**P R E S S  R E L E A S E**

**Exhibition title:  TRNAVA POSTER TRIENNAL 2022
Venue:  Koppel villa, Ján Koniarek Gallery in Trnava, Zelený kríček 3 and Synagogue - Centre of Contemporary Art Halenárska 2, Trnava
Curator:  Silvia Kružliaková a Gabriela Ondrišáková
Opening:  22 November 2022 (Tue) at 18:00 in Synagogue
Duration:  22. 11. 2022 (Tue) – 23. 02. 2022 (Thurs)**

TRNAVA POSTER TRIENNAL 2022

The poster still has the ability to point out current serious matters that resonate locally and globally. Although the medium of the poster rarely appears today in its classic form, this does not mean that it is on decline and that graphic designers have lost interest in it. On the contrary, it is becoming more exclusive and many designers and artists around the world are still fascinated by it. It often gives them much more creative freedom than other commissions and the opportunity to express their views. The posters submitted by authors from all over the world to the 11th Trnava Poster Triennial 2022 may be perceived as the evidence to the previous statement. Many graphic designers use the medium of the environmental poster to raise awareness of the climate crisis, the waste and exploitation of the natural resources, excessive consumption and the death of numerous animals and plants. Poverty, wars and dictatorships are also hot topics (which partly stem from the climate crisis). Graphic designers also very often address the phenomenon of social networks in their posters. They point out that nowadays, for many people, the social networks replace natural communication and give the individuals an opportunity to appear under different identities. They also draw attention to the spread of misinformation and fake news (not only) on these platforms. The poster is also a useful medium for the cultural sector – posters for theatres, films, exhibitions, design shows, festivals and concerts often appear in this year’s selection as well.

 The best posters are from the countries of Europe, Asia, America and Africa, namely Slovakia, the Czech Republic, Austria, Poland, Hungary, Bulgaria, Romania, Serbia, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Slovenia, Ukraine, Estonia, Sweden, Great Britain, France, Germany, Switzerland, Italy, Spain, Portugal, Turkey, USA, Argentina, Brazil, Ecuador, Mexico, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Cuba, China, Japan, South Korea, Taiwan, Malaysia, Iran and Egypt. A large number of them is also physically presented at Trnava Poster Triennial 2022 exhibitions in Trnava. We would like to specifically mention the names of the Slovak poster creators. Slovakia is represented by Peter Eliáš, Igor Kupec, Peter Javorík and Samuel Čarnoký in the category of “Professionals”, and by the students of visual communication at the Academy of Fine Arts and Design in Bratislava, Laura Morovská and Tomáš Paulen, in the “Students” category. The posters for the special curatorial theme were designed by the students of the School of Design - Bohumil Bača Private School of Arts Industry in Bratislava, Kristína Pútecová and Dominika Bogárová. The majority of posters are created digitally, but there are also exceptions which are hand drawn using classical art techniques. Each registered author has their own unique artistic style and handwriting, but what dominates the selection of the posters is certainly the minimalism and the purge of the superfluousness. Digital or digitised drawing, line work and pure colour surfaces (photographic reproductions are rare) predominate in the posters and for many authors, typeface is a popular expression device with which they like to experiment.

 In addition to the basic categories “Professionals” and “Students” in Trnava Poster Triennal 2022, we also proposed a specific curatorial category on the topic of “Contact”. The contact is one of the most basic and natural human needs. As a social creature, a human being needs to constantly “connect” with other people - communicate. Not only is it a question of survival, but it mainly represents a pillar of an individual’s mental health. In today’s world, however, both the meaningful conversation and the physical contact are often reduced to a minimum, transferred to the online world or completely absent. As a result, more and more people are suffering from loneliness, depression and anxiety at an increasingly younger age. The global pandemic of COVID-19 and the social isolation associated with it have only intensified these problems. This was also pointed out by the authors of the posters sent to this category. Their designs feature, for example, a mobile phone as a symbol of the loss of physical contact, signs of domestic isolation, in which humanity has unwittingly found itself, as well as hands or figures indicating a desire for interpersonal closeness. The curator’s intention is to remind of the importance of physical encounters, conversations and sharing of feelings and thoughts.

We are looking forward to seeing the current world poster art together!

Curator: Silvia Kružliaková a Gabriela Ondrišáková