

FISAE Newsletter

22 2021

4.4.2021

Dear friends of ex libris

This FISAE Newsletter brings an article from Hungary by the dedicated Kornélia Vasne Toth, from whose hand also comes one of the very few dissertations on ex libris art. For me, the bookplates of Hungarian artists of the 60s, 70s and 80s were an important part of my collection and many created bookplates for me and my family, including. Ferenc Bordas, Victor Daniel, Lenke Diskay, Antal Fery, Ferenc Gal, Laszlo Kekesi, Jenő Kertes-Kollmann, Marta Kopasz, Jozsef Menyhart, Arpad Müller, Arisztid Nagy, Arpad Daniel Nagy, Laszlo Lazar Nagy, Jozsef Nechanszky, Ferenc Rakoczy, Bela Stettner, Istvan Tempinszky, Nandor Lajos Varga, Zoltán Vén. So it gives me great pleasure to make this text available to all societies.

With kind regards

Klaus Rödel

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Liebe Exlibrisfreunde

Dieser FISAE-Newsletter bringt einen Artikel aus Ungarn von der engagierten Kornélia Vasne Toth, aus deren Hand auch eine der ganz wenigen Dissertationen über Exlibris-Kunst stammt. Für mich waren die Exlibris ungarischer Künstler der 60er, 70er und 80er Jahre ein wichtiger Teil meiner Sammlung und viele schufen Exlibris für mich und meine Familie, darunter. Ferenc Bordas, Victor Daniel, Lenke Diskay, Antal Fery, Ferenc Gal, Laszlo Kekesi, Jenő Kertes-Kollmann, Marta Kopasz, Jozsef Menyhart, Arpad Müller, Arisztid Nagy, Arpad Daniel Nagy, Laszlo Lazar Nagy, Jozsef Nechanszky, Ferenc Rakoczy, Bela Stettner, Istvan Tempinszky, Nandor Lajos Varga, Zoltán Vén. So ist es mir eine große Freude, diesen Text allen Gesellschaften zur Verfügung zu stellen.

Mit freundlichen Grüßen

Klaus Rödel

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Chers amis d'exlibris

Ce bulletin d'information de la FISAE contient un article de Hongrie rédigé par la dévouée Kornélia Vasne Toth, dont la main est également à l'origine de l'une des rares dissertations sur l'art ex libris. Pour moi, les ex-libris des artistes hongrois des années 60, 70 et 80 constituaient une partie importante de ma collection et beaucoup ont créé des ex-libris pour moi et ma famille, notamment. Ferenc Bordas, Victor Daniel, Lenke Diskay, Antal Fery, Ferenc Gal, Laszlo Kekesi, Jenő Kertes-Kollmann, Marta Kopasz, Jozsef Menyhart, Arpad Müller, Arisztid Nagy, Arpad Daniel Nagy, Laszlo Lazar Nagy, Jozsef Nechanszky, Ferenc Rakoczy, Bela Stettner, Istvan Tempinszky, Nandor Lajos Varga, Zoltán Vén. C'est donc avec grand plaisir que je mets ce texte à la disposition de toutes les sociétés.

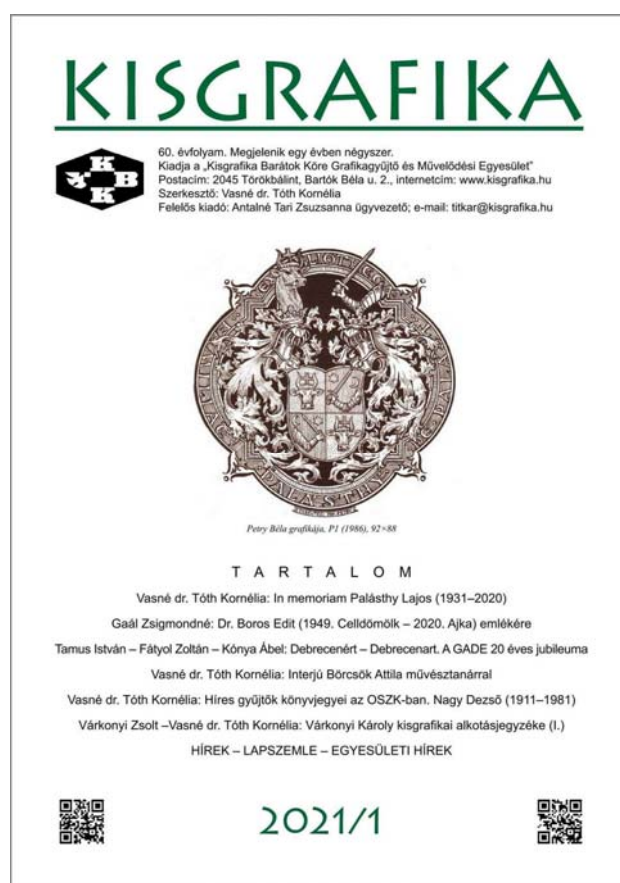
Avec mes salutations distinguées

Klaus Rödel

Hungarian Bookplate Associations in the 20th and 21st Centuries

The first Hungarian bookplate society was founded in 1909 in Budapest under the name “*Szent György Céh*” (St. George Guild). The society published a journal called “*A Gyűjtő*” (The Collector). The collection of bookplates received a renewed impetus in the 1930s. The second association – named “*Magyar Exlibrisgyűjtők és Grafikabarátok Egyesülete*” (Association of Hungarian Ex-libris Collectors and Friends of Graphic Art) – was formed in 1932 in Budapest and published a bulletin entitled “*Kisgrafika*” (Small Graphic). In 1935, a similar society was founded in Debrecen called “*Ajtósi Dürer Céh*” (Ajtósi Dürer Guild).

After World War II, as a result of the reorganization of the membership in Budapest, the “*Kisgrafika Barátok Köre*” (Circle of Friends of Small Graphic) was founded in 1959. Since 1990, they operate under the name “*Kisgrafika Barátok Köre Grafikagyűjtő és Művelődési Egyesület*” (Circle of Friends of Small Graphic, Graphic Collector and Cultural Association), in short: “*KBK*”. The journal they have been publishing since 1962 (currently four times a year) is called “*Kisgrafika*” (Small Graphic), recently edited by Dr. Kornélia Tóth Vas.



After World War II, the major ex-libris artists in Hungary were Ferenc Bordás, István Drahos, Mihály Csiby, Antal Fery, Márta Kopasz, József Menyhárt, Árpád Dániel Nagy, Zoltán Perei, Béla Stettner and Károly Várkonyi among others. The middle generation of ex-libris artists in Hungary comprises Zoltán Bagarus, Lajos Bakacsi, Lajos Imre, János Józsa, László Kékesi, Róbert König,

Gyula Kőhegyi, Tibor Moskál, László Lázár Nagy, Anna László, Gyula Sajtos, Edit Varga, Csaba Vályi, Zoltán Vén, etc.

Members of the younger generation – having participated in numerous international conferences – are Ferenc Bálint, Tibor Budai, Tamás Havasi, Hermina Horváth, László Kerékgyártó, István Icsu Molnár, András Réti, Rózsa Tóth, Péter Ürmös and László Vincze, etc.

Hungary had the opportunity to organise *the XIIIth International Ex-libris Congress in 1970*: "November 5, 1970 will always remain a memorable date in the history of Hungarian ex-libris: graphic artists, ex-libris collectors and friends of small graphic from all over the world are going to meet in Hungary for the first time," declared lawyer and ex-libris collector Andor Semsey, president of the congress in Budapest.



The artist generation and the ex-libris collecting intellectuals (lawyers, teachers, librarians, doctors, scientists, priests, etc.) of the time took part in the event in large numbers. Museums and libraries in Budapest and in the country (including the Ernst Museum, the Museum of Hungarian Agriculture and the Balaton Museum in Keszthely; the National Széchényi Library – as part of the Hungarian National Museum – and the County Library in Eger) played an important role in the arrangement of the programmes and exhibitions. The National Széchényi Library opened an exhibition of old Hungarian bookplates from the previous centuries. In Eger, an exhibition of Hungarian ex-libris art between the two world wars was on display. In connection with the congress, an international competition was organised. The participating graphic artists could choose from the following topics: *Budapest, the City of the XIIIth Ex-libris Congress; Memorial Graphic on the Occasion of the 25th Anniversary of the Death of Béla Bartók; Wine and Grapes on Bookplates*. A significant number of the works of Hungarian graphic artists were featured in the international exhibitions, too. The Hungarian small graphic journal "*Kisgrafika*" gave a detailed report on the events and the Hungarian press of the time covered the main programme as well. The congress was favourably received and highly appreciated internationally. It is no coincidence that French professor and renowned ex-libris collector Paul Pfister – who also took part in the event – called Hungary "Ex-libris Land".

About the present:

Due to the pandemic, we could not plan our programmes as usual.

In 2021, we celebrate the anniversary of the birth (born 110 years ago) and death (deceased 10 years ago) of internationally known painter and graphic artist *Márta Kopasz* (26 October 1911, Szeged – 5 March 2011, Szeged), freewoman of Szeged and founder of the local KBK (small graphic) group. Her woodcuts and linocuts depict townscapes, historical compositions and human figures. On the occasion of her anniversaries, a commemoration is planned to be held in Szeged in October 2021.

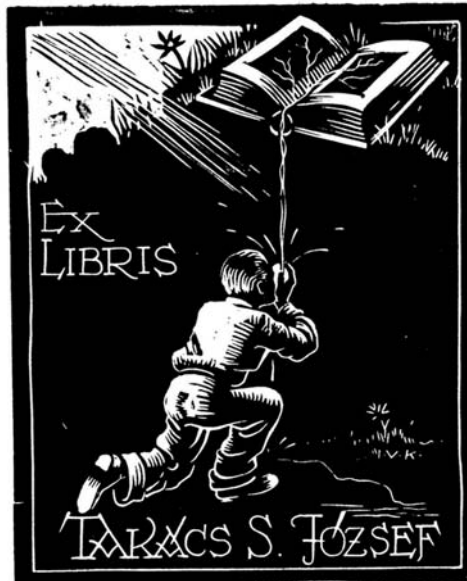


Márta KOPASZ (1944, X3)

On the occasion of the approaching 20th anniversary of the death of *Károly Várkonyi* (1913–2001), we publish his entire small graphic opus list in the journal “*Kisgrafika*”, beginning with the 1/2021 issue. The list was compiled by Zsolt Várkonyi – the artist’s son – based on the extant graphics and the artist’s notes. The text was edited and prepared for publication by Dr. Kornélia Tóth Vas.

For further informations you can contact Dr. Kornélia Tóth Vas – member of the board of the KBK, editor of “*Kisgrafika*” journal – at the e-mail address: vasnelli@gmail.com.

Written by: *Dr. Kornélia Tóth Vas*



Károly VÁRKONYI (PI, 1936)



Zoltán VÉN (1999)

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