

THE 
GRIFFIS ART CENTER

INTERNATIONAL ARTIST-in-RESIDENCE PROGRAM – MAISON des ARTISTES
NEW LONDON, CONNECTICUT USA

Boris JIRKU

2008 International Artist-in-Residence
Prague, Czech Republic



"Granite Street"

Date Acquired: 10/18/08, Date Created: 2008
Framed Dimensions: Unframed, Picture Dimensions: "
Medium: Acrylic on CanvasBoard

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2008 International Artist-in-Residence
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Painter, sculptor, illustrator - Professor Boris Jirků was born April 10, 1955 in Zlín.

Boris Jirku constantly engages in drawing, painting, illustration, graphics and sculpture. He shows his works both home and abroad and participated on many corporate exhibitions around the world. His works also reflects memories and experiences of his life and artistry being oppressed by the communist led government.

In 1982 he is held in solitary confinement in a small studio in Prague. There he was inspired to illustrate the writings of MĂjrqvez. In 1984 MĂjrqvez is awarded Nobel Prize for literature. The Odeon publishing house commissioned Boris JirkuĚš to illustrate MĂjrqvez's "Chronicle of a Death" foretold in short reprieve (the commission was based on Jirku's previous drawings of the novel in the "SvetovĂj literatura" [World Literature] revue. For this artwork, Jirku was awarded first place in the competition for the year's most beautiful book in CSSR . In 1990 he again won the award for most beautiful book in CSSR for Bulgakov's Master and Margarita. The illustrations (together with those of MĂjrqvez's One Hundred Years of Solitude) are today archived in the National Literature Memorial in Prague.

Boris Jirku teaches figure drawing at VSUP. He founded and leads public figure drawing instruction and figure drawing workshops for Palacky University in Olomouc, West Bohemian University in Plzen, College of Restoring Techniques in Litomyšl, Masaryk University in Brno and Fachhochschule Mainz. He holds FIGURAMA exhibitions of works of students and educators from nine European universities in galleries and college areas in Leipzig, Znojmo, Brno, Prague, Vienna, Mainz, and Plzen .

Jirku was elected as Chairman of the Academic Senate of the University of Applied Arts in Prague and in 2002 was awarded prizes in the Czech Republic Print of the Year Competition and elevated to master professor of illustration and graphics by Czech Republic President VĂjclav Havel.