

PRESS RELEASE

Prague

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PPF GROUP EXPANDS ITS ART COLLECTION BY PURCHASING ALMOST 300 PAINTINGS AND OTHER WORKS FROM THE ČESKÁ POJIŠŤOVNA COLLECTION

PPF Group has made a major addition to its art collection. It agreed with Česká pojišťovna (Czech Insurance Company) to purchase the “crown jewels” of the institution’s art collection late last year. Once the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic confirms the transaction, PPF’s collection will increase by 278 paintings and other works of art by major Czech authors. PPF Art manages the collection.

Summary:

- ✓ PPF Group has agreed to purchase a set of works of art from the “crown jewels” of Česká pojišťovna’s art collection
- ✓ The set consists of 278 works of art, mostly paintings, by major Czech artists
- ✓ The transaction will be completed once confirmed by the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic; the Ministry will issue its position on the transfer of the works listed as national heritage by the end of this June
- ✓ PPF Group expects to further expand its art collection and to present it to the general public

The set of works of art which will become part of PPF’s collection after the completion of the transaction is a cross-section of Czech painting, ranging from the end of the 19th century to the present time. Earlier works include for example paintings by Václav Brožík, Alfons Mucha, Vojtěch Hynais, Mikuláš Medek and František Foltýn; from living authors, the collection includes Tomáš Císařovský, Jiří Sopko, Jaroslav Róna, Petr Nikl, Jakub Stretti, Václav Stratil and others.

PPF Art has been managing Česká pojišťovna’s art collection during the last decade, organising exhibits of selected portions of the collection at Česká pojišťovna Gallery and developing the collection in terms of concept. In connection with the gradual sale of the ownership interest in Generali PPF Holding, which includes Česká pojišťovna, the companies have agreed on the sale of a part of the collection referred to as the “crown jewels”. *“We plan on expanding the art collection in the future. We will discuss its concept with curators and independent experts,”* **Jan Řehák**, PPF Art Director, says on the collection’s future development and adds: *“In the nearest future, we want to show at least a part of the collection to the general public in a suitable exhibition venue that will be large and presentational enough.”*

Information for editors:

PPF Art

PPF Art, a part of the PPF Group, manages and develops the Group’s activities in culture and art. After 2000 it started systematically building a collection of Czechoslovak and Czech photography. The collection was based around a large collection of world-renowned Czech photographer Josef Sudek’s photographs and it has been growing to include other authors’ works as well. It currently includes more than 1,660 works by 122 authors.

Towards the end of 2013, the company agreed with Česká pojišťovna to purchase 278 works of art from the institution's collection.

PPF Art organises exhibits at two Prague galleries – the Václav Špála Gallery at Národní třída and the Josef Sudek Studio in Újezd Street. It also loans works of art for exhibits at other venues in the Czech Republic and abroad.

Quick links:

Václav Špála Gallery

<http://www.galerievaclavaspany.cz>

Josef Sudek Studio

<http://www.atelierjosefasudka.cz/cz/>

PPF Group Photography Collection

<http://www.atelierjosefasudka.cz/cz/sbirka.html>

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Examples of works that are part of the transaction:



Mikuláš Medek, Woman and City (Portrait 53), oil on canvas



canvas

Julius E. Mařák, Forest Still Life with a Stream, oil on



panel

Luděk Marold, Fruit and Vegetable Market in Paris, oil on



Václav Stratil, Fox in the Forest, 2003, oil on canvas