

Vladimír Brunton

Vladimír Brunton Krejčí, an Czech artistic photographer, was born July 8, 1961 in Rakovník. He spent his childhood in Ostrava. Currently, he lives and works as a photographer and paper mill operator in Kostelec na Hané.

He had the opportunity to work and gain experience in various parts of the world, such as Japan, USA, China, Israel, Island, Cuba, Venezuela, Jordan, Guadeloupe, Gambia, Australia. He was inspired to take up photography by his grandfather, who was also a photographer and left a lot of old photography material. Vladimír Brunton gradually used this material for his experiments. He photographs almost exclusively „old style“ with a large format board camera 8x10 „TOYO, or 4x5“ LINHOFF with black and white film, then he, by his own hands, processes the material with a chemical process used in classic black and white photography. He uses his own manufactured light sensitive jelly-silver gelatin, transferred on to canvas. The picture is made by the exposing black and white negative on prepared canvas, activated in a developing tank, fixed and washed under running water. The photography is in the end toned in order to achieve archive stability and while wet, he expand canvas on to a frame.

„He mastered the art of photography. In his free creation he works systematically in cycles, which with their content contain maybe all photography areas. Photographs, even though thematically diverse, always bear a strong Brunton stamp, expressing love, commitment and great sedulity. He pays attention to the scenery and urban landscape, however, even more to the face and body. He has an extraordinary feel for composition and a real gift to depict an object – be it an article or a person – in an unusual way, remarkably and magically. His processed pre-designs very often come across as a little bit nostalgic and retro. His light manipulation is exceptional and his photographs have an unrepeatable and unique ambiance“.



Together with his Japanese colleagues, Vladimír Brunton has recently focused on the development, production and use of the Japanese handcrafted paper in art. In his paper mill, Samurai Paper Mill in Kostelec na Hané, he manufactures handcrafted paper Washi, using an old Japanese technique, from the phloem of the mulberry bush. These papers have exceptional print facilities, exclusively designated for photographers, artists, bookbinders and graphic design studios. He calls the print technique, which he created for this paper, „oilgraphy“. This technique allows him to transfer the photographic picture onto the Japanese paper, using oil paint.

In the last 10 years, a collection of 60 portraits of Czech personalities on 100x120 cm canvases is being created. Each original is signed and dated by the portrayed personality, among which were for example Tomáš John Baťa, Miloš Forman, Václav Havel, world renowned personalities from the Czech Academy of Science...

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