

This exhibition curated by Roman Buxbaum brings together a curated selection of some of Miroslav Tichý's most compelling works, covering different periods of the artist's life, from rare early paintings and drawings to his later and most iconic photographic work.

After studying at the Academy of Fine Arts in Prague (1945–1948), where he was considered a particularly gifted draftsman and devoted himself intensively to life drawing of the female figure, the communist shift of 1948—which suppressed the nude as bourgeois-decadent and promoted socialist realism—led to his definitive break with the academy. He withdrew to his hometown of Kyjov and, outside the art establishment, developed an independent artistic practice early on, away from official artistic structures.

Throughout his life, the female figure remained at the center of his work. He explored its appearance and movement in drawings, painting, and later photography. He found his subjects in everyday life—on the street, in parks, or at swimming pools. While the image of women was Tichý's central subject, his works are shaped less by erotic interest than by an artistic engagement with form, movement, and perception—an approach that can be compared to that of Henri Matisse, an early influence on Miroslav Tichý.

From the late 1960s onward, Tichý began to photograph. At first, he used conventional cameras, but later he constructed idiosyncratic devices from simple materials such as wood, eyeglass lenses, and hand-ground optics. He often further altered the resulting photographs—through drawings, collages, or improvised framing—thereby deliberately crossing the boundaries of conventional photographic practice.

His work spans multiple media and includes thousands of drawings, numerous paintings and monotypes, as well as an extensive photographic oeuvre. It is characterized by a consciously unconventional visual language and unfolds a distinct, poetic image world that resists established aesthetic norms.

The exhibition makes this complexity visible: it presents the simultaneous use of diverse media, as well as Tichý's self-built cameras and enlarging devices, offering direct insight into the conditions under which his work was created.

TICHY100

On 20 November 2026, we celebrate the centenary of Czech artist Miroslav Tichý!

To mark this occasion, the tichyocean foundation is preparing a year-long programme reflecting on the life and work of this exceptional figure in Czech art.

The commemorative programme will include exhibitions, lectures, screenings, discussions, and community events. The Foundation also invites art and cultural institutions to take part in the anniversary with their own accompanying programmes.

More information and updates on our website tichyocean.com and on instagram [@tichyocean](https://www.instagram.com/tichyocean).