



The City of Prague Museum – Centre of Modern Architecture in cooperation with the
Museum and Galleries of Ljubljana
organise an exhibition

Plečnik House. The Architect's Experimental Hotbed
at the gallery of the Study and Documentation Centre Norbertov,
Nad Hradním vodojemem 53/13, Prague 6 – Střešovice,
from 28 June to 30 September 2018

Plečnik House. The Architect's Experimental Hotbed

The City of Prague Museum and the Museum and Galleries of Ljubljana have prepared an exhibition *Plečnik House. The Architect's Experimental Hotbed* which will take place at the Study and Documentation Centre Norbertov from 28. 6. to 30. 9. 2018. The exhibition is held under the auspices of H.E. Mr J.E. Leon Marc, ambassador of the Republic of Slovenia to Prague.

The Slovenian architect Jože Plečnik was born in Ljubljana on 23 January 1872. He graduated from the studio of Otto Wagner at the Academy of Fine Arts in Vienna where he established a friendly relationship with the Czech architect Jan Kotěra. Because of that friendship, Plečnik was appointed Professor of Decorative Architecture at the Academy of Arts, Architecture and Design in Prague in 1910. After the declaration of the independent Czechoslovak Republic, President Tomáš Garrigue Masaryk in 1920 commissioned Plečnik to reconstruct Prague Castle into a modern presidential residence. Only a year later, the architect returned to Ljubljana to assume the position of Professor of Architecture at the newly established university. Despite the long distance, Plečnik continued to work on the Prague Castle reconstruction, actualising it via his student and assistant Otto Rothmayer until 1934. Jože Plečnik died in Ljubljana on 7 January 1957.

The exhibition presents Plečnik House which the architect himself entitled his 'experimental hotbed'. The house was an original studio where the architect pursued his projects but also taught his favourite students. The restored house interiors are featured in impressive colour photographs. The exhibition also presents a short film covering the reconstruction of this monument. Plečnik's personal correspondence, project sketches, and authentic drawing tools on display give a better idea about this outstanding architect.

In 1971, the City of Ljubljana purchased Plečnik House along with the architect's estates. The Architectural Museum of Ljubljana was charged with the administration of the house and garden until 2010 when the Museum and Galleries of Ljubljana took over. After the 2008–2015 complete reconstruction, Plečnik House opened to the public as a modern architecture monument with a permanent exhibition, research centre and areas for temporary exhibitions and educational programmes.

The City of Prague Museum and the Museum and Galleries of Ljubljana have unique experience with the renovation and restoration of modern architectural monuments. As a result, their cooperation is grounded in exchanging exhibitions about the methodology of the



restoration of Jože Plečnik's architectural undertakings in Ljubljana and his disciple Otto Rothmayer's work in Prague. From 2. 2. to 6. 5. 2018, the City of Prague Museum held an exhibition *Plečnik and Rothmayer. Two Friends, Two Houses, Two Cities* in the Plečnik House exhibition halls.

Public Programme:

28. 6. 2018 at 6 pm. Plečnik's Ljubljana. The Architect and His City

English lecture

The Slovenian architect Jože Plečnik (1872–1957) left visible traces in three European capitals: Vienna, Prague, and primarily in his native Ljubljana where he was active from 1921 until his death in 1957, implementing his vision of a city inspired by classical architecture. Plečnik's work makes the capital of Slovenia a complex work of art in the sense of urban planning and architecture. At the same time, it is one of the few cities to have been deeply formed by a single architect.

Lecturer: Ana Porok

Please use the following form to reserve your seats: <http://muzeumprahy.cz/plecnikova-lublan-architekt-a-jeho-mesto/>

Plečnik House: Architect's Experimental Hotbed

28. 6. – 30. 9. 2018

The City of Prague Museum

Director: Zuzana Strnadová

Museum and Galleries of Ljubljana (MGML)

Director: Blaž Peršin

Plečnik House

Author of the exhibition and texts: Ana Porok

Production of the exhibition: Maja Kovač, Eva Bolha

Photographs:

Historical black-and-white photographs:

MGML documentation, Plečnik Collection

Contemporary colour photographs:

ARREA archive, Tadej Bolta, Matevž Paternoster, Andrej Peunik

Short film: Simon Stojko Falk a Tone Stojko, Prodok; MGML

English translation: Matic Šavli

Promotion: Maja Kovač

Study and Documentation Centre Norbertov

Curator: Maria Szadkowska

Production of the exhibition: Zuzana Hronková

Graphic and exhibition design: Markéta Othová

Czech translation: Eliška Oberhelová

Editor: Petr Krajčí

Printed by: Indigoprint Praha