

Abstract

Numerous movable books, the so-called pop-ups, are being ascribed to Vojtěch Kubašta (7th of October 1914 – 7th of July 1992), an artist, who spent most of his life in Prague. Majority of these titles were published out of Czechoslovakia – in other European countries, in the United Kingdom, but also in more distant Iran or Japan. Kubašta had a unique ability of transforming one plain sheet of paper into an elaborate three-dimensional scene just by cutting and folding its surface on the right places. This artistry of the Czechoslovakian illustrator and paper engineer made him famous and successful all over the world except in his home country. His books are being collected and exhibited, but the very personality of the man, who worked even for Walt Disney, is yet to be discovered.

This thesis will examine the life and work of Vojtěch Kubašta. The focus of the text will be the form of his movable fairy tales and their impact on the reader. Answering the question, what makes Kubašta's techniques of making pop-ups so unique, will be the main goal of the presented research.

key words: Vojtěch Kubašta (1914-1992), visual arts, book culture, illustration, pop-up, popular culture, Artia, Walt Disney, Czechoslovakia 1948-1989