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**P R E S S   R E L E A S E**

**Exhibition:** ANABIOSIS  
**Exhibiting artist:** Petra Nováková Ondreičková  
**Venue:** Zahorie Gallery of Jan Mudroch in Senica  
**Curator:** Beata Jablonská  
**Opening:** **17 June 2022 (Friday) at 5.00 pm**  
**Exhibition running:** 17 June (Friday) – 10 August 2022 (Wednesday)

Anabiosis is a change in the behaviour of organisms due to adverse living conditions. Anticipating that they will be unable to cope with extreme drought or cold, they induce a state of apparent death. When the danger is over, their original vital functions are restored and their life can continue to flow. Petra Nováková Ondreičková is interested in similar phenomena in which hidden life forms survive in camouflaged variations and she perceives them as an analogy to human behaviour in exemplar or, conversely, rare situations. She focuses on thinking and thoughts accompanied by questions of the forms and shapes in which they can survive in times of inactivity. After all, they are an accompanying phenomenon of the creative process and in the author's imagination they act as an organism in the biotope of the artist's head. On the timeline of her work so far, we go through various models of macro and micro-worlds of habitats – from the personal, following her emerging identity, to the current, reflective spaces and places hidden from the snapshot culture. She creates them from wall and spatial objects, whose intricate layered organic structure significantly spreads over the host space. Her creative material is primarily paper and its endless possibilities and overlaps – from collage, object, ready-made, to installation or sizeable spatial architecture. Many of her exhibited projects have already undergone “auto recycling” several times: she enters older works and creates new ones from them. She is convinced that the work, after display and storage, becomes a stored, dead thing that can only survive in a new transformation. She obsessively searches and experiments, and is particularly satisfied with those techniques, which, she says, exceed the dimension of their qualities. She likes overlaps and the intertwining of media and techniques. In her rendering, a drawing, a collage, or a three-dimensional object tends to find itself in a position that changes its common perception. Although her collage is three-dimensional, it is not an assemblage! She draws with a knife and creates spatial images that can be a drawing, but also a three-dimensional object and, last but not least, in its complexity, also an installation. She stages situations and places in all assumed and suspected layers, close relationships or, conversely, in collisions and ruptures.

Petra Nováková Ondreičková does not often exhibit her works and carefully chooses only those places of her temporary activity that can create a complete organism of her work with the architecture of the space. It is probable that her anabiotic organism exhibited in the Zahorie Gallery of Jan Mudroch in Senica comes to life in a new vital form, modelled primarily by the artist herself and the genius loci.

Beata Jablonská

## **Petra Nováková Ondreičková**

Born in 1968 in Bratislava. She lives and works in Prague.

- 2007** Cité des Arts Paris
- 1993 – 1994** Nottingham Trent University (UK)
- 1987 – 1993** Academy of Applied Arts Prague (CZ) /Prof. A. Matasová/
- 1983 – 1987** School of Applied Arts Bratislava /Prof. J. Berger, K. Pichler/

### ***Solo exhibitions (selection):***

- 2018-2019** Biotope, Cindy Lisica Gallery, Houston (USA)  
Here Means Now, Gallery of the Slovak Embassy, Washington D. C. (USA)
- 2018** Centrum v periferii / Centre in the Periphery, galerie Arto Uhelný mlýn Libčice n./Vltavou (CZ)  
Biotop Chaos, galerie Planeta Chaos Střítěž (CZ)
- 2017** Morseovka / The Morse Code, Nitra Gallery, Nitra
- 2015** Vesmír / The Universe, Galerie Nová síň, Prague (CZ)
- 2010** Vytrhnuté z kontextu / Taken out of Context, Open Gallery, Bratislava
- 2009** Vytrženo z kontextu / Taken out of Context, Galerie Vyšehrad, Prague (CZ)
- 2006** BIOTOPY / BIOTOPES, Galeria 7, Bratislava
- 2002** BIO, galerie Litera, Prague (CZ)  
Ztracená volání / Lost Calling, Open Gallery SCCA, Bratislava
- 2000** Last Motif, Galéria Medium, Bratislava
- 1997** Stroje / Machines, Synagogue Šamorín
- 1996** Trojí možnost / Triple Possibility, Galerie V. Špály, Prague (CZ)  
Petra Ondreičková, Galerija M. Kraljevič, Zagreb (HR)

### ***Joint exhibitions (selection):***

- 2021** 13 SEM symposium, Open Air Garden Gallery, Bratislava
- 2018** Crash Test, Topičův klub, Prague (CZ)
- 2015** Čím překvapit jasnovidku / What Surprises a Clairvoyant, Magna Gallery, Piešťany
- 2013** Tri ceny / Three Awards, Galéria Umelka, Bratislava /Grand prix/
- 2012** Salon malby / Salon of Painting, DOX, Prague
- 2010** Biennial of Creative Fine Arts, Dom umenia, Bratislava  
Selection from the Biennial of Creative Fine Arts, Galerie Mánes–Diamant, Prague (CZ)
- 2007** 4th Biennial of Small Prints GRAFIX, Břeclav (CZ)  
Střední věk / Middle Age, Galerie 5. patro, Prague (CZ)
- 2004, 2005, 2006** Contemporary Slovak Graphic Art, Banská Bystrica
- 1999 – 2000** Vzdálené podobnosti / Distant Similarities, Veletržní palác, Prague (CZ)
- 1999** Kontravize / Counter Vision, Városi muvészeti muzeum Győr (HU) and SNG, Bratislava
- 1999** Slovak Art for Free – Biennale di Venezia, Benátky (I)
- 1998** Mezi světy / The World Between, SNG, Bratislava
- 1997** Medzi mužom a ženou / Between Man and Woman, PGU, Žilina
- 1996** Sen o múzeu? / Dream about a Museum?, Orava Gallery, Dolný Kubín, Dom umenia, Bratislava  
Paradigma žena / The Paradigm of the Woman, PGU, Žilina  
Interiér versus exteriér / Interior versus Exterior, Cosmos, Bratislava
- 1995** Pars pro toto, SNG, Bratislava  
Sen o múzeu? / Dream about a Museum?, PGU, Žilina
- 1994** Marginálie / Marginalia, PGU, Žilina
- 1993** Labyrinty / Labyrinths, Gallery of J. Koniarek in Trnava
- 1992** Real – Utopian Breakfast, Míčovna Pražského Hradu, Prague (CZ)

***Representation in collections:***

Slovak National Gallery Bratislava

Galerija Miroslav Kraljevič Zagreb

Nitra Gallery

State Gallery Banská Bystrica

private collections

[www.petrakovakovaondreickova.cz](http://www.petrakovakovaondreickova.cz)