts, Charles University

Curator: Petra Kolářová (SGK)

The exhibition presented watercolour outside the traditional artistic fields (veduta, landscape, portrait, interior painting) and focused on other important themes such as watercolour in the hands of women painters and watercolour sketches. It was not confined to the Biedermeier period, which is most often associated with watercolour, but traced the role and use of the technique up to the beginning of the twentieth century. The exhibition also presented watercolour as a cross-media technique, tracing its relationship with printmaking, painting, architecture and photography.

The conference Communicating Vessels: Art and Cultural Policy in the 1990s in the Czech and Slovak Republics

21–22/11 2023, Trade Fair Palace

A two-day conference with Czech and Slovak experts was organised by the Collection of Art after 1945 (SU45) in cooperation with the Slovak Institute in Prague on the occasion of the thirtieth anniversary of the establishment of the two independent states. The conference focused on the development of art, institutions and cultural policies in the 1990s from different perspectives, while at the same time tracing parallels, intersections and differences in the two art scenes. The conference was organised by Radoslav Ištok and Eva Skopalová, curators of the Collection of Art after 1945.

A view of the exhibition *Petr Brandl: The Story of a Bohemian*, 2023, photo: Adéla Kremplová

p. 20 A view of the exhibition *Watercolour between Prague and Vienna*, Trade Fair Palace, photo: Adéla Kremplová

p. 22 *Echo Dot*, performance by Maja Štefančíková, 2023, as part of the conference and performance event *Communicating Vessels*, 2023, photo: Petr Polak



Small informational text block located below the second illustration.





VISITOR NUMBERS

NGP Visitor Numbers in 2023

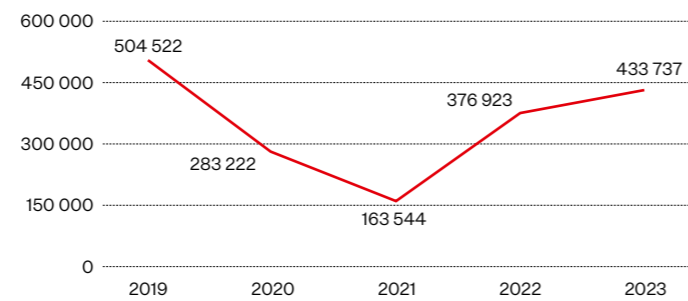
	Visitor Numbers	Permanent Exhibitions	Temporary Exhibitions	Note
Trade Fair Palace	204,014	177,800	26,214	Including combined admission with the permanent collection
Sternberg Palace	16,426	16,426	0	Including combined admission with the permanent collection
Schwarzenberg Palace	43,345	42,755	590	
Salm Palace	5,522	0	5,522	
Convent of St Agnes	33,258	33,258	0	
Convent of St Agnes – Architekture, Gardens	64,040	64,040		
Kinsky Palace	0	0	0	
Waldstein Riding School	67,132	0	67,132	
Courses Fundamentals of Art History	12	0	0	
	433 737			
Gift vouchers and membership cards of the NGP Friends Club (in the gallery)	4,883			
Gift vouchers and membership cards of the NGP Friends Club (online)	1,915	0	0	
Total	440,535	334,279	+ 99,458	= 433,737

Nejnavštěvovanější výstavy roku 2023

	Visitor Numbers
Petr Brandl: The Story of a Bohemian	37,337
Josef Mánes: Man – Artist – Legend	29,795*
Watercolour between Prague and Vienna	18,993

* Visitor numbers in 2023 only; the total number of exhibition visitors by end February 2024 was 75,000.

Visitor numbers in the period 2019 – 2023

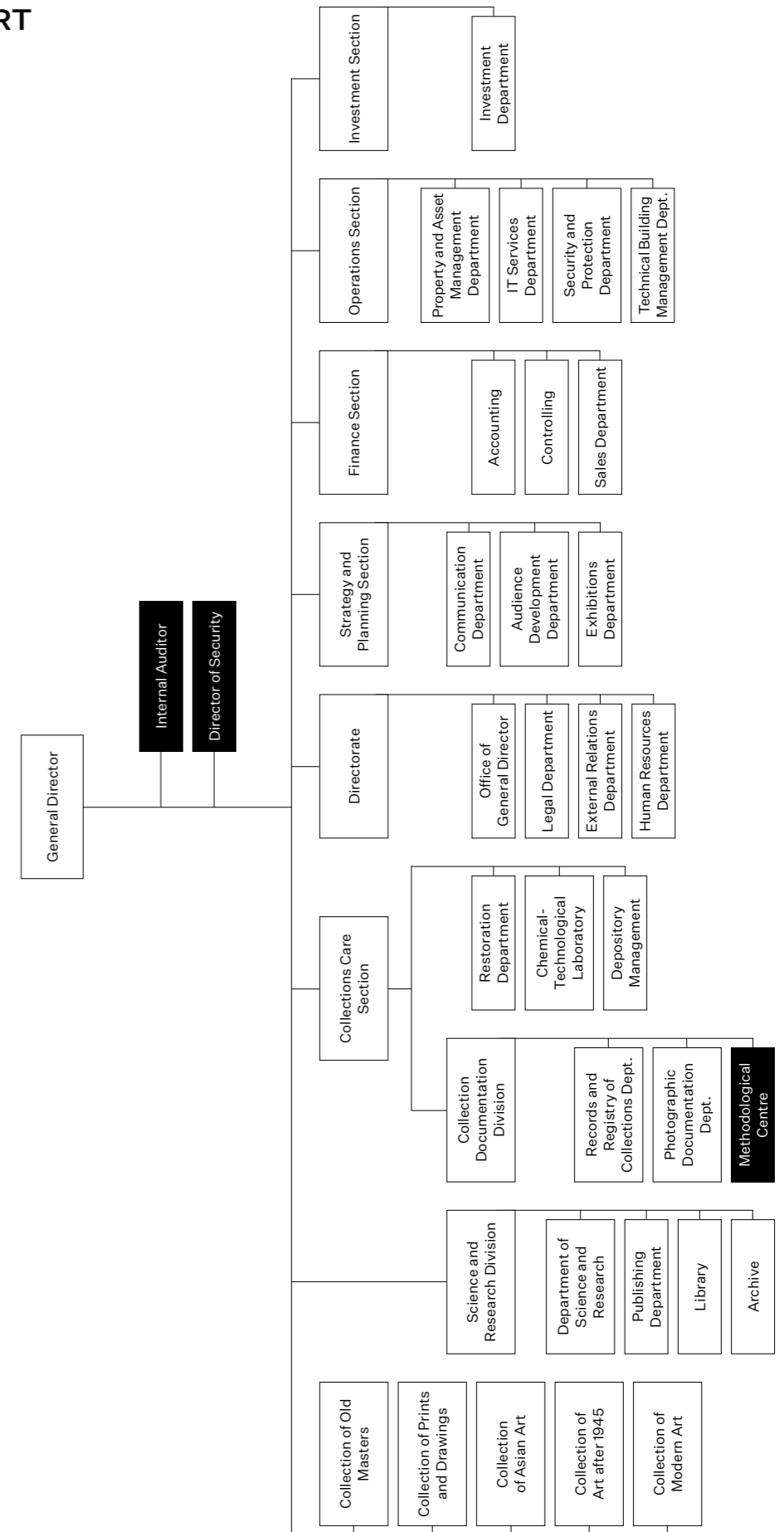




ORGANISATIONAL CHART

Organisational Chart Effective from 15 August 2023

■ Independent unit



HYPERTENSION23

HYPERTENSION23
Search Deep Inside Yourself

13. ročník Fotograf Festivalu
13th Fotograf Festival
21. 9. 2023 - 11. 2. 2024

V roce 1996 se rozvíjející se veniseké výtvary „Jeho konceptu“
mohl v virtuální prostě nad propasti nové datové vlně. Jeho práce na
konstrukci a digitální vlně ve výhledu obrátily čtyřleté páry k dřívějším
projekty na propaše neprobávané nad světovou křivkou. Jeho práce
ukázala, jak mohou nové média a virtuální realita obohatit lidské zkušenosti
a proniknout do nejhlubších instancí věčné Návraty genocidy. Virtuální tvůrčí
„do státní jednotky“ jsou populárně jako „přírodní mediace“, která
a jehož prostřednictvím lze vstoupit „svět s sebou“ do svých fyzických
světů (Brenda Laurel, 1992). Máte smysl vytvářet nepočít virtuálních světů
a aplikovat myšlenku, že já může být zakotvená mnohem dříve, než
Kritikové ji se sávkou označují za nejnovější simulace, kdy se v této chvíli
používá jako obraz. V kartézském světě se tak opět odlišuje svět od těla
... Z dnešního pohledu se změně nastává, když se jako výsledek
základně technologií a digitálních vln. Vytváří se nová
HYPERTENSION23 a postmoderní Search Deep Inside Yourself se snaží
poukázat, jak je zneklidňující směr se technologií vývoj vyvíjí.
Zaměřuje se na umění poslední dekády, je reflektuje naše nové virtuální
já přicházející hranice kyberprostoru a v souvislosti s tím i proměňující
lidské identity v digitální fluidum. Přesto je prologem výstavy „aesthetically“
projekt Lynn Herschman Leeson, jedná o průběhu sociálně-estetického umění.
Její rozsáhlá umělecká činnost je zde představena retrospektivou Roberty
Brennovej, která tvrdí, že tvůrčí, kterou v posledních letech rozvíjela jako
vlastní konceptuální identitu. Robertu je představuje prostřednictvím projektu
Herschman Leeson o multiplicitu odcizení a transformaci identity ve
virtuálním prostředí. Vůbec první retrospektiva Roberty vlivu celý
k dílům realistických, generálních i uměleckých vzájemných vztahů umění
a umění. Výstava je následně velmi rozšířena do 11 prostorů, které se
zachytávají různé experimentální aspekty života on-line a umění. Jeho mysl
na síti. Jedním ze záměrů je upozornit na to, že se významně část digitálního
žijeme v kyberprostoru, který je tím, co nás vztahuje a pohybuje
v digitálním světě. Záměr v digitálním světě má v budoucnu digitální tvorbu
odlišující vlastnosti umění a kultury. Někdy digitální tvorba tvoří
kyberprostor a vytváří si vlastní prostředí. V nich může virtuální
reprezentace být se dotýká přítomnosti. Stává se subjektem zkušenosti
fyzické, ve kterých můžeme být někdy úplně jiní - někdy, se nějakou
dobou, nebo jen na jeden post.

In 1996, the emerging Venetian artists "His concept"
could in the virtual space over the abyss of the new data wave. His work on
the construction and digital wave in the horizon turned four-year pairs to earlier
projects on the uncharted world over the curve. His work
showed how new media and virtual reality could enrich human experiences
and penetrate the deepest instances of the eternal Return of genocide. Virtual creative
"into the state unit" are popularly known as "natural mediation", which
and through which one can enter "the world with oneself" into their physical
worlds (Brenda Laurel, 1992). It makes sense to create countless virtual worlds
and apply the idea that I can be rooted much earlier than
Critics call it the latest simulation, when in this moment
it is used as an image. In Cartesian world it separates the world from the body
... From today's perspective the change is coming, when as a result
basically technologies and digital waves. It creates a new
HYPERTENSION23 and postmodern Search Deep Inside Yourself tries to
point out how disturbing the direction of technology development is.
It focuses on the art of the last decade, it reflects our new virtual
I coming from the boundaries of cyberspace and in connection with it also the changing
human identities in digital fluidum. Nevertheless, it is the prologue of the exhibition "aesthetically"
the project Lynn Herschman Leeson, it is about the course of socio-aesthetic art.
Her extensive artistic work is here presented retrospectively by Roberta
Brennovej, who claims that her creative work, which she has been developing in the
last few years as her own conceptual identity. Roberta is represented through Lynn
Herschman Leeson's project on the multiplicity of alienation and transformation of identity in
the virtual environment. The very first retrospective of Roberta's work covers the
entire range of realistic, general and artistic mutual relationships of art
and art. The exhibition is then significantly expanded to 11 spaces, which capture
different experimental aspects of life on-line and art. His mind on the net. One of the
aims is to draw attention to the fact that a significant part of our digital life we live in
cyberspace, which is what we relate to and move in. It becomes a subject of experience
physical, in which we can sometimes be completely different - sometimes, for a while,
or just for one post.

aLiveForms: Stephanie Comitag, Cécile B. Evans, Ian Cheng,
Sin Wai Kin, Martins Kohout, Lynn Herschman Leeson,
Lawrence Lek, Stef Van Looveren, Markus Selg



COLLECTIONS ACTIVITIES

Collection Care, Documentation, Inventorying, Loans

DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES

Collection of Old Masters (Sbírka starého umění, SSU)

The SSU, in collaboration with the Collection Documentation Department and the Department of Science and Research, continued the digitisation of around 300 works. These works came from the collections of Dutch and Flemish painting of the 17th–18th centuries, Italian painting of the 14th–15th centuries, German painting of the 17th–18th centuries, Austrian and English painting of the 17th–18th centuries, French and Spanish painting of the 17th–18th centuries, icons and Italian painting of the 16th–18th centuries, Bohemian sculpture and painting of the 14th–16th centuries (additions) and from the collection of casts of Bohemian works of the 14th–16th centuries (Part 1). As part of the inventory, the SSU conducted a proper review of the SSU collection and examined approximately 240 works.

Exhibitions

Petr Brandl: The Story of a Bohemian

20/10 2023 – 11/2 2024, Waldstein Riding Hall

Curator: Andrea Steckerová

Clay sculptures: Terracottas by Italian masters of the 15th to 19th centuries from the collections of the National Gallery in Prague – output from the “NAKI II” project

8/11 2022 – 26/3 2023, Sternberg Palace

Curator: Olga Kotková

In Depth and on the Surface – output from the “NAKI II” project

6/12 2022 – 23/4 2023, Convent of St Agnes of Bohemia

Curator: Štěpánka Chlumská

Loans to Domestic Institutions

Gallery of West Bohemia

(Bohemia, around 1450, *Virgin and Child on a Crescent Moon of Bílá Hora*)

National Museum, Prague

(The Miseroni Workshop, *The Coat of Arms of the Skreta-Šotnovský of Závrořice*; Václav Vavřinec Reiner, *The Destruction of the Harmful Books and the Heavenly preservation of the Good Books*; Václav Vavřinec Reiner, *The Battle with the Turks*; Karel Škréta, *Franz Anton Berka of Dubá and Marie Ludovica de Montecuccoli as Paris and Helena*; Franz Karel Palko, *The Dead Body of St John of Nepomuk*)

Museum of Decorative Arts in Prague

(Bartolomeo Bettera, *Still Life with Musical Instruments*)

Loans to Foreign Institutions

The Barber Institute of Fine Arts, Birmingham

(Pieter Brueghel Jr., *Two Peasants Binding Branches*)

Szépművészeti Múzeum, Budapest

(Doménikos Theotokópulos, called El Greco, *Christ at Prayer*)

Wallraf-Richartz Museum, Cologne

(Vincenc Selaert, *Susanna and the Elders*)

Gemäldegalerie Berlin

(Hugo van der Goes – follower, *David and Abigail*)

The Snijders & Rockox House, Centrum Rubenianum, Antwerp

(Peter Paul Rubens, *Expulsions from the Garden of Eden*)

Haus der Bayerischen Geschichte, Regensburg

(The Miseroni Workshop, *The Coat of Arms of the Skreta-Šotnovský of Závrořice*; Václav Vavřinec Reiner, *The Destruction of the Harmful Books and the Heavenly preservation of the Good Books*; Václav Vavřinec Reiner, *The Battle with the Turks*; Karel Škréta, *Franz Anton Berka of Dubá and Marie Ludovica de Montecuccoli as Paris and Helena*; Franz Karel Palko, *The Dead Body of St John of Nepomuk*)

Bucerius Kunst Forum Hamburg

(Tiberio Tinelli, *Portrait of Karel Škréta*)

Zamek Królewski na Wawelu – Państwowe Zbiory Sztuki, Krakow

(Hans Dürer, *The Penitent St. Jerome in a Landscape*)

Het Noordbrabants Museum, s-Hertogenbosch

(Pieter II Brueghel, *Adoration of the Magi*)

The National Gallery, London

(Frans Hals, *Portrait of Jasper Schade*)

Koninklijk Museum voor Schone Kunsten Antwerpen

(Frans Floris de Vriend, *Study of the Head of a Young Woman in White*; Peter Paul Rubens, *Study of the Head of a Man in Profile*)

Staatliche Kunstsammlungen Dresden

(Prague, c. 1395, *Frame of the Madonna of St. Vitus*)

Städelsches Kunstinstitut und Städtische Galerie, Frankfurtam Main

(Francesco Melzi, *Holy Family*)

Palazzo Santacroce, Rome

(Simon Vouet, *The Suicide of Lucretia*)



Giuseppe Maria Mazza, *Virgin Mary with the Child Jesus and Young John the Baptist*, photo: David Stecker, Jakub Přecechtěl
p. 34 A view of the exhibition *Petr Brandl: The Story of a Bohemian*, 2023, photo: Adéla Kremplová





DEPARTMENT ACTIVITY

Collection of Prints and Drawings (Sbírka grafiky a kresby, SGK)

The main tasks of the SGK, which administers the largest collection of the NGP (about four hundred thousand prints, drawings and manuscripts), include the processing, documentation and presentation of the collection, for example through exhibitions and scholarly publications both inside and outside the institution. In parallel with the presentation of the collection, the SGK staff worked on its digitisation (especially database processing) and provided expert consultations for the public and researchers from the Czech Republic and abroad. The inventory of the SGK was carried out as planned – 23,291 items were inventoried.

Within the NGP, the collection participated in joint projects and prepared two exhibitions and twelve graphic cabinets. Works on paper were rotated in the newly opened exhibition 1939–2021: *The End of the Black and White Era*.

We continued to work with the Musée du Louvre on the project of Mannerist prints from the collections of both institutions. This collaboration resulted in an exhibition and a comprehensive scholarly catalogue entitled *From Michelangelo to Callot: The Art of Mannerist Printmaking*.

Exhibitions

Josef Mánes: Man – Artist – Legend

31/3 – 16/7 2023, Waldstein Riding School

Curator and co-author for the SGK: Markéta Dlábková

Watercolour between Prague and Vienna

22/9 2023 – 7/1 2024, Trade Fair Palace

Concept: Petr Šámal, Institute of Art History, Faculty of Arts, Charles University

Curator: Petra Kolářová (SGK)

Graphic Arts Cabinets

The Cave Phenomenon in Drawing and Printmaking around 1800

24/1 – 23/4 2023, Trade Fair Palace

Curator: Petr Šámal

Emil Orlik: Portraits from the World of Theatre and Music

25/4 – 30/7 2023, Trade Fair Palace

Curator: Petra Kolářová

Between Paris and Prague – Drawings by “Czech Parisians” I

25/4 – 30/7 2023, Trade Fair Palace

Curator: Markéta Dlábková

Preparation for Murder in the House. Drawing Studies by Jakub Schikaneder

1/8 – 5/11 2023, Trade Fair Palace

Curator: Petra Kolářová

Between Paris and Prague – Drawings by “Czech Parisians” II

1/8 – 5/11 2023, Trade Fair Palace

Curator: Markéta Dlábková

Josef Matěj Navrátil: Landscape Drawings

6/11 2023 – 11/2 2024, Trade Fair Palace

Curator: Markéta Dlábková

From Takeoff to Crash: Dance and Movement Studies by Jan Štursa

6/11 2023 – 11/2 2024, Trade Fair Palace

Curator: Petra Kolářová

Saul Steinberg: Between Line and Text

25/5 – 17/9 2023, Trade Fair Palace

Curator: Adriana Šmejkalová

Expert Collaboration and Coordination: Anna Strnadlová

Pravoslav Sovák: The Loudness of Silence

22/9 2023 – 7/1 2024, Trade Fair Palace

Curator: Anna Strnadlová

Great Little Masters: Aldegrever, Beham, Pencz and Solis

4/4 – 9/7 2023, Schwarzenberg Palace

Curators: Alena Volrábová, Lenka Babická

Et in Arcadia ego: The Departure from This World in the Works of (Not Only) Famous Artists

18/7 – 29/10 2023, Schwarzenberg Palace

Curator: Dalibor Lešovský

Karel Škréta (1610–1674): Designs for Graphic Prints

7/11 2023 – 4/2 2024, Schwarzenberg Palace

Curator: Petra Zelenková



Small white informational card.



Small white informational card.



Small white informational card.



Small white informational card.



Small white informational card.

DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES

Collection of Prints and Drawings SGK)

Loans

In 2023, the SGK loaned a total of 167 works to domestic and international exhibitions. 166 works went to a total of sixteen exhibitions in the Czech Republic, one work to an exhibition in Regensburg.

Loans to International Institutions

Haus der Bayerischen Geschichte, Regensburg

(Antonín Birkhardt after Kristian Luna, *View of the Grounds of the Pilgrimage Church of Our Lady of Victory at the White Mountain*, after 1723, *The Baroque in Bavaria and Bohemia* exhibition).

Loans to Domestic Institutions

Gallery of West Bohemia in Pilsen

“... And I Saw a New Heaven and a New Earth...”: *Apocalypse and Art in the Czech Lands*, 41 works
The Lines of Comics, 18 works
The Era of salons: Czech Salon Art and the International Art Scene (1870–1914), 6 works
The Art of the Very Long Century and the Memory of Human Walk, 6 works

Gallery of the Central Bohemian Region in Kutná Hora:

A Path Destined by Fate – Květa and Jitka Válový, 6 works
František Kupka – Biblioman, 10 works
Stanislav Podhrázký and Friends, 4 works

Prague City Gallery:

Prague Pallas and Moravian Hellas 1902: Auguste Rodin in Prague and Moravia, 3 works
Jitka Svobodová: Beyond the Edge of the Seen, 3 works
Meštrović (1883–1962), 2 works

House of Arts Brno:

Eva Kmentová, 8 works

Museum of Art Olomouc:

The Magic of Drawing: Italian Drawing of the High Renaissance and Mannerism in Czech and Moravian Public Collections, 21 works

Museum of the Elbe Region Poděbrady:

Ludvík Kuba 160 Years or Do Not Sit on two Chairs, 12 works

Gallery of Fine Art in Ostrava:

Antonín Tomalík Among His Own, 1 work

Gallery of Modern Art in Hradec Králové:

Tapping the Egg: Columbus Then and Now, 22 works

Klatovy/Klenová Gallery in Klatovy:

Rhythm, 3 works

Loans of Works Within the NGP

Amidst Smoke Rings (exhibition opened in 2022)

The exhibition included 15 drawings and 27 prints, 1 album of drawings, 1 album of prints

1918–1938: The First Republic

(end of rotations on 16 January 2023)

Pablo Picasso, *Still life with a Bottle, Glass and Playing Card* (1914, pencil, collage, paper)

1939–2021: The End of the Black and White Era

Emil Filla, *Hey When I Was a Brigand* (1951, brush, ink, watercolor, canvas)

Antonín Pelc, *The Painter Qi Baishi* (1955, brush, ink, paper)

Naděžda Plíšková, *Design for a Monument to Karel Nepraš* (1978, drypoint, paper)

Naděžda Plíšková, *Love Letter* from the series *Erotiad* (1973, drypoint, paper)

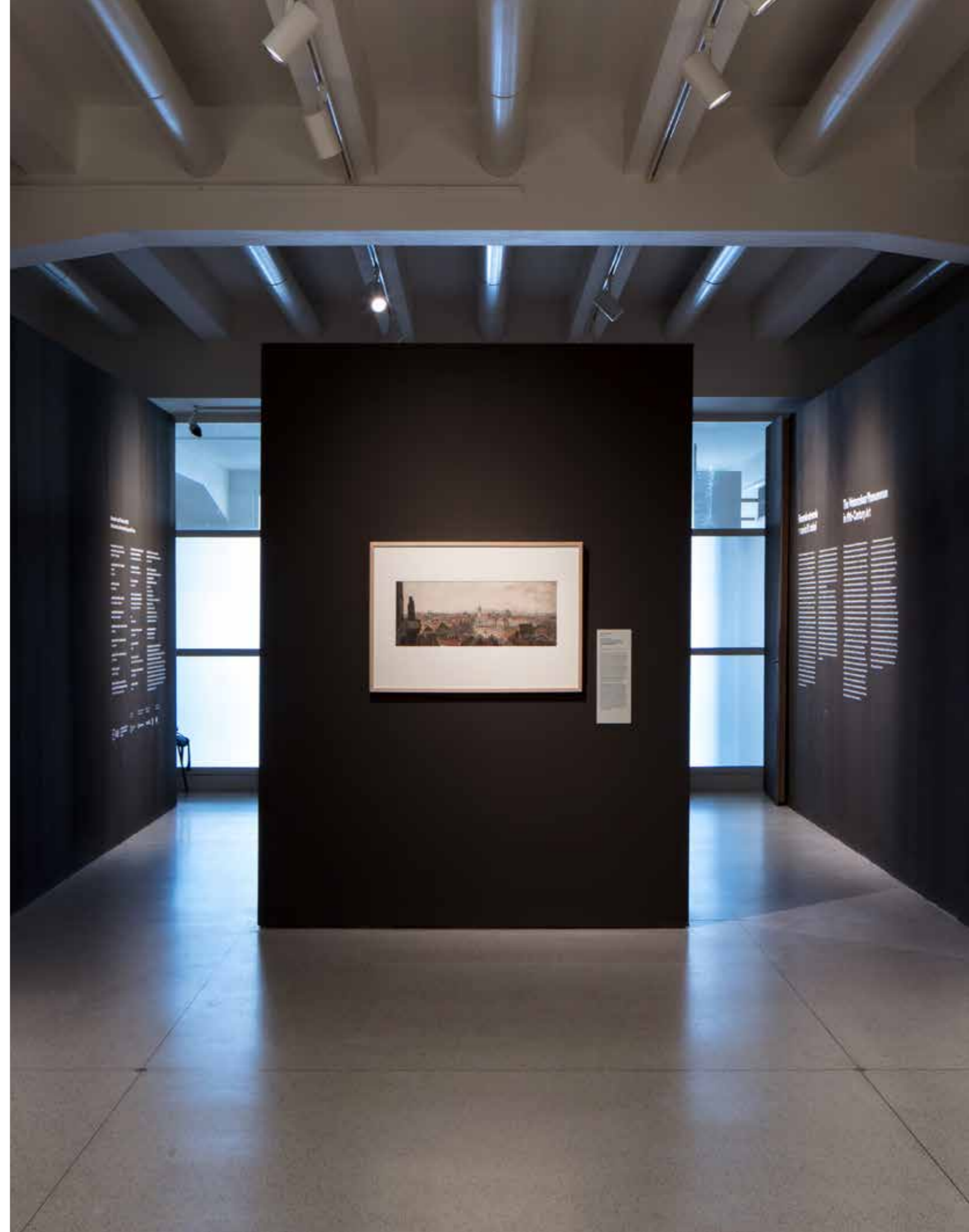
Vladimír Boudník, *Totems II* (1964, mixed media, paper)

Naděžda Plíšková, *Mona Lisa* (1968, drypoint, paper)

Naděžda Plíšková, “*Ecce homo*” (1984, drypoint, paper)

Naděžda Plíšková, *Ten Gentlemen and a Lady* (1971, drypoint, paper)

Naděžda Plíšková, *Composition* (1980, drypoint, paper)



DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES

Collection of Asian Art (Sbírka umění Asie, SUA)

The SUA currently administers more than 13,000 works of art and applied art objects, mainly from Japan, China, Tibet, South and Southeast Asia, the Islamic cultural area and the pre-Islamic Middle East, and to a lesser extent from Central and South America. All works are registered in the Bach – ProMuseum database. In 2023, we updated 2,609 records. The collection was visited by 31 researchers from the Czech Republic and abroad, who requested more than 300 works and inventory cards and 25 books for study. 1,040 works were inventoried. 366 entries were added to the NGP web database *Online Collections / Vademecum*.

Exhibitions

Zenga – Japanese Zen Paintings from the Kaeru-an Collections

27/5 2022 – 18/6 2023, Salm Palace, 1st floor

Curators: Markéta Hánová, Jana Ryndová

Three sets of paintings were rotated in 2023. Prof. Yukio Lippit of Harvard University gave a lecture entitled *Zenga: A New History*.

Permanent Exhibition

Art of Asia: Across Space and Time

Salm Palace

The architectural design of the exhibition has been completed and the project has entered its main implementation phase. Work is underway on a specialised catalogue for the exhibition and a children's publication. Both books will be published at the end of 2024.

International Cooperation

Simone Wille from Universität Innsbruck, research and exhibition project *Indian Modern Art in Prague*.

Other Professional Activities

Consultations were provided to regional museums and individual researchers. Expert consultations most often concern the Asian provenance of works, and are regularly held, for example, with the Museum of Decorative Arts in Prague, the Náprstek Museum and the National Heritage Institute. Markéta Hánová, Michaela Pejčochová and Zdenka Klimtová sit on the editorial board of the *Annals of the Náprstek Museum*, which meets twice a year.

Loans of Works within the NGP

Permanent Exhibition Old Masters (from 9 October 2020)

Vessel with a lid featuring a figural scene and European montage, China (second half of the 17th to early 18th century, porcelain, cobalt underglaze painting)

Vessel with a lid featuring a floral rock garden motif and European montage, China (second half of the 17th to early 18th century, porcelain, cobalt underglaze painting)

1939–2021: The end of the black and white era

Jiang Zhaohe, *Peasants Building Peace* (whole including hinge)

Jiang Zhaohe, *Thread in the Hand of a Caring Mother* (whole including hinge and buttons)

Jie Qian Yu, *Girl with an Ear* (whole including hinge and buttons)

Loans

Permanent exhibition of Bedřich Hrozný in the Museum of the Elbe Region – the Bedřich Hrozný Museum in Lysá nad Labem (107 objects, long-term loan from 2015)

Villa Müller – interior, Prague City Museum

Jar with lid featuring a chrysanthemum motif, Japan (18th–19th century, porcelain)

Vessel with the motif of plastic dragons, Japan (18th–19th century, porcelain)







DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES

Collection of Modern Art (Sbírka moderního umění, SMU)

The Collection of Modern Art (SMU) holds more than 14,000 paintings and sculptures from the 19th century and the first half of the 20th century. More than 850 works are on display in the permanent exhibitions *1796–1918: Art of the Long Century* and *1918–1938: The First Republic* at the Trade Fair Palace.

In 2023, we continued to inventory works in the sculpture sub-collection, where we examined 418 works, and in the 19th Century Paintings, where we examined 598 works.

Exhibitions

Centenary of the State Purchase of French Art

Trade Fair Palace, 3rd floor respirium, 17/10 – 17/12 2023

Anna Pravdová, Ruth Peterová

Josef Mánes: Man – Artist – Legend

31/3 – 16/7 2023, Waldstein Riding Hall, in cooperation with the SGK

Markéta Dlábková (SGK) and Veronika Hulíková (SMU)

Loans to Domestic Institutions

In 2023, the SMU lent a total of 92 works to local and international exhibitions. 68 works went to 14 exhibition projects in the Czech Republic, 24 works appeared in nine exhibition projects abroad. The works were lent to the following institutions:

Gallery of West Bohemia in Pilsen (Art of the Very Long Century and the Memory of Human Walk, 7 works)

František Tkadlík, *St Adalbert Returns from the Benedictine Monastery of Monte Cassino in 993*, 1824

Antonín Mánes, *Landscape with a Pilgrim*, 1827

Adolf Kosárek, *Landscape with Hunters*, 1856

Mikoláš Aleš, *Poetry (Studies for the triptych May)*, 1878

Jakub Schikaneder, *Street with a Pedestrian*, c. 1910

Antonín Slaviček, *Rainy Evening*, 1902

Václav Mánes, *Folk Devotion at Vesuvius*, 1842

Gallery of Fine Arts in Cheb (On Corsica, 9 works)

Otakar Nejedlý, *Cork Oaks on Corsica*, 1927

Josef Hubáček, *From Corsica*, 1930

Josef Hubáček, *Landscape from Corsica*, 1930

Josef Hubáček, *Castellucio*, 1930

Josef Hubáček, *Aqueduct (A Mill by the Aqueduct)*, 1930

Josef Hubáček, *From Corsica*, 1929–1930

Jan Slaviček, *Pine Road in Corsica*, 1929

Bedřich Piskač, *Still Life with Oranges*, 1928

Bedřich Piskač, *Saint Simeon*, 1928

Regional Gallery of Vysočina in Jihlava (On Corsica, 9 works)

Otakar Nejedlý, *Cork Oaks on Corsica*, 1927

Josef Hubáček, *From Corsica*, 1930

Josef Hubáček, *Landscape from Corsica*, 1930

Josef Hubáček, *Castellucio*, 1930

Josef Hubáček, *Aqueduct (A Mill by the Aqueduct)*, 1930

Josef Hubáček, *From Corsica*, 1929–1930

Jan Slaviček, *Pine Road in Corsica*, 1929

Bedřich Piskač, *Still Life with Oranges*, 1928

Bedřich Piskač, *Saint Simeon*, 1928

Prácheň Museum in Písek (The Skálas – The Livelihood of Painting in the 19th Century, 2 works)

František Skála, *Mountain Landscape with a Castle*

František Skála, *A Scene from the Salzburg Alps*

Trutnov City Gallery (Alois Kalvoda /1875–1934/, 3 works)

Alois Kalvoda, *The Winter Sun Shines, But Does Not Warm*, 1907

Alois Kalvoda, *Spring*, 1910

Alois Kalvoda, *Sitting in the Park*, 1898

Gallery of Modern Art in Hradec Králové

(Věra Jičínská /1898–1961/, 2 works)

Mary Duras, *Sleeping Girl I*, 1928

Julie Winterová-Mezerová, *Roscoff in Brittany*, 1929

DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES

Collection of Modern Art (SMU)

Municipal House Prague (Josef Václav Myslbek, 8 works)

Josef Václav Myslbek, *Swan Song, third sketch for Music*
Josef Václav Myslbek, *Self Portrait*
Josef Václav Myslbek, *Head of Cardinal Schwarzenberg*
Josef Václav Myslbek, *Vojtěch, Knight Lanna*
Josef Václav Myslbek, *Music, second variation of the first sketch*
Josef Václav Myslbek, *Diligence, design for the Viennese Parliament*
Josef Václav Myslbek, *Constancy of Thought, first draft*
Josef Václav Myslbek, *Karel Hynek Mácha, study for the monument on Petřín*

North Bohemian Gallery of Fine Arts in Litoměřice

(The Devout of Tomorrow. The Art of Seeing. Mystics, Esotericists, Mediums and Automatists in Czech Art, 2 works)
Jan Zrzavý, *Biblical Landscape*, 1913
Jan Zrzavý, *Self Portrait II*, 1909

Hussite Museum in Tábor (Richard Lauda /1873–1929/, 2 works)

Richard Lauda, *Digging Potatoes*, 1910
Richard Lauda, *Return from the Pasture*, 1902
Art Gallery Karlovy Vary (“*Quo vadis homine*”: The Painting Journey of Alfred Justitz /1879–1934/, 9 works)
Alfréd Justitz, *Resting Men*, 1920
Alfréd Justitz, *The Good Samaritan*, 1920
Alfréd Justitz, *Powdering*, 1920
Alfréd Justitz, *City View*, 1919
Alfréd Justitz, *Reclining Nude*, 1932
Alfréd Justitz, *Still Life with Watermelon and Pitcher*, 1932
Alfréd Justitz, *Still Life*, 1931
Alfréd Justitz, *Cottages /A Journey to the Village/*, 1924
Alfréd Justitz, *Still Life with a Red Basket*, 1931

Gallery of Fine Arts in Hodonín (Prague Pallas and Moravian Hellas, 2 works)

Auguste Rodin, *Defence*, 1878
Auguste Rodin, *Portrait of Henri Rochefort*, 1884

Gallery of West Bohemia in Pilsen (“... and I saw a new heaven and a new earth...” Apocalypse and Art in the Czech Lands, 3 works)

August Brömse, *The Vision (Revelation of the Seven Candlesticks in the Apocalypse)*, 1916
František Tkadlík, *Enyó – Epilogue of Napoleon*, 1825
Alois Wachsman, *The Last Judgement*, 1942

Gallery of the Central Bohemian Region in Kutná Hora (František Kupka – Biblioman, 4 works)

František Kupka, *Study for The Autumn Sun II*, 1906
František Kupka, *The Colossus of Rhodes (City)*, 1906
František Kupka, *Self Portrait*, 1910
František Kupka, *Gigolettes (The Pavement Princesses)*, 1909–1910

Gallery of West Bohemia in Pilsen (Full steam ahead! Boats and Navigation in Czech Art 1850–1950, 6 works)

Antonín Chittussi, *Landscape with the Seine*, 1885
Jakub Schikaneder, *On the Waterfront*, 1910–1920
Antonín Chittussi, *Part of Troja near Prague*, second half of the 1880s
Václav Bartovský, *Bathing*, 1942
Josef Šíma, *From Marseille*, 1923
Otakar Mrkvička, *Vltava Embankment with a Steamboat*, 1943

Loans to International Institutions

The Mint Museum, Charlotte NC, USA (Picasso Landscapes: Out of Bounds, 2 works)

Pablo Picasso, *Landscape with a Bridge*, 1909
Pablo Picasso, *The Port of Cadaqués*, 1910

La Piscine / Musée d'art et d'industrie André Diligent, Roubaix, France (Aristide Maillol /1861–1944/. La quête de l'harmonie, 1 work)

Aristide Maillol, *Pomona*, 1910

Staatliche Kunstsammlungen Dresden, Germany

(All power to the Imagination! Czech Season in Dresden, 2 works)
Zdeněk Pešánek, *Male and Female Torso*, 1936
Zdeněk Pešánek, *Reclining Torso*, 1936

Stedelijk Museum Alkmaar, Netherlands

(Van Gogh, Cézanne, Le Fauconnier & the Bergen School, 1 work)
Paul Cézanne, *Fruit*, 1879–1882

East Slovak Gallery, Slovakia (Elemír Halász-Hradil /1873–1948/, 2 works)

Elemír Halász-Hradil, *Nagybánya*, 1903
Elemír Halász-Hradil, *Self Portrait with a Skull*, 1923

Musée des Beaux Arts de Caen, France (Under the eye of Medusa, 1 work)

Max Pirner, *The End of All Things – Finis*, 1887

Kunstforum Ostdeutsche Galerie, Reich, Germany (We love Picasso, 6 works)

Bohumil Kubišta, *Pierrot*, 1911
Josef Čapek, *Accordion Player*, 1913
Emil Filla, *Smoker*, 1913–1914
Emil Filla, *Woman with a Carpet*, 1921
Antonín Procházka, *Girl*, 1922
Alois Wachsman, *Woman with a Roll of Paper*, c. 1931

Leopold Museum, Vienna, Austria

(Max Oppenheimer /1885–1954/. Expressionist Pioneer, 1 work)
Max Oppenheimer, *Portrait of Brother Friedrich Oppenheimer*, 1909

Bröhan-Museum, Berlin, Germany (Hey Rup! Die Tschechische Avantgarde im Kontext der Europäischen Moderne, 8 works)

Václav Špála, *Hungarian Landscape*, 1918
Václav Špála, *Bathing Girls*, 1920
Antonín Procházka, *Bust of a Girl*, 1915
Antonín Procházka, *Vase with a Flower*, 1917
Emil Filla, *The Reader*, 1913
Emil Filla, *Red Ace*, 1908
František Muzika, *Landscape*, 1929
Bedřich Stefan, *Sitting II*, 1930



DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES

Collection of Art after 1945 (Sbírka umění po roce 1945, SU45)

SU45 comprises more than 10,000 works of art by Czech and international artists from the period between the Second World War and the present day. In addition to the sub-collection of paintings, which comprises about 4,000 objects, and the sub-collection of sculpture, with about 2,600 objects, it includes a sub-collection of new media with about 800 objects. The collection of the theoretician, curator and artist Jiří Valoch, acquired by the NGP in 2022, is also a significant part of the collection: it contains more than 2,500 works. The architecture collection, also part of SU45, is one of the NGP's largest collections with approximately 23,000 objects (plans, drawings, prints, photographs, negatives, models). The collection focuses mainly on Czech architecture after 1945, but also includes a number of designs from the interwar period and works from the 19th century. In addition, the architecture collection contains an important set of documents relating to the construction and reconstruction of the Trade Fair Palace.

Exhibitions and performances

1939–2021: The End of the Black and White Era

Permanent exhibition, 2nd floor of the Trade Fair Palace

Curatorial team: Michal Novotný, Eva Skopalová, Adéla Janičková

Hypertension23

The NGP hosted the main part of the 13th annual Fotograf Festival
22/9 2023 – 11/2 2024, Trade Fair Palace

Milena Dopitová: Even Odd

10/11 2023 – 3/3 2024, Trade Fair Palace

Curator: Eva Skopalová

Communicating Vessels: 70×90

Performance on the occasion of the founding of the independent
Czech and Slovak Republics

21–22/11 and 5–6/12 2023, Studio Hrdinů

Authors: Sláva Sobotovičová, Maja Štefančíková, Nikola
Balberčáková, Markéta Slaná, Tomáš Moravanský

Retrotopia: Design for Socialist Spaces

25/3 – 16/7 2023, Kunstgewerbemuseum, Berlin

Co-authored with NGP Architecture Collection

The Office for a Non-Precarious Future

20/5 – 26/11 2023, 18th Architecture Biennale 2023, Venice

Co-author: NGP Architecture Collection

Práce se sbírkou

The collection has grown through acquisitions and donations, adding 92 works of art and 943 architectural objects. In particular, a large collection of around 180 objects has been restored for the new permanent collection and loans for exhibitions. The permanent exhibition *1956–1989: Architecture for All* was inspected and maintained.

As part of the documentation and professional processing of the SU45 collection, 10,389 inventory numbers were checked and updated, and 18,805 locations were added to the card catalogue and Bach database. In collaboration with the Photographic Documentation Department, we digitised 892 collection items and added 229 images of works to the Bach database.

All works (1,100 items) in the sculpture sub-collection were examined and inventoried. Together with the physical inventory, we completed and edited the data in the Bach database. In the Collection of Architecture, a group of works by Alena Šrámková from the sub-groups AM, AF, AN and AK were inventoried, totalling 1,855 inventory numbers. Of these, 44 inventory numbers have been traced by Collection staff and the Registrar Department has requested their inclusion in the CES MK.

Loans to Czech and International Institutions

SU45 prepared a total of 36 works of art for ten exhibitions in the Czech Republic and abroad, such as the ones listed below.

Museum Kampa (*Zbyněk Sekal: Sekal 100*, 9 works)

Prague City Gallery (*Jitka Svobodová: Beyond the Edge of the Visible*, 5 works)

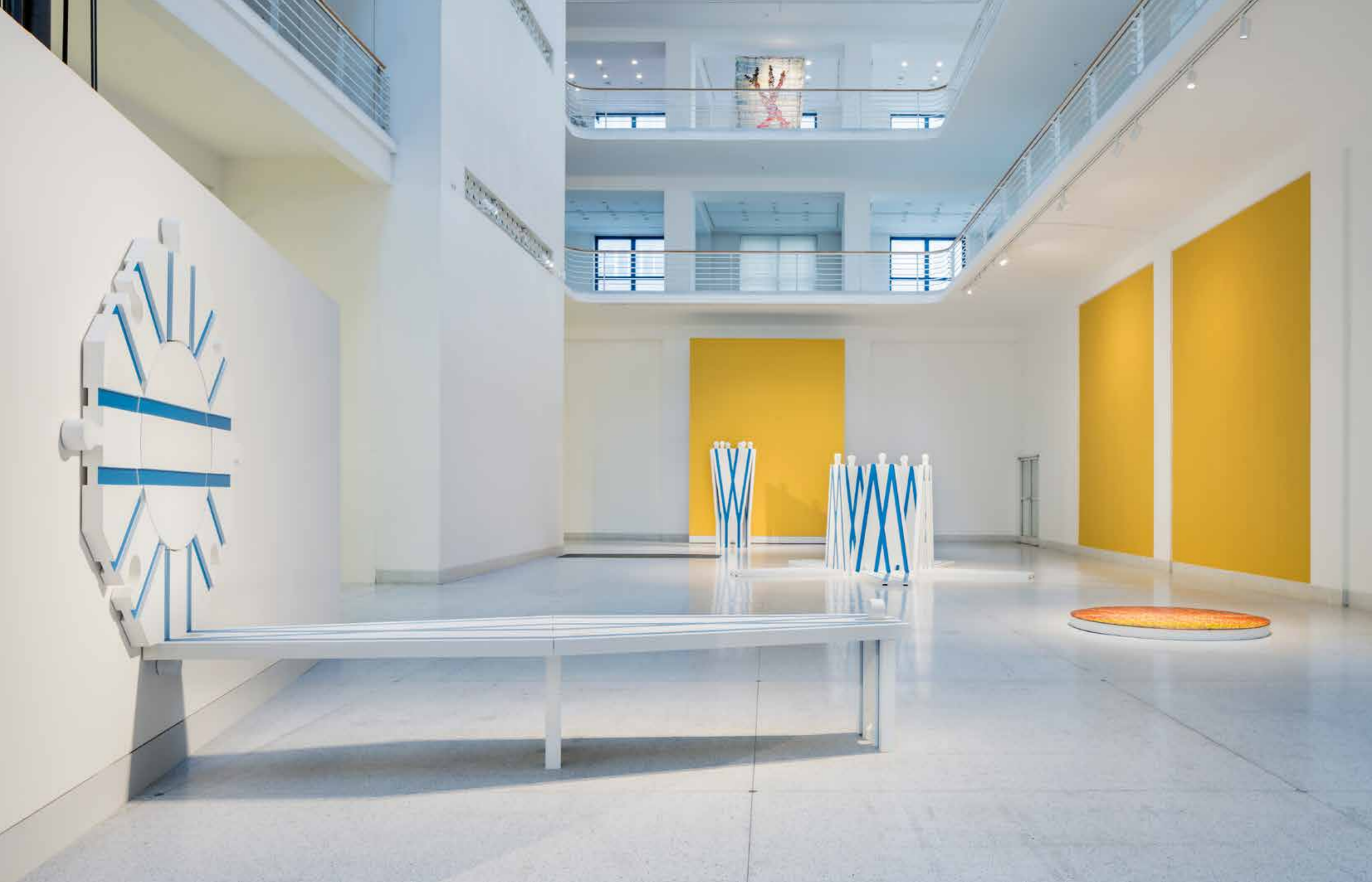
Brno House of Art (*Eva Kmentová*, 2 works)

Gallery of Fine Arts in Ostrava (*Antonín Tomalík Among His Own*, 2 works)

Walker Art Center, Minneapolis (*Multiple Realities: Experimental Art in the Eastern Bloc*, 1 work)

Kunstgewerbemuseum Berlin (*Retrotopia. Design for Socialist Spaces*, 4 works). This agenda was handled by the Collection of Architecture.





ACTIVITIES OF THE COLLECTIONS

Research and Publications



DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES

Collection of Old Masters (SSU)

The research and scientific activities of the SSU focus mainly on the processing of the SSU collections, especially the preparation of inventory catalogues and the processing of our collections for NGP exhibitions. We actively cooperate with the Faculty of Arts and the Catholic Theological Faculty of Charles University and the Institute of Art History of the Czech Academy of Sciences. We also cooperate with Czech and international museums and galleries, such as Musée du Louvre, Paris (Département des Peintures) + Service d'étude et la documentation – Peintures; Musée national des châteaux de Versailles et de Trianon; National Museum – Historical Museum, Department of Early Czech History; National Heritage Institute; Department of Art History, UPOL; Institute of Christian Art History, KTF UK; National Museum – Historical Museum; Centre for Documentation of Property Transfers of Cultural Property of the Victims of World War II; Institute of History of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences; NPÚ ÚPS Sychrov; Academy of Fine Arts (Rectorate, Restoration Studio); Museum of Art Olomouc; Faculty of Restoration, University of Pardubice; Kunsthistorisches Museum, Wien; Haus-, Hof- und Staatsarchiv, Wien; Castello del Catajo, Battaglia Terme, Department of Cultural Heritage and Department of General Psychology, University of Padua; State archives and Biblioteca Civica, Padua.

Publications (excluding NGP publications)

Kotková, Olga. Hans Dürer, Święty Hieronim na pustowiu. In: Ziętkiewicz-Kotz, Joanna (ed.). *Obraz Złotego wieku. Kultura wizualna w czasach ostatnich Jagiellonów. II*. Kraków: Wydawnictwo Zamku Królewskiego na Wawelu, 2023, p. 298, cat. no. 238.

Jandlová Sošková, Martina; Kotková, Olga; Steckerová, Andrea; Vondráčková, Marcela. In: Wolf, Peter (ed.). *Barock Bayern und Böhmen*. Regensburg: Friedrich Pustet, 2023, pp. 125–126, 212–213, 133–134, 144, 167, 175–176, 180–182, 240–244; 302–303.

Kotková, Olga. Bernard Strigel, Ukřižování. In: Radostová, Šárka (ed.); Baštýřová, Hana; Verner, Daniel (co-eds.). *Ad unicum. 1/4 Od gotiky k manýrismu. Umělecká díla z fondů Národního památkového ústavu*. Praha: Národní památkový ústav, 2023, pp. 183–185.

Steckerová, Andrea. Únik do „jiného“ světa. Pastorální tematika v portrétní malbě 17. století. In: Hašek, Petr; Nekuda, René (eds.). *Let's baRock!*. Praha: Geisslers Hofcomoedianten, 2023, pp. 298–304.

Vavřík, Daniel; Antušková, Václava; Dudák, Jan; Chlumská, Štěpánka; Kumpová, Ivana; Šefců, Radka; Tymlová, Veronika; Vopálenký, Michal; Žemlička, Jan. Data získaná metodou rentgenové výpočetní tomografie a jejich úprava pro potřeby průzkumu a dokumentace deskových maleb. *Fórum pro konzervátory-restaurátory*. Brno: Technické muzeum v Brně, vol. XIII (2023), no. 2, pp. 123–128.

Vavřík, Daniel; Antušková, Václava; Chlumská, Štěpánka; Kumpová, Ivana; Šefců, Radka; Tymlová, Veronika; Vopálenký, Michal et. al. Non-destructive exploration of late Gothic panel painting using X-ray tomography and flattening of the reconstructed data. *European Physical Journal Plus*. Berlin: EDP Sciences; Società Italiana di Fisica and Springer Berlin Heidelberg, vol. 138, article no. 618, 2023.

Lectures Outside the NGP

Kotková, Olga, *Kolowratská obrazárna v Rychnově nad Kněžnou a Společnost vlasteneckých přátel umění / The Kolowrat Picture Gallery in Rychnov nad Kněžnou and the Society of Patriotic Friends of the Arts 1796–2023*, Rychnov nad Kněžnou 13/9 2023

Kotková, Olga, *Tři králové u Ježíška / Three Magi and the Baby Jesus*, Prague Castle Picture Gallery, 14/12 2023

Kotková, Olga, *Nizozemské malířství / Dutch Painting*, Academy of Arts, Architecture and Design in Prague, 27/3 2023

Kotková, Olga, lectures on Dutch painting of the 15th–18th centuries, Catholic Theological Faculty, Charles University, Prague, throughout the year

Steckerová, Andrea, *Petr Brandl*, Museum in Jílové, 23/11 2023

Knedlíková Wanková, Veronika, *Il potere della devozione. Comprendere l'eredità culturale delle opere d'arte medievali e rinascimentali*, Department of Cultural Heritage, University of Padua, Itálie, 7 /11 2023

Knedlíková Wanková, Veronika, *From the mind to the canvas and back: unravelling the connection between art history and the psychology of perception in early modern painting*, Department of General Psychology, University of Padua, Itálie, 10/10 2023

DEPARTMENT ACTIVITY

Collection of Prints and Drawings (SGK)

The research and scientific activities of the SGK are focused on the processing of the NGP collection, but also on the broader context of the field, in cooperation with other institutions (Institute of Art History of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic), universities (Faculty of Arts of Charles University, Catholic Theological Faculty of Charles University, Masaryk University, Palacký University), museums and research institutions, including foreign ones (Fondation Custodia in Paris and others).

The main results are publications, organisation of conferences and active participation in symposia organised by other institutions. With the active participation of colleagues from the NGP, the Faculty of Arts of Charles University and Masaryk University, we organised *Ars linearis*, the annual colloquium on art on paper and parchment.

The SGK held art history seminars on the study of art on paper in cooperation with domestic universities and foreign colleagues from Vassar College in New York, Humboldt University in Berlin and the Society of Friends of Drawing at the Musée des Beaux Arts. The SGK staff gave lectures on Renaissance and Baroque art as part of a lecture series organised by the Department of Art History at Masaryk University in Brno.

External Professional Cooperation

Zelenková, Petra. Cooperation on the project of Czech Science Foundation (GAČR), *Early Modern Bohemia litteraria. Genre Differentiation of Neo-Latin Literature in the Czech Lands*; Institute of Philosophy of the Czech Academy of Sciences, Cabinet for Classical Studies. Josef Förster Ph.D., GAČR 22-00477S; 2022–2024

Publications (excluding NGP publications)

Volrábová, Alena. Reality or Mystification? The Perception of the Work of Wenceslaus Hollar. In: *Sborník příspěvků z konference His Artibus*. Brno: Masaryk University Brno, 2023.

Volrábová, Alena. Portrét chlapce z profilu, pravděpodobně Ambrosius Holbein. In: Radostová, Šárka (ed.); Baštýřová, Hana; Verner, Daniel (co-eds.). *Ad unicum. 1/4 Od gotiky k manýrismu. Umělecká díla z fondů Národního památkového ústavu*. Praha: National Heritage Institute, 2023.

Kubíková, Blanka. Portrét muže zv. Petr Vok, Portrét kardinála Františka z Dietrichsteinu, Podobizny manželů Šlikových, Portrét Adama ml. z Valdštejna, Podobizna Bartholomea z Dietrichsteinu, Posmrtný portrét Melchiora z Redernu. In: Radostová, Šárka (ed.). *Ad unicum. 1/4 Od gotiky k manýrismu. Umělecká díla z fondů Národního památkového ústavu*. Praha: National Heritage Institute, 2023.

Kubíková, Blanka. Pernštejnské obrazové sbírky – oblast probádaná a známá?. In: Marek, Pavel; Vorel, Petr (edd.). *Pernštejnové v evropských dějinách*. Pardubice: Pavel Mervart, 2023.

Kolářová, Petra. Recenze odborné publikace Petr Wittlich: *Auguste Rodin*. In: *Bulletin Národní galerie Praha*. Praha: National Gallery Prague, 2023.

The Collection of Prints and Drawings is the main guarantor of *Ars linearis*, a periodical focused on art on paper and parchment.

Lectures Outside the NGP

Lectures devoted to Renaissance and Baroque art, as part of the series organized by the Seminar of Art History of Masaryk University in Brno:

Alena Volrábová, *Václav Hollar: Mistr evropské grafiky / Václav Hollar: Master of European Printmaking*; 25/10 2023

Blanka Kubíková, *Aegidius Sadeler, Bartholomeus Spranger, císař Rudolf II. a grafika / Aegidius Sadeler, Bartholomeus Spranger, Emperor Rudolf II and Graphic Art*; 8/11 2023

Petra Zelenková, *Karel Škréta a jeho tvorba pro grafiku / Karel Škréta and His Print Designs for the Centre of Early Modern Studies*; 29/11 2023



DEPARTMENT ACTIVITY

Collection of Modern Art (SMU)

Publications (excluding NGP publications)

Bezoušková, Martina. Tělesnost, Psychologismus Formy a Společnost. In: *Objem duše / Sochařská sbírka Muzea umění Olomouc*. MUO, 2023, pp. 6–33.

Pravdová, Anna; De l'enseignement de Myslbek à la leçon de Rodin. Josef Mařatka (1874–1937) In: *Josef Mařatka, Mes souvenirs du sculpteur Auguste Rodin et autres textes*. Paris: Musée Rodin, 2023, pp. 15–38.

Pravdová, Anna; Vom Poetismus zum Surrealismus. In: *Tobias Hoffmann und Julia Meyer-Brehm, Hej Rup! Die Tschechische Avantgarde im Kontext der Europäischen Moderne*. Berlin: Bröhan-Museum, pp. 134–147.

Active Participation in Conferences

Bezoušková, Martina. *Spolek výtvarných umělců Mánes jako klíčový mediátor státního nákupu? / The Mánes Association of Fine Artists as a Key Mediator of the State Purchase?*; conference *1923–2023. Centenary of the State Purchase of French Art. 1923–2023*; Convent of St Agnes of Bohemia, 2–3/11 2023.

Hulíková, Veronika. *Max Švabinský and Josef Mánes*; conference *The Švabinský Phenomenon, 150th anniversary of the birth of painter, draughtsman and graphic artist Maxmilián Švabinský*; City Museum Česká Třebová, 16/6 2023.

Němcová, Alice. *Ateliér jako sebezprezentace umělce / The Studio as a Self-Presentation of the Artist*; conference *The Švabinský Phenomenon, 150th anniversary of the birth of painter, draughtsman and graphic artist Maximilian Švabinský*; City Museum Česká Třebová, 16/ 6 2023.

Němcová, Alice; Muráňová, Ida. *Představení knihy přibližující dílo Evy Kmentové / Presentation of a Book Introducing the Work of Eva Kmentová*; International Conference *Traces of Eva Kmentová – Local and International Context*; House of Arts Brno, 3–4/11 2023.

Němcová, Alice. *Leaving Traces (Transience, Empty Space, Vanitas, Eva Kmentová and Felix González-Torres)*; International Conference *Traces of Eva Kmentová – Local and International Context*; House of Arts Brno, 3–4/11 2023.

Pravdová, Anna. Paper Edita Hirschová alias Tita and the Surrealist Group La Main à plume in Occupied Paris during WWII, Socialism or Barbarism III: Avant-Garde Art and Cinema Against Fascism; 55th Annual Convention of the ASEEEES; Philadelphia, 1–3/12 2023.

Pravdová, Anna. Contribution A belated response to the state purchase of French art? The 1934 Purchase of Czechoslovak Works for the State Collections of the Museum of Foreign Schools in Paris; Conference 1923–2023: Centenary of the State Purchase of French Art; Convent of St. Agnes of Bohemia, 2–3/11 2023.

Pravdová, Anna. Paper Regards croisés: Suzanne Valadon et les artistes tchèques, Le Clan Suzanne Valadon; Centre Pompidou-Metz, 7–10/9 2023.





DEPARTMENT ACTIVITY

Collection of Asian Art (SUA)

Active Participation in Conferences

Markéta Hánová, Asian Art in the Heart of Europe? Challenges for New Permanent Galleries? *Museumisation in Central Europe: Opportunities and Challenges*, IAS-Central European University and ELTE, Budapest, 8/ 6 2023

Markéta Hánová, Through the prism of cultural transfers: The new practices of collecting – a round table, *From collections to museums – collectors and cultural mediators in the time of Feliks Jasieński*, Scientific Center of the Polish Academy of Sciences, Paris, 21/9 2023

Markéta Hánová, Looted Asian Art in Prague: Ostasiatica and Graphische Sammlung of the Reich, Panel 1: Contexts of Translocation, *Provenance and Asian Art*, National Museum of Asian Art Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C., 1/11 2023, <https://asia.si.edu/research/scholarly-programs/provenance-and-asian-art-a-collaborative-workshop-and-symposium/>

Michaela Pejčochová, “Collecting and exhibiting Chinese Buddhist art in interwar Czechoslovakia”, *Conference of the European Association for Asian Art and Archaeology* (13–17/ 9 2023), University of Ljubljana

Michaela Pejčochová, “Portrayals of Qing battles: Two famous Chinese paintings orphaned during the tumultuous 20th century”, *Orphaned Objects – Theoretical and Methodological Approaches to the Research of East Asian Objects* (18/ 9 2023), University of Ljubljana

Michaela Pejčochová, „Je to jen exotismus? Je to věru cosi závažnějšího a mocnějšího než pouhá podivná podívaná’ – V. V. Štech a asijské umění“ / “Is it just exoticism? It is indeed something more serious and more powerful than a mere curious spectacle” – V. V. Štech and Asian art, the *3rd methodology conference of UMPRUM: Historia and Art Theorist Václav Vilém Štech* (20/ 10 2023), Academy of Arts, Architecture and Design in Prague

Michaela Pejčochová, „Právě nyní stává se Orient aktuální po mnoha stránkách...“ – Státní nákup čínského umění v kontextu získání významného souboru francouzského umění a budování veřejných uměleckých sbírek v meziválečném Československu“ / “It is now that the Orient is becoming relevant in many ways...“ – The State Purchase of Chinese Art in the Context of the Acquisition of a Major Collection of French Art and the Building of Public Art Collections in Interwar Czechoslovakia”, *1923–2023: Centenary of the State Purchase of French Art* (2–3/ 11 2023), National Gallery Prague

Kristýna Rendlová, “Two 18th Century Turkish Albums from the Collections of the National Gallery in Prague”, *17th International Congress of Turkish Art* (18.–21. 9. 2023), University of Warsaw

Collection of Art After 1945 (SU45)

Publications (excluding NGP publications)

As part of the Czech Science Foundation’s Women in Architecture project, the research team published a database of 50 biographies of women architects www.zenyvarchitekture.cz. At the same time, the Collection of Architecture, in cooperation with the Academy of Arts, Architecture and Design in Prague, prepared the final book *Women in Architecture*, which is scheduled for publication in 2024 and will contain seven scholarly studies and 120 annotated images. Work on the project included 15 interviews and five podcasts. Another professional output was a peer-reviewed article for the NGP Bulletin.

Active Participation in Conferences and Symposiums

Rado Ishtok, participation in AICA discussion, January 2023, online.

Rado Ishtok. Paper: *The Last Modern Art Exhibition in the 1970s Czechoslovakia? Conference Equal and Poor – A comparative perspective on Art in Communist Europe and the Global South in the long 1970s*, Poznań, 17–18/3 2023.

Rado Ishtok. Paper: *Colonial Goods and Commodity Racism in Czechoslovakia (1918–1938)*. Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES) Conference, Philadelphia, November 30–December 3, 2023.

Michal Novotný. Paper: *Konec černobílé doby – dílo jako shluk společenských, politických a ekonomických sil / The End of the Black and White Era – Work as an Aggregation of Social, Political, and Economic Forces*. Ex Arte Conference: From Material to Theory, Olomouc Museum of Art, Olomouc, 6/10 2023.

Eva Skopalová. *Pojmy „tvar“ a „život“ jako místo setkání Henri Focillona s V. V. Štechem / The notions of “shape” and “life” as a meeting point between Henri Focillon and V. V. Štech*. Conference *Art Historian and Theorist V. V. Štech*, Academy of Arts, Architecture and Design in Prague, 20/10 2023.

Eva Skopalová, participation in the podcast *Vlákna / Threads* (published by the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic).

Helena Huber-Doudová. Paper: *Women in Architecture. Rethinking Collecting, Exhibiting, Canon in the Expanded Field*. Symposium *Made by Women*, Kunstgewerbemuseum Berlin, 13/7 2023.

Helena Huber-Doudová. Paper: *The Typology of Architecture Practice between the East and the West in the 20th century*. Symposium *Convergences and Divergences. Modernism beyond East and West*, Pilecki-Institut, Berlin, 16/11 2023.

ACQUISITIONS, DOCUMENTATION, DIGITISATION
AND PRESERVATION OF THE COLLECTIONS

ACQUISITIONS

Documentation, Digitisation and Preservation of the Collection

An organizational change in the summer of 2023 resulted in the creation of the Section of Collections, which includes the former Department of Documentation of and Department of Preservation.

Collections and Acquisitions

The NGP purchased works of art for the collection with a total value of CZK 3,391,000, of which CZK 1,200,000 was provided by the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic (MK ČR) in the form of grants. Other purchases were covered by the institution from its own budget.

List of Acquisitions

Acquisitions for the SSU

František Karel Palko, *Christ with the Disciples in Emmaus*, c. 1754, (oil, canvas)
Sculpture of *St. Bartholomew, Southwest Bohemia* (1510–1520)
Sculpture of *St. Paul, Southwest Bohemia* (1510–1520).
Czech master, the first half of the 17th century, *Archangel Michael* (wood, fragments of original polychrome and gilding)
Johann Gregor Bendl – follower, *St Nicholas* (lime wood, fragments of original polychrome)
Czech master, second half of the 18th century, *God the Father on the Clouds* (wood, coloured polychrome)
Folk sculptor, late 18th century, *St Sebastian* (baked clay, coloured polychrome)

Acquisitions for the SMU

Karel Kotrba, *Portrait of František Kupka*, 1927, (plaster)
Václav Levý, *St Nicholas*, 1840s, (lime wood)
Václav Levý, *St Bishop*, 1840, (lime wood)
Václav Levý, *Crucifixion*, 1840s, (lime wood)
Rudolf Markus, *Head of a Woman*, after 1900, (alabaster)

Acquisition for the SGK

Růžena Zátková, *Parables*, (1920, set of eleven gouaches)
Emil Holárek, *The Tale of Enthusiasm*, (1902, set of 31 drawings in a hardcover book), *The Life of Sex*, (c. 1900, set of 51 drawings in a hardcover book), album of preparatory drawings for the series *Reflections from the Catechism*, (1990s, 102 drawings in a hardcover book), *Sketchbook*, (undated), set of designs for the series *Temple of Art and Peace*, (after 1916?, pencil, pen, ink, watercolour)
Mikuláš Rachlík, *Balty*, (1961–1962, set of 32 drawings on paper)
Bratr Konstantin (Frater Constantine), *Madonna of Údlice* (1670, copper plate)
Vladimír Boudník, Zbyšek Sion, František Gross, Jiří Anderle, Jiří Kolář and František Janula (2nd half of the 20th century, works on paper, drawings and prints)

Acquisition for the SU45

Lenka Klodová, *Kateřina*, from the series *Lidovky*, Patterns of Folk Costumes (2001, acrylic on magazine)
Lenka Klodová, *Zora*, from the series *Lidovky*, patterns of folk costumes (2001, acrylic on magazine)
Daniel Vlček, *Spinning Beach Ball* (2015, acrylic on canvas)
Hynek Alt and Aleksandra Vajd, *My Left Hand* (2006, 7x color digital photograph, edition 1/5)
Jan Pfeiffer, *Roots Under Water*, Cabinets in the Garden HD, *Metronomky* video (2019, 02:06 min., 1/3 edition)
Alice Nikitinova, *Rain Boots on the Table* (2008, mixed media on canvas)
Alice Nikitinova, *Sweatpants* (2009, acrylic and oil on canvas)
Alice Nikitinova, *Green Digit One* (2008, oil on canvas)
Evžen Šimera, from the series *Orbits* (2011, acrylic and canvas on wooden object)
Jiří Černický, *Worry II*, 1999/2023 from the series *Pin Cushions* (1999–2005, mixed media, textile, needles)

The collection was further supplemented by a set of works by František Janula, 8 designs by Zdeněk Šputa, the painting *Rubbing Clay* and 2 photographs by Marian Palla, 5 photographs by Petr Štembera, 5 photographs by Vladimír Ambroz, the painting *Good News* and a set of photographs by Jiří Kovanda, *Large Tufts* and *Unrolled Paper* (pencil, paper on sololite) by Jitka Svobodová, and the oil painting *Untitled* by Dorota Sadovská, 3D print *Two Elderly Abstractionists (Homage to Pollock)* by Vladimír Havrilla, black and white photographs *Meteo Body Painting* by Jiří Černický, a series of works by Jana Harms Olexová (Merglová), acrylic and photo collage on checkered canvas, *Sound Therapy I* and *II* by Daniel Vlček, acrylic *The Third Monument* by Evžen Šimera and works by Květa Válová, Josef Istler, Bedřich Dlouhý and Antonín Málek. A fragment of the project *Floral Union*, prepared by the NGP in cooperation with artists as part of the Czech Presidency of the Council of the European Union.

Acquisitions for the Collection of Architecture

arch. Eva Bánovská, documentation (sketches, perspectives and plan documentation)
arch. Zdenka M. Nováková (drawings, pastels and photographs)

Acquisitions for the SUA

Hanging scroll with the motif of Monju Bodhisattva
Masterpieces Selected from the Korin School (narrative publication)
Single volume illuminated manuscript of the Qur'an
Seated Buddha, Myanmar (second half of the 20th century, marble, partial polychrome)
Oil lamp, Sri Lanka (second half of 20th century, brass)
Sésatha, Sri Lanka (c. 2000, lacquered wood, mica, plant materials)

Sacrificial vessel, Myanmar (second half of 20th century, lacquered wood)



DOCUMENTATION, DIGITISATION AND PRESERVATION OF THE COLLECTION

At the end of 2023, a total of 401,673 collection objects by sub-collection were registered as the collection of the National Gallery in Prague in the Central Collection Register of the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic:

Sub-collections	Number of Collection Items
Paintings	16 932
Sculptures	9 156
Contemporary art and new media	832
Prints	269 030
Drawings	67 108
Asian and American Art	13 190
Architecture	24 196
Facsimiles	1 229
Total	401 673

To ensure the preservation of its collection, the NGP inventoried a total of 28,642 collection items in 2023, alongside the ongoing digitisation of the collection. Digital documentation has been created for more than four thousand objects, totalling almost 13,500 individual photographs and format variations. In addition, exhibitions, educational programmes and events have been photographed, resulting in almost 3,000 images. The VADEMECUM presentation module was launched on the NGP website, presenting a part of the collection objects with basic identification data. At the end of the year, this module contained more than 45,000 items, of which almost 33,000 were accompanied by photographic documentation.

Exports of Objects of Cultural Value

The NGP carries out activities related to the export of objects of cultural value from the territory of the Czech Republic pursuant to Act No. 71/1994 Coll., on the Sale and Export of Objects of Cultural Value, as amended. A total of 224 applications for export certificates were received and 224 certificates were issued, of which 187 for permanent export and 37 certificates for temporary export for works exhibited abroad.

Department of Conservation and Restoration (Restaurátorské oddělení, ROD)

In 2023, the ROD's activities related to the preparation of new permanent exhibitions focused on the completion of the exhibition *1939–2021: The End of the Black and White Era* on the 2nd floor of the Trade Fair Palace. Given the exhibition's unconventional architectural design, the restorers played an irreplaceable role in the challenging installation of the works. The year 2023 was also associated with the preparation of the new exhibition of the Collection of Asian Art in the Salm Palace. The entire collection of works was inspected, and our conservators recommended the optimal form of installation and security system. The restoration of the painting *Death of Drahomíra* by Karel Škréta was completed for the Old Masters exhibition. Among the challenging restoration projects of works from the NGP collection is the restoration of the newly acquired polychrome sculpture *Madonna of Havraň*, which began in 2022.

In the first half of the year, there were several projects that required significant cooperation with the ROD, notably the exhibitions *Josef Mánes: Man – Artist – Legend* and *Petr Brandl: The Story of a Bohemian*. Due to lack of time, external restorers had to be invited to restore some of the paintings. A larger number of paper restorers were needed for the exhibition *Watercolour between Prague and Vienna*. The ROD was also responsible for supervising the transport and installation, recording the condition of the works, and receiving and examining the works from external lenders.

The ROD staff were also involved in the technological survey related to the art historical processing of the collection of 16th–18th century French art for the collection catalogue. They also participated in the evaluation of the results of the research and wrote texts for the forthcoming catalogue. Particularly demanding and extensive research was carried out on *Albrecht Dürer's The Feast of the Rosary*.

The ROD staff participated in the preparation and restoration of works for foreign loans, for example for the exhibition *Barock! Bayern und Böhmen in Regensburg* and *Ingenious Women in Hamburg*. The painting *The Holy Family* by Francesco Melzi was loaned to the exhibition *Holbein and The Renaissance in The North in Frankfurt am Main*, following an extensive restoration.

In the field of science and research, the ROD participated in the project of the Ministry of the Interior (MV ČR) entitled *Komplexní instrumentální metodika pro posuzování pravosti výtvarných děl, databáze materiálů barevných vrstev 20. Století / Comprehensive Instrumental Methodology for the Assessment of the Authenticity of Works of Art, a Database of 20th-Century Paint Layer Materials*.



DOCUMENTATION, DIGITISATION AND PRESERVATION OF THE COLLECTION

Chemical-technological Laboratory (CHTL)

The CHTL carried out extensive scientific examination of some 85 art objects and processed some 180 micro-samples of paintings, polychromy, wood, plastics and textiles. Particularly challenging was the survey of metal sculptures from the Collection of Asian Art, the interior of which will be explored using neutron tomography in 2024 by Jana Matoušková and Lubomír Sklenka from the Faculty of Nuclear and Physical Engineering of the Czech Technical University. Radka Šefců and Václava Antušková are working on the project for the NGP.

A new acquisition of the NGP, the sculpture of the *Enthroned Madonna of Havraň* by the Master of the Bečov Madonna, has undergone an extensive scientific examination. The laboratory also focused on paintings by Ota Janeček, underpaintings on glass of Chinese origin and works by French painters. Several works made of modern materials were examined in preparation for permanent and temporary exhibitions of the SU45.

The laboratory collected data from standard art materials for comparative analysis. Special attention was paid to the development of a new method for the determination of dyes using HPLC chromatography. As part of its scientific research activities, the CHTL conducted interdisciplinary surveys for grant projects of the Ministry of Culture and the Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic. In cooperation with the Institute of Criminalistics of the Police of the Czech Republic and the Faculty of Chemical Technology, University of Pardubice, we continued to work on the implementation of the security project entitled *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 for the Detection of Forgeries of Modern Art in the Forensic Field*. Radka Šefců is the principal investigator for NGP.

The CHTL's scientists provided consultation and cooperation in the examination of works of art in the collections of other state and public institutions, e.g. the National Museum, the Institute of Art History of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic, the National Heritage Institute, etc. Expert examinations were carried out mainly for the Institute of Criminalistics of the Police of the Czech Republic and the Ministry of Culture. The CHTL staff participated in international and domestic conferences and workshops. They gave eleven lectures and contributed to fourteen papers in peer-reviewed journals, to professional monographs and to the preparation of a database of art materials. They also actively participated in the preparation of a documentary film for the Jakub Schikaneder anniversary in 2024.

The planned budget for the operation of the laboratory was spent on an ongoing basis, and the storage for chemicals and chemical equipment was upgraded. Part of the funds was used to repair the backscattered electron (BSE) detector on the Jeol LA 6460 electron microscope.

Management of Depositories

Continuous monitoring of the indoor climate in depositories was carried out in cooperation with the Department of Technical Management of Buildings and in cooperation with the CHTL staff, who regularly checked and measured the presence of unwanted organic impurities and moulds threatening the collection. The depository managers continuously cooperated with the professional staff of the collections and conservation studios. Artworks in the depositories were available to domestic and international researchers for study. In cooperation with the CHTL experts, artworks were examined, and collection objects were inventoried on regular basis.

As part of individual exhibitions, artworks were prepared for installation or for storage in the depositories. Further manipulation with artworks took place during the preparation of the SU45 permanent exhibitions on the second floor of the Trade Fair Palace and the SUA exhibition in the Salm Palace, as well as during the partial changes in the permanent exhibitions according to the NGP exhibition plan. Works of art were also prepared for loans to institutions in the Czech Republic and abroad. In the SMU, SSU and SU45 depositories, the staff continued to work on the planned preparation of artworks – digitisation and conservation examination – for future transfer to the depository in Prague-Jinonice. Artworks were presented to photographers and restorers.

The grant of CZK 681,000 from the Ministry of Culture's ISO II D programme was used to purchase four sets of mobile humidifiers and dehumidifiers, which were installed in the Trade Fair Palace depositories. The depositories were retrofitted with furniture for the storage of works of art (shelves, racks, trolleys, tables and lamps). The vestibule of the painting depository was modified according to the plan so that the works of art would not be endangered in the event of sudden flooding. Spacious shelving was installed to store the large works on rollers. The photographic documentation and inventory of the large works and the planned digitisation took place in the free space in the entrance hall.

Depository in Prague-Jinonice

The depository is being prepared in cooperation with the contractor of the project documentation for the first stage, JIKA-CZ, s. r. o., and the controlling company VPÚ DECO, a. s., Prague. The requirements for the project documentation were clarified with the contractor and individual departments of the NGP during the inspection days, and the contractor completed the documentation for the building permit in autumn 2023. Project preparation is coordinated by the Investment Section.

In connection with the new depository complex in Jinonice, the Section of Collections Section is responsible for the preparation of the works before their removal from the Trade Fair Palace. Due to the expected volume of work, it is necessary to start the conservator's examination, which is part of the digitisation project from the NPO programme, and the preparation for transport at least five years before the move. For this reason, a new specialised conservation studio has been set up on the first floor of the Trade Fair Palace, in the south wing. The conservator's examination of works prior to transport has begun with the assistance of three external conservators.





DOCUMENTATION, DIGITISATION AND PRESERVATION OF THE COLLECTION

Digitisation

At the end of 2022, the NGP applied for a subsidy from the National Renewal Plan (Národní plán obnovy, NPO) for two projects in 2023: *New Digital System for the Registration and Management of the Collection of the National Gallery in Prague* and *Systematic Digitisation of the Sub-Collection of Paintings*. In June 2023, the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic approved the projects and included them in the programme, but the NGP did not receive the full financial support it had requested from the NPO. The priority within the *NGP Digital Transformation* project is the purchase and implementation of a new collection system to replace the existing systems.

The aim of the project *New Digital System for Collection Registration and Management of the National Gallery in Prague* is to switch to a new collection database – Collection Management System (CMS), which will be unified for the entire institution. Within the framework of this project, the company Axiell, s.r.o. with the product Museion was tendered and contracted. The contract for the gradual migration from the two existing systems was concluded for a period of four years, during which the data will be gradually migrated to the new system. In 2023, the systems were installed and implemented in NGP's IT environment. At the same time, a test migration of data from the *Accession Book* was carried out. In the autumn of 2023, another application was submitted to the NPO programme for funding to continue this project. The projects were successfully implemented, although the late award of the grant and the reduction in funding made the whole process very complicated. Part of the funding for the project *Systematic Digitisation of the Sub-Collection of Paintings* will be returned.

Photographic Documentation

The Department of Photographic Documentation was mainly involved in the above-mentioned project *Systematic Digitisation of the Sub-Collection of Paintings*. As part of this project, complete photographic documentation of 1,100 collection items was produced between September and December 2023. Applications were submitted to the NPO for two more projects to provide technological facilities for large-format scanning of paintings and for the digitisation of paper items for 2024. In addition, the department collaborated with other departments in accordance with the digitisation plan, in particular to produce photographs for the forthcoming inventory catalogues and permanent exhibitions.

Photo documentation has been continuously provided to meet external requests for reproductions of NGP collection items. In total, approximately 250 orders were received and 200 were processed (750 images were provided). As part of the NGP's internal research task – the gradual publication of online inventory catalogues – the photographic department published digital documentation for three catalogues.

The work of the external photographers was coordinated throughout the year according to the resources allocated. As part of the NPO project, a digitisation group of six additional external photographers was added to the team. The seventh floor of Trade Fair Palace was cleared, a temporary workspace was set up and the digitisation workspace was successfully rebuilt and then returned from the temporary premises. A permanent digitisation office for the SGK was set up in the Kinský Palace.

SCIENCE AND RESEARCH

Publikační a ediční činnost

The Editorial Department (EDI) manages the institution's editorial activities in close cooperation with art historians, curators, lecturers, restorers, the archive, the library and other departments. In addition to the traditional printed materials – exhibition catalogues of the same name (e.g. Petr Brandl: The History of the Bohemian and Watercolour between Prague and Vienna) and two periodicals (Ars linearis and Bulletin of the NGP) – the NGP published an illustrated monograph, which was the first to present the full body of university theses designed by Karel Škréta (Petra Zelenková, *Karel Škréta and the University Theses in the Czech Lands*). These were accompanied by smaller publications aimed primarily at a younger audience. Once again, the combination of illustrated academic publications with more affordable popularisation books proved to be a good move and was well received by visitors.

EDI assisted in the editing of texts produced during the year by the Communications Department and individual collections. This included flyers for current exhibitions, press releases and various types of text published online on the gallery's website or social media. Part of the EDI's role was to work closely with the NGP's image editor to manage the reproduction and licensing of images associated with each publication. The EDI also collaborated with all other departments in the selection of the graphic designer and exhibition architect, in the case of the EDI mainly in relation to the requirements for not only the visual appeal of a particular publication, but also for quality graphic design.

In 2023, the NGP published a total of 24 publications, most of them in foreign languages, some bilingual or with English summaries. Thanks to its scholarly and visual quality, the NGP's extensive book production is well known among not only the Czech, but also the international professional and lay public.

Exhibition catalogues and monographs

Šefců, Radka (ed.). *Pigments and their identification*. Czech with English summary, 296 pages, 400 reproductions

Zelenková, Petra (ed.). *Karel Škréta a univerzitní teze v českých zemích*. Czech with English resume, 344 pages, 130 reproductions

Kolářová, Petra. *V kroužcích dýmu. Portrét moderního umělce*. Czech with English summary, 188 pages, 180 reproductions

Dlábková Markéta, Old Drawings, New Authors. Newly Attributed 19th-Century Works in the Collection of Prints and Drawings of the National Gallery in Prague / Staré kresby, noví autoři. Nově určené práce z 19. století ve Sběrce grafiky a kresby Národní galerie v Praze, *Ars linearis* XIII, 2023, pp. 38–44, 86–88.

Steckerová, Andrea. Petr Brandl. The Story of a Bohemian. Czech with English summary, 200 pages, 100 reproductions.

Janičková, Adéla, Novotný, Michal (ed.), Skopalová, Eva, 1939–2021: *Konec černobílé doby / 1939–2021: End of the Black and White Era*. Czech and English, 212 pages, 150 reproductions

Šámal, Petr. *Akvarel 19. století mezi Prahou a Vídní / Watercolour of the 19th century between Prague and Vienna*. Czech and English, 200 pages, 120 reproductions.

Šmejkalová, Adriana. *Saul Steinberg: Mezi linií a textem / Saul Steinberg: Between Line and Text*, exhibition catalogue. Czech and English, 36 pages.

Strnadlová, Anna. *Pravoslav Sovák: Hlasitost ticha*, exhibition catalogue. Czech, 32 pages, 20 reproductions

Kolářová, Petra. *Příprava na vraždu v domě. Kresebné studie Jakuba Schikanedera / Preparatory Work for Murder in the House: Study Drawings of Jakub Schikaneder*. Czech and English, 36 pages.

Inventory Catalogues

Babická, Lenka, Lešovský, Dalibor (ed.), Zlatohlávek, Martin. *Inventory Catalogue of Italian drawings*. English, 352 pages, 600 reproductions.

Jandlová Sošková, Martina (ed.). *French Painting from the 17th to 18th Century*. English, 256 pages, 120 reproductions.

Klimtová, Zdenka, Šefců, Radka. *Indické rágamálové album ze sbírek Národní galerie v Praze / Ragamala Painting from the Collections of the National Gallery in Prague*. Czech and English, 120 pages, 55 reproductions.

Reviews

Kolářová, Petra. Review of *Petr Wittlich: Auguste Rodin, Arbor vitae*, Řevnice 2021, Bulletin of the National Gallery 2023, in press.

Art in the Archive

Hylmar, Tomáš (ed.). Ladislav Živý. *Deníky 1945–1952*. Czech with English summary, 220 pages, 90 reproductions.

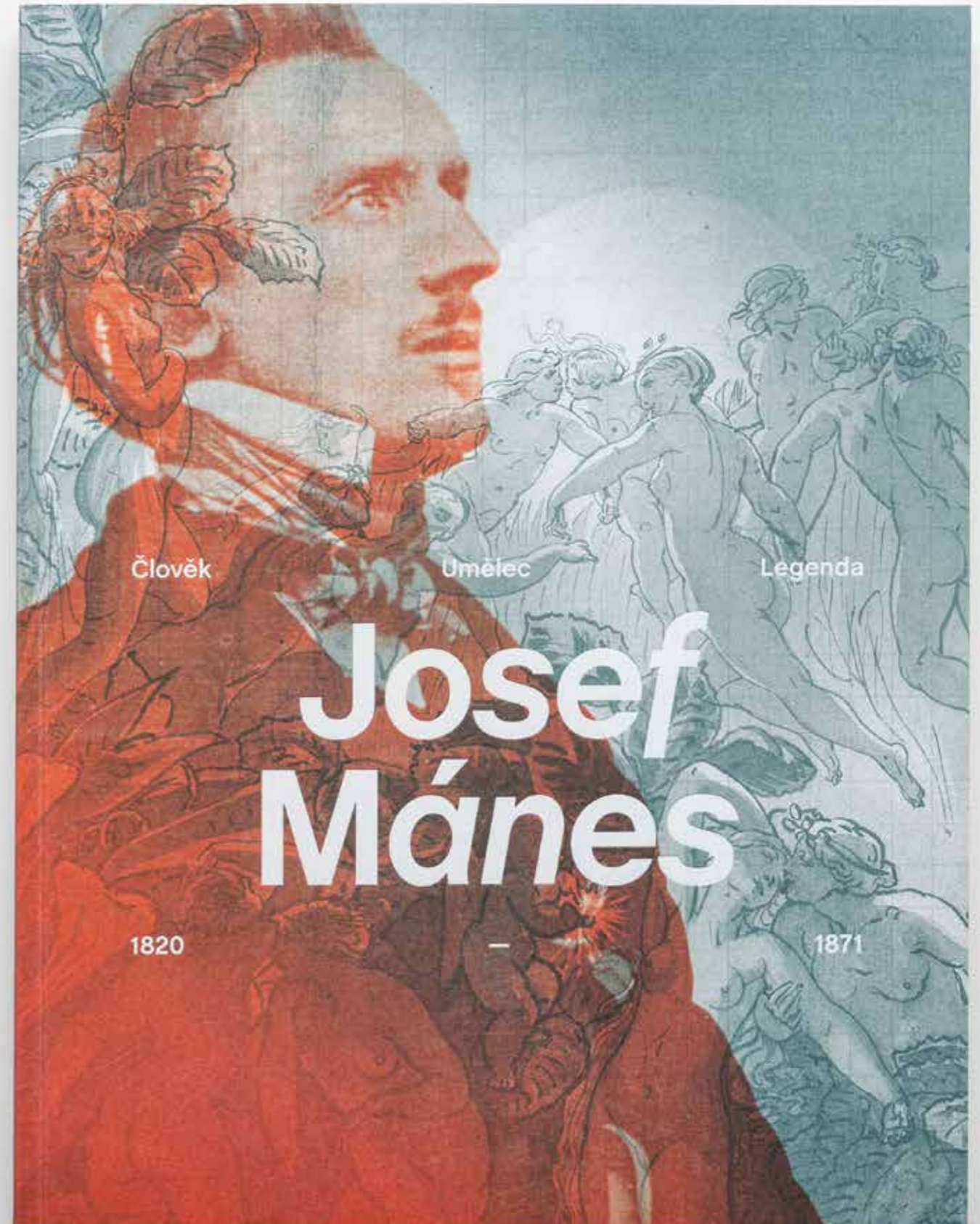
NGP for Children

Švec Sybolová, Monika. *Mánes. Přítel a umělec*. Czech, 90 pages, 50 reproductions.

Zajícová, Anna, Chmelová, Anna, Bystřický, Oldřich. *Brandl. Obrazy do kapsy / Brandl: Pictures in the Pocket*. Czech and English, 56 pages, 40 reproductions.

Muráňová, Ida, Matoušková, Šárka. *Preissig. Obrazy do kapsy / Preissig. Pictures in the Pocket*. Czech and English, 56 pages, 40 reproductions.

Bystřický, Oldřich, Muráňová, Ida, Němcová, Alice. *Zrzavý. Obrazy do kapsy / Zrzavý. Pictures in the Pocket*. Czech and English, 56 pages, 40 reproductions.





SCIENCE AND RESEARCH

Sustainable Publishing Strategy – Basic Intent

Premise

We see sustainability in its full environmental and social context, not just as a process of tracking individual parts of the publishing journey.

What We Look at

A fundamental premise of a sustainable approach to publishing is a focus on the quality and content of the publications we produce. It makes sense to produce books that last, both in terms of the materials used to produce them and the content, which should be timeless and retain its appeal for decades or centuries to come.

Both aspects are fully met by the NGP's publishing activities.

Conversely, publications with immediate content, which do not require high-quality reproduced images and are intended for one-off or short-term consumption, would be better published in electronic form only.

We are committed to being environmentally responsible in the production of our publications. Our research with Helbich, HRG, Protisk and Indigoprint (all of whom print for NGP on a regular basis) shows the following:

All the printers we contacted have adopted a sustainable approach to production. The inks used for printing are biodegradable. All materials comply with European standards and directives, and the requirements for operation and VOC substances are regularly checked by the Czech Environmental Inspectorate and the Sanitary Authority.

It is possible to choose papers with FSC certification. For catalogue printing, it is recommended to use papers such as Arctic volume or Munken (which NGP regularly uses).

The FSC logo can only be used in the imprint of a book if strict conditions are met; a proof of the page with the FSC logo must always be sent by the printer to the Council's headquarters in London for approval. NGP successfully obtained FSC certification for From Michelangelo to Callot. The Art of Mannerist Printmaking.

The common perception that recycled paper is always greener is not correct. On the contrary, the environmental footprint of recycled paper tends to be much higher than that of new paper.

Research Activities

In 2023, the NGP staff conducted research in the gallery's collections in cooperation with experts from Masaryk University in Brno, Charles University in Prague, Palacký University in Olomouc, the Olomouc Museum of Art, the Moravian Gallery in Brno, the Institute of Philosophy of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic, the National Museum, the National Heritage Institute and the National Library.

In addition to art-historical and scientific research activities and research cooperation within the NGP, its staff also participated in the implementation of international and domestic exhibition projects, including the preparation of exhibition catalogues and other accompanying publications.

International scientific and research cooperation continued with short-term internships as part of the exchange stays of NGP employees with Staatliche Kunstsammlungen Dresden. NGP's professional staff cooperated on exhibition projects with the world's leading institutions including Musée du Louvre, Kunsthalle Wien, Tartu Art Museum, British Museum – Department of Prints and Drawings, National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C., Kupferstich-Kabinett in Berlin and Rijksmuseum Amsterdam.

SCIENCE AND RESEARCH

Grant Projects in Progress

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)

2020–2023

Projekt LINDAT/CLARIAH-CZ. Rozšíření repozitáře, služeb a výpočetního klastru výzkumné infrastruktury / Project LINDAT/CLARIAH-CZ. Expansion of the Repository, Services and Computing Cluster of the Research Infrastructure (Ministry of Education and Science, EF18_046/0015782, EF – Operational Programme Research, Development, Education, investigator for NGP Tomáš Vavříčka, in cooperation with Charles University / principal investigator/ and four other research institutions.)

2023–2025

„Český Vasari“ Jan Jakub Quirin Jahn (1739–1802) a jeho pojetí dějin výtvarného umění v Čechách / “The Czech Vasari” Jan Jakub Quirin Jahn (1739–1802) and His Conception of the History of Fine Arts in Bohemia (GAČR, GA 23-05042S, principal investigator for NGP Radka Heisslerová, project in cooperation with the Institute of Art History, CAS)

2023–2027

Památky a společnost v českých zemích mezi lety 1900 a 1960: Profesionální a osobní strategie ochránců památek ve světle soukromé korespondence / Monuments and Society in the Czech Lands between 1900 and 1960: Professional and Personal Strategies of Heritage Protection Workers in the Light of Private Correspondence (NAKI III, DH23P030VV062, investigator for the NGP Tomáš Hylmar, the project is implemented in cooperation with the Institute of Art History, CAS – principal investigator, and the Masaryk Institute and Archives, CAS)

2023–2026

Digitální výzkumná infrastruktura pro jazykové technologie, umění a humanitní vědy / Digital Research Infrastructure for Language Technologies, Arts and Humanities (Projects of Large Infrastructures for VaV MŠMT, LM2023062, investigator for NGP Tomáš Vavříčka, in cooperation with Charles University /principal investigator/ and fifteen other scientific research institutions.)

Project Iperion HS in collaboration with C2RMF, Paris on the topic *Questions Regarding the Authenticity of Paintings by Eugène Delacroix in the Collection of the National Gallery Prague: Revisited*; principal investigator Martina Bezoušková (SMU), co-investigators Václava Antušková (laboratory), Marie Horváthová (RANG), expert collaboration: Radka Šefců, Hana Bilavčíková

Library

The NGP Library is a specialised library focusing on fine arts and art history. The library's collection consists of specialist publications on the fine arts, exhibition catalogues of Czech and international artists and collections, the majority of which are exhibition and collection catalogues of the NGP from 1821 onwards. Of particular interest is the collection of specialist publications on Asian art. The library currently holds 131,000 items. The collection of specialist periodicals includes Czech and international titles from 1839. Also important is the extensive historical collection consisting of publications (including old prints) from the original library of the Society of Patriotic Friends of Art. The library provides services for research and professional work of NGP staff, and its publications are also available to the public for reference study.

Cataloguing of Important Book Collections

In 2023, we completed the processing of the gift of the French art historian Patrick Imbard, who donated a set of 1,449 auction catalogues, mainly from French auctions from 1960 to 2017. These auctions focused on 19th to 20th century fine arts and contemporary art.

We also completed cataloguing of the library of Dr. Olga Pujmanová-Stretti. Her collection contains valuable scholarly publications in the field of fine arts and art history, especially Italian painting from the 13th to 16th centuries. These are unique publications obtained thanks to Dr. Pujmanová's personal relations with prominent international art historians.





SCIENCE AND RESEARCH

Electronic Information Resources

Electronic information resources and licensed databases of professional articles are an important source of professional information. The NGP Library participates in the *CzechELib* project, the guarantor of which is the National Technical Library. Through the project, the institution has gained access to the *Art & Architecture Source* database from EBSCO. The library also provides access to the equally important international electronic article database JSTOR. In addition, readers can access the National Digital Library (NDK), operated by the National Library of the Czech Republic – *Works Not Available on the Market (DNNT)*.

We continued to collaborate on the *Art History Library Catalogue (ARTlib)* project, which aims to make art history literature easily searchable from all the catalogues of participating libraries in a single, comprehensive environment. NGP received a grant from the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic to upgrade the project's website.

Digitisation

The library has digitised another part of its collection, namely the inventory and exhibition catalogues of the Society of Patriotic Friends of the Arts.

Archive

The archive's mission is to acquire, process, record and preserve archival material and to make documents available to NGP researchers and the professional public. In 2023, 113 researchers visited the archive, making 217 research visits.

Archive staff continued to inventory archival holdings and collections and make them accessible to the wider research community. The archival collections of the Modern Gallery (1902–1942), the National Gallery in Prague (1945–1990) and Jiří Kotalík (1920–1996) were inventoried. The inventory of NGP exhibitions for the period 2015–2020 became an important contribution for researchers.

The archive continued to expand and care for its collections. The archive of the sculptor Bohumil Kafka (1878–1942) was acquired and the collection of photographs of works of art was expanded. Drawings were added to the collection of the painter Ada Novák (1912–1990). The archive also acquired a new personal collection of the painter and graphic artist Arno Nauman (1887–1959). Throughout the year, press cuttings, catalogues and posters were collected to document the institution's activities. A significant achievement was the digitisation of nearly 600 colour slides documenting unofficial exhibition activities from 1987–1989. A number of historic exhibition posters were restored, as some had been damaged and were in danger of being lost. The selection was based not only on their condition, but also on their artistic and historical value. Priority was given to posters from the exhibitions of the *Krasoumná jednota* (Fine Arts Association) and the *SVU Mánes* (Mánes Association of Fine Arts).

2023 was the first year of the GAČR project “*Český Vasari*”: *Jan Jakub Quirin Jahn (1739–1802) a jeho pojetí dějin výtvarného umění v Čechách / “Czech Vasari”*: *Jan Jakub Quirin Jahn (1739–1802) and His Conception of the History of Art in Bohemia*. Radka Heisslerová and Kryštof Loub published a study entitled *Pozapomenutý monument – příběh nerealizovaného pomníku generála Laudona v Praze / The Forgotten Monument – the Story of the Unrealised Monument to General Laudon in Prague* in the journal *Umění / Art*. Radka Heisslerová also published a text and edited archival documents on the important 18th century painter Karel Škréta entitled *Pod ochranou císaře / Under the Protection of the Emperor* in the monograph *Karel Škréta a univerzitní teze v českých zemích / Karel Škréta and the University Thesis in the Czech Lands*. Markéta Kudláčová published a study based on her archival research, *Hrobka rodu Hanavských v Hořovicích – nová zjištění / The Tomb of the Hanavský Family in Hořovice – New Findings in Epigraphica et Sepulcralia XI*. Ivana Poláková addressed an under-researched topic in her study *Historik umění a film – kinematografické aktivity Jiřího Kotalíka v letech 1967–1990 / The Art Historian and Film – the Cinematographic Activities of Jiří Kotalík in 1967–1990* published in the Bulletin of the National Gallery of Art.

The archive intensively collaborated on the accompanying programmes for the exhibition *Petr Brandl: The Story of a Bohemian*. The archive's collections also provided material for the film *The Purchase of the Century*. The archive staff retrieved archival documents for the exhibition *1939–2021: The End of the Black and White Era* and archival materials were loaned for the exhibitions *100 Years of the French Collection* (NGP), *Josef Mánes: Man – Artist – Legend* (NGP), *Ladislav Zívř (1909–1980): In the Bright Glimpses of Open Space* (Trutnov City Gallery) and *Suzanne Valadon: Un monde à soi* (Centre Pompidou-Metz).

EDUCATION AND PUBLIC PROGRAMMES

The outreach department brought the arts to the general public through activities that emphasised clarity, diversity and inclusivity. The NGP Club of Friends brought together a community of supporters who wanted to spend more time with the arts. In 2023, the club recorded its largest number of members since its inception in 2016. The education department organised a total of 1,934 programmes for 45,941 people.

NGP for Schools and Educators 2023

Primary and secondary school students and educators were the main target group for the education department, with more than 50% of the educational programmes aimed at them. Schools generally take advantage of programmes linked to the NGP's permanent exhibitions. Compared to 2022, the number of programmes increased by more than 40%, with a total of 1,059 programmes.

The programmes develop the ability to perceive and critically evaluate works of art and to use them as inspiration for creative education. Programmes for the new art and architecture collections at the Trade Fair Palace have been added to the permanent programme. A series of workshops entitled "Your Own Way to Art" was added for socially disadvantaged groups and other target groups. The programmes were expanded to include the issue of inclusion as such, especially in the programmes for Eva Kofátková's exhibition *My Body is Not an Island*. A seminar on Gallery as Inspiration was held for teachers, and methodological materials were produced for the season's main exhibitions. In cooperation with NIPOS Artama, the education department organised the National Exhibition of Children's and Youth Art, as well as workshops and a seminar for teachers, which was well received. Cooperation with the Do you have an artistic gut? platform, the uMĚNÍ platform and the Festival of Art, Creativity and Education continued. Methodological consultations were provided to university students and the NGP took on the role of one of the stakeholders in the Horizon Amass project implemented by the Faculty of Education at Charles University.

Programmes for Adults

Guided tours and lectures or discussions with specialists in art history and other fields remain the main form of education in NGP's permanent and temporary exhibitions.

Workshops for Adults

The Education Department organised summer plein air workshops inspired by Josef Mánes, 19th century watercolour techniques and the work of Petr Brandl. The workshops offered visitors inspiration for their own work. The summer programme also included film screenings in the open-air cinema in the garden of the Convent of St. Agnes of Bohemia.

Art History Courses

The courses *Základy dějin umění / Basics of Art History* and *Seznamte se s uměním ve sbírkových expozicích NGP / Getting to Know Art in the Permanent Exhibitions of the NGP* provided the public with a basic orientation in art history and the permanent exhibitions. For advanced students, they offered the opportunity to study selected themes in greater depth (*Zaostřeno na Josefa Mánesa / Focused on Josef Mánes, Zaostřeno na 100 let výročí státního nákupu francouzského umění / Focused on the 100th anniversary of the state purchase of French art, Zaostřeno na Jakuba Schikanedera / Focused on Jakub Schikaneder, Zaostřeno na Architekturu všem / Focused on Architecture for Everyone* and the *Umění ve filosofické zpovědnici II / Art in the Philosophical Confessional II*, prepared in cooperation with the Faculty of Arts at Charles University). More than 160 lessons were held as part of these courses.

Artistic performances were an important part of the public programme. NGP initiated the creation of new performances prepared by Martin Kohout (*Still there, more or less, or not*) and Miřenka Čechová (*Being and Becoming*). The series of performances *Communicating Vessels: 70X90* was prepared by Sláva Sobotovičová, Nikola Balberčáková, Markéta Slaná, Maja Štefančíková and Tomáš Moravanský.

Events during the free admission days on 4 and 5 February, when the gallery celebrated its 227th anniversary, the International Day of Museums and Galleries, the national holidays on 28 October and 17 November, were used to reach new audiences. The programme focused on short thematic commentaries designed to introduce the collections to a wider audience.

Interactive Studios and Newly Designed Spaces for Education

The season's main exhibitions featured newly designed interactive studios, where visitors of all ages took part in creative activities that playfully developed the themes of the exhibitions and aimed to deepen their appreciation of art. In the new exhibition *1939–2021: The End of the Black and White Era*, the new open studio offered three creative activities that responded to the artistic principles of the time. Richard Loskot, Anna Slama and Mark Delong created interactive artworks for the Atlas space. The studio in the Convent of St Agnes of Bohemia was revitalised with a new interactive wall, and the art studio in the Baroque House was also renovated.

NGP for Children and Multigenerational Programmes

A team of expert instructors delivered arts education to children from the age of 1.5 to adulthood through a variety of traditional and innovative formats. These are always based on specific works of art or artistic approaches that have been didactically developed into low-threshold activities. For the successful programme series *Otevřená výtvarná herna / Open Art Playroom*, the number of sessions was increased to six per week. Studio workshops were held three times a week and weekend intergenerational workshops for children over 6 with adults were held once or twice a month. During the summer there were nine weekly themed summer studios for children aged 6 to 16. There was also an afternoon family garden festival, Agnes for Children. The Sound of Art podcast continued. The ten-part series discussed the temporary and permanent exhibitions and the workings of the institution as a whole.

Educational programme for schools, "Like a Fish out of Water", featured in Eva Kofátková's exhibition *My Body is not an Island*, 2023, photo: Katarína Hudačinová

p. 90 Educational programme for schools, "Let's Head Outdoors", featured in the exhibition *Josef Mánes: Man – Artist – Legend*, photo: Katarína Hudačinová







EDUCATION AND PUBLIC PROGRAMMES

The NGP collaborated on public programmes with other cultural entities of live art: the Lunchmeat Festival, the Prague Quadrennial, the Small Inventory and, as part of the *Image and Music* series, the Prague Symphony Orchestra FOK. NGP has participated in the programme of the national and Prague festivals Open House Prague, Day of Architecture, We Are Open, Prague Art Week, Summer Festival of Early Music – Piccoli.

Gallery as a Place of inclusion, Programmes for the Disadvantaged

NGP continued its strategy of making art accessible to audiences with physical disabilities, particularly hearing, visual and mobility impairments. There were two tactile exhibitions of medieval and baroque art.

Programmes for visually impaired visitors included a tactile exhibition of casts of medieval sculptures and a tour of the monastery's architecture to engage all the senses. Participants can touch building materials and a haptic model of the monastery grounds, explore by smell and touch various herbs grown or used in the kitchen in the Middle Ages, and listen to the sounds of chanting in the churches. Blind artist Pavla Kovaříková guided listeners of NGP's *Sound of Art* podcast through Eva Kofátková's exhibition *My Body is Not an Island*.

Guided tours in Czech sign language were provided for the hearing impaired at all exhibitions. As part of the cooperation with the international Dance Well project, regular dance meetings were held at the Convent of St. Agnes of Bohemia and the Trade Fair Palace for all those affected by Parkinson's disease or other physical limitations. In this way, NGP created a safe space for those taking care of themselves and for social cohesion.

Participation in Professional Conferences and Colloquia

Educational activities and examples of good practice were presented at relevant forums and symposia with a total of six domestic and one foreign contribution:

Kristýna Řihová, Anežka Kantorová, paper *Education is Not an Island*, conference *World summit of Arts Education*, Madeira, 1–3/3 2023

Jitka Handlová, Anna Zajícová, paper *Falza! Na cestě mezi falzem a originálem / Falza! On the Road Between Fake and Original*, conference *Čerstvý vítr / Fresh Wind*, Moravian Gallery, Brno, 20–21/4 2023

Oldřich Bystřický, Barbora Kleinhamplová, Eva Skopalová, paper *ATLAS: Ateliér tvorby a laboratoř asociativního snění / ATLAS: Creative Studio and Laboratory of Associative Dreaming*, conference *Čerstvý vítr / Fresh Wind*, Moravian Gallery, Brno, 20–21/4 2023

Oldřich Bystřický, Ida Muráňová, paper *Výtvarná výchova bez umění / Art Education without Art, Art without Art Education?* *International Scientific Conference of the Czech Section of INSEA*, Ostrava, 13–14/10 2023

Kristýna Řihová, paper *Nástroje evaluace vzdělávacích programů v galerii / Tools for Evaluation of Gallery Educational Programmes*, *International Scientific Conference of the Czech Section of INSEA*, Ostrava, 13–14/10 2023

Kristýna Řihová, Alena Kotyza, paper *Diskurzivní pojetí edukace v Národní galerii Praha / Discursive Concept of Education in the National Gallery Prague*, *Conference Museum and Change*, Prague, 24/10 2023

Ida Muráňová, Šárka Matoušková, Alice Němcová, paper *Kmentová do kapsy / Kmentová in the Pocket*, conference *Traces of Eva Kmentová*, Moravian Gallery, Brno, 3–4/11 2023

Educational and Public Programmes NGP 2023

	Number of Programmes	Number of Participants
Kindergartens	136	2 516
Primary schools	581	11 981
Secondary schools and universities	316	6 091
Groups of people with specific needs + UA + foreign language	10	163
Pedagogues	16	181
Schools in total	1 059	20 932
Adults (art workshops, courses, guided tours, lectures)	515	11 425
NGP for children – Children and families (art workshops, playrooms and studios)	360	13 584
Total	1 934	45 941

Workshop for children and adults, "A Few Steps to the Baroque", featured in the exhibition *Petr Brandl: The Story of a Bohemian*, photo: Anna Ritterová

pp. 94, 96 Educational programme for schools, "Your Own Way to Art", in the collection display titled *1939–2021: The End of the Black and White Era*, photo: Katarína Hudačinová





1948



ICONO GOUTIER

**OTHER NGP ACTIVITIES, COLLABORATIONS AND THE METHODOLOGICAL
CENTRE FOR MUSEUMS OF FINE ARTS (MC MVU)**

OTHER NGP ACTIVITIES AND COLLABORATIONS

International and Domestic Collaborations

Prague Quadrennial 2023 (PQ)

The Prague Quadrennial offered a rich programme at the Trade Fair Palace. From 8 to 18 June 2023, the exhibition on the 5th floor of the Trade Fair Palace included three PQ programme sections; the Fragments II exhibition celebrated the diversity of the stage-design approach to working with scale through models, maquettes and stage-design miniatures – three-dimensional representations of reality. The theatre space exhibition presented places of cultural encounters, from the physical to the virtual. The Best Publication Prize exhibition allowed visitors to pause and rest while browsing through the books submitted to the open call for this section of the programme.

Fotograf Festival – Hypertension23

The exhibition Hypertension23 focused on works from the last decade that reflect our new virtual selves transcending the boundaries of cyberspace and, in this context, the instability of human identity in the digital fluid. We live in an era where the human body is being transformed into a fluid digital mass that affects all aspects of our lives. Our digital entities roam cyberspace, creating their own enclaves in which each virtual self is constantly striving to present itself in the best possible light. We become the subjects of embodied fantasies in which we can be someone else entirely – forever, for a time, or just for a post. The exhibition also included the installation The Extreme Self: Age of You by Shumon Basar, Douglas Coupland and Hans Ulrich Obrist. The Fotograf Festival took place in the space of the Trade Fair Palace from 22/9 2023 to 11/2 2024.

Designblok

In 2023, NGP hosted Designblok, the largest design and fashion show in Central Europe. The 25th Designblok took place from 4 to 8 October 2023 at the Trade Fair Palace and the Museum of Decorative Arts in Prague. The theme, a traditional conceptual link of the entire festival, was Journey. The exhibition spaces of the Trade Fair Palace showcased new Czech and international design in the traditional formats of Superstudio, which presented companies and brands, and Openstudio for designers, design studios, students and independent creators. The exhibitors' installations were located in the Great Hall, the Mezzanine, the 1st and 3rd floors and the exterior of the Trade Fair Palace.

Prague Art Week (PAW)

As part of PAW 2023, NGP hosted the Superstudio, which opened as part of the Autumn Opening on 21.9.2023. The opening was accompanied by the performance Higher xtn by Italian artist and choreographer Michele Rizzo. The opening – as well as the entire PAW23 programme, including guided tours, side events and workshops – was free to the public.

Lunchmeat Festival

In collaboration with the Lunchmeat Festival and PAW, NGP organised the aforementioned performance by Michel Rizzo. It explored dance as a state of flow and transcendence. Rizzo's work explores the cathartic and transformative power of techno music, whose repetitive rhythms can temporarily blur the perceived boundaries of the body.

Communication and NGP Online

The NGP's main communication objective is to continuously work on its public visibility and to raise awareness of the gallery's existence. We want to build its brand so that people associate it with the idea of an open, modern and accessible cultural institution. We want to strengthen digital communication formats that allow us to reach different target groups with their specific needs. We are developing interesting media partnerships and collaborations, both in terms of editorial content and other less traditional formats.

For the exhibition *Petr Brandl: The Story of a Bohemian* and on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the acquisition of the so-called French Collection, NGP prepared an audio guide for its visitors, i.e. an audio commentary that can be downloaded by phone. The former was produced only in Czech and was listened to by more than 2,000 visitors. The guide to the anniversary of the French Collection was produced in Czech, French and English and listened to by almost 5,000 visitors.

We continued to collaborate on the Sound of Art podcast and created new YouTube and social media videos. In addition to promotional and educational videos for current exhibitions, a series of artist talks were released to accompany the exhibition 1939–2021: The End of the Black and White Age exhibition.

In terms of social media, the NGP focused particularly on communication on Instagram in order to better reach a younger audience. The reach on Facebook and Instagram increased by 2,112,923 people for the full year 2023 (a 36% increase compared to 2022).

The institution is also present on the social networks LinkedIn and X (Twitter) and on a separate Facebook account called NGP for Children. The process of scheduling content for social media has been revised and new management tools have been introduced.

At the end of 2023, the numbers of followers on each social network were as follows:

Facebook: 41,748
Instagram: 37,033
LinkedIn: 2,907

In 2023, NGP implemented eight project campaigns:

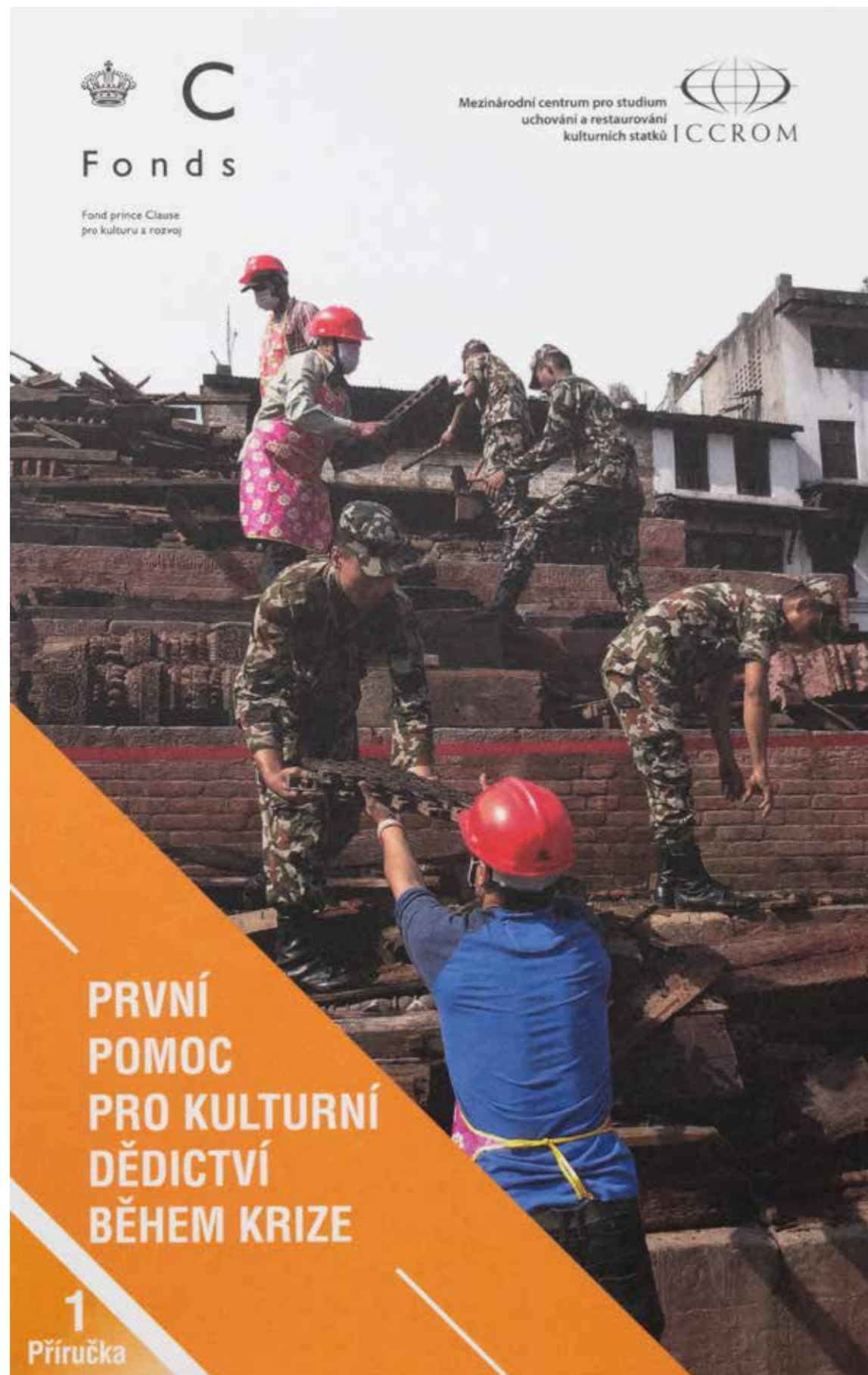
Eva Kořátková (My body is not an island)
Josef Mánes: Man – Artist – Legend
1939–2021: The End of the Black and White Era
Architecture for All
100th Anniversary of the French Collection
Petr Brandl: The Story of a Bohemian
Watercolour between Prague and Vienna
Club of Friends

These campaigns included a mix of media: outdoor (outdoor advertising), radio spots, online advertising, print advertising, TV advertising.

We launched a website upgrade project aimed at making technological improvements to the ngprague.cz website. In 2024, this ongoing project will focus on providing a better visitor experience.

In 2023, we held eight press conferences and issued fifteen press releases (all available on our website, in the media section). The exhibition *Petr Brandl: The Story of a Bohemian* had the highest number of media releases (303 articles, by the end of 2023).





METHODOLOGICAL CENTRE FOR MUSEUMS OF FINE ARTS (MC MVU)

Methodological Centre for Museums of Fine Arts (MC MVU)

In 2023, we began to develop the new *Concept of the Methodological Centre for Museums of Fine Arts at the National Gallery in Prague for the years 2023 to 2027*.

As part of the methodological activity, through which the MC MVU performs its public service for owners and administrators of fine art collections pursuant to Act No. 122/2000 Coll. on the Protection of Museum Collections, we organised two workshops, a seminar and a Czech translation of the international methodology.

In April 2023, in cooperation with Adéla Faladová from the Copyright Department of the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic, the MC MVU organised a seminar entitled *The Amendment to the Copyright Act 2022 and Museums*. The seminar focused on the current changes in the law and their impact on the work of museums. Participants received a copy of the publication *Museums versus Copyright Law*. This publication was mentioned in the special issue 4/2023 of the Bulletin of the Association of Museums and Galleries, which focused on copyright law.

In October 2023, the MC MVU prepared its own workshop, *Amendment to the Decree of the Ministry of Culture No. 275/2000 Coll. on the Collection Act No. 122/2000 Coll.*, which summarised the amendments to the Decree and informed about the new elements in the regime of the treatment of collections, the impact of the amendment on the regular inventory of collections and the new method of reporting to the Ministry of Culture.

In November 2023, a workshop on *Crisis Management in Museums II* was organised in cooperation with the NGP Department of Security and Property Protection and external specialists. It focused on the security plan in cultural organisations and cooperation with the Integrated Rescue System. In the practical part, the participants discussed the principles of evacuation of collections and first aid.

The manual for implementing the safety plan, together with other outputs from these events, can be downloaded from the MC MVU website: <https://www.ngprague.cz/o-nas/stranka/akce-mc-mvu>

The MC MVU has published a two-part international ICCROM methodology on *First Aid for Cultural Heritage in Crisis*. It was written by a collective of authors led by Aparna Tandon and translated into Czech by Kateřina Danielová (ISBN 978-80-7035-831-3 and ISBN 978-80-7035-832-0).



FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT OF THE INSTITUTION

Economic assessment for 2023

In 2023, the NGP reported a balanced economic result from its main activities with costs and income of CZK 494,808,717, of which CZK 3,862,292 was financed by special grants and subsidies. In other (economic) activities, the institution recorded a profit of CZK 748,375.

Although inflation was very pronounced between 2019 and 2023, the total costs of the NGP increased by only 4% in this period, in line with the limited amount of available financial resources.

The composition of costs has changed significantly. The 41.6% increase in energy costs in 2023 compared to 2019 and the 20% increase in the cost of providing security services over the same period have forced a reduction in the resources spent on exhibition activities. The resources that can be spent on exhibition projects also decrease in absolute terms from 2019, without taking inflation into account. Without an increase in government contributions, it will be very difficult to reverse this trend in the coming years.

The NGP also had to deal with the introduction of wage caps in 2023, which allowed for a 20% increase in wages between 2019 and 2023 (4% from 2022), while the basic consumer price index shows a 39% increase in the price level in the Czech Republic between 2019 and 2023 (14% from 2022). In this context, the NGP is often not an attractive employer for qualified and professionally experienced candidates, even though it manages billions of crowns of state assets. In addition to exhibitions, restoration and research, it is also responsible for the management, operation and security of six important historical buildings in Prague and one property abroad.

Despite decreasing financial resources for exhibitions, it has managed to offer attractive programmes to the public, as evidenced by the positive trend in the number of visitors in 2023.

The most visited exhibitions launched in 2023 were *Petr Brandl: The Story of a Bohemian* (75,000 visitors*) and *Josef Mánes: Man – Artist – Legend* (35,000 visitors).

* The figure indicates the number of visitors for the entire duration of the exhibition, i.e. until 11/2 2024, including accompanying programmes.

Breakdown of 2023 costs excluding extra-budgetary funding sources

Cost items in CZK	Actual situation 2023
Material consumption	8,880,923
Energy consumption	66,325,993
Repairs and maintenance	35,424,306
Other services	161,953,371
Personnel costs	150,187,514
Write-offs	48,973,219
Creation and settlement of reserves	5,000,000
Costs from DDHM	5,110,440
Other	9,090,660
Total costs	490,946,426

Revenue in 2023 excluding extra-budgetary sources of funding

Revenue items in CZK	Actual situation 2023
Revenue from sales of own products	4,115,714
Revenue from the sale of services	49,138,449
Rental income	18,504,121
Revenue from the sale of goods	180,906
Utilisation of funds	7,834,064
Other operating income	11,063,475
Founder's contribution	391,570,051
Allocated by the founder (VaV, SMVS)	8,197,412
Other income	342,233
Total income	490,946,426



FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT OF THE INSTITUTION

Operations, Investments and Property Management

As part of the Atlas project, a new ramp for prams was installed in the Trade Fair Palace and one of the air conditioning compressors was overhauled. Based on a geological survey, the first part of the renovation of the retaining wall at Salm Palace was started. The dilapidated sewage system at Sternberg Palace was repaired and the palace garden was revitalised. Negotiations were started with the Senate of the Parliament of the Czech Republic on new operating conditions for the Waldstein Riding School. Preparations were completed for the installation of a back-up generator to increase the security of IT networks at Kinský Palace and for the preparation of the exhibition space for the *Get on the Ice! Ice Hockey and Skating in Art*. Preparations for the first stage of the exhibition space renovation began with the commissioning of project documentation for the replacement of heating, windows and flooring. As part of the digitisation of the NGP, work began on connecting the Convent of St Agnes of Bohemia to the Gallery's IT system. Reconstruction of three buildings in the northern part of the convent was completed.

Discussions continued on the documentation for the building permit and the technical documentation for the depository in Prague-Jinonice. The internal requirements of the individual departments of the NGP were summarised and the architectural competition for the reconstruction of the Trade Fair Palace is being prepared. The project documentation for the building permit for the reconstruction of the exhibition pavilion in Venice was submitted to the Italian authorities after consultation with the Slovak National Gallery.

Personnel Costs and Staff Structure

In 2023, the total salary appropriations amounted to CZK 110,060,671, of which the institution spent CZK 106,071,795 on staff salaries, CZK 3,417,900 on other personnel costs and CZK 570,976 on sick pay.

From the Ministry of the Interior's contribution to operating costs and from claims for unspent expenditure, CZK 102 453 016 was spent on salaries and CZK 1 644 400 on other personnel costs.

The budget of the Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic allocated CZK 1,490,678 for salaries and CZK 615,000 for other personnel costs for research and development activities and projects.

The gallery spent CZK 1,118,310 on salaries and CZK 1,058,500 on other personnel costs for its research and development activities and projects from non-budget sources (Czech Science Foundation, the Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic, the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports of the Czech Republic).

The average number of employees was 208.90, of which 5.85 worked in research and development.

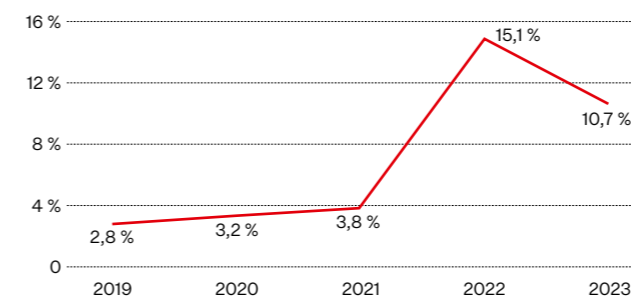
Gender Audit

In 2023, the NGP conducted a survey on diversity, equal opportunities and equal conditions, based on the government document *Gender Audit Standard*. The gender audit assessed gender-sensitive HR policies (e.g. fair recruitment, career development, evaluation and pay) and the embedding of the principle of equal opportunities and non-discrimination in internal documents, processes and organisational culture. The main target groups were women, parents and people over 50. The research used a combination of qualitative and quantitative methods and resulted in the Gender Equality Plan 2024–2025 (GEP), which anchors the principles of gender equality and gender mainstreaming in the NGP.

The first phase of the Gender Equality Plan focuses on the following three areas:

- The evaluation process to achieve greater efficiency and alignment between evaluation and reward.
- Reconciling work and family life, with an emphasis on formalising home working arrangements and the use of part-time/flexible working.
- Creating a welcoming and respectful organisational culture and internal communications, including measures against all forms of gender-based violence.

Development of the Average Inflation Rate



FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT OF THE INSTITUTION

Employees by gender and age – as of 31/12 2023

age	men	women	total	%
up to 20 years	0	0	0	0
21 – 30 years	7	29	36	14.1
31 – 40 years	20	63	83	32.5
41 – 50 years	20	45	65	25.5
51 – 60 years	10	28	38	14.9
61 years and over	13	20	33	12.9
total	70	185	255	100
%	27	73		

Employees by education – as of 31/12 2023

completed education	men	women	total	%
basic	0	0	0	0.0
vocational	0	0	0	0.0
secondary vocational	8	3	11	4.3
full secondary education	2	6	8	3.1
full secondary vocational	14	24	38	14.9
college	3	0	3	1.2
university	43	152	195	76.5
total	70	185	255	100

Number of hires and terminations in 2023

	total
hires	60
terminations	48

Duration of employment – as of 31/12 2023

duration	number	%
up to 5 years	137	53.7
up to 10 years	59	23.1
up to 15 years	11	4.3
up to 20 years	16	6.3
over 20 years	32	12.5
total	255	100



**SUPPORT OF THE INSTITUTION, ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS
AND SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL**

SUPPORT FOR THE INSTITUTION, ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF SUPPORTERS AND PARTNERS

NGP Club of Friends

During 2023, the number of members of the NGP Club of Friends increased by more than 1,000 (in December 2022, the NGP Club of Friends had 3,616 members; in December 2023, it had 4,714 members). This is the highest number since the club was founded in 2016. Forty-nine special programmes were offered to club members, ranging from guided tours and lectures to an art performance. 1,210 people attended these programmes. Two supporters of the NGP Club of Friends made donations to the gallery in excess of their membership fees.

Partners, sponsors, donations and other support for the NGP

Supporting the NGP

Support from private and corporate donors is becoming increasingly important to the NGP. It is only through the support of our partners that we are able to carry out all of our activities, especially outstanding exhibitions or educational projects that bring artworks to the general public. The NGP is working hard to attract new partners and individual donors. At the same time, it is expanding its collaboration with existing partners to ensure long-term quality and mutual benefit.

An attractive range of benefits has been developed for individual supporters, from private tours of exhibitions, meetings with artists and curators to invitations to openings and other social events. Corporate supporters can choose from a variety of options to create a long-term and functional partnership; they can become a partner of the institution or support a specific exhibition, project or selected educational activity. NGP relies on its prestige, follows trends and is constantly looking for new ways to communicate with donors and partners.

Partners and supporters

Komerční banka, a. s. was the general partner again this year. The NGP prepared discounts on admission fees, a series of private guided tours and other special programmes for its clients and employees, such as *the Open Day* with a number of lectures and activities and the cooperation on the children's opening of the exhibition *Josef Mánes: Man – Artist – Legend*. We are proud to celebrate 10 years of cooperation with Komerční banka, a. s. next year.

The exhibitions and educational activities of the NGP were financially supported by Hodinářství Bechyně, s. r. o., and LEGO Trading, s. r. o. The latter supported the workshops and, together with GROHE ČR, s. r. o., supplied the materials for the newly opened creative zone, the ATLAS (Studio of Creation and Laboratory for Associative Dreaming). The NGP thanks the company Pražská energetika, a. s., for its support of the exhibition *Petr Brandl: The Story of a Bohemian*.

Thanks to Partners:

Mgr. David Horáček

MUDr. Lucie Mrázová

Ing. Marcel Soral

Hotel Moráň, s. r. o.

Pravoslav Sovák Foundation

NUTRIN, s. r. o.

Umbrella Mobility, SE

We would like to thank the media partners of NGP: the general media partner – Czech Television and the partners Radio 1, Deník N, Artalk and other media for their cooperation.

We would also like to thank the partners of our openings: BOHEMIA SEKT, s. r. o., a Mattoni 1873, a. s.

Join our partners. Contact us at partneri@ngprague.cz and we will be happy to inform you about all the possibilities of cooperation. We greatly appreciate any support.





SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL OF THE NATIONAL GALLERY PRAGUE, 2023

Dr. Marion Ackermann
Prof. Milena Bartlová
Dr. Caroline Campbell
Dr. Mateusz Chmurski
Dr. Fabrice Hergott
Dr. Marcin Poprawski
Prof. Marcelle Rabinowicz
Jaroslav Suchan
Dr. Maria Topolčanská
Prof. Chia-Ling Yang



Národní galerie Praha / National Gallery Prague
Staroměstské náměstí 12
110 15 Praha 1

Contact
info@ngprague.cz
+420 224 301122
www.ngprague.cz

Follow us
📍 Národní galerie Praha
📍 Národní galerie Praha dětem
📍 ngprague #ngprague

© Národní galerie v Praze, 2023

