

Oldřich Kulhánek, Hommage à Matthias Grünnewald, 1990, Lithograph, The Dr. Eugene Rogolsky Collection, © 2019 Oldřich Kulhánek

Suppression, Subversion and the Surreal The Art of Czechoslovakian Resistance

Selections from the Dr. Eugene Rogolsky Collection March 9, 2019 - May 10, 2019

LOS ANGELES, USC FISHER MUSEUM OF ART — USC Fisher Museum of Art is pleased to present *Suppression, Subversion and the Surreal: The Art of Czechoslovakian Resistance.* This student-curated exhibition features a selection of prints and photographs from the Dr. Eugene Rogolsky Collection, which was gifted to Fisher in 2015. *Suppression, Subversion and the Surreal* explores the impact of oppressive governance on artistic expression through the works of five Czechoslovakian artists,

creating art before, during, and after the Soviet occupation of what is presently known as the Czech Republic.

The prints and photographs included in this exhibition were produced during a period fraught with social and political tension. Despite state censorship and isolationist policies, these artists were determined to make art no matter what. Stripped of all privacy and creative freedom, they turned to the idiosyncratic and imaginary realm of the psyche, the only remaining inviolable space. Employing surreal observations, distinguished by disorienting or hallucinatory qualities, artists resisted government censorship to explore subjects relating to the human body, sexuality and eroticism, temporality, and art historical references.

The artists featured in *Suppression, Subversion, and the Surreal: The Art of Czechoslovakian Resistance* include printmakers Jiří Anderle and Oldřich Kulhánek, and photographers Pavel Baňka, Václav Chochola, and Jan Saudek. Their unique approaches to representing the human form offers a window into the psyche of these artists at a time when their avenues of personal expression were censored.

About USC Fisher Museum of Art: The USC Fisher Museum of Art - established in 1939 - is accredited by the American Alliance of Museums. It functions as a center for intellectual inquiry and aesthetic enjoyment in support of USC's goals of research, teaching, artistic creation, and service to society. The Fisher Museum bears special responsibility to link the art in its permanent collections and the art it presents in its temporary exhibitions to all of USC's present and future audiences: to its students, faculty, staff, alumni, and surrounding communities. Fisher Museum offers an array of programming, including lectures, artists' talks, yoga, film screenings, concerts, and poetry readings to enhance and support its exhibitions. Fisher Museum is also proud to be home and working laboratory for the USC International Museum Institute (IMI), a think-tank for museum professionals and a division of the USC Dana and David College of Letters, Arts and Sciences.

Located on the USC campus.

823 Exposition Blvd Los Angeles, CA 90089

Admission and programs are free to the public.

Museum Hours:

Tuesday-Friday 12-5pm Saturday 12-4pm

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