



UPCOMING EXHIBITIONS

[Collections](#) [Current Exhibition Season](#) [Upcoming Exhibitions](#) [Previous Exhibitions](#) [Home](#)

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Jan Sawka, Polish-American, 1946-2012
Untitled, 1975-6
 Offset Lithograph
 32-3/4" x 23"
 Gift of Don Evans, Professor of Fine Arts Emeritus
 2013.001
 © Jan Sawka Estate, jansawka.com

Curiouser and Curiouser—Avant-garde Polish Theatre Posters from the 1970s

(June 19 - August 28, 2014)

The Gallery will be closed May 24 - 26, 2014 for Memorial Day.

Presented in honor of the late Don Evans, who for much of his professional career taught art at Vanderbilt University, *Curiouser and Curiouser—Avant-garde Polish Theatre Posters from the 1970s* features more than twenty posters from a particularly rich period of Eastern European graphic art design. Some artists went on to receive significant notoriety for their work; Jan Sawka's theatrical posters provoked the Polish government to expel him in 1979. Many of the posters reflect an aesthetic begun in the 1960s under the influence of pop art and experimental theatre of the period. These posters, as well as those from the 1960s, influenced a wide range of creative figures, including filmmakers the Quay Brothers who this past year were featured in a retrospective at the Museum of Modern Art in New York where several similar posters from the period served as a context for their innovative films.

Curiouser and Curiouser—Avant-garde Polish Theatre Posters from the 1970s is organized by the Vanderbilt University Fine Arts Gallery and curated by Joseph S. Mella, director.