

## **Adriena Šimotová – Images That Are Neither from Themselves Nor for Themselves: Reflections on Communication in the Artist's Work**

Mgr. Pavel Brunclík

### Abstract

Adriena Šimotová is an outstanding figure in Czech visual arts and Czech culture in general. Beyond the aspects of art history, it may be useful to address the interpretation of Šimotová's life and work using the interpretive approaches of the philosophical thinking of her time. The focus of the present paper relates to the subject matter which strongly determines Šimotová's art: themes of communication, communicative relations, and the relationship between communication and imagery. This corresponds to the choice of authors whose texts are referred to: Martin Buber, Karl Jaspers, and Emmanuel Levinas. The first chapter addresses the formation of the artist's personality and the development of her creative orientation from her early years to the late 1970s. The second chapter discusses the key moments and elements of her artistic expression in the 1980. The third chapter presents the final stages of her lifelong work. An interpretive approach underpinned by references to selected works by the above authors appears useful. It demonstrates that the communicative aspects of Šimotová's art are vital for her and the interpretation of her work. I worked with Adriena Šimotová from 1998 until her death on the concepts of all her exhibitions and publications on her work. My position as the author of this text is thus not typical in professional terms. Nevertheless, it provides knowledge, experience, and insights which may facilitate a greater understanding of Šimotová's lifelong work and the nature of her contribution to Czech culture and become a source of information for further research.

**Keywords:** Adriena Šimotová, imagery, philosophy of communication, ontology of encounter, limit situation, historicity, culture