**Tadeáš Kotrba
Three Principles**

6 December, 2017 – 4 March, 2018

Curator Jana Vránová

Opening on 5 December, 2017 at 7 pm, press conference at 11 am

The House of Arts, Jaroslav Král Gallery, Malinovského nám. 2, Brno

Brno, 28 November, 2017 **–The exhibition features the latest paintings by Tadeáš Kotrba, an artist of the younger generation and graduate from the Academy of Fine Arts in Prague. His paintings spring from inside the author’s world, his emphatic perception of the phenomena that he finds enticing and that he thinks about in connection with his personal experience. They reflect upon his concrete experiences, memories and existential contemplations of a more general nature.**

The motifs of Kotrba’s paintings balance on the boundary of two worlds – the real, contemporary one, where we have to reconcile ourselves with problems, and the suspected, unknown world to which we attach our memories of those who are inadvertently gone.

Kotrba’s painterly oeuvre can be appreciated as a form of diary, an introverted autobiographical statement and symbolic depiction of some periods of a man’s life journey when he has to face pitfalls and misfortunes. His canvases often bring to mind situations that leave a trace in our lives –feelings of loneliness, insecurity and anxiety, embedded in ruminations on the peripeteias of human life and the need to overcome various kinds of obstacles. Lonely figures wander and plough through the landscape, labyrinthine vegetation, which engulfs them and from where it is difficult to escape. The motifs of Kotrba’s paintings allow multiple interpretations, they do not belong to a particular time or space – therefore viewers can link them with their own feelings and discover in them messages related to their own experiences.

Tadeáš Kotrba often makes references to records from his travels, where he is inspired by the new environment, the genius loci of the places that he explores. His means of expression are very economical; an almost realistic interpretation of the landscape space or architecture intermingling with an abstract expression, subtle drawing mixed with a robust painterly gesture and lightly applied brush strokes. The stories of his paintings narrate life situations and a broader spectrum of meaning, they are connected with current topics as well as reminiscences of the past, which influence the artist’s perception of the present.

**Tadeáš Kotrba** (\*1986) studied at the Secondary School of Arts and Crafts in Uherské Hradiště (2006). In 2012, he graduated from the Academy of Fine Arts in Prague (studios of Jiří Lindovský, Jan Merta and Michael Rittstein). In 2011 he was on a scholarship in the painting studio of the Central Saint Martins College of Art and Design, London. He has exhibited since 2008. He lives and works in Prague.

**Accompanying programme:**17 Jan and 14 Feb at 5 pm – Commented exhibition tour with the curator and the artist

18 Feb at 2–4 pm – Painted-in Story – Places and Memories / Art workshop for children with Tadeáš Kotrba
4 March at 2 pm – Commented exhibition tour with a docent

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