

Tereza Zelenkova
Artist Questionnaire

IG: Which artists/photographers do you particularly respect?

TZ: Josef Sudek, Jacques-Andre Boiffard, Antoine d'Agata, Sally Mann, and many others.

IG: Why do you choose photography as your artistic medium?

TZ: There's aura of mystery around black and white photography for me. It's an art form as well as scientific process, a bit like what you'd expect from alchemy. I enjoy the contradictions of the exactness of the process and the chance that's always at play.

IG: What are your main influences and how have they influenced your work?

TZ: I don't see myself as having influences that I'd try to follow, I just see my work as fitting within certain tradition of artists that can be found in every generation. I'd say my work can be understood as following in footsteps of Romanticism, Decadence, Symbolism, Surrealism and so on. It's not necessarily "influenced" by it but shares a lot of their interests.

IG: Some of our visitors will be interested in the technical aspects of your project. What equipment did you use? And did it affect the way that you worked and the project outcome?

TZ: I use various medium format analogue cameras. I am not exactly the "tech" type of photographer. The equipment definitely influences the outcome as especially the lenses I use bestow on me a lot of restrictions and the outcoming images not always respond to my ideal vision.

IG: Do you have any recommended reading to further contextualise the project?

TZ: Short stories based in Prague by Gustav Meyrink, *A Bouquet* and also fairytales by Karel Jaromir Erben, *May* by Karel Hynek Macha, *Borgesuv Svet* by Vaclav Cilek, *The Sufferings of Prince Sternenhoch* by Ladislav Klima, *Gabreta dying and romantical* by Josef Vachal

IG: What plans do you have for future projects?

TZ: I would like to continue working on this (the currently exhibited) body of work and eventually produce a publication that would bring together several of my works dealing with mysticism and landscape, predominantly covering the territory of former Czechoslovakia.