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OBJECT OF THE SEASON

Funeral Cast

Date: 7. 1. 2014 – 30. 3. 2014

Place: The Prague City Museum's Main
Building



Minidisplays:

Object of the Season

Cast iron was the favourite material of the 19th century, its usage ranging from fine jewellery to heavy building constructions. It was spread to many cemeteries, transforming them into a forest of cast iron crosses in the 2nd half of the 19th century. The Prague cemeteries were no exclusion.

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The History of Floods in Prague

Date: 30. 4. 2014 – 19. 10. 2014

Place: The Prague City Museum's Main Building



The Prague City Museum will present its collections to commemorate the one-year anniversary of the June 2013 flood, the most recent one in Prague. The increased level of the River Vltava and its tributaries caused a threat to the streets of Prague and its inhabitants every year; some periods were worse than others. Although the residents of Prague were aware of the risks of flooding, the water always brought destruction and suffering. Similar to other parts of Bohemia, Prague was spared from destructive floods in the 20th century. The first great flood hit the country at the beginning of the new millennium, in 2002. Unfortunately, the hope that the most recent flood would not recur any time soon remained unfulfilled...another great flood struck in 2013, this time caused by the overflowing of the banks of small tributaries of large rivers...

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The Sun Inside Us

Date: 11. 6. 2014 – 31. 8. 2014

Place: The Prague City Museum's Main Building



The pictures and ceramic artefacts made by 11 authors give an idea about the spirits, feelings, and dreams of grown-up men with mental disorders. They speak about their seeing of the world, their desires for family, harmony and friendship or about their captivation by nature or technology, which some cannot express by words.

Paintings and sculptures are only a superstructure, a rather marginal part of social therapy workshops as their primary focus is on work skills practice to allow the clients to enter the job market.

The learning of traditional handicrafts, such as basket weaving, weaving, pottery, wax making, and handmade paper making opens doors to various levels of manual skilfulness and provides opportunities of working with natural materials that are already beautiful as such.

The Maxov Home, which houses the social therapy workshops, celebrated the 50th anniversary of its foundation last year. The original Institute of Social Care for the Young using the services of the nuns of the Congregatio Jesu, was transformed into an organisation that provides 4 social services: accommodation – the home for the disabled, supported housing, a special care home, and social therapy workshops where the clients of the above-mentioned services meet with external clients.

The works on display are for sale and the reserved exhibits can be picked up at the Prague City Museum a day after the end of the exhibition, i.e. on September 1, 2014.

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OBJECT OF THE SEASON

Gloves

Date: 1. 7. 2014 – 28. 9. 2014

Place: The Prague City Museum's Main Building



Minidisplays:

Object of the Season

The Prague City Museum has a remarkable collection of nearly two hundred of gloves. We take the liberty to place the most interesting ones on display.

Gloves are important and very old parts of clothing. The earliest mentions are found in the Old Testament of the Bible in the story of Isaac blessing Esau and Jacob. When Isaac was very old he sent his son to hunt game and prepare a meal for him so that Isaac could bless him before he would die. Mother Rebekah overheard what he had said and told the younger son Jacob to put on a garment of goat hides and leather gloves so that the blind Isaac would believe he was Esau and bless him first. Gloves existed already in Ancient Egypt, Greece, and Rome when various types were used.

The purpose of gloves is to protect hands against cold, weather conditions, dirt, and also many times enhance the hands' functionality. In addition to their practical importance, gloves also have an embellishing effect, particularly in the case of ladies' gloves. A unique collection of the sample right-hand gloves of the Fellowship of Glovers in Prague is being presented. The glovers displayed them at the World's Fair in Paris in 1900 and were awarded a bronze medal. The pairs of gloves on display were largely donated to the museum by their female owners. They are made of leather, textile, and nylon and are adorned with all kinds of decoration elements. The museum collection includes men's gloves too; they are copies of ceremonial gloves as parts of guild uniforms.

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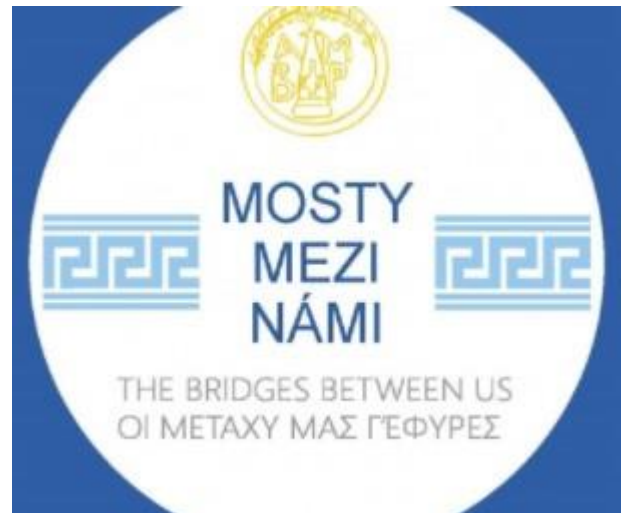


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Bridges between us / Greece in GVP's perspective

Date: 10. 9. 2014 – 12. 10. 2014

Place: The Prague City Museum's Main Building



The Prague City Museum in cooperation with the grammar school Na Vítězné pláni in Prague organises an exhibition displaying various works of students who have participated in the Comenius programme – a bilateral European Union educational project. The project was based on the partnership between two schools – the grammar school Na Vítězné pláni in Prague and the grammar school Panagia Diasellu in Greece.

The aim of the project was to get the students acquainted with Greek environment and with the life of common people in the countryside; school environment and the students' coevals being on one side and the character of Greece as the cradle of European civilization on the other. Exceptional experiences from a little village called Diasello and their stay in Greek families, who had given the children a hearty welcome, led the students to name the exhibition "The Bridges between Us". The environment of the Greek countryside contributed to "the bridges" having been built surprisingly quickly, as the families' daily routines and beautiful surroundings of the local mountains created convenient conditions for emergence of lifelong friendships. The journey to Arta, Diasello, and Athens inspired the students to create miscellaneous works from the area of literature and fine arts alike. Step by step they had been discovering both ancient and recent history of Greece, thus finding bridges between Czech and Greek history.

Many photographs, literary works, paintings, specialised texts looking into the history of art, and other pieces of work had originated during the two years' cooperation between the schools. There is also a dictionary of common Greek-Czech-English words accompanying the exhibition. The exhibition is divided into several sections according to particular topics, all of which show what the students have found out – that "the bridges" have become parts of their lives. The students now want to share their knowledge, experience, and enthusiasm for Greece with the public.

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Confectioners and Confectionaries

Date: 21. 9. 2014 – 1. 3. 2015

Place: Ctěnice Chateau



Featuring the brief history of the craft of confectionery, the “**Confectioners and Confectioneries**” exhibition is the first of the exhibition series to follow the permanent display “Crafts in Guilds. History of Craftsmen’s Association from the Middle Ages to the Present” which presents the Prague City Museum collection in the Ctěnice Chateau.

People have always loved sweets and the history and production of chocolate, nougat, marzipan, gingerbread, sugar, and ice-cream is quite interesting.

In the Middle Ages, baked goods and gingerbread flourished in Bohemia where sweets were prepared for feast days. In the 15th century, there were bakers, pastry makers, doughnut bakers, sweat bread bakers, and wafer makers in Prague. Confectionery separated from gingerbread makers and bakers in the second half of the 16th century and there were 14 confectioners in Prague at that time. The first guild of confectioners emerged in Prague in the early 17th century. It was discontinued after 1620 and restored in 1724. In 1859, the guilds in Bohemia were abolished and replaced by fellowships. Education of young confectioners and a wide range of professionals was one of the main activities of the fellowship of confectioners which also published magazines and books.

There were many prime-quality confectioneries manufacturing products in Czechoslovakia. The fame of enterprises such as Myšák, Štěrbá, Dejmal, Pechek, and Štaft as well as publishers of professional literature, Hlavsa and Reiman, reached beyond the borders of our country. Czech confectionery was one of the best in Europe. This situation lasted until the Second World War which curtailed confectionery enterprises due to the lack of good-quality ingredients, stagnation of production, and withdrawal of renowned professionals. After 1948, all confectionery enterprises were nationalised which resulted in the decline of quality.



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Chocolate brought about a revolution in the manufacturing of sweets. The hand-painted interactive map from 1517 shows how chocolate reached Europe. In addition, the 1521 journey of Hernan Cortes, who was first to bring chocolate in Europe, is depicted.

Visitors will find a hand-crank ice cream machine, glass butter churn, mould for meringue balls, and many other confectionery tools, vessels, forms and various moulds which were once parts of confectioneries, both manufactories and shops, and which are now forgotten. These exhibits were lent by the Jan Maroušek and Petr Lukas travelling exhibition called “Historical Confectionery Shops”.

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Vltava and Podskalí from the Archives of Vltavan Guild

Date: 23. 7. 2014 – 3. 1. 2016

Place: Podskalí Custom House at Výtoň



Originally a supportive fellowship of rafters, Vltavan Guild also focuses on education and social activities; over nearly 150 years it received many works of art with remarkable iconographical value. Visitors will admire almost thirty oil paintings. The collection of donations includes a very illustrative model of a raft from Vltavan Guild in Purkarec. It demonstrates the long journey of wood, or more precisely the rafters transporting wood from South Bohemia to Prague.

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OBJECT OF THE SEASON

Archaeological Collection of František Hlavsa

Date: 1. 10. 2014 – 11. 1. 2015

Place: The Prague City Museum's Main
Building



Minidisplays:

Object of the Season

A unique collection of jewellery and ceramic vessels from the collection of František Hlavsa is a rarity within the archaeological collection of the Prague City Museum – although the objects do not come from Prague and its vicinity, one will not find similar objects in any other Czech museum.

The Prague City Museum acquired the collection from Miloš Hlavsa (1925–2000), the Czech News Agency staffer, at the end of 1984. Originally, the collection belonged to his deceased uncle František Hlavsa. It is assumed that all the objects were discovered in Central Bohemia; however, analogous findings have been discovered almost exclusively in the Carpathian Basin, mostly in the area of today's Hungary. The objects of the Hlavsa collection appear to come from there.

František Hlavsa, the original collection owner, could be František Stanislav Hlavsa (1885–?), academic painter and occasional collector. He was dedicated to archaeology from 1909 to at least the 1940s. Between 1920 and 1922 he was a laboratory technician in the prehistoric department of the National Museum. In 1921, the National Museum bought his first private archaeological collection. In the 1930s, the same museum purchased from him several smaller sets of findings coming from amateur digging in Prague and vicinity.

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Prague Collages – Jitka Kopejtková

Date: 7. 11. 2014 – 1. 2. 2015

Place: The Prague City Museum's Main Building



The displays in the museum lecture hall presented the series of collages featuring Prague and the Prague City Museum, which are made by the photographer Jitka Kopejtková. The author has been focusing on the classic collage art made out of paper – using scissors, scalpel, and tearing technique – and no computer. Following the tradition of Jiří Kolář and others, Jitka Kopejtková provides evidence that collage is a living and attractive art technique which should not fall into oblivion.

You may also find the collages by Jitka Kopejtková in the Prague City Museum 2015 diary.

A collage workshop is being prepared along with the exhibition.

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The Masters of Rudolf II's Era – Works of Art by Court Artists of Rudolf II in Private Czech Collections

Date: 12. 11. 2014 – 29. 3. 2015

Place: The Prague City Museum's Main
Building



Cruel destiny awaited the famous collection of Rudolph II which was one of the largest ever assembled. As soon as the emperor perished, his brother and successor Matthias took the majority of the collections to Vienna and the rest passed to his younger brothers. Others with access to the castle area also took numerous items. Swedish soldiers finished the destruction when they took the rest to Stockholm to please Queen Christina.

To see the treasure which once turned Prague Castle into the mecca of art, Czech visitors must travel to the Museum of Decorative Arts in Vienna where they will find the majority of the collection. However, the collection items have been scattered all around the world, as the Swedish portion did not remain intact in a single location.

Until recently, we witnessed world auctions which sold works of art that once had been parts of Rudolph's collection. Sadly enough, Czech public cultural institutions had no funds to regain them. The situation, however, has changed over the past decade. Enlightened private collectors emerged and were instrumental in the return of some artworks from abroad. In addition, collectors purchased more at auctions in the Czech Republic from Czech households which often had no clue about the real treasures that had embellished their walls.

Thus, the time has come to introduce works of private collectors to the public as an activity which not only brings personal satisfaction but also is a meaningful investment of money and significantly enriches our cultural heritage. It should inspire potential collectors and enable visitors of museums and galleries to enjoy outstanding works of art for a short period of time which otherwise would remain inaccessible.

On display will be works of Bartholomeus Spranger, Hans von Aachen, Joseph Heintz the Elder, Pieter Stevens, Dirk de Quade van Ravesteyn, Matthias Gundelach, and Adriaen de Vries. Furthermore, several interesting works made by unknown artists in Rudolph's era and a collection



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of graphic sheets will be exhibited. The Prague City Museum will add several exhibits from its collection.

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Prague – A Fortress in the Heart of Europe / Ten Centuries of the Czech Metropolis

Date: 21. 11. 2014 – 1. 2. 2015

Place: Seoul Museum of History



The history of Prague fortifications takes us back to the 10th century. The story of walled settlements in the Prague basin began to unfold around the establishment of the early Czech state (known as Bohemia at that time).

Hand in hand with the growing Central European importance of Prague, the city grew bigger and the ring of defence walls had to be improved and continuously expanded. The story of a town citadel begins at Prague Castle, the seat of Bohemian rulers (princes, kings, and emperors), today presidents, which is one of the longest standing European seats of power. Over time, the walls spread out into the area below the castle where a new town developed which had to be protected against the raids of foreign and domestic enemies.

Wood and earthen ramparts were replaced by medieval walls, which were later replaced by a stone ring of walls. The Vyšehrad residence of Bohemian kings was turned into a bastion citadel and Prague Castle became the President's Office seat. Some fortifications were replaced by new ones, others perished, and a few parts have survived. Eventually, an imperial decree, which abolished the fortification function of the Prague agglomeration, brought these efforts to an end. As a result, the majority of fortifications were damaged in the late 19th century and incorporated into property allotments.

Despite this radical change of city planning, nearly 10 km of city wall sections from different periods have remained.



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Holešovice-Bubny / Embraced by the River Vltava

Date: 26. 11. 2014 – 19. 4. 2015

Place: The Prague City Museum's Main
Building



A new exhibition from the series The Historical Suburbs of Prague will take place at the Prague City Museum from November 26, 2014 to April 19, 2015, featuring Holešovice and Bubny which were annexed to Prague exactly 130 years ago – on November 25, 1884. As indicated by the exhibition subtitle, Holešovice and Bubny, joined together in 1850, were originally fishing villages situated on the Vltava bank. In the 2nd half of the 19th century, they began to change into an industrial suburb. The life in Holešovice – Bubny from the 2nd half of the 19th century to the 1980s will be presented through old photographs, postcards, and other materials from both public and private collections. Visitors will have a chance to walk through lost streets (for instance the area of old Zátory or the picturesque Na Ovčínách Street), along Holešovice bridges, both the current ones and those no longer standing. They will learn about the history of local industry, railway and ship transport, the everyday life of local residents and their amusements and cultural life, the centre of which was the popular Urania Theatre situated in the garden of the First Burghers' Brewery of Prague. Sports will also be included, presenting the rich history of the Letná stadiums or Štvanice Ice Arena which hosted several world ice hockey championships. Events at the Exhibition Grounds will be also covered, from the General Land Centennial Exhibition of 1891 to the once popular Prague Sample Fairs, which took place in the surviving Veletržní Palace. Visitors may complete their journey at one of the distinctive local pubs via some unique postcards.

A book presenting historic photographs, as a pictorial historical guide of Holešovice and Bubny, will be published in conjunction with the exhibition.

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