

**BRITISH AND CZECH ARTISTS PRESENT WORK INSPIRED BY NATURE
AND HISTORY IN GALLERY KUSKOVU, PRAGUE**

Gallery KusKovu, Biskupský dvůr 6, Prague 1
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Opening September 24th, 2015 at 7pm

Exhibition 25. 9. – 30. 10. 2015

Opening time Tue - Fri 1pm - 6pm or by appointment at +420 737 200 127

You are warmly invited to the Private View of the exhibition of delicate porcelain by Maggie Andrews and colourful enamels by Magdalena Urbanová named HOT STUFF. The title of the exhibition refers to the fact that both materials require heat to achieve their final form.

Maggie's work specialises in the use of porcelain - creating fine, intricate pieces that reflect her interest in landscape and nature. Bowls, vases and other formats present three-dimensional vistas and two sided views. In her delicate pieces you will discover flowers, butterflies and dragonflies in gentle ivory, earth brown and turquoise shades.

The Prague-based Magdalena Urbanová creates colourful enamel paintings using jewellery enamel powders on a copper sheet, which give her work vibrant colours and sheen. She often finds her inspiration in history and other cultures as she has a degree in ethnology. At her KusKovu exhibition, Magdalena will also present silk scarves with digitally printed motifs, taken from her enamel paintings and accompanied by complementary enamel scarf pins.

Ivana Špičáková, director of Prague Gallery KusKovu, says about the idea of connecting the Welsh and Czech artists: "When I was introduced to Maggie Andrews' work I thought how wonderfully Magdalena Urbanová's paintings would complement it. I think Magdalena's lively enamels will make a great background for Maggie's gentle objects. I also like the fact that you cannot detect that they grew up in different countries a generation apart."

Notes for Editors:

Maggie Andrews studied at the Cardiff College of Art and Design 1972-1975 and, having gained her BA degree, set up her first studio in 1975. She received an Arts Council Wales Fellowship in 1981 and subsequently exhibited in the National Museum of Wales in Cardiff. Maggie relocated her studio to the Old Wool Barn in Cowbridge, Wales in 1984 and has been based there ever since.

Her work has been included in several publications e.g. The Encyclopaedia of British Porcelain Makers by G. Godden, Potter's Dictionary by F. and J. Hamer, British Studio Potters Marks by Eric Yates-Owen and Robert Fournier, and Studio Porcelain by Peter Lane.

Magdalena Urbanová grew up in an artistic environment as her mother, Radka Urbanová, has excelled in the enamelling technique since the 1980's. Magdalena studied ethnology at Charles University, Prague and then took a further jewellery making course before developing her own style of enamelling. She is also the author of a successful book „ Smalt ve výtvarné tvorbě“ (Using Enamel in Art), which will be on sale at Gallery KusKovu during the exhibition.

About Gallery KusKovu:

Since 2006, Gallery KusKovu (Piece of Metal) has presented objets d'art, sculpture and jewellery made from metal or metal combined with other materials in its permanent collection. The gallery introduces art pieces by Czech artist blacksmiths and goldsmiths, both experienced and recent graduates. Its priority is conceptual originality and exceptional craftsmanship. Gallery KusKovu regularly presents exhibitions by artists working with metal and other materials.