

3GBG/GB mirror project

on 29 January 2014
to 11 February 2014



Teodor Liho and Peter S Smith during CA seminar in Bad Homburg, Germany August 2013

Peter S Smith
is a Painter/Printmaker based in London.

Peter S Smith studied Fine Art at Birmingham Polytechnic (BA Hons) Fine Art, 1983; Art Education at Manchester University (Post Graduate Certificate in Education, 1992) and at Wimbledon School of Art (MA Printmaking, 1992).

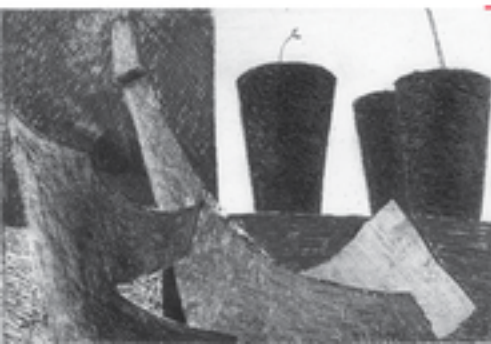
He is a member of the Society of Wood Engravers and Associate Member of the Royal Society of Painter-Printmakers. His paintings and prints are exhibited in the UK and overseas with works in public and private collections, including Tate Britain and the Ashmolean, Oxford.

In September 2006, Piquant Editions published a book about his printmaking called "The way I see it..." with an introductory essay by Calvin Seerwald.

He was the Head of the School of Art and Design at Kingston College from 1983 to 2010 and continues to teach workshops in the visual arts. He currently teaches wood engraving at the St. Bride Foundation.

"After our first exhibition together in Sofia in 2012 it is a privilege to be able to exhibit again with colleague and friend Teodor Liho in London. Prints form an integral part of my work as paintings, drawings and prints converse with each other. I have always been interested in the appearance of things and how this is re-imagined in visual language. The prints chosen for our exhibition have become a kind of 'retrospective' with examples of my prints from the last decade alongside more recent work."

petersmith.weebly.com



prints Peter S SMITH & Teodor LIHO MENSA ARTS Теодор ЛИХО

Desislava DESSEVA Десислава ДЕСЕВА Nikolai PETROV Николой ПЕТРОВ



Desislava Desseva
is Sofia based visual artist and designer. Works in the field of graphic design and typography, posters, spatial design, photography, web-design, interactive design and multimedia, textile design. She is currently graduating from The National Academy of Art, Sofia (MA in Advertising Design) and working as a graphic and web-designer.

Desislava won numerous competitions and many awards such as 1-st prize of ProGRAFICA magazine and Advertising Expo; Diploma of 1st North National Competition for Company Calendar; 1-st prize at the exhibition "Kiko Tanaka, Kazumasa Nagai, Shigeo Fukuda - Great Masters of the poster from Japan, Mission Gallery" (2011). She was also a Student award winner of "Sixth International Biennial of Stage Poster", Sofia with her poster "The Theatre- That is Me". (2010).

Exhibitions: Joint exhibition, "Academy" Gallery, Sofia (2009); international poster exhibition "Messages to the world", Shanghai, China (2010); exhibition 2010 - year of Chopin, poster, part of the collection of The Sixth International Biennial of Stage Poster, Sofia; exhibition "Advertising - Design - Redesign" at "Alma Mater" gallery (2012); exhibition "Design Academy", SOFIA DESIGN WEEK (2013).

"I'm really honoured to be able to exhibit along with Teodor Liho and Peter S Smith, artists and professionals, who lively claim "The Way I see it" point of view. I share their passion for exploration, deconstructing reality, constantly asking questions and searching for new means of expression.

I use structures, codes, symbols and letterforms that we're used to perceive in a certain way and give them new meanings which let them be a part of an aesthetic symbiosis. My works show a visual language that allows type to carry out multiple messages - visual metaphors based on free associations."

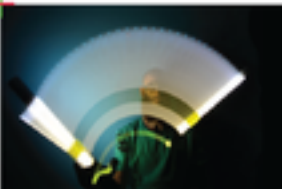
www.desseva.com



Smith explores the potential for visual metaphor in observed appearance using traditional graphic techniques. Liho's clear understanding of traditional graphic process and design also finds expression in the creative use of contemporary digital and photographic media, often moving into thought provoking installations.

They first exhibited together in 2012 in the Mission Gallery at the Institute for Culture of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Sofia. They are delighted to continue 3GBG/GB project and bring their work together again for this exhibition in the Sofia Gallery of the Bulgarian Cultural Institute London.

It is also a pleasure to introduce the work of two talented young Bulgarian artist/designers, Desislava Desseva and Nikolay Petrov.



Nikolai PETROV
is a multidisciplinary visual artist from a younger generation.

He works in different fields, exploring the possibilities of human imagination. He is best known for his street art works, together with his crew "140 IDEAS" (www.140ideas.co.uk) where together they paint huge, socially engaged murals. Nikolay graduated Advertising Design in the National Academy of Arts in Sofia. As well as graffiti and street art his work includes organic and recycling paper, calligraphy and typography as well as design and photography. Most of the time, based on experiments, his work can be described as a great mixture of different techniques and media, unpredictable and interesting to observe.

In current exhibition the artist is represented by his project "Samurai of Light". Nikolay use photography to create typographic compositions out of light. Long exposure photography gives him the possibility to "catch" the light in a frame and paint with it. The artist has created seven Japanese "kanji" symbols, each of them representing one of the seven Bushido virtues.

Bushido literally means "the way of the warrior" and symbolize the samurai moral code. Today we need more than ever to find out the Samurai inside us, so we can act more human and kind, not just to others, but to ourselves as well.

The "way of the warrior" remains hidden, if we are not reaching out for the light inside us...

<http://psolokimovtop.tumblr.com>



Peter S Smith and Teodor Liho have been colleagues for over ten years. They lead workshops and curate the exhibition of participants at the annual CA Seminars in the Netherlands and Germany. Both their careers have successfully combined academic experience as art and design educators with intensive work as professional artists/designers.

The work of these artists provides interesting parallels and contrasts. Both artists have an interest in visual language in traditional and contemporary form. Both believe in the power of visual language as a creative means of communication and visual expression.



Teodor Liho and Peter S Smith in Sofia, Bulgaria, May 2011

Teodor Liho
is a Sofia based visual artist and educator in the Sofia Academy of Arts - Advertising Design Department, working in the fields of graphic design, new media and alternative art forms.

He studied in Sofia National Gymnasium of Fine Arts (BA, Graphic Arts 1980-85) and Sofia Academy of Arts (MA, Exhibition Design Department 1987-92). Taking master classes in Photography, Video Art, Set Design and new media.

Teodor Liho has an international career with a long list of solo projects with participation in team art-projects in Bulgaria, Romania, the Netherlands, Belgium, France, Germany, Serbia, Egypt, USA, Mexico, Japan and China. He is a jury member of many international graphic design and creative competitions in advertising and Exhibitions consultant. Works by Teodor Liho are part of many private and public collections including M+tel Collection of Contemporary art and Calisado State University.

Teodor Liho is guest lecturer in visual arts and workshop leader in Mexico, the Netherlands, Belgium and Germany. 2006 - 2009 live and work in Belgium. In 2010 he was Artist in Residence in Cite des Arts-Paris.

MENSA ARTS
The words play in Bulgarian of "Table art" is an accumulation of human and non-human mass and the table (in Bulgarian "masa") as furniture. With those words play begins an artistic reading of the content of the MASS art or the commercial art.

The totalitarian systems have always flirted with the masses and have used the artistic forms as a propaganda instrument. On one side, those regimes are trying to hide or to make noble their genetic tyrannical image. On the other side, the works of art are used as propaganda channels of the totalitarian ideology, oriented towards the mass audience with substituted or out-of-date aesthetic values. Thus, the art form is deprived of its fundamental function as a bearer of personal aesthetic and philosophical positions and the author's emotionality...

<http://teoddy.liho.weebly.com>

