

Karol Felix — Following the light



Curator Ludovít Petránsky

Opening June 25, 2021 at 6PM

Duration June 25 – August 31, 2021

Venue Representative Halls

Classic and digital graphic art, painting, drawing, stamp design, illustrations, ex libris, assemblages, objects and installations. Our plan for the exhibition was to encompass the whole artistic spectrum of the jubilee artist Karol Felix. Our focus is on the last two or three years of his creative work, but we also touch upon some of his earlier creations. Karol Felix's art is miscellaneous, just like his themes and expression language. It is a story of an artist following his light. Honestly, patiently, gracefully. It is open to communication, but does not take into account the viewer's taste. It rejects nonchalance, endless repetition of established patterns and riding on previous accomplishments. Which is one of the things that makes it true. Flipping through its chapters is as exciting as thinking about its challenges and the humble aesthetics of beauty.

I have already mentioned light. It is the leitmotif of Karol Felix's whole portfolio which is why we have incorporated it into the exhibition's title. What does light mean to him? "It is one of life's necessities, I have been fascinated with it since childhood," Karol answers. "It plays an important role in all of my creative work. I do etching and mezzotint mostly because it allows me to pull flashes of light out of the darkness and into the open. There can be no light without darkness, but I perceive it also as a metaphor: light represents the positive concept of birth and materialisation of something that gives life a meaning. Furthermore, you can play with light. Just one speck of light on a dark surface makes it shine which makes it creatively very interesting." I just want to add that light is not present only in the artist's actual artworks,

but he also incorporates it during their presentations, which adds almost a theatrical dimension to them.

IKAR publishing is preparing Karol Felix's largest monograph so far for this fall. It is supposed to be an overview of the artist's rich creative life and his 30 years on the art scene.

PhDr. Ludovít Petránsky

Karol Felix (born 1961) – graduated from the department of liberal printmaking and book design led by prof. Albin Brunovský at the Academy of Fine Arts and Design in Bratislava (1981–1987). He lives and works in Nitra. He focuses on printmaking, painting, drawing, illustrations, stamp design and object creation. He is a member of the Slovak Union of Visual Arts, G-BOD Artist Association, Association of Slovak Graphic Artists, Association of Czech Graphic Artists HOLLAR and an honorary member of the Society of Scottish Artists (SSA). The artist focuses on classic printmaking (mostly etching and mezzotint), digital graphic art, stamp design, illustrations, but also painting and object creation. He is an accomplished artist not just on the national and European art scene, but also in Arabic countries, Asia, South Africa, northern and southern America. He has presented his work at 74 solo exhibitions and over 300 group exhibitions. His relentless approach has allowed him to create a unique and inimitable language dominated by geometry. He draws his inspirations from ancient civilisations and cultures. His works include various symbols, signs and references providing an exciting experience for the viewer. The nobility, mysteriousness and magic of Karol Felix's art force the viewer to come up with their own interpretation and desire to decipher his visuals. Modern geometry and the artist's own unique creative language style are the foundation the exhibited prints and acrylics are built on.