

Adolf Born - Izbor grafičnih del

Adolf Born (12. 6. 1930 – 22. 5. 2016) je eden najbolj znanih čeških slikarjev, karikaturistov, risarjev, ilustratorjev, grafičnih oblikovalcev, animatorjev in scenografov. Najprej je študiral likovno vzgojo na Pedagoški fakulteti Karlove univerze, nato ilustracijo in karikaturo na Visoki umetnoobrtni šoli, študij pa zaključil leta 1955 na Akademiji za likovno umetnost v Pragi.

Bornove humoristične slike in karikature, objavljene v številnih revijah za odrasle in otroke, nosijo njegov nezamenljivi rokopis. V Montrealu je bil izbran za najboljšega karikaturista leta 1974. Ustvaril je serijo karikatur z naslovom *Bornografija*, v kateri s črnim humorjem preučuje odnose med moškim in žensko od konca petdesetih do sedemdesetih let. Ideje za grafična dela je črpal iz vtisov s potovanj, iz občudovanja zgodovinskih in literarnih likov, mitoloških junakov, iz gledališča ali spominov na nekdanja vesela romanja v Pragi. Sprva se je posvetil lesorezu in črno-belemu ali barvnemu linorezu, v šestdesetih letih je začel z barvnimi litografijskimi tiski. Ustvarjal je tudi v tehniki globokega tiska ter v akvarelni in pastelnih tehnikah.

Born je s svojimi ilustracijami opremil več kot 260 knjig, kot risar in tudi režiser je sodeloval v več deset animiranih filmih. Pripravil je več sto razstav po vsem svetu. Na vseh področjih svojega dela je tako v tujini kot doma prejel številne nagrade, med njimi medaljo za zasluge Češke republike.

Pričujoča razstava je prva samostojna razstava Adolfa Borna v Sloveniji, hkrati pa tudi prva v počastitev njegovega 86. rojstnega dneva, ki ga žal ni dočakal.

»Grafika s svojo obilico tehnik je velika pustolovščina. Popravke na litografskem kamnu ali na plošči za jedkanje je težko narediti. To je tako, kot kadar na nedotaknjeno ledeno ploskev stopi drsalni par. Na čistem ledu se vidi tudi najmanjša nenatančnost. V bežnih pogovorih s slikarji, ki ortodoksnos smatrajo svoj »métier« za vrhunc vseh dogajanj, se jim trudim vtepsti v glavo dominantno vlogo grafike na namerno poenostavljen način: platno lahko prebarvajo skoraj neskončnokrat. Pri litografskem kamnu ali plošči za globoki tisk je to nemogoče. Zaradi tega je pustolovščina, ko vstopiš v ring grafike, bolj intenzivna. Večina slikarjev temu silovito nasprotuje. Zato se mi grafiki združujemo v nekakšne cehe, kjer se med seboj lepo razumemo. V tem je naša velika prednost, kajti kiparji in slikarji tega načrtno ne počnejo in nas večinoma opazujejo z določeno mero zavisti ali nezaupanja, ki pa ju pred grafiki najodločneje zanikajo. Naša povezanost izvira tudi iz tega, da se redno srečujemo na delavnicah litografije ali globokega tiska, kjer se pogovarjam o svojih težavah, kar sicer zveni zelo nobel, vendar je to početje popolnoma enako kot pri branjevkah, ki stojijo pred stojnicami s svojim blagom. Tiskarji, s katerimi delamo in ki delajo z nami, so absolutno zavojeni s svojim delom in ta ritual medsebojne komunikacije je strašno lep, čeprav si gremo včasih strašno na živce.«

Adolf Born

Adolf Born - Selection of graphic works

Adolf Born (12 June 1930 – 22 May 2016) is one of the best known Czech painters, caricaturists, cartoonists, illustrators, graphic designers, authors of animated films and stage designers. He first studied fine arts at the Pedagogical Faculty of Charles University and later, illustrations and caricature at the Academy of Art, Architecture and Design. He graduated from the Academy of Fine Arts in Prague in 1955.

Born's humorous drawings and caricatures published in numerous magazines for adults and children bear his unmistakable mark. In Montreal he was awarded best caricaturist in 1974. He devised a whole series of darkly humorous drawings called *Bornography*, which examined the relationship between men and women from the late 1950s to the 1970s. Born drew inspiration for his graphic works from impressions he gained while travelling, from his admiration for historic and literary characters and mythological heroes, from the world of drama and from memories of Prague fun fairs in day past. Initially he devoted his talent to woodcuts and black-and-white or colour linocuts, while in the 1960s he began to create colour lithographic works. He also created works using deep-etching, watercolour and pastel techniques.

He has illustrated over 260 books, produced drawings for tens of cartoons. He held more than 100 exhibitions all over the world. He received numerous awards in all spheres of his work both internationally and in his home country, including the Medal of Merit of the Czech Republic.

This is the first solo exhibition of Adolf Born in Slovenia, and the first in celebration of his 86th birthday, which he sadly did not live to see.

«Graphics, with its multitude of techniques, is a great adventure. It is very difficult to make corrections to lithographic stone or etching plate. It is like when an ice-skating couple steps on the ice. Even the tiniest of details is noticeable on pure ice. In passing conversations with painters, who traditionally see their métier as the climax of all possible events, I try to make them see the dominant role of graphics by offering them a deliberately simple explanation: they can paint a canvas over again countless times. This is not possible on lithographic stone or deep-etch plate. This makes the adventure of entering graphics circles that much more intense. Most painters violently disagree. That is why we graphic artists join together in guilds of various sorts, where there is harmony among us. This is our great advantage, because sculptors and painters do not do this systematically and, for the most part, look upon us with a good measure of contempt and distrust, which they categorically deny before us graphic artists. The connection between us also derives from the fact that we regularly meet at lithography and deep-etching workshops, to talk about our issues. This may sound very classy, but it is quite the same as street vendors standing in front of their stalls and displaying their goods. The printers we work with and who work with us are absolutely addicted to their work, and this mutual communication ritual is awfully nice, even though we sometimes get on each other's nerves terribly.»

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