

## The Kingdom of Puppets – 100 Years

Date: 9. 6. 2020 – 23. 5. 2021

Place: House at the Golden Ring



The Kingdom of Puppets was established 100 years ago. On 26 September 1920, the curtain first went up and the puppets made by the sculptor Vojta Sucharda, backed up by the beautiful stage decorations of Anna Suchardová-Brichová, appeared in the fairy tale Long, Broad, and Sharpsight. The performances were then staged every Saturday and Sunday. The new theatre was called Divadélko V říši loutek v Bubenči (Theatre in the Kingdom of Puppets in Bubeneč) and had a seat in the former school chapel in Korunovační Street. The Sucharda couple imprinted a distinctive character in the theatre, assembling a numerous team which was led by the emeritus member of the National Theatre, Marie Aichelburgová-Hilbertová. They performed fairy tales as well as Josef Kajetán Tyl's The Strakonice Bagpiper, Alois Jirásek's The Lantern, and William Shakespeare's Twelfth Night. The theatre soon won a substantial artistic renown and so, when the Municipal Library was being built in the Old Town of Prague, the space for a puppet theatre was kept in mind and offered to the Kingdom of Puppets.

The ensemble moved to the new building in the autumn of 1928 and under an altered name The Kingdom of Puppet's Art Scene became a representative puppet theatre of the city. The architect František Roith designed the theatre in an art deco style with a large backstage area and a stage equipped with various technical devices. The theatre was enthusiastically reported as the most advanced puppet theatre in the world. The puppeteers endeavoured to present the best plays for the puppets.

The Kingdom of Puppets has remained in the Municipal Library to the present, not skipping a single season. Although originally only marionettes – puppets controlled from above – were used, hand puppets and wajang puppets emerged over time. Vojta Sucharda was replaced in his theatre manager's position by the sculptor Bohumír Koubek. Recently, many internal and external artists have been creating the puppets.

While the exhibition in the House at the Golden Ring presents primarily puppets, visitors will also be able to see photographs, designs, stage decorations, stage properties, and costumes. Yes, even



puppets have their wardrobe and the costumes created by Anna Suchardová-Brichová are rather unique. Moreover, the exhibition seeks to present the work of people who dedicate their lives to puppets, also because all the puppeteers in the Kingdom of Puppets have always performed for free.

#### Muzeum města Prahy



## ADOLF LOOS WORLD CITIZEN

Date: 11. 12. 2020 - 3. 10. 2021

Place: Mimo objekty muzea, Národní technické muzeum



This exhibition, commemorating the 150th anniversary of the birth of Adolf Loos, is intended to recall the personality, work, and underlying ideas in the oeuvre of this major architect, whose legacy is still vivid and inspirational. Though Loos did not regard himself as an architect, his opinions and even more his built work influenced several generations of his contemporaries and successors in the architectural profession.

The exhibition presents the major works of Loos, focusing on his realisations in the Czech lands, placed into the context of his wider corpus and his theoretical writings. Embodying this context is the spatial diagram of Loos's life, thanks to which it becomes easier to realise when and where the individual projects emerged. Loos's work and principles will also be presented in the exhibition through three-dimensional models, photographs, and audio-visual elements. Among the main goals of the exhibition is for it to assist in reviving an awareness of the quality of Loos's work among both the expert and professional publics.

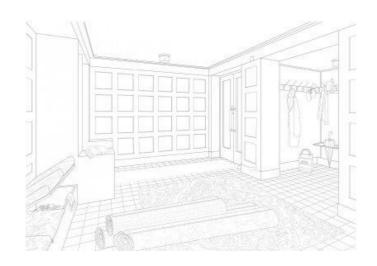
Muzeum města Prahy



# If These Walls Could Talk

Date: 14. 12. 2020 - 3. 10. 2021

Place: Study and Documentation Centre Norbertov



Architect Adolf Loos, in his 1924 article "Removal of Furniture", posed the following rhetorical question for himself and other architects: "What should a truly modern architect do?" Loos, as we know well, never waited for an answer, since he always knew beforehand: "He should build houses in which all furniture that is not movable vanishes into the walls. The walls of the house belong to the architect."

Loos's unmistakable hand in designing interior walls forms one of the key components in the timelessness of his architecture. Loos filled his walls with couches and daybeds, buffets and fireplaces, closets and cabinets, significantly shaping architectural space in the process. From the perimeter of each room, his built-in arrangements defined spaces within spaces and relationships between contiguous rooms.

There is no better example to prove Loos's prescient investment in walls than the Villa Müller, a residence plundered by no less than four government agencies. If These Walls Could Talk exposes the many secrets the eyes cannot see today in the magnificently restored villa-turned-museum.

The exhibition has been prepared by architectural theorist and curator Leslie Van Duzer in cooperation with her students June Geyer and Zeke Kan from the University of British Columbia.

## Muzeum města Prahy



# Exhibition Collages in the Villa Rothmayer Garden

Date: 18. 8. 2021 - 14. 9. 2021

Place: Villa Rothmayer Garden



## Theme: Folk Embroidery

Please submit your collage by 10 August 2021. The exhibition will take place in the Villa Rothmayer garden from 18 August to 14 September 2021.

Format: A4 size (larger collages can be submitted in person in Prague upon appointment).

Please state: your name and surname, city or state, your website (Instagram etc. - it is up to you).

The theme was not selected coincidentally: We would like to pay tribute to Božena Rothmayerová Horneková, the wife of the architect Otto Rothmayer and an inspiring woman, artist, and designer. The collages should reflect her love for handiwork, especially embroidery and crocheting.

The collages will be sealed in foil and displayed in the villa garden. Several collages can be exhibited in the pergola – please be aware that it is an outside exhibition and the works will be exposed to weather conditions. After the exhibition, the collages will not be returned, sold, or used for any other purposes. The Prague City Museum will used the collages for its promotional and informational materials (online and offline) about the exhibition Collages in the Villa Rothmayer Garden.

The exhibition will be accompanied by public programmes such as garden guided tours and workshops.

#### Muzeum města Prahy