

## **ABSTRACT**

This work deals with the experimental art group Cobra which united artists of three countries - Denmark, Belgium and the Netherlands, after the World War II. Although this movement was active only between the years 1948 and 1951, the beginning of this group can be traced in the pre-war period when the future members of the group were influenced by the mainstream art movements. Similarly, we cannot see the year 1951 as the end of the importance of this international art formation. Despite the short duration, the group united number of artists from different countries who then influenced many of future artists and art movements. This work therefore mentions the activity of Cobra members before the actual establishment of the group, attempts to describe in detail its work during its existence, and lastly, it indicates its further heading. A special chapter is dedicated to the connection of the group Cobra to the Czech art.

The artists of Cobra drew their main inspiration from the work of arts of specific groups, such as that of children, mentally ill, so called primitive nations, or from the folk art. Alongside that, the artists created their own unique style based on collective and spontaneous work and liberal art expression. The plurality of their art expression and their relationship to other art branches, such as poetry, music and film industry, was one of the specific features of the Cobra group.

**Keywords:** Cobra, The Netherlands, Denmark, Belgium, Linien, Host, Experimental Group Holland, Revolutionary surrealists, colour, figuration, abstraction, surrealism, collective work, leftist orientation, experiment