Miloslav Troup as an Illustrator

Abstract

This diploma thesis deals with Czechoslovakian graphic artist Miloslav Troup (1917 – 1993), whose extensive and varied artistic activity took place mainly in the second half of the 20th century encompassing a whole spectrum of art disciplines. However, the thesis aims to comprehensively analyze only one of them, his illustration work. It is written with regard to the concept of chronological order, which has been already successfully used in my bachelor thesis. That was focused on Troup’s illustrating work for children and teenagers. This thesis, however, offers deeper insight into the aforementioned issue. The artist’s book illustrations from each period are analyzed and presented in the context of his other works of illustration and fine art. The analysis also deals with the art techniques Troup used and the formal component of his work. In a few important cases, Troup’s illustration is confronted with the works and art style of other artists coming from the same background. Moreover, each section also briefly outlines the political and cultural situation for the purpose of helping the reader to better understand the general context of the period in which the illustrator created. The thesis also attempts to map Troup’s life and the phases of his artistic development in connection to both his solo shows and collective exhibitions, important personalities and awards. In conclusion, this diploma thesis intends to introduce the complex illustration of Miloslav Troup to both the professional and lay public, evaluate his contribution to the Czechoslovakian illustration in the second half of the twentieth century and thus consolidate his distinctive position in this discipline.

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