

mk²

Museum Kampa in Moravský Krumlov

Museum Kampa was founded at the beginning of the millennium by collector and patron Meda Mládek. During her life in exile, Meda, together with her husband Jan Mládek, consistently supported non-conformist artists from the so-called Eastern Bloc. Thanks to her enthusiasm and acumen, she amassed the largest private collection of paintings and drawings by František Kupka and a large collection of Czech and Central European post-war art, which became the basis of Museum Kampa's collection.

Mrs. Meda followed with interest artists who focused on figuration and those representing abstraction. Works based on geometry and minimalism appealed to her, as did works that were expressive and swirled with colour. She was never interested in stylistic pigeonholes, but considered artistic quality to be the determining factor. It was in this spirit that Meda continued to expand her collection after her return to Prague from the United States, and this tradition continues at Museum Kampa even after Meda Mládek's passing in the spring of 2022 shortly before what would have been her 103th birthday. Cooperation with Moravský Krumlov began during her lifetime, and the first exhibition from the museum's collections opened to the public in the summer of 2015.

The mk2 exhibition is a diverse "cross-section" of artworks in the care of Museum Kampa. It presents a collection of paintings and sculptures by leading figures of the Czech unofficial scene from the 1960's to the 1980's (such as Alena Kučerová, Karel Nepraš or Stanislav Kolíbal), but also works by exiled artists (e.g. Ludmila Seefried-Matějková, Otakar Slavík or Zbyněk Sekal) and works by prominent contemporaries (Jan Merta, Václav Stratil or Joseph Achrer).

The collection of paintings and sculptures by these famous or, on the contrary, neglected personalities form a lively structure, interwoven with many styles, which reveals the diversity and internal context of our art scene. Let this intimate, yet emotionally rich mk2 exhibition remind you of the admirable work of Mrs. Meda Mládek and for visitors to Moravský Krumlov it will become an inspiration to visit Prague's Owl's Mills, where Museum Kampa is located and holds short-term exhibitions.

The permanent exhibition on view in the chateau in nearby Rosice introduces the life and work of Meda and Jan Mládek through their personal belongings and documents, furniture from their American home and selected works of art. Jan Mládek used to come here to visit his grandparents during his childhood and the Rosice cemetery is the final resting place of both of these prominent figures of Czech culture.