

**JULY** | IN Museum Kampa

## TEMPORARY EXHIBITIONS:

### THE OPEN WALL PROJECT

By the artist **Shan Shan Sheng**

June 9 – August 31, 2011



Shan Shan Sheng's *Open Wall* is a large-scale glass installation re-interpreting a section of the Great Wall. Consisting of 2,208 glass bricks that correspond to the years of the Great Wall's Construction, the *Open Wall* Project is approximately 20 m (55ft) long, 2 m (6ft) high and 55 cm (2ft) deep. Sheng uses translucent Venetian glass, a medium she has worked with extensively, to allude to dynastic Chinese architecture. Warm colors of red, gold and yellow used intermittently in layers making this an exquisite luminous structure. This creation of a modern work of art inspired by a great Chinese monument ultimately will represent the newfound openness of contemporary China: A country that wishes to retain its rich cultural heritage while being open to global economy and the international exchange of ideas. With her *Open Wall* Shan Shan Sheng presents a temporary threshold between water and sky, past and present and the walled cities of Venice and China, marking this critical intersection of Chinese and Western cultures.

Shan Shan Sheng's *Open Wall* participated in the 53rd Venice Biennale 2009 and World Expo Shanghai 2010 to great acclaim. Starting from Venice, not only the location where the project was created and first exhibited but also Marco Polo's birthplace, the *Open Wall* are travelling and stop at several cities reaching important paths for cultural, commercial and technological exchange en route to China, Prague is one of the them.

"The wall does not become a barrier but it is connected to different cultures, races and different values", explains the artist. The project's symbolic journey from West to East is intended at further stressing the attempt for cultural and historical unification through contemporary art.

Throughout her career as a visual artist, Shan Shan Sheng has been greatly concerned with the dualities of East and West, Tradition and Innovation. Her work draws on classical Chinese painting as well as Western Modernism and Abstract Expressionism and is truly universal and bicultural in scope. Creating artwork in Asia, Europe and the U.S for nearly three decades, Sheng is considered one of the most acclaimed artists of our time in public art, large-scale and glass sculpture.

## **Wassily Kandinsky, František Kupka, and Arnold Schönberg:**

### **Abstraction and Atonality**

May 12, 2011 – July 31, 2011

This exhibition features three very important individuals of the art world - Wassily Kandinsky, František Kupka and Arnold Schönberg and will be the highlight of the year. Wassily Kandinsky and Arnold Schönberg are something very unique for Prague and to exhibit these artists together has an internal logic. The exhibition's concept is based on the examination of the relationship between abstraction and atonality, whose principles are related. Indeed, patterns of music and visual compositions were to a large extent interlinked at the beginning of the twentieth century.

Museum Kampa houses one of the largest private collections of works by Frantisek Kupka with over 200 works stemming from his early years until his passing in 1957. This collection fully represents works from the time period when the artist moved into purely abstract expression, which had a very difficult evolvement in Frantisek Kupka. His development to this form of art was completely different to that of other pioneers of abstract art. Wassily Kandinsky matured to abstraction at the same time, but based on a very different thought processes. He was inspired by natural processes and their complicated transformations. Where Arnold Schönberg connected musical discoveries with artistic, even though the axis and the main contributor lies in music.

In addition, this exhibition is included in the Prague Spring Music Festival programme, and a concert focusing on this exhibition will be held in Museum Kampa on May 31, 2011. This cooperation with Prague Spring gives the exhibition a new dimension and will attract a lot of interest and a wide range of visitors.

## Milan Grygar

May 6, 2011 – July 31, 2011

Exhibited is a selection of monumental paintings and acoustic drawings. As part of the exhibition the famous Prague Spring Festival along with the MoEns Ensemble will be holding a concert based on Milan Grygar's acoustical scores. The concert will be held on May 26 in Museum Kampa. Tickets are still available at Pražské jaro.



Museum Kampa

Nadace Jana a Medy Mládkových / The Jan and Meda Mladek Foundation

U Sovových mlýnů 2, 118 00 Praha 1

Tel.: 257 286 147, fax: 257 286 113, e-mail: [info@museumkampa.cz](mailto:info@museumkampa.cz), [www.museumkampa.cz](http://www.museumkampa.cz)

## WORKSHOPS:

*Programs suitable for school or special interest groups, families with children or even adult groups.*

*Besides a broad offer of programs and workshops dealing with our permanent collection, we offer you new programs connected to our short-term exhibitions:*

[www.museumkampa.cz/programs](http://www.museumkampa.cz/programs)



## WE WOULD LIKE OFFER YOU AN OPPORTUNITY TO GET INVOLVED IN THE ACTIVITIES OF MUSEUM KAMPA IN THE FORM OF MEMBERSHIP IN OUR MUSEUM KAMPA SOCIETY OF FRIENDS.

This membership brings together supporters and admirers of fine art. As a member of our larger family, you will enjoy the many amenities that this membership brings you – invitations to our openings, lectures, events, and concerts. Membership donations are put towards preservation of the collections, to the preparation of temporary exhibitions and the preparation of our other activities. Only members of the Museum Kampa Circle of Friends will be invited to our openings and to our other events.

It would be for us an honour if you become a member of this organization and support Museum Kampa.

For more information, visit our website:

<http://www.museumkampa.com/en/Society-of-Friends-136.htm>