

The Origin of the Stone

Exhibition: 10.10.2023 – 08.12.2023



ALVA HAJN

Untitled, 1980s

Concrete, 75 x 36 cm

Born in 1938, in Pardubice right before the Second World War, Alva Hajn has just had a short period of time to make and show his art freely. During twenty years of normalization in Czechoslovakia he had very few opportunities to present his artworks in public, even though he has been intensively working on the paintings, objects and drawings. Based in the provincial town of Pardubice, Alva Hajn was considered as an unknown artist without some specific contacts or connections to other (more famous) Czech painters. However, between the fifties and the eighties he produced a considerable amount of the works, various in formats and rich in colours which stood out of the common image of "non-official art". He ended his oeuvre in the 1980s by a number of objects and by a reduction of colours to black and white or even by their substitution for natural materials. He has passed away in 1991, several days before his great exhibition in Prague, which should have brought him a general recognition.