

KNIŽNÍ ZNAČKA 3/2024

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ACADEMIC PAINTER DANIELA BENEŠOVÁ (Page 72)

I was born on 27 September 1929 in Klatovy. My father Zdeněk Hahn was a teacher in a small village, he drew excellently, taught the violin, founded a choir there and was able to share his love of art with children and people in Miřenice. He was happy that I always wanted to draw, and from the age of two and a half to six, he pasted my drawings in a small album with dates. When I was five years old, we moved to Janovice nad Úhlavou, where I started going to school. Then the war ended, art schools were reopened. After completing my studies at a two-year school of applied arts, in 1948 I was accepted into the monumental painting studio of Emil Filla at the UMPRUM in Prague. I still remember the professor with respect and gratitude, his daily visits to the studio. He didn't speak much during proofreading, notes, gestures were enough... we understood and respected him. The early evenings on Friday were beautiful, and thanks to the professor, they became exciting journeys for art, both current and past, through which Professor Filla sensitively guided us and brought us closer to world art with the monographs he brought with him. I graduated in 1953 and was granted a so-called honorary year, the possibility to still be in the studio with a scholarship. But it was a sad time for me - Professor Emil Filla, whose health was undermined by several heart attacks he had suffered from during several years of imprisonment by the Nazis in a concentration camp, died on October 7, 1953. So my diploma was already signed by prof. Karel Svobinský. I decided to spend my honor year in the Book Painting and Illustration Studio of prof. Antonín Strnad, where my future husband Karel Beneš had already studied. Thanks to Karel, I also got to know the possibilities of working in the graphic workshop, lithography with the printer Mr. Vejvoda and gravure printing with Mr. Linhart, who often printed for František Tichý in the school workshop. I lived with Karel for seventy years. Love, work, family and friendship filled our lives. In the beginning, we both mainly illustrated a lot. It was a great joy for me to draw princesses, dragons, devils, hags, flowers and animals again when the children (Pavel, 1960, and Petra, 1962) were in kindergarten. Filla's influence is evident in my first paintings, but thanks to my experience in illustration, I soon started on my own path. Karel started making bookplates in 1975, I only in 1986. It was not only a nice job, but it also brought more friendships with many inspiring people. It also enriched us thematically, because the wishes of the collectors were diverse. Karel mostly worked with stone engraving, Me with lithography, which I began to focus on as an art technique at Karel's instigation in 1977. I also like the company of bookplate collectors and their meetings, which Karel and I have attended many times. The knowledge that it is perhaps art that keeps our world in balance, and that it is also friends and ex-libris collectors who help bring people, nations or opinions together, is a great happiness, and I wish it to all of you, dear friends, from the bottom of my heart.

Daniela Benešová, July 26, 2024

Alois Sassmann. **HEDWIG PAUWELS IS NINETY YEARS OLD** (Page 79)

This important creator of Belgian bookplates was born on 8 August 1934 in Sint-Niklaas in northern Belgium (Flanders), which is currently the centre of Belgian graphic art, holding bookplate competitions and exhibitions. Already at the high school Academy in Sint-Niklaas, he studied drawing and architecture. In the years 1949–1956, he studied at the Department of Decorative Arts at St. Luke's School of Applied Arts in Ghent, where he also improved his skills in the field of advertising and interior decoration of architecture at evening school. He completed his studies with honours. Already as a young graduate, he had opportunities to implement various orders: wall paintings, designs and implementation of tapestries, floor mosaics, stained glass windows, church furniture, furniture decoration, etc. To broaden the scope of his skills, he trained as a goldsmith in 1975 in Idar-Oberstein, Germany, a town with a jewellery tradition. He then created gold and silver jewellery as well as art objects from polyester, epoxy and copper. At the same time as his diverse artistic work, he devoted himself to pedagogy for forty years. From 1957 he was a graphic arts teacher at the State Higher Institute for Art Education in Hasselt, where he has also lived since 1960.

After a short stint in the same field at the Municipal Academy in Hasselt, he taught in the years 1971–1991 at the Academy of Fine Arts in Heusden-Zolder. As an artist, he devoted himself to graphics, but also to drawing and painting. He preferred works of small dimensions. In addition to about a hundred free watercolour drawings created in a combination of pencil drawing and watercolour, he created several hundred gravure graphics, about fifty woodcuts and thirty lithographs. While in the years 1952–1984 he created only three exlibris, since 1985, when he devoted himself to this art systematically, he created dozens of exlibris per year, mainly in a combination of etching and aquatint, with a small number in woodcuts, screen printing and lithography. Exlibris clients found in him an excellent portraitist. On his ninetieth birthday, he created an exlibris with his name with the opus number 1375. He won recognition for his graphic work not only in Belgium, but also in France, Germany, Italy, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, China, Japan and many other countries, where he found enthusiastic admirers.

Mikuláš Starý. **INTRODUCING NEW AUTHORS. ALEXANDRA LIKHACHEVA** (Page 81)

Alexandra Likhacheva comes from Almaty, Kazakhstan, where she graduated from art school. Already at the age of fifteen, she moved to the Czech Republic in order to acquire knowledge of glass making. She graduated in the field of design of lighting objects at the Secondary Glass School of Art and Industry in Kamenický Šenov. She continued her studies at the Tomáš Baťa University in Zlín, where she received a bachelor's and master's degree in glass design. In addition to working with glass, Alexandra devotes herself to painting and drawing. In recent years, Alexandra has delved a lot into gravure techniques, especially aquatint. Alexandra's main inspiration is landscapes, which she captures with passion and sensitivity. A frequent subject of her works are memories of the places she visited during her travels.

Vladimír Pospíšil. **BEDŘICH FOJTÁŠEK** (Page 82)

(13/07/1909 Rožnov pod Radhoštěm-Tylovice – 22/03/1990 Prague)

He came from a poor Wallachian family. At the intercession of his drawing teacher in Rožnov pod Radhoštěm, he became an apprentice in the field of lithography at the Prague printing house of Andreas Haas (between 1924 and 1928), where he gained practice in the creation of mercantile lithographs and probably also encountered the specific issues of banknote graphics. He worked in the Haas company until 1934, from 1935 he joined the Banknote Printing Office of the Czechoslovak National Bank as a lithographer and graphic artist. In addition to used graphics, he also created exlibris and free graphics with the motif of Prague, mainly using the lithography technique. In the years 1938–1953, he worked as an author and co-author of domestic and foreign paper currency (protectorate and Slovak). Literature and the Internet lists 25 bookplates.

Jan Langhammer. **CREATOR OF EXLIBRIS FRANTIŠEK PODEŠVA** (Page 83)

Czech painter, graphic artist, illustrator, music teacher and editor František Podešva was born on 2 July 1893 in Sokolnice near Brno. He spent his childhood and youth in Brno in the poor family of a Wallachian coachman and laundress. He learned violin making from Josef Lidl at the Cabbage Market in Brno. In the years 1912–1915 he studied at the Academy of Fine Arts in Prague, where he became a student of professors Vlaho Bukovac, Jan Preisler and August Brömse. During World War I, he was called up in 1915 for military service in Budapest, Galicia and Albania. After the war, he completed his studies in 1921, majoring in graphics at the Academy of Fine Arts in Prague. As a state scholarship holder, he stayed in Paris with Professor František Kupka in 1925. In 1926, he married Maria Jarušková; they raised two daughters together. He undertook a number of study trips abroad, especially in the 20s and 30s of the 20th century (Italy, France, Germany, Spain, etc.). In 1925, he moved from Brno to Prague, where he was the editor of the magazines Salon and Srdce Evropy until 1942. In 1938, he moved with his family to Wallachia and lived in a studio on the "artists' hill" Soláň, where painters, writers or music composers gathered. He also worked as a music teacher at the Baťa School of Art in Zlín and Uherské Hradiště. In the early days of his work, he mainly devoted himself to figurative work, later he became interested in landscape painting. His works reflect his love for Wallachia, its people and nature. František Podešva died on 28 October 1979 at the age of 86 in Valašské Meziříčí. His wife was the writer Marie Podešvová and his daughter was the American photographer Eva Fuková. He illustrated his wife's books and his own books, such as

fairy tales. His illustrations of 16 volumes of the Thousand and One Nights are significant. He devoted himself to creation of bookplates only at the beginning of his artistic creation. A total of ten bookplates; the existence of others is not excluded.

Jana Parýzková. **GRAPHIC MINIATURES FROM THE PRODUCTION OF LYRA PRAGENSIS AND THEIR CREATORS**

Flirting with the Muses (Page 86)

Upcoming young generation (Page 87)

Jana Parýzková. **FALSE EXLIBRIS BY TOYEN. Bookplate of O. E. Berger** (Page 88)

In 1935, the Central Workers' Bookstore and Publishing House published a collection of Guillaume Apollinaire's verses translated by contemporary poets under the title Poems. The foreword was written by Karel Teige, the cover, frontispiece and typography were designed by Toyen. The reduced cover with the change of the printed part became O. E. Berger's bookplate. It is likely that the exlibris was created only after the Second World War, rather after Toyen left for emigration. It is almost certain that the owner of the exlibris was the social democratic publicist Oldřich Eduard Berger (1891–1956).

Jana Parýzková. **EXLIBRIS BY TOYEN FOR HER SISTER ZDEŇKA** (Page 89)

Although Toyen claimed to have no family, in fact she socialized regularly and even travelled around Europe with her sister Zdeňka Svobodová. If we take into account the foreign language mutations of her first name: Sidonie, Soňa, homely Sonka, then we can assume that the mentioned unidentified bookplate belonged to Zdeňka Čermínová-Svobodová.

Jana Radová. **BOHUSLAV RUPP, BOOKSELLER AND PUBLISHER** (Page 90)

Bohuslav Rupp, bookseller and owner of the publishing house U sv. Jindřicha in Jindřišská Street in Prague was born on 24 December 1904 in Vysoké Mýto and died on 15 March 1995 in Všenory. After graduating from a real grammar school, he trained as a bookseller at the Jan Novák company in Vysoké Mýto, then he was employed in Pardubice, Moravská Ostrava and Prague, most recently in the bookstore of the Catholic printing company U Zlatého klasu. In 1939, he obtained a bookstore and publishing concession, founded a bookstore and publishing house U sv. Jindřicha which began its activities on 15 March 1939. He published approximately 60 titles, mainly with religious themes. In the field of fiction, the writings of J. Š. Baar, V. Beneš Třebízský and J. Zeyer. Bohuslav Rupp was a close friend of Max Švabinský, whom he visited regularly from the 1950s until his death in 1962. In addition to the portraits of him and his daughter Jana, the master also created an ex-libris with the subject of the apocalypse for him.

Hana Hrachová. **EXHIBITION OF EXLIBRIS IN THE STATE DISTRICT ARCHIVE IN ROKYCANY** (Page 92)

On Thursday 13 June 2024, as part of International Archives Day, the opening of an exhibition of bookplates from the collection of Jan Langhammer from Pilsen called That book belongs to me took place in Rokycany. The exhibition was on display in the vestibule of the archive until mid-July. It was a cross-sectional exhibition of exlibris mainly of personalities from the Pilsen region, such as archivists Ladislav Lábek and Miloslav Bělohávek. However, visitors could also enjoy the graphics of Josef Váchal and Anna Macková. During the opening, a lecture by J. Langhammer on the development of Czech bookplates from the earliest times to the present was also held. The employees of the archive searched in their funds and found a hitherto unknown exlibris, which is pasted on the frontispiece of the memorial book of the Hochperk castle near Kříše in Rokycansk. Family of Kabats from Wiesenstreyn was a Czech family that appeared in the Sušice neighborhood at the beginning of the 17th century, later in Poděbrady and Pardubice. Emil Kabát was born in Prague on 17 September 1897. He bought the Hochperk castle in the summer of 1940. His bookplate is black and white. In its upper part is the family coat of arms (halved, a heraldic lily above, a stork below), below which is a view of the facade of the Hochperk castle. In the lower part, only Michal is mentioned, which could be a graphic artist.

Jan Langhammer. **EXLIBRIS BY FRANZISKA JAKSCH** (Page 93)

Visitors to the Municipal Museum and Gallery of Mariánské Lázně had the opportunity to see three bookplates created by Franziska Jaksch at the exhibition The story of the family of a doctor and painter from 25 June to 4 August 2024. The exhibition was dedicated to the family of a doctor and university professor Rudolf Jaksch from Wartenhorst (1855–1947), who, together with his father, professor Anton Jaksch, made a significant contribution to the development of medicine in the Czech lands and West Bohemian spas, and Jan Křížek (1877–1961), a Czech painter and graphic artist whose wife was Gertrude Jaksch (1900–1992), Franziska's younger sister. Franziska Romana Jaksch von Wartenhorst was born on February 23, 1896 in Prague as a daughter of prof. dr. Rudolf Jaksch von Wartenhorst. F. Jakschová was engaged in the creation of bookplates from approximately 1910 to 1936, she used the etching technique (only one woodcut); Tillfried Cernajsek prepared their inventory, which contains 67 items. Franziska Jakschová completely gave up her graphic work after World War II. She died on 10 July 1973 in Vienna.

Veronika Karfusová. **THE NATIONAL MUSEUM ACQUIRED THE STOCKS BY ZDIRAD ČECH** (Page 95)

In 2024, the Department of Book Culture of the National Museum Library has acquired the work by graphic artist and heraldist Zdirad Jan Křtitel Čech (1949–2022) from Kladno. The extensive collection includes book and magazine illustrations (this part of the museum's collection includes more than 3,700 items), linocuts, exlibris and occasional graphics, archives and bibliophile prints.

Karel Žižkovský. **THE PHILOSOPHICAL ARTIST KAREL DEMEL HAS PASSED AWAY** (Page 97)

Karel Demel was a philosophizing artist; he always chose authors, artists, musicians, poets or writers who not only inspired him, but were close to him in life, spoke to his soul, and inspired his admiration. Karel Demel, academic painter and graphic artist died suddenly on 5 June 2024. He carefully searched for a way to respond to their work, which appealed to him so powerfully that he figuratively closed himself into his shell, read, listened to music, drew, drew intensively, and the first graphic sheet was created. Another and another followed until he had completely exhausted the chosen substance.

Jan Langhammer. **BIBLIOPHILE JUDr. JOSEF ŠUCHMAN FROM HLUBOKÁ NEAR KDYNĚ DIED** (Page 99)

JUDr. Josef Šuchman died suddenly on 25 July 2024 at the age of 92. He constantly expanded his rich collection of bibliophiles, he was also interested in the bookplate publications published by our Association, which resulted in his membership in SSPE. From his publishing activities in the Association of Czech Bibliophiles, we recall three Wise Owl inventories (publishers, bibliographic inventories) from the years 2020, 2021 and 2022, which also relate to bookplates. Honour to his memory!

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