

# KNIŽNÍ ZNAČKA 2/2019

Content

## GRAPHICS AND GLASS IN THE LIFE OF MICHAELA LESAŘOVÁ-ROUBÍČKOVÁ (Page 39)

Jubilee artist Michaela Lesařová-Roubíčková was kind enough to answer several questions from the editor of the magazine Knižní značka.

***Unlike your parents, you were dedicated to graphic design. Instead of manipulating the hot glass, you decided to work with conventional graphical techniques for depth printing with somewhat less dangerous engraving of metal plates and for colour lithography. Was it your inner decision supported by the desire to create exceptional graphics?***

I was always creating something with my hands, other than painting. I grew up with my parents and my sister in a big family in a small apartment of my maternal grandparents, where, besides them, their siblings often stayed during the day and there was always something happening around us. It was an inspirational environment for us children. One Christmas my sister and I got a huge tin pallet that could be closed like a box and hide tubes of tempera colours with fascinating names. Uncle Vašek taught me how to solder and repair a variety of things.

There were many opportunities - grandfather's picture dictionaries of all kinds and languages of the world were overflowing with interesting information, musical instruments were played, we were witnesses of exhibitions and friendly meetings where the history of contemporary art was born...

***Your graphics are rich in colours; sometimes you use irregular plate shapes as well as embossing. Is it due to your subconscious desire to create the appearance of space in the area?***

When working with the prints from the plates, I was impressed by the third dimension, which was created by the great printing pressure. On the back of the print, the outline of the metal print matrix was squeezed out, and as it was not used and emphasized, I tried to make it stand out, and I began to give those plates shapes other than rectangular and incorporate the plastic print from the face side.

Daddy put into practice this credo: know and understand the material and give it the opportunity to excel in its natural qualities, Well, when it comes to colours, I love them and enjoy them, everything around is colourful and I have colourful dreams - it amazes me that somebody does not. And my mother, she has opened up such a range of colours in the contemporary glass that was not normally used at the time.

## SSPE committee. KAREL URBAN IS 75 YEARS OLD (Page 42)

Born in Prague on May 22, 1944. He became a member of the SSPE on 14 January 2004 and was elected a member of the SSPE Committee at the General Meeting in 2008, and then the Chairman of the SSPE. At the 36th FISAE Congress in Vologda, Russia in 2016, it was decided that the next FISAE Congress would take place in Prague and Mr. Karel Urban was elected Chairman of FISAE for the next two years.

In the difficult period of the congress preparation, Mr. Urban, in particular, negotiated the support of the state authorities for the FISAE congress, such as the support of the Prague City Hall. The successful 37th FISAE Congress in Prague will always be associated with its main organizer, Mr. Karel Urban. The success of the congress is evidenced by the high participation of collectors and artists, as well as articles in foreign journals of exlibristic societies.

SSPE committee. **Dr. NORBERT HILLERBRANDT IS 75 YEARS OLD** (Page 42)

Born on May 16, 1944 in Vienna, where he graduated from the Faculty of Law. His interest in fine art brought him among the collectors of exlibris. He became a member of SSPE, ÖEG and DEG. He is a great admirer of Czech graphic designers and collectors. He regularly attends General SSPE Meetings and Congresses. Only his current health problems make his visits to the Czech Republic difficult. In his article written for Klaus Rödel from Denmark, he states: *"In the beginning was my journey to Olomouc with Dr. Ottmar Premstaller. In the then Czechoslovakia, the best and leading artists were working with exlibris. Artists were given the opportunity to obtain the required currency, and collectors received high-quality exlibris at reasonable prices. At that time, many friendships were created before the fall of the Iron Curtain: 74 Czech and 34 Slovak artists created for me a total of 325 exlibris of high artistic value. So far, artists from many countries have created 560 exlibris. The phrase bridge to the world is correct. The highlights of my collection are Czech and Slovak artists (J. Liesler, E. Kotrba, V. Cinybulk, K. Šafář, O. Kulhánek, J. Pileček and others) and artists like W. Zwiers, M. Severin, M. Fingesten and Austrian artists from the Cossmann's school."*

Vladimír Pospíšil. **JUBILEE BOOKPLATE** (Page 44)

It is customary for collectors to indulge themselves for their "round-number" birthdays with a graphic card created in the usual manner, but showing the number of years.

I had tried to get such a card for a long time, alas Láďa Dvořák was not responding. He had devoted himself to his second; I think even greater "love", the mathematics.

My wish came to pass in the end, and Láďa has created a "jubilee" exlibris for my **eightieth** birthday this year.

Pavel Muchka. **JOSEF VÁCHAL AND THE LIBRARY OF NATIONAL MUSEUM**  
(Page 45)

This year we commemorate the round anniversary of the death of Josef Váchal (1884–1969), who was one of the most colourful Czech artists of the 20th century. He had been in contact with the National Museum since 1909, when he enhanced his collections with sets of graphic designs.

A year later he donated his first book to the National Museum Library, *The Vision of Seven Days and Planets (Vidění sedmera dnů a planet)*, and *The Great Reading of Clairvoyant Lawrence (Přepěkné čtení o gasnowidném Wawřincowi)*. The collection of Váchal's books was subsequently extended in several stages in the Museum's library. In 1930 his book was exhibited in the historical building of the National Museum.

Jiří Ort. **ABOUT KAREL KINSKÝ, MASTER OF CAREFUL SMALL DRAWING**  
(2. 8. 1901 Turnov – 28. 3. 1969 Turnov) (Page 46)

It is hard to believe that it has been half a century since the Turnov native and patriot, painter, graphic artist, illustrator and regional educator, writer and scholar Karel Kinský died. He devoted his entire artistic and social life to the services of Turnov, this gateway to the Czech Paradise.

I recently visited his inconspicuous grave, where a piece of grey-blue slate with an austere black inscription, Karel Kinsky 1901–1969, a painter and graphic artist is embedded in a sandstone boulder overgrown with ivy, as if even here, he was disappearing from our **subconsciousness**, unassuming and selfless.

One of the most important fields in his colourful artistic activities was that of utility graphics. Already in 1918 he produced the first exlibris for J. Kouba. In the autumn of 1926, as a student of the School of Applied Arts, he published his first set of exlibris as 50 numbered

copies. The sets of exlibris by Karel Kinský were published in 10-15 pieces in two famous Turnov printing houses, Václav Müller or Jan Jiránek. From 1926 to the autumn of 1966, 31 files gradually got into the hands of grateful collectors. Both in terms of quantity and quality, the author probably holds one of the leading positions among world-renowned creators of book brands. The 32nd set remained unfinished.

#### Jiří Ort. **FORGOTTEN PAINTER AND GRAPHIC ARTIST EMIL HOLÁREK**

(Page 49)

**February 2019 was the 100th anniversary of the death of Emil Holárek (born 26.1.1867 in Louny, died 26. 2. 1919 in Praha).** Emil Holárek created an extensive graphical legacy of ink drawings, lithographs, line drawings, chalk drawings, pastel portraits. His illustrations were used by magazines, such as *Volné směry*, he drew book covers for Kočí publishers, where his drawing cycles were also published. Exlibris lovers have to content themselves with several book marks that he probably created for his friends.

#### Jaroslav Kopecký. **NEW YEAR'S PRINTS OF NEPRAKTA** (Page 50)

The distinguished caricaturist, illustrator and humorist Jiří Winter, known under the pseudonym Neprakta, is known to the widest public in the second half of the 20th century for his generous contemporary art through his wide range of interests and knowledge. His artistic achievements, however, also affected areas with which he is not associated by the public. An extensive field of study is small graphics, including not only the occasional New Year's prints that this article is about.

#### Jana Parýzková. **TWO LESS-KNOWN EXLIBRIS OF RUDOLF ADÁMEK** (Page 52)

Some second-hand bookshops offer at a favourable price bundles of 10 or more exlibris of usually unnamed authors. In this way I got two exlibris for Karel Rubík made by woodcutting, signed in the graphics board. I have identified the author as Rudolf Adámek (1882–1953), a well-known illustrator and graphic artist. Together with Jan Konůpek, František Kobliha, Josef Váchal, Adolf Gärtner, Miroslav Sylla and Jan Zrzavý he was a member of Sursum.

#### Jaroslav Štorek. **POSTAGE STAMPS AND EXLIBRIS OF PETR MINKA** (Page 54)

Petr Minka's friends and collectors of his graphics have once again had a reason to be happy. On Wednesday, 5 December 2018, Czech Post introduced a new commemorative postage stamp called the Castle Guard on the premises of the Main Post Office in Jindřišská Street in Prague.

Jana Parýzková.

#### **FROM ANTICVARIAN DRAWERS** (Page 55)

Exlibris of Táňa Jašková-Pexová

Sometimes examples of curiosity provoking exlibris may be found in second-hand book stores. One such artifact was a small book mark by Táňa Jašková.

Táňa Jašková, nee Pexová, (1910–?) was a student of the dance school of Milča Majerová and later performed with Milča's company. She founded a group of expressive dance Trio in 1931 with M. Dušková and A. Šírllová. She performed independently in the D34, and performed as a guest at the National Theatre, at the Kleine Bühne and at the Osvobozené divadlo in 1936-1938.

#### Zdeněk Řehák. **WINDOW EXLIBRIS?** (Page 56)

I have come across the exlibris of the German author Harry Jürgens many times and I

have always been intrigued. I usually obtained them from German and Dutch collectors. The author likes to use square plates of 120 x 120 mm or similar for his etchings. His etchings are always characterized by a large number of characters involved in one or more events. Everything is in motion, we find ourselves in the middle of the story surrounded by real and mythical characters, overwhelmed by objects and nature. I call such exlibris "to be viewed" because prior to adding them to my collection, I always spend a lot of time studying the scenery and events depicted of them.

Harry Jürgens has also created several exlibris for the Czech collector Jiří Hlinovský, which impressed me enough for me to sit down and write a few lines for my collector colleagues. These exlibris are dedicated to operetta composers Franz Lehár, Emmerich Kálmán and Oskar Nedbal.

Martina Vyšohlídková. **EXLIBRIS ENGRAVING AT THE WORLD OF BOOK FAIR** (Page 59)

On May 11, 2019, a workshop on the creation of exlibris was held as part of the World of Books fair held at the Holešovice Exhibition Centre. The National Museum Library again prepared this popular and frequently visited event as an accompanying event related to the book.

Martina Vyšohlídková. **EXLIBRIS FOOD LECTURE** (Page 60)

On May 14, 2019, a lecture was held in Přerov entitled "Sow, Harvest, Cook and Eat" focused on all forms of food appearing in exlibris and New Years prints from the collection of the National Museum Library.

Jiří Ort. **JUBILEUM LIBRARIES AND TWO RARE EXLIBRIS FOR THE CITY LIBRARY IN ÚSTÍ NAD LABEM** (Page 61)

The more than 100-year tradition of public book and magazine reading and lending in Ústí nad Labem (since 1897) had its first culmination of the construction of a new library building on the former Materniplatz (today's Lidice Square). The second culmination is the renewal and modernization of Wolfrum's villa.

Bartolomej Rudas. **LÁSZLÓ LÁZÁR NAGY DIED** (Page 63)

An influential Hungarian graphic artist, painter and creator of plaques, László Lázár NAGY died aged 83 years old on January 12, 2019 after a long illness.

SSPE committee. **PAINT AND GRAPHIC ARTIST HANA ČAPOVÁ DIED** (Page 64)

What none of the exlibris collectors expected to happen has happened – our dear Hana Čápková is no longer among us. She died on May 11, 2019 in Prague.

**PUBLICATIONS** (Page 64)

**MAGAZINES** (Page 65)

**SSPE COMMITTEE REPORTS** (Page 68)

English Supplement to magazine Knižní značka 2/2019 for foreign members.

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