

PRESS RELEASE

EXHIBITION OF COLLAGES BY RACHEL KUCHAROVA-EPSTEIN AND JEWELLERY BY KAREL VOTIPKA

“LOSING THE ABILITY TO BREATHE”

Gallery KusKovu, Biskupsky dvur 6, Prague 1

16. 9. – 15. 10. 2010

Tuesday - Friday 1 – 6 pm

Opening Wednesday 15. 9. 2010 at 7pm

Introduction by Petra Matejovicova (Curator of precious metals collection, UPM)

Gallery KusKovu cordially invites you to an exhibition of collages by Rachel Kucharova-Epstein and jewellery by Karel Votipka entitled “LOSING THE ABILITY TO BREATHE”

In his September exhibition, Karel Votipka will introduce a new series of jewels featuring moldavites with silver and gold-coated details. The joint owner of Gallery KusKovu Ivana Spicakova adds: “Karel Votipka has returned to moldavite after 15 years and his airy and sophisticated connection of shapes and materials in this collection will surely enchant his admirers and hopefully attract new fans. The exhibition will also offer new individual pieces from Votipka’s studio with his typically expressive stones.”

Rachel Kucharova-Epstein will complement the jewellery with her collages. Using traditional imagery, each collage promises to tell a very contemporary story. The viewer may then fantasise as to why Abigail has chosen “The snow absolutely not suitable for snowboarding” or what nostrum can be offered by “Alchemy of (un)happiness”.

The juxtaposition of jewellery and collage in one exhibition space is not very common, but you can find for yourself that the dynamics of the story told by the strong metal-stone against the delicate paper are not contradictory. You will discover breathtaking contrasts as you become lost in the tale of the collages while looking at the jewels and vice versa...

About the artists:

Rachel Kucharova-Epstein (1976) “... I am a visionary, but my collages are only an imperfect and incomplete reflection of my visions. By conveying these imperfections and replicating them in the real world, a genuine art can be found...” In her work, Rachel accentuates precise fabrication with the result that the boundaries between the deconstruction of the original material and the construction of the final collage combine to produce a seamless narrative.

Karel Votipka (1964) is, for many people, a byword for great invention, brilliant craftsmanship and careful choice of stones. Karel works on his jewels from the outset. When he uses Czech stones he leaves, armed with a hammer, for the countryside, where he looks for a suitable mineral and then he cuts the stone and fits it into the jewel. The stone is always the priority. Karel’s breakthrough to the international design scene was at the New York exhibition in Helen Drutt’s gallery in 1999. His collection there was seen by Madeleine K. Albright and she bought one of Karel’s brooches. The jewels by Karel Votipka are not only decoration – when they are not worn they become a cabinet sculpture, a work of art.

About Gallery KusKovu:

Gallery KusKovu (Piece of Metal) established in 2006 presents objets d’art, sculpture and jewellery made from metal or metal combined with other materials in its permanent collection. Gallery KusKovu introduces art pieces by Czech artists, artist blacksmiths and jewellery designers, both experienced and recent graduates. Its priority is conceptual originality and professional fabrication. Gallery KusKovu regularly presents exhibitions of artists working with metal and other materials.

Gallery KusKovu, Biskupsky dvur 6, 110 00 Prague 1, tel: +420 737 200 127, Tuesday - Friday 1 – 6 pm

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