



MÍLA FÜRSTOVÁ

GALERIE MIRO PRAHA



MÍLA
FÜRSTOVÁ

Graphic Work – Coldplay and Beyond

Míla Fůrstová at MIRO Gallery

Since the Nineties we've become accustomed to the fact that art students study abroad for a semester or longer to become acquainted with different worlds, perfect their foreign language skills and make new contacts. For the most part the experience ends with a small or major semester project.

For young student Míla Fůrstová, however, everything turned out completely differently. She studied on two fronts, in fact: in the Czech Republic, after graduating from the Secondary School of Applied Arts in Žižkov, she studied psychology, art and English at Charles University's Faculty of Education; and in England she majored in fine art printmaking at the bachelor's level at the University of Gloucestershire. This meant she travelled a lot between the two countries. After completing her bachelor's she went on to get her master's from the Royal College of Art. The young art and psychology student also created a successful sponsoring model: her sponsors received her works of art, thus funding her art work. At the same time they invested in art that was expected to increase in value over time. But for the artist, it also represented a commitment that forced her to remain in some sort of "working process".

Artists tends to shut themselves off to the world in their studios. This sort of ivory tower may be beautiful, but can be somewhat limiting, especially in a foreign country. Míla Fůrstová does not lose contact with society or her home, however. She devotes time to professional public activities. In England she headed the printmaking studio at the prestigious Cheltenham Ladies' College from 2003 till 2010, and in 2009 she was elected to the Royal West of England Academy in Bristol as the youngest academician.

She maintains a more or less regular rhythm for holding solo exhibitions – at least one every year, mostly in England, but also in the United States and of course in the Czech Republic. An impressive and steadily increasing number of awards have been presented to her. Her collectors are similarly growing in number and include Queen Elizabeth II, the Sultan of Brunei and the Victoria and Albert Museum in London.

Recently she has become known for her creative work with Coldplay on their new album Ghost Stories. As part of this work she also took part in four singles ("Magic", " True Love", "Sky Full of Stars" and "Midnight").

Her nearly two years of work and over 100 sketches testify to the challenge this collaboration represented. At a recent exhibition of her work for Coldplay, the artist placed over half of the sketches on sale with all proceeds going to the charity Kids Company. The entire band, many celebrities and the head of the BBC, Alan Yentop, took part in the event. The second part of these sketches have been selected for the exhibition in Strahov. Many have never been shown publicly before.

For the artist, however, the exhibition at Miro Gallery is also the start of a new phase. After a long, nearly two-year engagement with Coldplay, she is returning to creating her own art. Proof of this lies in the installation exhibited here, "Gold fish fly above the clouds". Created especially for Miro Gallery, work on the piece lasted several months. One of the main aims is to completely break away from the traditional perception of framed and mounted prints and let the fish "swim" along the walls. Another artistic experiment involves untraditional colour. Míla explains, "I am trying to experiment with more vibrant colour, which is always a bit hard to achieve in etchings considering that the zinc plate I work on always tones down colours. In this installation I play with this brilliant characteristic of printmaking and the fact that so many various multiples and variations can be made from a single plate. The entire installation is printed from prints that have been processed in various ways and from three zinc plates that have been elaborated in detail."

The artist has always been interested in areas where printmaking and space possibly intersect. She creates three-dimensional graphic objects and tries out printing on untraditional materials. After screenprinting on glass no longer suited her, she created her own process for printing on glass. As a result, her prints are an integrated part of three-dimensional objects and help form the entire aim. An enchantment with leporello books must also be noted. And in Míla's case, also the British, specifically Stanley Spencer.

Work with printmaking itself offers certain opportunities. Often these are prints within prints, pictures within pictures, thus creating images of a mysterious world filled with stories that are perhaps personal, perhaps mythical. The repertoire is fantasy, romantically surrealistic – constellations, astrolabes, cards, wings and angels – and then animals – birds, fish, the sea and cities. One can recognise Venice, London, the true artistic heart between St Paul's and the Tate Modern with a magical walk along the Millennium Bridge. And one can recognise many views from Míla's home well known to Czechs, often portraying a fairy tale-like, dreamy atmosphere that the English would consider exotic.

Míla Fůrstová's perceptiveness, talent and hard work are certainly the basis for her success. The artist maintains her naturalness and female sensitivity. British broadmindedness certainly does not restrict her at all in this regard; on the contrary, it appreciates originality and difference as an enriching force.

Míla Fürstová v Galerii MIRO

Od devadesátých let jsme si již dávno zvykli, že studenti uměleckých škol jezdí na studijní pobyty do zahraničí. Poznat jiné prostředí, zdokonalit se v jazycích, navázat nějaké kontakty. Většinou vše končí nějakou dílčí nebo seminární prací.

V případě mladé studentky Míly Fürstové dopadlo ovšem vše úplně jinak. Studovala vlastně na dvou frontách, v Čechách po absolvování Střední umělecko-průmyslové školy na Žižkově, na pedagogické fakultě psychologii, výtvarné umění a angličtinu, v Anglii bakalářský cyklus na „University of Gloucestershire“. Ten byl zaměřen na problematiku tisku. Znamenalo to mnoho cestování mezi oběma zeměmi. A to ještě následoval magisterský cyklus na „Royal College of Art“. Mladá studentka umění a psychologie si vypracovala i úspěšný model sponzoringu, kdy její sponzoři dostávají umělecká díla a tak dotují její tvorbu. Zároveň investují do umění, které by se mělo časem zhodnocovat. Pro umělkyni je to však také závazek, který ji nutně udržuje v jakémsi „pracovním procesu“.

Výtvarný umělec se ve svém ateliéru poněkud uzavírá a izoluje. Taková věž ze slonoviny může být sice krásná, ale hlavně v cizí zemi trochu omezující. Míla Fürstová však neztrácí kontakt se společností ani se svou domovinou. Věnuje se odborné veřejné činnosti. V Anglii, na prestižní „Cheltenham Ladies College“ vedla v letech 2003-2010 grafický ateliér. V roce 2009 byla zvolena nejmladší akademičkou na „Royal West of Academy“ v Bristolu.

Udržuje si víceméně pravidelný rytmus samostatných výstav - alespoň jednou v každém roku. Většinou v Anglii, ale také v USA a samozřejmě i v České republice. Počet jejich ocenění je impozantní a stále rostoucí. Obdobně roste počet sběratelů, mezi kterými je i královna Alžběta II. anebo Brunejský sultán. Ale také Victoria and Albert Museum v Londýně.

V poslední době se proslavila výtvarnou spoluprací se skupinou Coldplay na novém albu „Ghost Stories“. V rámci této práce se ještě podílela na čtyřech singlech („Magic“, „ True Love“, „Sky Full of Stars“ a „Midnight“).

O profesionální náročnosti takové spolupráce svědčí téměř dva roky práce a něco přes 100 skic. Více než polovina z těchto skic bylo autorkou poskytnuto k prodeji na nedávné výstavě prací pro Coldplay. Prodej byl ve prospěch charity „Kids Company“. Akce se zúčastnila celá kapela, mnoho celebrit a zahájil ji šéf BBC Alan Yentob. Pro zdejší strahovskou výstavu byla vyčleněna druhá část skic. Mnohé z nich nebyly ještě nikdy vystaveny.

Pro autorku však je výstava v Galerii Miro především také začátkem nové etapy. Po dlouhé, téměř dvouleté spolupráci s Coldplay se vrací k naprosto svobodné, vlastní tvorbě.

Dokladem toho je právě zde vystavená instalace „Zlaté ryby vyletí nad mraky“. Je zhotovena přímo pro Galerii Miro a práce na ní trvala několik měsíců. Jedním z hlavních záměrů je úplně se odpoutat od klasicky vnímané grafiky s rámem a paspartou a nechat rybky „plout“ po stěnách. Jiným tvůrčím experimentem je zde snaha působit netradiční barevností. Míla k tomu říká: „ Snažím se experimentovat s výraznější barvou, která se v leptu vždy trochu složitěji dosahuje, vzhledem k tomu, že zinková destička, na které pracuji vždy barvy tlumí. V této instalaci si hraju s tou úžasnou vlastností grafiky a tím, že z jedné desky se dá vytvořit tolik různých "multiples" a variant. Celá instalace je vytištěna z různě zpracovaných tisků ze tří detailně propracovaných zinkových desek“.

Autorku vždy zajímaly možné přesahy grafiky do prostoru. Vytváří třírozměrné grafické objekty, zkouší tisk na netradiční materiály. Poté co jí již nevyhovoval tisk sítotiskem na sklo, vytvořila si dokonce vlastní postup tisku na sklo. Tak jsou její grafiky součástí prostorových objektů a pomáhají vytvořit celkový záměr. Musíme tu vzpomenout okouzlení leporely. V případě Míly dokonce i britskými, konkrétně Stanleym Spencera.

Sama práce s grafikou nabízí určité možnosti. Často jde o grafiku v grafice, obraz v obrazu. Vytváří se tak výjevy tajuplného světa, plného příběhů, možná osobních, možná bájných. Repertoár je fantastický, romantický surrealistický – souhvězdí, astroláby, karty, křídla, andělé a potom zvířata - ptáci, ryby, dále moře a města. Můžeme poznat Benátky, Londýn, to pravé umělecké srdce - mezi svatým Pavlem a Tate Modern, s kouzelnou procházkou po pěší lávce Millennia. A můžeme poznávat mnohé nám známé domácí pohledy, vykreslující většinou pohádkovou, snovou atmosféru, v Británii vnímanou jako exotickou.

Vnímavá citlivost, talent a pracovitost jsou jistě základem úspěchu Míly Fürstové. Autorka si uchovává svou přirozenost, i ženskou citlivost. Britská svobodomyšlnost ji v tomto rozhodně nijak neomezuje, naopak, oceňuje originalitu a jinakost jako obohacení.





Ghost Stories, Coldplay-Album cover, 2014

etching and mixed media | lept a kombinovaná technika

100 x 100 cm



True Love, Coldplay-Single cover, 2014

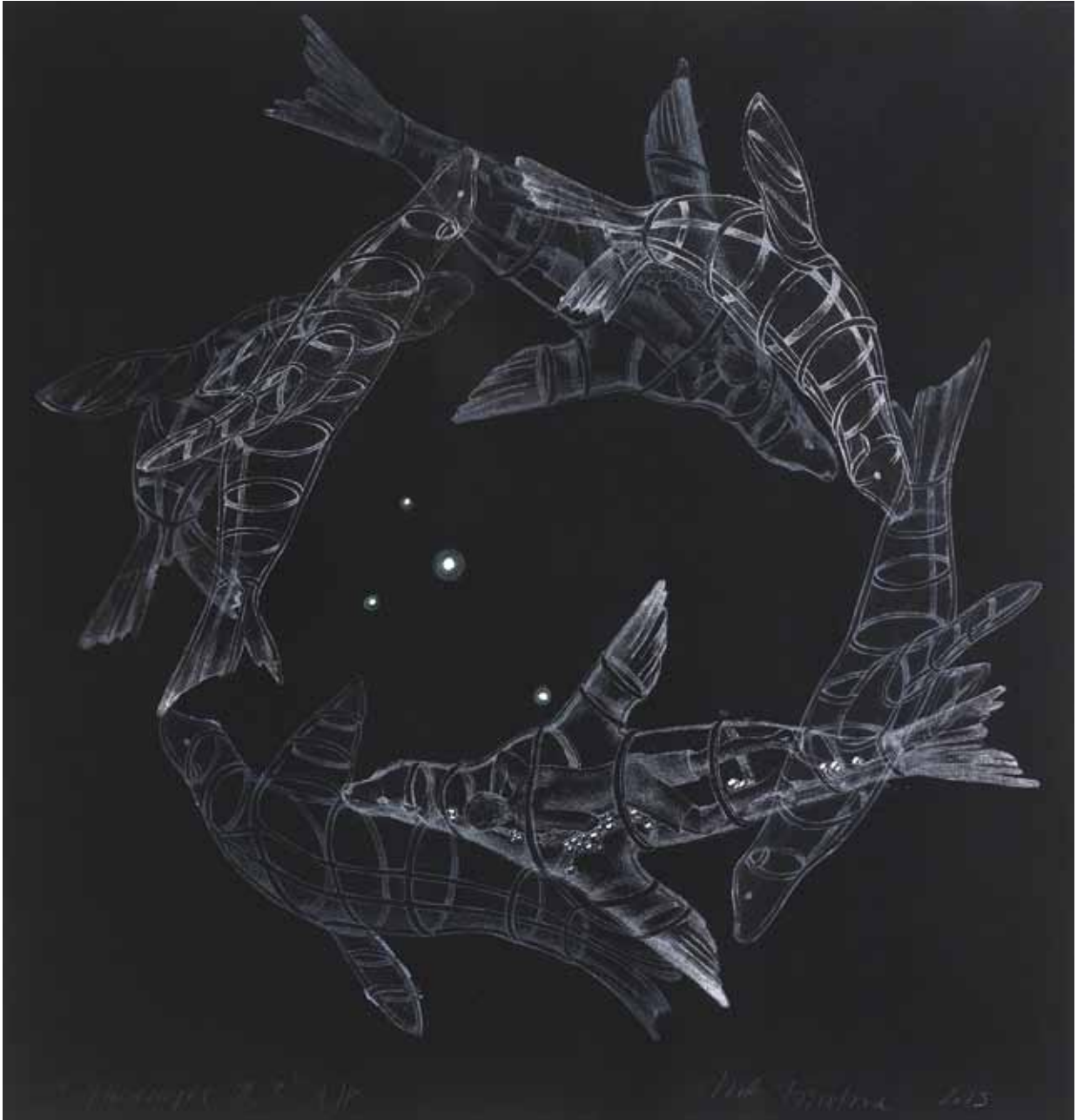
etching and mixed media | lept a kombinovaná technika
60 x 60 cm



Magic, Coldplay-Single cover, 2014

etching and mixed media | lept a kombinovaná technika

60 x 60 cm



Midnight, Coldplay-Single cover, 2014

etching | left

60 x 60 cm



Sky Full of Stars I, Coldplay-Single cover, 2014

etching and hand cut paper | *lept a ručně řezaný papír*

60 x 60 cm



Golden Fish Will Fly Above The Clouds, 2015

etching and mixed media installation | lept a kombinovaná technika instalace
270 x 240 cm





Other Skies I, 2011

etching and mixed media | lept a kombinovaná technika

ø 124 cm



Other Skies V, 2015

etching and mixed media | lept a kombinovaná technika

ø 124 cm



Annunciation V, 2015

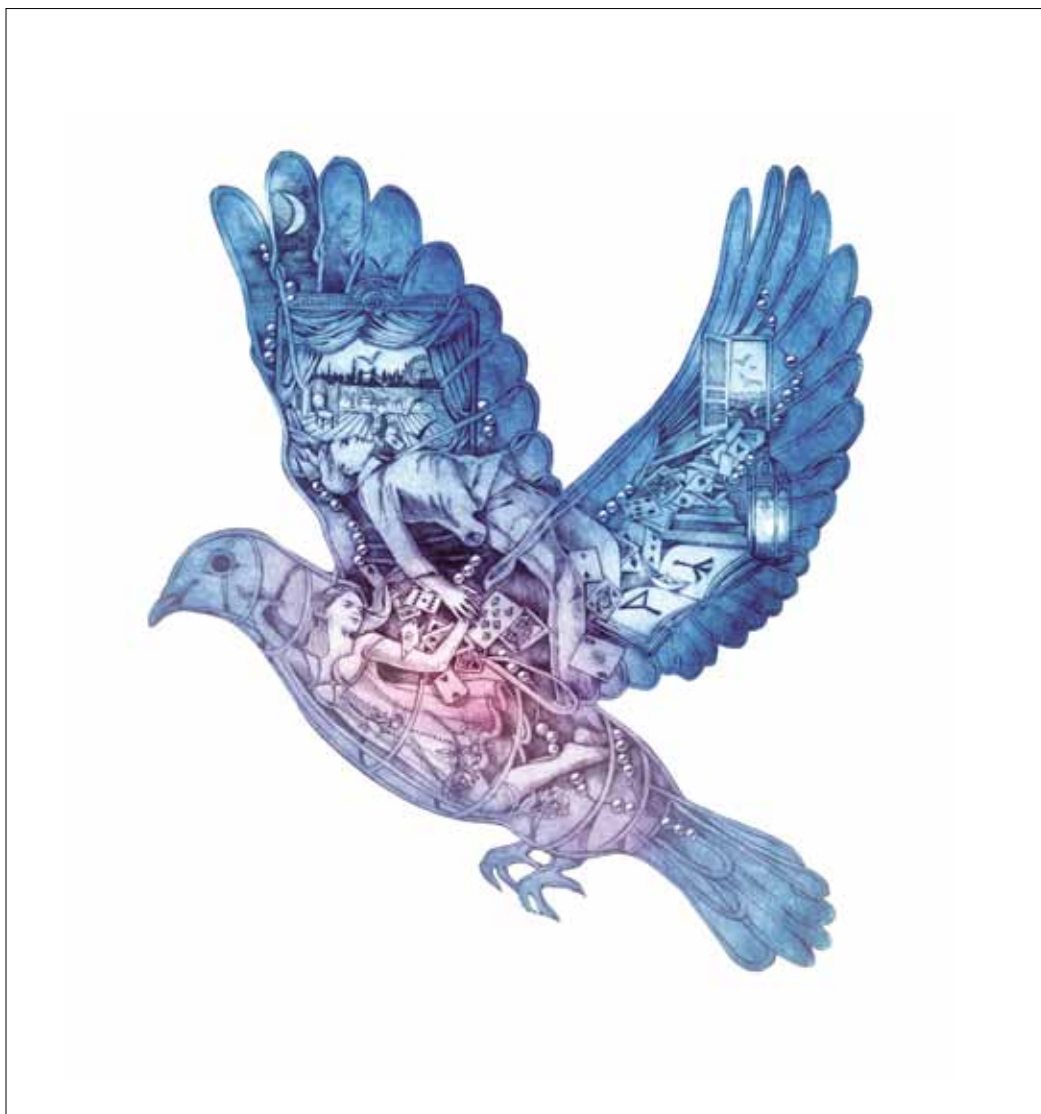
etching and hand cut paper | *lept a ručně řezaný papír*
60 x 85 cm



Spring, 2011

etching and hand cut paper | *lept a ručně řezaný papír*

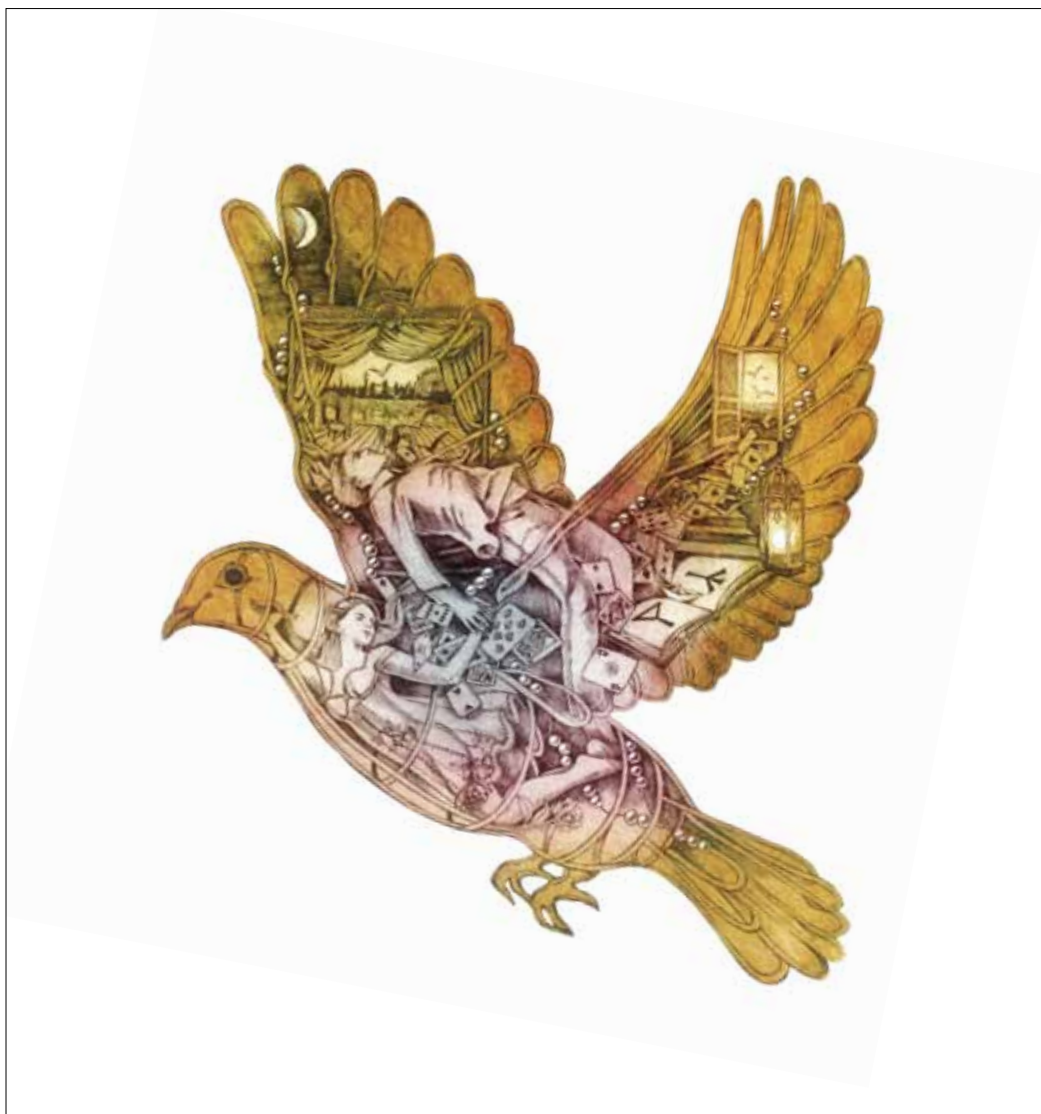
45 x 45 cm



Magic I, 2013

etching and hand cut paper | *lept a ručně řezaný papír*

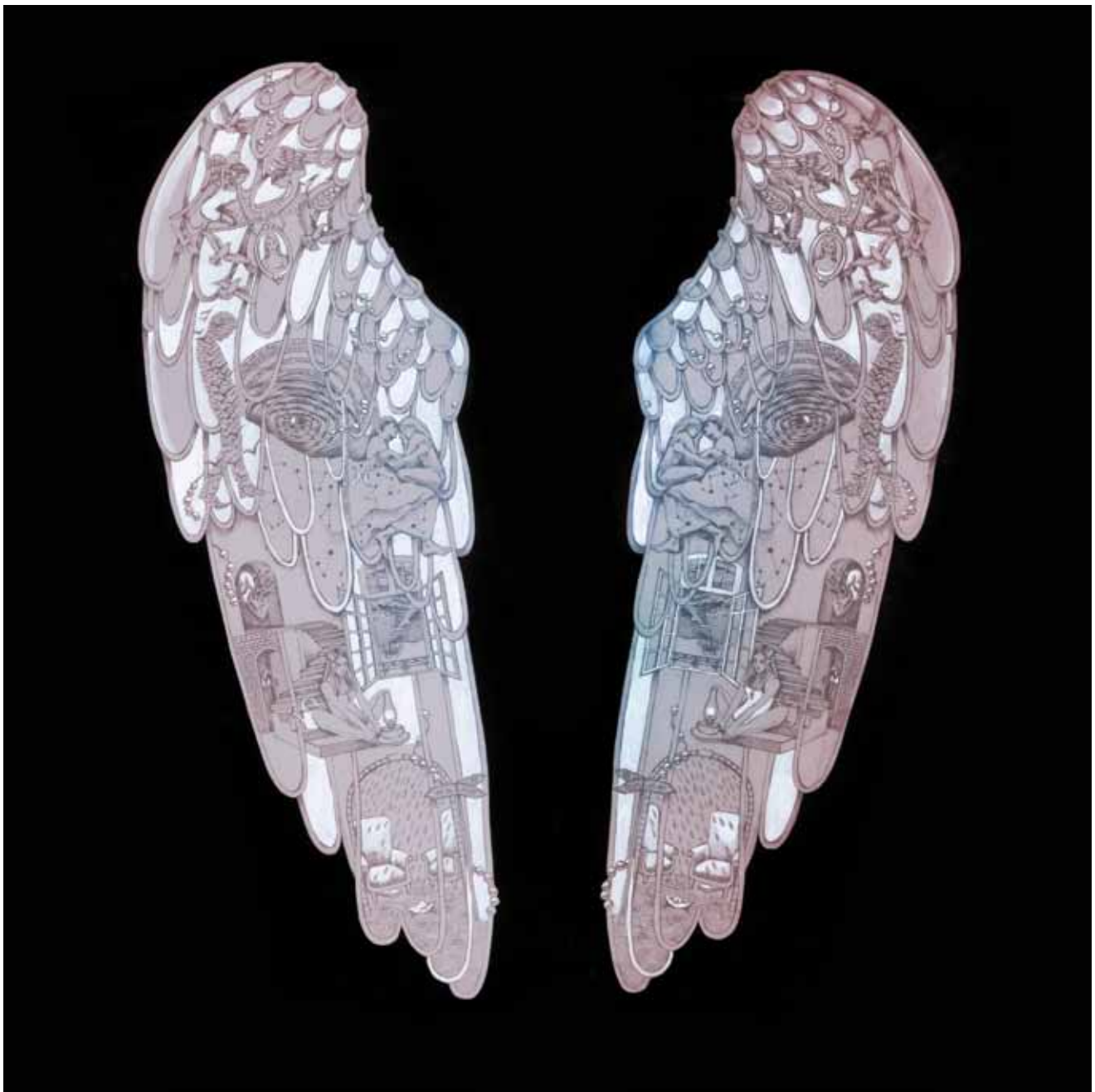
51 x 48 cm



Magic II, 2013

etching and hand cut paper | *lept a ručně řezaný papír*

51 x 48 cm



Whispering Wings III (Coldplay), 2014

etching and acrylics | *lept a akrylátý*

80 x 67 cm



Whispering Wings II, 2014

etching and acrylics | *lept a akrylátý*

80 x 67 cm

Sketches for Coldplay-Ghost Stories artwork, 2012–2014

drawings on tracing paper and mixed media | *kresby na pauzovacím papíře a kombinovaná technika*







Talking To The Rain, 2013

etching on perspex and embossed paper | *lept na plexisklo a reliéfní papír*
37 x 32 cm



Gardener, 2013

etching on perspex and cut paper | *lept na plexisklo a řezaný papír*
37 x 32 cm



Weightless I, 2012

etching on perspex and cut paper | *lept na plexisklo a řezaný papír*
45 x 37 cm



Weightless II, 2012

etching on perspex and cut paper | *lept na plexisklo a řezaný papír*
45 x 37 cm



Forest I, 2010

etching and hand cut paper | *lept a ručně řezaný papír*

55 x 85 cm



Midnight Forest, 2013

etching | lept
55 x 75 cm



All Things Are Known To The Soul II, 2011

etching | *lept*
190 x 145 cm



All Things Are Known To The Soul I, 2011

etching | *lept*
190 x 145 cm



True Love, Version II (Coldplay), 2014

etching / *lept*

37 x 42 cm

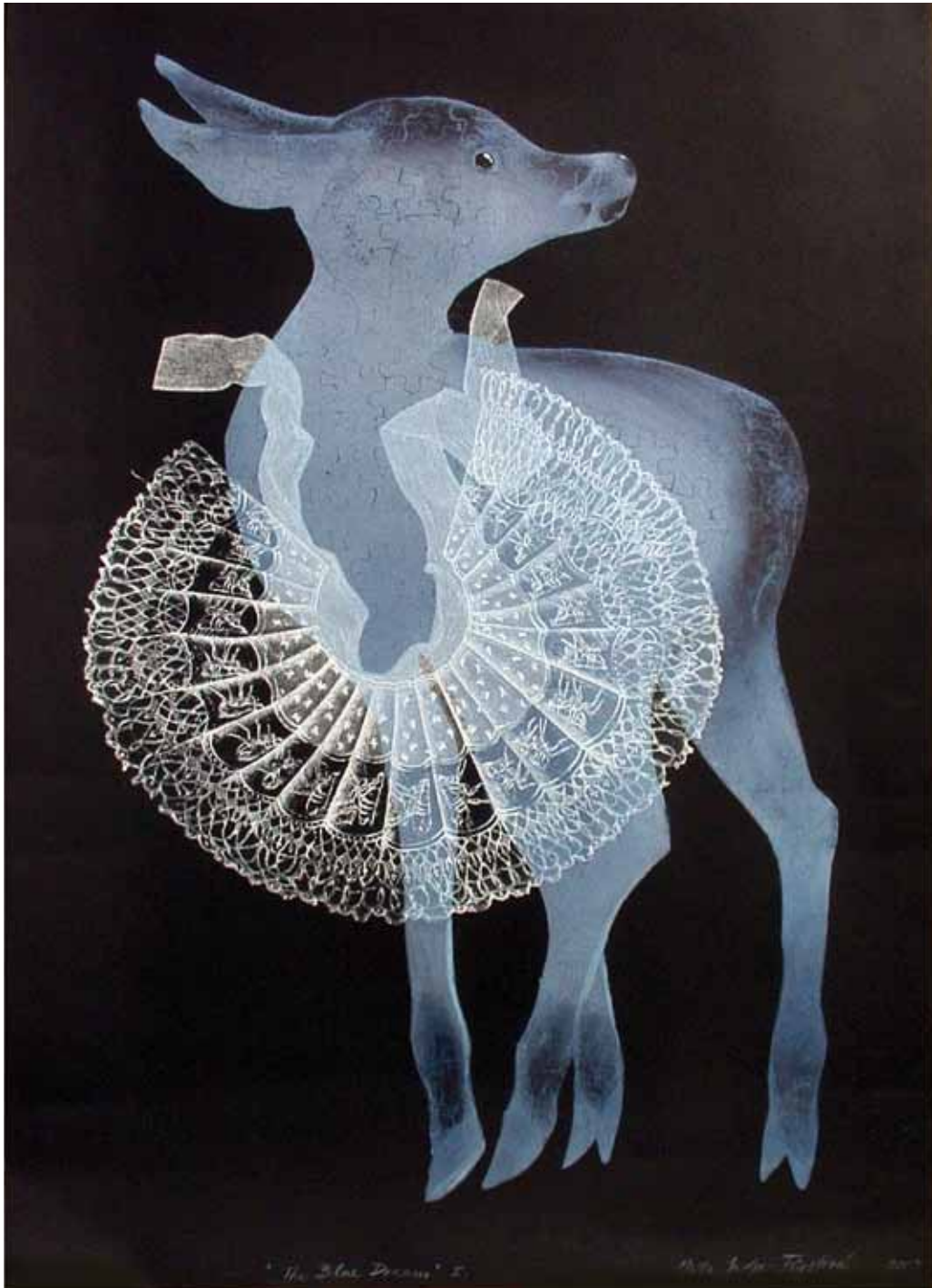


True Love IV (Coldplay), 2014
etching and watercolour | *lept a akvarel*
46 x 40 cm



Blue Dream II, 2003

etching | *lept*
90 x 60 cm



Blue Dream I, 2003

etching | *lept*
90 x 60 cm



Blue Dream III, 2003

etching | *lept*
99 x 73 cm



Diary II (Venice Diaries), 2008

etching and mixed media | *lept a kombinovaná technika*

101 x 71 cm



Flight, 2010

etching | *lept*
28 x 28 cm



Nest, 2011

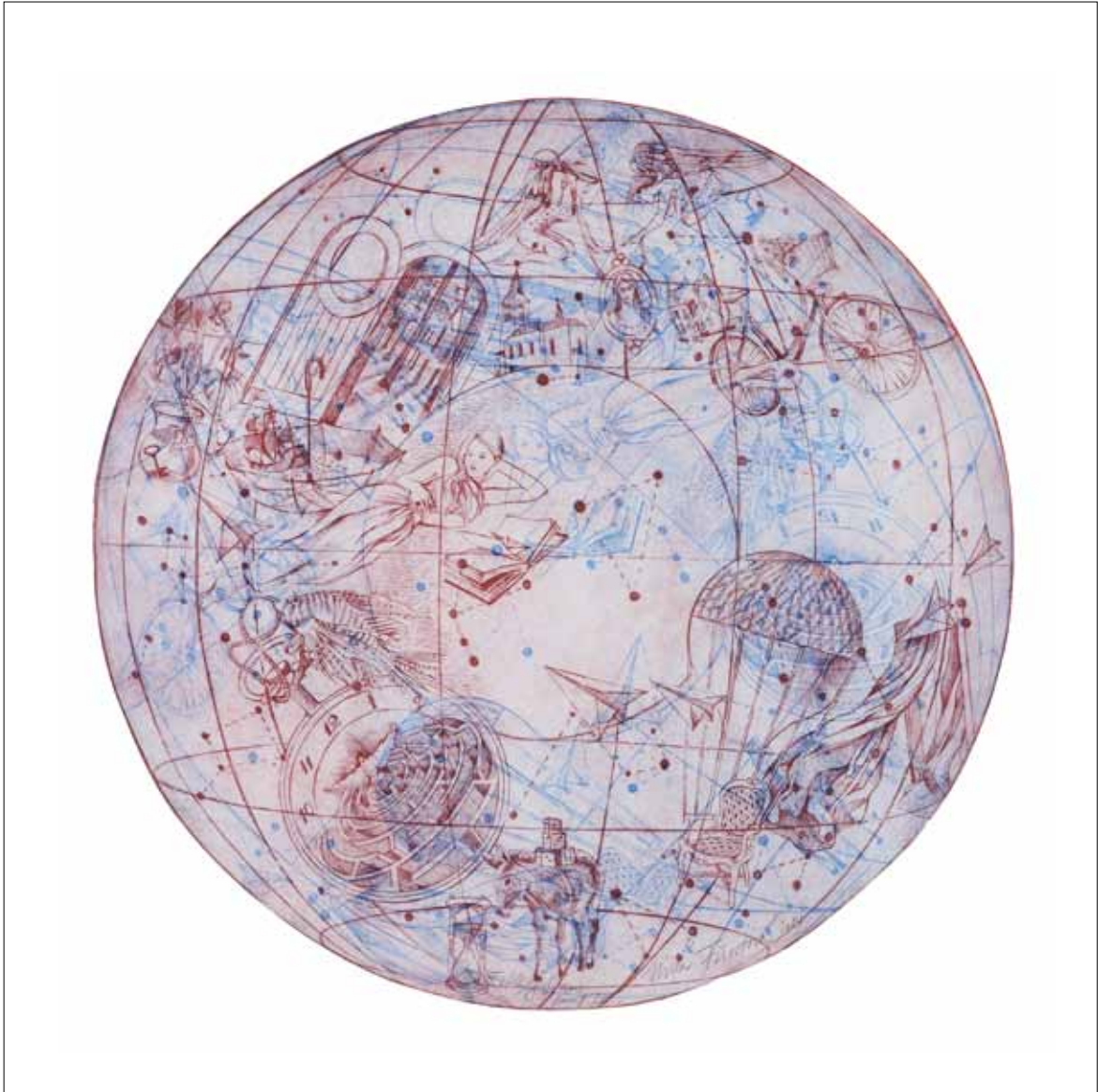
etching | *lept*
55 x 45 cm



Voyage, 2012

etching and hand cut paper | *lept a ručně řezaný papír*

75 x 75 cm



Sky Full of Stars II (Coldplay), 2014

etching | *lept*
50 x 50 cm



Guns, 2002

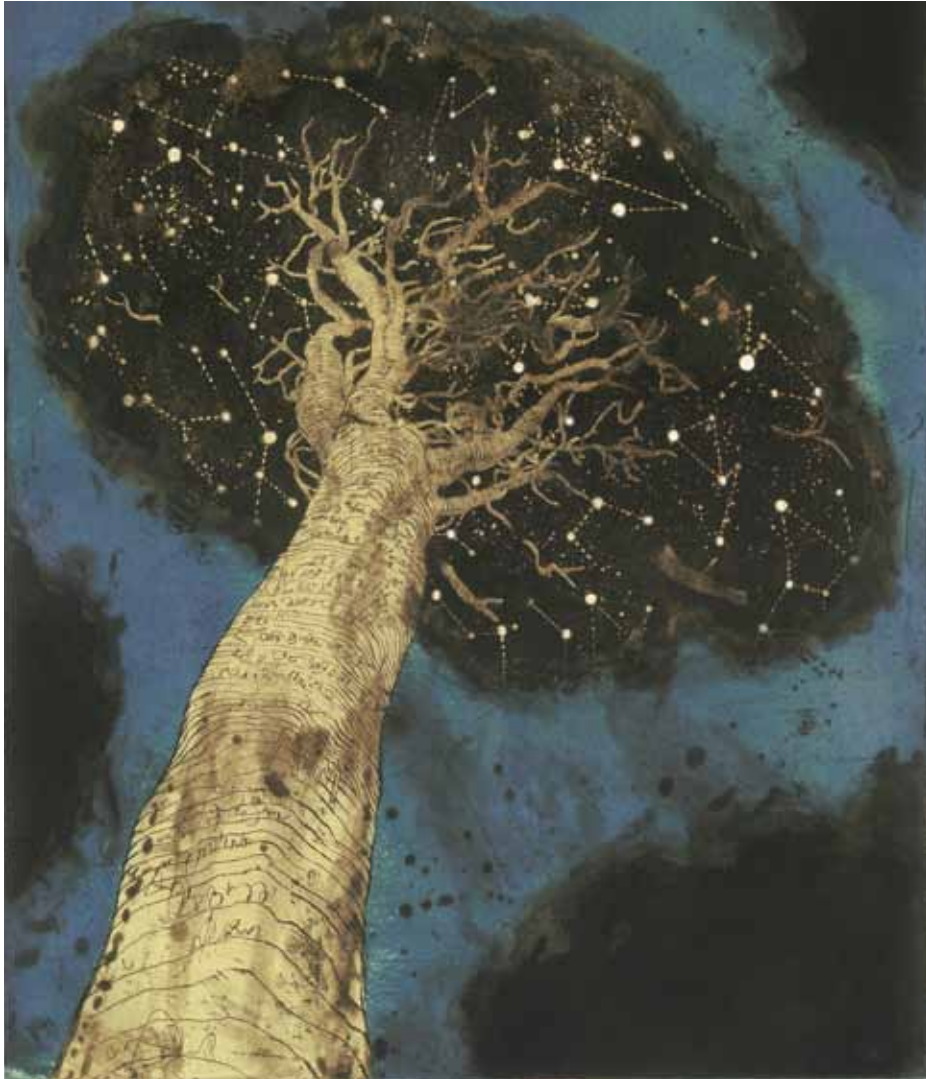
etching | *lept*
45 x 47 cm



Eternity, 2008

etching and mixed media | *lept a kombinovaná technika*

20 x 42 cm



Tree I, 1999

etching | *lept*
52 x 41 cm



COLDPLAY commission, Album and four singles artwork,
London 2012-2014

The Brook Gallery Award for Best Print, "Bite"
Mall Galleries, London 2012

Julian Trevelyan Memorial Award, "Originals"
Mall Galleries, London 2010

**Elected the youngest ever Academician at the Royal West
of England Academy**, Bristol 2009

Art Residency Award at Scuola Grafica, Venice, Italy, 2008

Fenton Arts Trust Prize, 'Originals', Mall Galleries
London, 2005

London Print Studio Prize, 'Open Print', Rwa, Bristol, 2004

Curwen Prize, 'Originals', Mall Galleries, London, 2004

Print Of The Year 2002, 'Grafika Roku', Prague, 2003

Royal Society Of Painters-Printmakers Award,
London, 2002

Royal College Of Art Society Award, London, 2001

Printmaking Council Award, London, 2001

Augustus Martin Prize, London, 2001

Waterloo Wine Company Prize, London, 2001

E.d & F Man Interim Show Prize, London, 2000

Tim Mara Printmaking Award, London, 1999

John Purcell Paper Prize, Cheltenham, 1999

Hockerill Educational Foundation Bursary
to Study In Britain, 1996

All Saints Educational Trust Award (As Above)

Open Society Fund, Prague - Travelling Award, 1996

2015 "Graphic Work - Coldplay and Beyond"
MIRO Gallery, Prague
"Refined" Gallery in the Garden, Essex

2014 "COLDPLAY- Ghost Stories to benefit the Kids Company",
London
"Her Wings", Eames Fine Art, London

2013 "Surface Tension", The Cat Street Gallery, Honk Kong

2012 "Women in Art", The Brook Gallery

2011 "Poetry of Light", Jaggedart Gallery, London

2010 "Mila Furstova, New Works", Number Nine the Gallery,
Birmingham

2009 "Mila Furstova, New Works", The Air Gallery,
Mayfair, London
"Mila", Martins Gallery, Cheltenham
"Celeste", Parabola Arts Centre, Cheltenham
"In Between Dreams II", Gallery 10, Washington, USA

2008 "In Between Dreams", Gallery 94, Fitzrovia, London
"History in the Making", Berkeley Castle, Berkeley, UK

2007 "Of Myths And Mind Games", The Czech Honorary
Consulate, Chicago, USA
"Graficke Cykly II", Galerie Anderle, Prague,
Czech Republic

2006 "Of Myths And Mind Games", The Czech Center,
New York, USA
"A Celebration Of Mila", Martin's Gallery, Cheltenham, UK
"Of Myths And Mind Games", The Czech Embassy,
Washington, USA
"Grafiky", Galerie Anderle, Prague, Czech Republic
"Mila", Number Nine The Gallery, Birmingham

2005 "Etchings And Drawings On Glass", Art Gallery
& Museum, Cheltenham
"Czech Dream", Czech Embassy, Kensington Palace
Gardens, London
"Works On Paper", Winchester College, Winchester

2004 "Flow", A Gallery, Wimbledon
"Reverie", Cheltenham Ladies' College, Cheltenham

2003 "New Works", Number Nine The Gallery, Birmingham
"Etchings", Cheltenham Ladies' College, Cheltenham

2001 "Frail Structures", Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham

1999 Arts Brewery Centre, Cirencester
IPB Bank, Hradec Králové, Czech Republic

1998 Galerie Rondo, Hradec Králové, Czech Republic
Hotel Vlastovka, Jaromer, Czech Republic

1996 Gallery Hogo Fogo, Prague



GROUP EXHIBITIONS | SKUPINOVÉ VÝSTAVY

- 2015** "Art for Carers", Gloucester Cathedral, Gloucester
- 2014** "Awakening", Jaggedart Gallery, London
"Cracker", The Cat Street Gallery, Honk Kong
- 2013** "Summer Exhibition", Royal Academy of Arts, London
- 2012** "Summer Exhibition", Royal Academy of Arts, London
- 2011** "Summer Exhibition", Royal Academy
"Original Print Fair", Royal Academy
"London Art Fair", Islington
- 2010** "Summer Exhibition", Royal Academy
"Originals", Mall Galleries, London
"Celebrating Paper", Royal West of England Academy, Bristol
- 2009** "Summer Show", Royal Academy of Art, London
"Autumn Exhibition", Royal West of England Academy, Bristol
- 2008** "Mapping the Imagination", Victoria and Albert Museum, London
- 2007** "Triennale Grafiky", International touring printmaking triennale, Prague
- 2005** "Originals", Mall Galleries, London
- 2004** "Contemporary Czech Printmaking", San Jose, Costa Rica
"Open Print Exhibition", Royal West Of England Academy, Bristol
"Grafika Roku", Prague, Czech Republic
"Originals", Mall Galleries, London
- 2003** "Conflict", Cheltenham Art Gallery
- 2003** Open Print Exhibition, Royal West Of England Academy, Bristol
Royal Society Of Painters - Printmakers Annual Show, London
"Graficke Bieanle", Zagreb, Croatia
"Grafika Roku", Prague, Czech Republic
- 2002** Bon Bonnard Gallery, Cheltenham
"Weft", Pittville Pump Rooms, Cheltenham
England & Co. Gallery, Notting Hill, London
"Project 10", Students' Gallery, London
"Hot Off The Press", Curwen Gallery, London
- 2001** "Chase", Charity Exhibition, Royal College Of Art, London
BCA Gallery, Cork Street, London
Final Year Degree Show, Royal College Of Art, London
"Border Crossing", University Of Texas At Austin, USA
"Grafika Roku", Prague, Czech Republic
- 1999** "Illustration Portfolio", Royal College Of Art, London
Cheltenham General Hospital, Cheltenham
International Student Print Exhibition, Falmouth
- 1998** "Forest", Highgate Gallery, London
Drawing Network, Touring Exhibition.
- 1997** National Print Maker's Exhibition, Mall Galleries, London.
"Locations", Gloucester Docks, Gloucester.
4th Open Print Exhibition, The Royal West Of England Academy, Bristol
- 1996** Town Hall Gallery, Old Town Square, Prague.
- 1995** Husinec, "In Memory Of Jan Hus", (visited By The President Of The Czech Republic, Václav Havel).



This catalogue is published on the occasion of the exhibition | Tento katalog vychází u příležitosti výstavy
Míla Fürstová – Graphic Work – Coldplay and Beyond

16. 6. 2015 – 30. 8. 2015

Editor | Vydavatel
MIRO Gallery in the church of St. Rochus
Galerie MIRO v kostele sv. Rocha
Miro Smolák
Strahovské nádvoří 1/132
CZ 118 00 Prague 1

Tel.: +420 233 354 066
Fax: +420 233 354 074
Mobil: +420 737 246 091
E-mail: info@galeriemiro.cz
www.galeriemiro.cz, www.trebbia.eu

Exhibition concept | Koncepce výstavy
Míla Fürstová
Peter Hirjak

Text
Petr Štěpán

Redaction | Redakce
Tatiana Pohoyda

Graphic Design | Grafická úprava
Dominik Bilo

Translation | Překlad
Elizabeth Walsh-Spáčilová (English)

Photos | Fotografie
archiv Míla Fürstová
Oto Palán
Alice Hendy

Cooperation | Spolupráce
Birgit Labrada - Terna
Tatiana Mitúchová

Print | Tisk
Aladin Agency

ISBN 978-80-87700-11-2

June | červen 2015
Edition | Náklad 1000 psc / ks
© Galerie MIRO Praha





