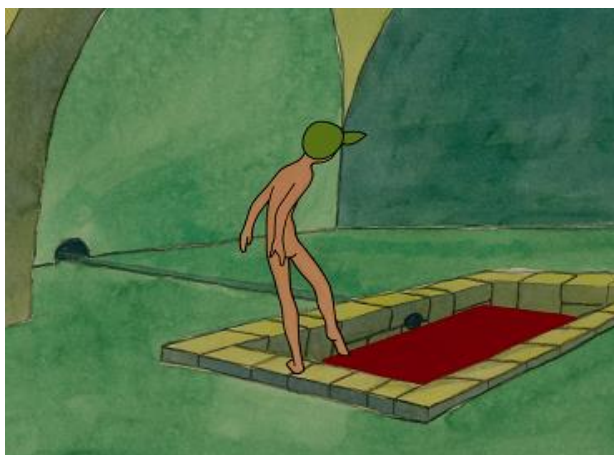


presents

KRVAVÁ PANI (THE BLOODY LADY, dir. Viktor Kubal, 1980, 74 min)

"He cured her. She gave him her heart."



Young and beautiful countess loves life. Both noble suitors and forest animals compete in showing their true affection to her. One day as a storm breaks out in the forest she gets lost. Exhausted to the point of death she enters a chalet of a young handsome man. He cures her. She gives him her heart. The heartless countess begins to detest the whole world. Her hate and obsession with eternal youth costs many young virgins' lives.

A silent feature length animated film based on a legend of Erszebét Báthory, the legendary

Bloody Countess who allegedly maintained her youth by bathing in young virgin's blood. The film begins like a classic Disney fairy-tale, with happy forest animals prancing around the countess, but later in the story it gets dark, at times hinting at German expressionism.

„The film tells a story of an innocent and affectionate young woman who is nursed back to health by a woodsman after contracting a fever in a thunderstorm. She falls in love and literally leaves him with her heart. Her character changes immediately and she begins to treat her favourite animals with cruelty, eventually whitening her skin with the blood of maidens. The legend takes its course, and she spurns the return of her heart (although it is eventually restored). The complexities of the story range from lyricism to expressionism, with small gestures that are both humorous and critical of its protagonists. Kubal's simple and minimalist style gives the film a peculiar force.“ Peter Hames, Fairy-Tale Films Beyond Disney: International Perspectives (Routledge, 24.9.2015)



The film is without dialogues (apart from a short introduction).

The film has been digitally restored and is available on 2K DCP in Slovak (OV) with English, French and Spanish subtitles.