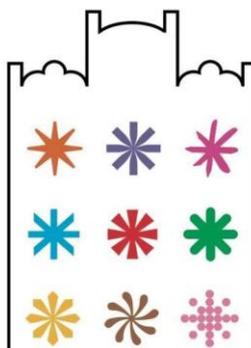


MUD*



Press release, 6 May 2024

Silvia Billeter / The Poetry of Print

June 7 – September 29, 2024 / Museum of Arts and Design Benešov, Malé náměstí 74, Benešov

The Poetry of Print is the first retrospective exhibition which is comprehensively showing the work of Swiss artist Silvia Billeter, including her outstanding series *In Search of Petrkov* (1992–2010). Her graphic prints will be presented in a dialogue with the work of her fellows from the circle of teachers and students at the Academy of Fine Arts in Prague and the Academy of Arts, Architecture and Design in Prague (Jiří John, Adriena Šimotová, Václav Cigler, Eva Brodská, etc.). Documentary photographs by Pepa Dvořáček will provide a more detailed insight into Silvia's life and work.

Since the 1970s, Silvia Billeter has been developing approaches in graphic art, both in smaller works as well as in large-scale and three-dimensional prints. It is in the layering of diverse materials (Japanese paper, foils, gauze), by stitching them together, bending or tearing them, that Billeter creates spatial works out of two-dimensional images. **Her artistic production transcends traditional graphic printing techniques through its very materiality and essence.**

To approximate the contemporary contexts of Silvia's production, works by Ladislav Čepelák, her teacher at the graphic art studio, and by students alongside whom Billeter attended the Academy of Fine Arts in Prague between 1969 and 1972 (Marie Blabolilová, Zuzana Nováčková, Michal Ranný, etc.) will be jointly exhibited.

An extensive accompanying programme has been prepared in co-operation with the Museum of Literature and the Château Petrkov and will be held both at the Museum of Arts and Design Benešov and in Petrkov itself. On Tuesday, June 11 (starting at 6pm), MUD's Šíma Hall will be hosting a **screening of the documentary *Petrkov 13***, followed by a concert with songwriter Karel Vepřek, featuring musical poems by **Bohuslav Reynek**. Together with Silvia Billeter, an excursion from Benešov to Château Petrkov, including the performance of a theatre play on **Suzanne Renaud**, will be organised at the end of the summer holidays (August 24).

The exhibition is co-financed by the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic.

Opening: June 6, 2024 (Thursday) at 7pm

Museum of Arts and Design Benešov, state-funded institution

Malé náměstí 74, 256 01 Benešov

Tuesday–Friday 1pm–6pm / Saturday–Sunday 10am–6pm

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