



'Wiehl's' Lattice

Date: 1. 2. 2016 – 30. 4. 2016

Place: The Prague City Museum's Main Building



The collection of metal lattices and smithery artworks of the Prague City Museum contains a real gem, a latticed chapel (sacellum) from the Church of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary at Strahov Monastery which between 1628 and 1811, with the exception of the war periods, enshrined the body of St Norbert, the founder of the Premonstratensians. It is a primary work of smithery corresponding to the Renaissance tradition. There are forged circular-profile bars combined with motives of flat leaves and flowers. The beaten and cut motif of angel heads with wings, which was very favoured during the late 16th and early 17th centuries, was an essential element – it is visible on the part of the lattice panel of the door on display (MMP H V 1423/3). Lattices were quite commonly found in churches during the late 16th and early 17th centuries. They enclosed side chapels or were erected around tombstones.

The body of St Norbert of Xanten (1082–1134) was transferred from the Lutheran Magdeburg to Prague in 1627. At first, it was placed on the high altar of the church to be transferred in the above-mentioned latticed chapel in 1628. The latticed chapel was produced by Jakub Ernst, a burgher and locksmith of the Lesser Town of Prague; in accordance with the historical custom, the lattice was painted and gilded by the painter Hanuš Schlemüller. The chapel was located in the centre of the nave at the pulpit level. It had a square ground plan of about 240 cm and was about 340 cm high. As a result of the change of the church decoration in the mid-18th century, the chapel began to look obsolete and was removed in 1811. The remains of the saint were transferred back to the high altar and later in the side chapel, where they have remained to this day. For quite some time, parts of the dismantled latticed chapel were used as the railing in the house No. 161 on

Úvoz Street at Hradčany. Then, the Prague antiquarian Chaura purchased the lattice to later sell it to the City of Prague Museum in 1898 where the chapel is registered as MMP H V 1426/1-14.



The engraving of Daniel Wussin, which was published in 1671 along with the treatise 'Vita mors et translatio s. Norberti', is most likely the only pictorial source for the chapel history. The depiction of the forged elements, featured on the engraving, can be regarded as the author's licence, yet not the actual lattice construction. As part of his efforts to renew the sacellum fragment, Antonín Wiehl (1846–1940), a member of the City Museum's Committee and architect, used the engraving as an inspiration in 1905. The renewal process is documented in detail by the set of four drawings (MMP H 56.405 A–D).

The photograph of the first exhibition of the 'locksmith department', which was only five years old back then, shows the location which was to be emptied to install the lattice; the current exhibits had to be moved.

In 1905, the lattice was disassembled with the prospects of its future reassembly. Unfortunately, the project was never implemented, and the individual parts were scattered elsewhere. Yet, they were identified and joined together. In this process, the drawings by Antonín Wiehl played an essential role.

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The Negrelli Viaduct – 170th Anniversary of the Beginning of Its Construction

Date: 22. 3. 2016 – 22. 6. 2016

Place: The Prague City Museum's Main Building, in front of the Main Building



The Negrelli Viaduct is the second oldest bridge in Prague and the oldest railway bridge over the Vltava. In 2016, we will celebrate the 170th anniversary of the initiation of this illustrious structure. The viaduct begins in Prague 1, New Town, and continues over the Florenc Bus Terminal, forming a border between New Town and Karlín, through Karlín and over Štvanice Island to Holešovice-Bubny. The primary reason for the bridge construction was to connect the railways from the north, Děčín and Dresden, with the only existing station of that time – The State Company Railway Station (today Masaryk Station).

In 1845, the bridge design was drawn up; in September it was reviewed and approved by a committee. The Austrian engineer Alois Negrelli von Moldelbe (1799–1858) took over the bridge construction when the original builder Jan Perner died (1815–1845). The structure, which employed about 3,000 workers, was begun in the spring of 1846 and it opened as early as June 1, 1850. For many years, the bridge had different names. It was referred to as the 'State Railway Company Viaduct' or the 'Karlín Viaduct'. In the 1950s, the bridge finally began to bear the name of its builder – the Negrelli Viaduct.

The Negrelli Viaduct is distinguished by its length of 1,110 m, rather remarkable for the time; yet, it does not include the eastern part on the right-bank head of the bridge which was built later. The bridge is equipped with two railway tracks and is lined with stone railings which are 7.6 m apart. Formerly, Bohemian granite ashlar were used for the spans of the bridge and the piers were panelled with sandstone and granite ashlar at the corners. Freestone, mainly marlstone, was used for the core. The piers are founded on wooden gratings. After the mid-20th century, the unity of the material was severely



disrupted because, unlike the original Negrelli structure, the building materials and construction concept of the eastern tracks were not consistent.

The Klein Brothers and Vojtěch Lanna Senior were the structure suppliers. Three spans were demolished in order to build the bridge over Křižíkova Street (1952–1954) and the gap site was spanned with girders made of prestressed concrete. In 1981, a similar action was carried out on the Holešovice side, above the Bubny Embankment. The Negrelli Viaduct survived the worst flood of Prague in 2002 without suffering any damage because the bridge design took into account the 1845 major flood experience.

Despite the criticism of the late 19th and early 20th centuries, claiming that the structure caused an improper disturbance in the Karlín and Holešovice districts, this outstanding mid-19th-century railway bridge is regarded as one of the best in Central Europe.

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The Fragile Beauty of Prague Stoneware

Date: 1. 4. 2016 – 30. 10. 2016

Place: Out of the Museum Buildings, Troja
Chateau, U Trojského zámku 4/1, Prague 7
– Troja



The exhibition presents a unique collection of Prague stoneware, enshrined by the Prague City Museum, which was once part of every burgher's household, imitating the appearance and certain qualities of the porcelain ware of the nobles.

The Prague fine stoneware factory, founded by four burghers of Prague on Na Poříčí Street in 1791, was the first one of its kind in Bohemia. It produced dining and drinking sets at affordable prices, decorated with genre paintings, romantic landscapes, and figures of saints. On a small scale, the factory also produced stoneware figures with topics from history, mythology, and Mozart's operas. Figurative stoneware is closely connected with a talented modeler Jan Votýpka who worked for the Prague manufacture for a short, yet not inconsiderable time.

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Czech Film Posters 1931–1948

Date: 13. 4. 2016 – 28. 5. 2016

Place: Out of the Museum Buildings,
Lithuanian Theater, Music and Film Museum in
Vilnius, Lithuania



The exhibition will present a comprehensive selection of film posters from the large collection of the Prague City Museum. Visitors will be able to see a unique poster form referred to as 'noodle' which emerged on a large scale in the early 1930s when sound film first appeared. For their graphic design, the professional public has never fully accepted these types of posters; however, today's audience will surely admire their true charm and naivety. The Museum will present a collection of 52 historical posters along with legendary Czech film scenes.

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Večerníček Celebrates 50th Anniversary

Date: 24. 4. 2016 – 30. 10. 2016

Place: Ctěnice Chateau



The exhibition in the Ctěnice Chateau presents the 'Večerníček' phenomenon. Over time, this evening television programme for children, a short bedtime story, has developed into an original television programme thanks to its exceptional dramatic, artistic, and animation style. The interactive exhibition not only will present the most popular stories such as Mach and Šebestová, Maxipes Fík, Rákosníček, Králíci z klobouku, Pohádky ovčí babičky, and Krkonošské pohádky, but also their authors, scriptwriters, and artists.

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Břevnov – In the Shade of the Monastery, Within Sight of Hradčany

Date: 4. 5. 2016 – 30. 10. 2016

Place: The Prague City Museum's Main Building



Břevnov is the seventh exhibition from the series of the historic suburbs of Prague. Similar to the previous exhibitions, three-dimensional artefacts, paintings, historical postcards, photographs, prints, and other items will introduce the most remarkable places and moments of life in Břevnov and its vicinity.

The exhibition will cover the history of the suburb up to the mid-20th century, partly extending to the 1980s.

Visitors will learn about the history of this interesting part of Prague which is the home of the earliest Benedictine monastery in Bohemia. The territory originally encompassed the villages of Břevnov (later Velký Břevnov), Malý Břevnov (Břevnovek), and Tejnka, which, along with several homesteads, flanked Bělohorská Street leading from Prague to Western Bohemia.

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OBJECT OF THE SEASON

Weapons and Armour of a Celtic Warrior

Termín: 9. 5. 2016 – 31. 7. 2016

Place: The Prague City Museum's Main Building



Minidisplays

Object of the Season

In the 1980s, the Prague City Museum researched two significant La Tène burial sites in Prague-Jinonice and Prague-Ruzyně. More than a hundred of graves with skeletons in the supine position from the late 4th and early 2nd century BC have been uncovered. The buried individuals were often equipped with iron and bronze ornaments, and nearly half of the graves revealed men buried with weapons. The armour of Celtic warriors at that time consisted of a shield, a spear, and a sword, most often placed in a sheath and attached to a belt. Iron bracelets or fibulas were common pieces of warrior's equipment.

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OBJECT OF THE SEASON

The Map of Prague in 1885

Date: 9. 8. 2016 – 27. 11. 2016

Place: The Prague City Museum's Main Building



Minidisplays

Object of the Season

As part of the object of the season series, a pictorial 'monumental' map of Prague of 1885 will be displayed on the first floor of the Museum's Main Building.

Published shortly after 1884, the remarkable map of Prague stands out among the historical maps of the metropolis. Not only does it include the newly joined Holešovice-Bubny suburb, but it also depicts all the important buildings of Prague in detail. The six sheets of the map depict the traditional historical sights as well as recently completed bridges, horse-drawn tramlines, and places that have changed completely over time, e.g. the Petřín slope prior to the construction of the funicular.

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Cinemas Begin – Cinemas Finish (through the lens of Martin Plitz)

Date: 18. 10. 2016 – 30. 12. 2016

Place: The Prague City Museum's Main
Building, in front of The Main Building



A panel exhibition in front of the Museum's Main Building at Florenc commemorates the 120th anniversary of first film projections in Prague, which took place in improvised cinema halls in October 1896, as well as the last projections in many Prague cinemas in the 1990s as captured by Martin Plitz, a photographer and connoisseur of cinemas.

The outside display is part of the Prague Cinemas exhibition inside the Museum.

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Little Big Illustrators

Date: 8. 11. 2016 – 30. 11. 2016

Place: The Prague City Museum's Main
Building, Lecture Hall No. 9



Focusing on illustration again, the Prague City Museum introduces an exhibition which will present reproductions of children's drawings awarded in the contest 'Multilingualism Is a Wealth' – the national contest for children of multilingual children from different cultures which has been on for several years.

Using all kinds of techniques, the children produced marvellous creations, pictures of book heroes, inventive comic strips, and even hand-crafted books in many languages. The Master of Arts, Sevdalina Kovářová Kostadinová, is the spiritual leader of the contest. In the exhibition, the children's pictures will add to her professional works of art. She will present her illustrations and layouts which were created during the process of preparing books, magazines, and teaching materials for the children in the Czech Republic. The exhibition is organised as part of multicultural programmes which are held regularly by the Prague City Museum.

The selected teaching materials for children, created by the artist, will be available for free in the exhibition hall.

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Long live Hurvínek!

Date: 23. 11. 2016 – 19. 2. 2017

Place: The Prague City Museum's Main Building



The Prague City Museum in cooperation with the Theatre of Spejbl and Hurvínek opens an exhibition to celebrate the 90th birth anniversary of the smallest Czech – Hurvínek.

A visit to the world of Hurvínek is playful and interactive.

You have a chance to literally walk into Hurvínek's presents which have been designed as big boxes. One is from Spejbl, one from Mánička, and one from Bábinka. The walls of the boxes are covered with their memories. The presents also include various interactive elements.

Children can play-act together with Hurvínek and in a short film learn about what goes on behind the scenes and how a theatre performance is created. All this is illustrated with historical documents, film, audio (archive and present-day) recordings and puppets.

Naturally, the famous puppets are present as well so you can look forward to see Spejbl, Hurvínek, Mánička, Bábinka, and Žeryk the dog. Do not miss your opportunity and take a picture with them all.

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Jan Rothmayer – Photographs

Date: 27. 10. 2016 – 26. 2. 2017

Place: Study and Documentation Centre
Norbertov



The exhibition *Jan Rothmayer – Photographs* has opened on 27 October 2016 as part of the grand opening of the new Norbertov Study and Documentation Centre of Modern Architecture. The centre was primarily established to store and present the vast heritage of the Rothmayer family which Jan Rothmayer and his wife Miloslava sold to the City of Prague in 2007 along with the family villa located on U Páté baterie Street in Prague 6. The sale was conditioned by the commitment of the buyer to open the villa to the public in order to commemorate Jan's parents – architect Otto Rothmayer and textile designer Božena Rothmayerová, née Horneková. The current administrator of the house, the City of Prague Museum, fulfilled this commitment on 30 September 2015.

The exhibition presents part of the photographic heritage of the Rothmayers, specifically the pictures taken by Jan Rothmayer between 1956 and 1960. The selected photos give a sense of an occasional photographer who, inspired by Josef Sudek, was enchanted by the beauty of nature and ordinary things. The photographs were taken on their trips to Prague vicinity and Central and North Bohemia, during which Jan Rothmayer was Sudek's pupil and assistant helping him carry heavy cameras and photographic equipment. In addition to shots of nature, composed pictures of the villa garden and documentation of the works of Otto and Božena Rothmayer are displayed. Apart from Jan's keen interest in photography, his professional and leisure time activities focused on electro technology, contrary to his artistic parents. Therefore, his works cannot be viewed only from the artistic perspective. Evidence of his technical orientation is also reflected in the fact that he sometimes called his sets of negatives tests. Despite this aspect of Rothmayer's work, it is important to highlight the documentary value of the photos which proved significant during the Villa Rothmayer reconstruction.



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Compiled by Jan Mlčoch, Markéta Othová, Martin Polák, and Marie Szadkowská, a publication *Jan Rothmayer – Photographs* was published for the exhibition. Its short texts elaborate the exhibition theme and include more photographs by Jan Rothmayer which are being published for the first time.

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OBJECT OF THE SEASON

Cheers! Archaeology on the History of Drinking

Date: 28. 11. 2016 – 5. 3. 2017

Place: The Prague City Museum's Main Building



Minidisplays

Object of the Season

The next exhibition from the series Object of the Season is dedicated to drinking vessels. Remarkable archaeological evidence of drinking and feasts as an important cultural phenomenon exist.

Drinking, one of the most common things, helps us reveal a small part of this world. This physiological need has been (and still is) part of many rituals. Common drinking confirmed friendship, political pacts, and/or commitments already in prehistory. The role of a toast is recorded in written sources of ancient times. Ritualised drinking was also a common part of religious ceremonies. The importance of drinking vessels is further documented by their frequent occurrences in graves – the majority of bygone societies placed such a vessel next to the dead for his eternal life.

Highly presentable drinking vessels from the Stone Age to the Modern Times are exhibited, accompanied by the graphics and texts referring to interesting facts.

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The Old Cinemas of Prague / The Fleeting Magic of Darkened Theatres

Date: 6. 4. 2016 – 19. 3. 2017

Place: The Prague City Museum's Main Building



The atmosphere of darkened cinemas with rows of squeaking wooden seats, in which latecomers are shown by a torch wielding usherette. A projection booth with projection apparatuses and film reels, which ordinary cinemagoers never saw. The first provisional projections by travelling cinema operators, the splendid modern cinemas of the First Czechoslovak Republic as well as the rather unrestrained 1960s, and dozens of film posters appearing in the streets of Prague every week plus many other attributes of the Prague cinema phenomenon. All of this will be presented at the exhibition which will take place in two halls of the Prague City Museum from April 2016 to February 2017.

The collection items on display – projection apparatuses from the early times and the golden age of cinematography, historical pictures, film posters, historical schedules and address books – will give the visitors an idea of how the film projections have changed over time. And also how the number and locations of cinema auditoriums, many times very peculiar and unique, changed from the early 20th century when they first emerged up to their replacement by the recently appearing multiplexes. The exhibition will feature a fully functioning cinema hall with historical wooden seats from which the visitors-spectators will have the opportunity to watch documentary films of Prague, both experimental and artistic, primarily those by Otakar Vávra: *Světlo proniká tmou* (Light Penetrates the Darkness, 1931) and *Žijeme v Praze* (We Live in Prague, 1934), and by Alexander Hackenschmied: *Bezúčelná procházka* (Aimless Walk, 1930). A model of the projection booth enabling the visitors to peek inside the usually restricted areas of cinemas will be a part of this hall.

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FASHION GAMES – 60 Years of Arts and Crafts in the Secondary School of Fashion

Date: 20. 11. 2016 – 23. 4. 2017

Place: Ctěnice Chateau



The exhibition presents the development of education in the field of fashion design and production as part of the celebration of the 60th anniversary of the Secondary School of Fashion and the later College of Fashion Design. The exhibition provides the best possibility to present the specialised education and development of fashion design from the second half of the 20th century via clothes, designs, pictures and texts. Visitors can also take a look into the dressmaker's workshop.

This exhibition adds to the permanent exhibition 'Crafts in Guilds' which among other things presents fashion guilds and their history from the Middle Ages to the 20th century.

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