

**Tibor Csernus's nudes
7 April – 27 June, 2017
KOGART Exhibitions Tihany (8237 Tihany, 10 Kossuth Lajos utca)**

With an exhibition opening on 7 April and featuring a lesser-known segment of Tibor Csernus's oeuvre, KOGART Exhibitions Tihany celebrates one of the greatest Hungarian painters in the 20th century, who lived in Paris from the mid-1960s until the end of his life.

It is a rare opportunity to keep the oeuvre of an important artist together in some form after they have died. Luckily, Tibor Csernus's oeuvre is one of those few exceptions, as following his death, in the spring of 2009, the Kovács Gábor Art Foundation acquired his estate, with works from a period of fifty years, including over 50 paintings, some 300 aquarelles, pastels and charcoal drawings, book illustrations from all periods of his career, and countless sketches.

A significant portion of the oeuvre comprises model drawings and drawn nudes, a selection of which can now be seen at the Tihany exhibition. These works were often studies for paintings, and are now informative mementos of the creative process—of the relationship between the artist and his models and characters. Csernus's models meet each other, their environment and the viewer not through mediators, but directly.

The artist constructs his figure: they materialize, assume a body, enter the viewer's world, and then turn to us. He presents his models in their entirety, as if they were actors in a scene on the stage. The figures – and through them, Csernus – seek a connection with the viewer the way an actor plays both to the audience and to the other actors. The female figures usually appear in isolation in the sketches and studies, which may seem to contradict the busy scenes of the final paintings, in which every character is an active mover of the events.

The model has always been of key importance in visual art. Not so much as a source image as the visual elaboration of an idea, which is often fresher and more expressive in itself than the completed work for which it was made. This is particularly true of Tibor Csernus's art: he sometimes borrowed his figures from magazines, taking them out of their context; from the start, he would pose his live models with the final composition in mind. The decisive factor was always the end; meanings borrowed from elsewhere are also well-calculated elements of Csernus's works.



With an oeuvre that spans fifty years, Csernus is a key figure not only of Hungarian art but of the international history of painting as well. Even in Hungary, as a young artist, he was the nucleus of an unmistakable school, while the painterly universe he created in Paris was singular in both the European and the American scene. He worked in the French capital from 1964 until his death in 2007, and thanks to the agency of the renowned gallery Claude Bernard, audiences could meet his works at influential exhibitions from Paris to New York.

The exhibition is realized with the support of the Ministry of Human Resources, and is on view between 7 April and 27 June, 2017.

Visitor information:

KOGART kiállítások Tihany - 8237 Tihany, Kossuth Lajos utca 10.
Tel.: +36 87 538 042, +36 30 955 5958
Website: <http://www.kogarttihany.hu>
Opening hours: 1 April – 30 June, Monday to Sunday, 10 am – 6 pm

Download photos from:

https://www.dropbox.com/sh/othon4p4wxipivo/AACdPmDolskThxwJbe_gdib5a?dl=0

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