

The Origin of the Stone

Exhibition: 10.10.2023 – 08.12.2023



MILAN MIKULÁŠTÍK

Statky / Goods, 2018

17 x 10 x 5 cm, gold, flint

object in plastic and metal suitcase

Authentic hand axe made by human ancestor, found in Mauritania, Africa, acheulean period - 1 million years old. Prehistoric tool was covered by artist with gold using galvanoplastic method

Milan Mikuláščík is czech visual artist, exhibition curator, graphic designer, journalist, VJ, teacher of art and architecture. he was born in 1975 in Slavičín, now is living in Prague and Zlín. 1994-1996 studied at Faculty of Fine Arts of Technical University in Brno. 1996-2002 studied at Academy of Fine Arts in Prague. Graduated in 2002 at Academy of Fine Arts in Prague. He is exhibiting since 1995. From 1995 is member of artistic duo mina (together with artist Jan Nálevka). From 2003 founding member of art and activist collective guma guar. Between 2001 and 2008 worked as graphic designer in various agencies, newspapers and magazines. From 2006 till 2008 worked as graphic designer, journalist and editor of magazine reflex. From 2008 to 2009 worked as curator of gallery nod in prague. From 2009 till now is working as chief curator of gallery ntk at national library of technology in prague. From 2012 till now is working as tutor of architecture history at Academy of Art, Architecture and Design in Prague. From 2015 till 2018 worked as an assistant of new media (supermedia) studio at Academy of Art, Architecture and Design in Prague. From 2021 is working as an assistant of painting studio at Academy of Fine Arts in Prague.



MILAN MIKULÁŠČÍK

Makapansgat Project

from 2016

from the series of digital collages, digital print on aluminium

FIRST PORTRAIT!

THE FIRST READY-MADE!

THE FIRST PIECE OF ART!

THE FIRST EMOTICON!

The MAKAPANSGAT PEBBLE, which is sometimes called “the pebble of many faces”, is jasperite cobble of 8 cm measure with natural chipping on one side that make it look like a stylisation of a human face. The pebble was found together with the bones of Australopithecus in a cave in Makapansgat valley, South Africa. Though it is definitely not a manufactured object (artefact) but naturfact, it has been suggested as the earliest example of symbolic thinking and of aesthetic sense of our ancestors. It is also considered to be the first representation of human face in history. Because the Australopithecus specimen moved the piece of stone to his cave, we can say, that he transferred the pebble into the institutional context of his primitive tribe. Then we can think about it as first ready-made and also the first known example of art at all. Three million years before Duchamp! Except this, it is also the oldest known example of today popular emoticon-smiley :)