

Press release for the exhibition

Kateřina Ondruřková: Purple Holds the Deepest Scent

24. 7. – 3. 9. 2025

Curator: Petr Vaňous



Trafo Gallery presents a solo exhibition of the young painter Kateřina Ondruřková (*1991) entitled *Purple Smells the Most*, which presents a distinctive visual poetry inspired by everyday life, motherhood and identity transformations. Harmonious themes and sensitive colours, the relationship between parent and child and a strong connection with nature are the main motifs of her mostly monumental canvases. An opening reception will be held on Thursday, July 24 at 7:00 pm and a guided tour will follow on August 13 at 6:00 pm. For more information, visit www.trafogallery.cz.

Though it may not be apparent at first glance, the painterly world of young artist Kateřina Ondruřková is intrinsically linked to everyday life. The flood of colours, symbols and signs acts as a kind of mimicry, subtly concealing something. They are layers in which the creative process of the poeticisation of reality takes place. The attributes of the everyday undergo transformation. The artist removes them from the realm of reflective, naturalistic description and elevates them to the timeless sphere of symbolic communication. We find ourselves in the midst of a meta-narrative that generalises three main themes, using the expressive means of painting to address parenthood, motherhood and the interpersonal relationships associated therewith.

Ondruřková brings to contemporary young Czech painting a sensitivity to objects, phenomena and events, which she renews through her unique visual style in their timeless, cyclical validity. How does a child see? How does a mother? What exactly changes in a person? What role does each person play? Ordinary reality seems to split into the polarities of ritual and dream alongside quotidian concerns. Just as a mother splits herself in two and gives part of herself to the creation of a newly born being, so in the next phase of motherhood she “sees with different eyes” the world around her. A “garden” of the shared imaginary emerges, in which reminders and references to her own childhood, to the landscape in which she grew up, to the artist’s memories and recollections multiply, along with links to signs that explain the presence of children in a hitherto unknown and hence magical space based more on dreams and the pleasure principle than on the numbing reality principle.

Ondruřková opens windows onto paradises that can be recalled in a Proustian manner and involuntarily brought to mind. She evokes paradises where “violet has the strongest scent” and every flower and every animal represents the promise of an open and sun-drenched future, a certainty that everything will inevitably repeat itself because “it is good”. The image functions here as a repetitive narrative in which particular characters are gradually transformed into general symbols, and concrete experiences into a movement of initiation. We are introduced into a time whose fall (haste) has slowed down. A timelessness with fairytale features emerges.

Thanks to the partners of Trafo Gallery: Magistrát hlavního města Prahy, Canadian Medical, Skupina ČEZ, Hospodářské noviny, Art District 7, Art Revue, Radio 1, Wine4You a MOSŤ Nápoje / Beverages s.r.o.

Contact for visitors and media: Blanka Čermáková (trafogallery@trafogallery.cz, 739 517 758), Alice Hromádko (alice@trafogallery.cz, 725 857 476), Šárka Samková (sarka@trafogallery.cz, 724 349 590), Markéta Jirouřková (marketa@trafogallery.cz, 776 096 825)

Trafo Gallery, Hala 14, Pražská tržnice, Bubenské nábřeží 306/13, Praha 7, tram 1, 12, 14, 25, metro Vltavská (300 m), open Tue–Sun 15–19 h, Sat 10–19 h, www.trafogallery.cz, IG: trafo_gallery

Kateřina Ondruřková

CV

b. 1991 Czech Republic
Lives and works in Prague

Studies

2008–11 Střední uměleckoprůmyslová škola Uherské Hradiště
2017 University of Porto, Portugal
2013–19 Akademie Výtvarných Umění v Praze

Work Internship

2019 Robert Barta Studio, Berlín

Solo exhibitions

2024 FUMO, GaP Gallery, Znojmo
2023 Perrenials, Platforma 15, Praha
2021 Umění v ulicích, Okno Lenky Millerove, Praha
2020 Speed art dating, Ex post gallery, Praha
2020 OKO, Kavárna pod Lipami, Praha
2019 Nikdy už ho nevrátím na místo jeho nalezení,
Galerie Mladí a Neklidní, Praha
2019 Sune Dean, Galerie Zámek, Zlín
2019 Nejkrásnější věk, AVU, Praha
2017 Sanseviera – 356 UKG, Praha
2016 Fog, Galerie u cesty, Šarovy
2016 Here be flowers, Galerie Baila, Uherské Hradiště
2015 Černá je barva, Klášterní kaple, Napajedla

Group exhibitions

2024 The Garden of Fragility, Double Q Gallery, Hong Kong
2023 O Tobě, GASK, Kučná Hora
2023 Stopy zítřka, SmetanaQ Gallery, Prague
2023 Symbiosis, VIP Art Basel, Hong Kong
2023 Down in the woods, up to the sky, Double Q Gallery,
Hong Kong
2022 Rampant Flora, Galerie Okraje, Tábor
2022 Soft, Hidden, Exposed, Double Q Gallery, Hong Kong
2021 XY_now, Q_now, Q Contemporary, Budapest
2021 Mégethos 28, Kmapus hyberská, Praha
2021 TA MALBA, Trafo Gallery, Praha
2021 NO-GO, Kampus Hyberská, Praha
2020 Spring flowers, KGVU, Zlín
2019 Soft shackle knot, Photoport Gallery, Bratislava
2019 Těžba hlušiny, Galerie Atrium, Praha
2018 Prostřeno, Galerie Mladí a Neklidní, Praha
2018 Systém emocí, Galerie Monomach, Brno
2017 FLAT, Gallery Rés da Rua, Porto, Portugal
2016 Freeze Frame, kavárna Portál, Uherské Hradiště
2015 POKOJE, Praha
2015 Světlo ve tmě, Studio ALTA, Praha

Contact

e-mail: ondruskovaka@gmail.com
insta: [@katerina.ondruskova](https://www.instagram.com/katerina.ondruskova)
web: katerinaondruskova.com

