

## **Exhibition's symposium**

### ***Japan, Yugoslavia and the Biennial of Graphic Arts: Documents of Collaboration***

**Wednesday, 15 May, International centre of Graphic Arts**

The International Centre of Graphic Arts in Ljubljana will host an international symposium and publish a publication to accompany and complement the documentary exhibition currently on view at the museum.

The participating art historians and an artist will present different aspects of cooperation between the Japanese and the Yugoslav, especially Slovenian visual arts scenes after World War II. They will shed light on certain political and cultural circumstances in Japan and Slovenia that enabled and defined these contacts. Communication between the countries in the area of visual art will be considered also in the broader context of Cold-War international relations.

Since cooperation between Japan and Yugoslavia appears to have been particularly strong in the area of printmaking, special attention will be devoted to the role and significance of the Ljubljana Biennial of Graphic Arts. Its establishment in 1955 namely provided a powerful platform for the medium's development as well as offered opportunities for networking and lasting international friendships. Besides the biennial's presentation, the symposium will also highlight the importance of the international sculptors symposia Forma Viva in the context of Japanese-Slovenian exchanges, which were taking place since 1961 in different locations across Slovenia. Japanese artists participated in these art meetings in large numbers, as they did in the biennial's editions, and were well-received by the audience.

### **Symposium timeline**

#### **14:00 Gregor Dražil: An Outline of Collaboration between Japan and Slovenia in the Area of Printmaking**

Gregor Dražil is a PhD candidate in art history, currently working at the International Centre of Graphic Arts.

#### **\*14:40 Bert Winther-Tamaki: The Wood Aesthetic of the “Creative Prints” Movement of Japan, 1945 to 1965**

Bert Winther-Tamaki PhD (USA) is a Professor of Japanese art at the University of California.

#### **15:20 Wiktor Komorowski: From *Washi* to Politics: Printmaking and the Cold War Japonisme**

Wiktor Komorowski (Poland) is a PhD candidate at the Courtauld Institute of Art in London.

**16:00–16:20 Break**

**16:20 Marjeta Ciglencečki: Forma Viva in Slovenia and Japanese Artists**

Marjeta Ciglencečki PhD is a retired Associate Professor at the Faculty of Arts of the University of Maribor and Senior Research Fellow at the France Stele Institute of Art History of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts.

**17:00 Noriaki Sangawa: The Japanese Art Group Ryu and Its Collaboration with the Slovenian Moderna galerija and the Biennial of Graphic Arts**

Noriaki Sangawa (Japan) is an artist living in Slovenia, participant of the biennial of graphic arts, and member of the Ryu Art Group.

**Visiting lecture**

**\*Bert Winther-Tamaki: What Happens to Contemporary Art Made in Japan When Exhibited Outside of Japan?**

\*The lecture will take place on Monday, 13 May, at 18:00 at the Faculty of Arts, room 343. The lecture is co-organised by the Department of Art History.

The symposium will be held in English.