

Bořek Šípek is a world-wide known architect, designer, visionary, cosmopolitan, self-made man, and we could use many other characteristics at this place. However, according to his colleagues and friends, Bořek Šípek is especially a good man with a great personality.

The life of Bořek Šípek is a typical story about big world self-made men. He is often compared to a male Cinderella. At the age of fifteen, he became an orphan (both mother and father died of cancer). At nineteen, having nothing, he emigrated to Germany. Before emigrating he had graduated from an applied arts secondary school in Prague in the field of furniture construction. And

he really made use of his studies. Before entering the university in Germany, he worked as a cabinetmaker. Thanks to the scholarship, he graduated from architecture in Hamburg and philosophy in Stuttgart. He taught design at universities in Hannover, Essen and then in Prague for many years. From 2005 he is the Dean of the Faculty of Architecture at the Technical University in Liberec, Czech Republic.

Šípek's first significant success was a glass house that he had built for his sister, for which he was awarded the German Architecture Prize in 1984. The world opened up for him and he moved to Amsterdam because he was attracted to the liberal atmosphere of this cosmopolitan city. In the middle of eighties he was contacted by the most prestigious Italian design company *Driade*. Cooperation with *Driade* was the beginning of the skyrocketing career of „the most distinguished contemporary designer“ who „evokes the longing for magic in this horrid realistic world“. *Driade* published his new catalogue where Šípek's work was on offer, which proved his importance to the company. At that time, only four people had their own catalogue – French Philippe Starck, Spanish Oscar Tusquets, Italian Antonia Astori, and Czech Bořek Šípek. Also thanks to the name *Driade*, people became more interested in his work and orders from other known and unknown firms soon came in. The Netherlands was struck by the Šípek-mania a Šípek started to aim at exclusive products produced in small quantities; he especially like to design chairs



## BOŘEK ŠÍPEK

or other pieces of furniture, cutlery, glass, china, vases or lamps and other home accessories. And thanks to *Driade*, Šípek was also able to explore Asia and his own passion for Asian culture and eastern thinking in general.

However, Bořek Šípek has always felt like an architect more than a designer. It remained so until today. He has a simple explanation for it: design consists of packing things into a form and he does not pack. Architecture is a space creation for him and design was earlier a natural part of architecture. Architects, according to Bořek Šípek, forget how powerful they are. „Architecture has the power to manipulate people positively. When I produce an

object, I am interested in how it will influence people. Architecture has such a power, much more than any other art. Architects can play with people, guiding them through the house as they need. Different rooms and places have different characters and people have different feelings in them. When we enter a theatre, we should have a different feeling than when we enter a bedroom or an office.”

As regards contemporary architecture, Šípek says: „When architecture is based on tradition, when it comes from it, even a simple man understands it. I try to interpret new contexts in a new way. It is much closer to me to newly explain something that has roots than to experiment. Tradition has always been a greater inspiration for me than experimentation. During the Renaissance, it was said that in front of a church, there must be at least four steps. You can learn a lot from this because going upstairs means nobleness. The architect and the solution he chooses make the difference. When I draw stairs in front of the building, it means that people will enter the building with a different feeling than when they enter it directly. I can let them enter quickly or slowly...” The main reason of his success in the field of architecture and design is hidden in the following sentence: „If you cannot start again and again, you end up in a routine. I like being unrestricted. The only restrictions that I welcome and that stimulate me are within the borders of the given order. I come out of it and I submit to it. My first two emigrations taught me his.”

# ALTEREGO

Šipek Shelf



Wine glass – crystal glass with red handle and decorative leaves - height 27,5 cm, diam. 15 cm

# ANDĚL

Šípek Shelf



Candle holder – crystal glass, possibility of hanging - height 12 cm, width 20 cm, length 15 cm

# ANEBOSÝR

Šípek Shelf



Cheese bowl – crystal glass dome topped by a coloured glass stub - height 14 cm, diam. 17 cm  
Glass plate – crystal glass with groove - height 4,5 cm, diam. 23.5 cm

# ARKHOM

Šipek Shelf



Sparkling wine glass – crystal glass - height 30 cm, diam. 7.5 cm

# ARUM

Šípek Shelf



Beer tankard – crystal glass - height 22 cm, diam. 8–9 cm

# ATROPA

Šípek Shelf



Soft-drink glass – crystal glass with optical effect and coloured rim - height 16 cm, diam. 8 cm



# BAŇATÁ

Šípek Shelf



Wine glass – crystal glass - height 22 cm, diam. 10 cm

# BARBERANA I.

Šipek Shelf



White wine glass – crystal glass - height 35 cm, diam. 8 cm

# BARBERANA II.

Šipek Shelf



Red wine glass – crystal glass - height 34 cm, diam. 8 cm

# BARBORKA

Šípek Shelf



Wine glass – crystal glass - height 30 cm, diam. 9 cm

# BISTROTKA I.

Šipek Shelf



Wine glass – crystal glass - height 25.5 cm, diam. 8 cm

# BLACK & WHITE

Šipek Shelf



Glass – black and white glass - height 25 cm, diam. 8.5 cm

# BRIGITTE

Šipek Shelf



Sparkling wine glass – crystal and ruby red glass - height 32 cm, diam. 14 cm

# CAMPANULA

Šipek Shelf



White wine glass – crystal glass - height 28 cm, diam. 9 cm



# COLIBRI

Šipek Shelf



Wine glass – crystal glass - height 30 cm, diam. 14 cm

# CONVOY I.

Šípek Shelf



Carafe – crystal glass with red glass handle - height 27 cm, diam. 8 cm

# CRESTA

Šipek Shelf



Carafe – crystal glass with amber glass decoration - height 31 cm, width 10 cm

# DEZERT

Šípek Shelf



Glass plate – crystal glass with opal rim and center - height 3 cm, diam. 30 cm

# DOTS

Šipek Shelf



Water carafe – crystal glass with decorative coloured dots - height 39 cm, length 26 cm, width 12 cm

# DUALITY

Šipek Shelf



Wine glass – both side crystal glass for red and white wine, height 30 cm, diam. 8 cm

# FALIX

Šípek Shelf



Short drink glass - crystal glass with coloured appliqué - height 6.5 cm, diam. 8 cm

# FIORELA

Šípek Shelf



Candle holder with vase - crystal glass with red, green, blue and amber arms  
Chrome candle cups - height 29 cm, diam. 21 cm



# FRIJOL

Šipek Shelf



Carafe – crystal glass, light-blue spout, light-rose handle - height 32 cm, diam. 7.5 cm, width 17 cm

# GAUDA

Šípek Shelf



Cheese bowl – clear crystal dome topped by a red glass stub - height 27 cm, diam. 25 cm

Glass plate – crystal glass with groove - height 4,5 cm, diam. 31 cm

# GREYHEAD

Šipek Shelf



Candle holder – crystal and blue glass, height 18 cm, diam. 9 cm

# GRIFONE

Šipek Shelf



Carafe – crystal and turquoise glass - height 26 cm, diam. 12 cm

# HAŠIŠKA

Šípek Shelf



Shot glass – crystal glass with opal white rim - height 13 cm, diam. 7,5 cm

# IMPA

Šípek Shelf



Candle holder – crystal glass centre, with coloured glass appliquéés - height 7.5 cm, diam. 11,5 cm

# JANECKÝ

Šípek Shelf



Vase – crystal glass with green appliques - height 65 cm, diam. 15 cm

# JEŽEK

Šípek Shelf



Bowl – crystal glass with optical effect and coloured spikes at the bottom - height 15 cm, diam. 18,5 cm



# KEJVALKA

Šipek Shelf



Drinking glass – crystal glass with coloured bottom stub - height 16 cm, diam. 11,5 cm

# KOČÍ

Šípek Shelf



Vase – crystal glass with green appliques - height 37 cm, diam. 18 cm

# KOČIČÍ

Šípek Shelf



Vase – crystal glass with green leaves and coloured flowers - height 35 cm, diam. 25 cm

# KYTIČKA

Šípek Shelf



Ash-tray – crystal glass - height 3 cm, diam. 10 cm

# LANCETA

Šipek Shelf



Vase & bowl – combination of crystal and coloured glass - height 23 cm, width 14 cm

# LAURIE

Šipek Shelf



Wine glass – crystal glass - heght 23,5 cm, diam. 10 cm

# LECYTHUS

Šípek Shelf



Carafe – coloured crystal glass with crystal stopper - height 33 cm, diam. 12 cm

# LEDUM

Šípek Shelf



Wine cooler – crystal glass with optical effect and a green glass handle - height 26 cm, diam. 20 cm



# LIS

Šipek Shelf



Wine glass – crystal glass with optical effect - height 28 cm, diam. 8.5 cm

# LOUVRE I.

Šípek Shelf



White wine glass – crystal glass with optical effect - height 15 cm, diam. 9 cm

# MAGNOLIA

Šipek Shelf



Red wine glass – crystal glass - height 29.5 cm, diam. 9 cm

# MANDRAGORA

Šípek Shelf



Candle holder – crystal glass, polished decorative surfaces - height 35 cm, width 17 cm

# MISKA J+T

Šípek Shelf



Bowl pair – combination of different colour glass bowls with two different optical effects  
height 13.5 cm, diam. 14 cm, width 33 cm

# MORNING DEW

Šipek Shelf



Candle holder – crystal woven candle holder with yellow and green drops,  
filled with water for floating candles - height 17 cm, diam. 14 cm

# MOTANÁ

Šípek Shelf



Glass - crystal glass with optical coloured effect, crumpled, height 17 cm, diam. 6.5 cm

# NETYKAVKA

Šípek Shelf



Carafe – crystal glass with optical effect, coloured plug - height 26 cm, diam. 9 cm



# NOCE

Šípek Shelf



Knick-knack bowls - crystal glass with coloured rims, one green and one red  
height 8 cm, length 13 cm, width 18 cm

# OCET-OLEJ

Šipek Shelf



Carafe – for oil and vinegar - height 18 cm, diam. 12 cm, height 16 cm, diam. 11 cm

# OLIVA

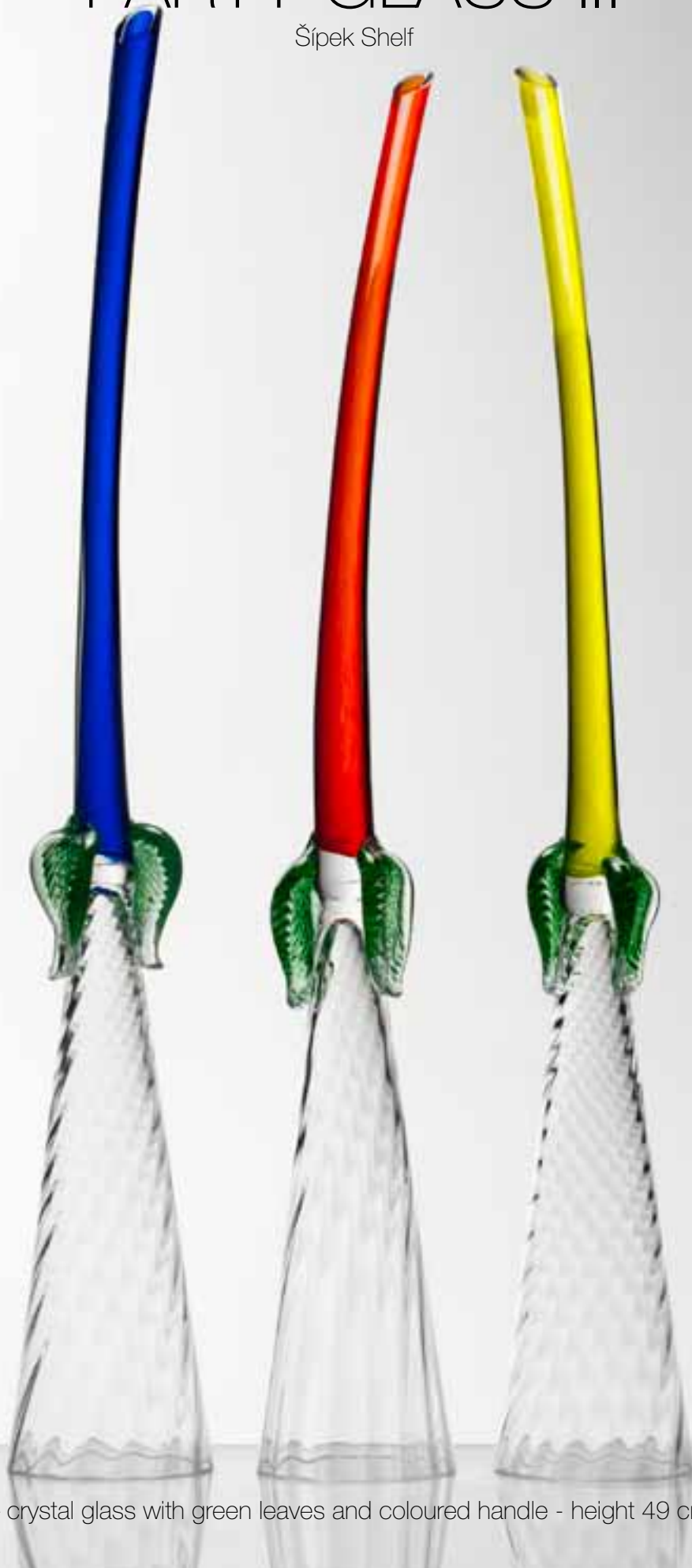
Šipek Shelf



Olive bowl – red-rimmed crystal glass - height 10 cm, width 17,5 cm (plate)

# PARTY GLASS II.

Šipek Shelf



Wine glass – crystal glass with green leaves and coloured handle - height 49 cm, diam. 6 cm

# PESADILLA

Šipek Shelf



Water glass – crystal glass with optical effect, crumpled - height 16,5 cm, diam. 7 cm

# PESADILKA

Šípek Shelf



Water glass – crystal glass with optical effect, crumpled - height 15.5 cm, diam. 6.5 cm

# PIUS

Šípek Shelf



Beer glass – crystal glass with opal white rim - height 16,5 cm, diam. 7.5 cm

# PRIMÁSEK

Šípek Shelf



Vase – crystal glass with coloured crystal glass-fragment crown - height 65 cm, diam. 17 cm



# PŮLENÁ

Šípek Shelf



Wine glass – crystal glass - height >24 cm, diam. 8.5 cm

# RUŽE

Šípek Shelf



Wine glass – crystal glass with coloured glass flower foot - height 24,5 cm, diam. 6,5–8 cm

# SAMBUCUS

Šípek Shelf



Water glass – crystal glass with optical effect and coloured rim - height 15 cm, diam. 9 cm

# SAMBUCUS II.

Šípek Shelf



Water glass – crystal glass with optical effect and coloured rim - height 16 cm, diam. 9,5 cm

# SEDMIKRÁSKA

Šípek Shelf



Candle holder – coloured crystal glass - height 10 cm, diam. 14 cm

# SHIGERU

Šipek Shelf



Wine carafe – crystal glass - height 40 cm, diam. 24 cm

# SHU UMURA I.

Šipek Shelf



Bowl – crystal glass with coloured glass decorations - height 12–14 cm, diam. 21 cm

# SHU UMURA II.

Šipek Shelf



Bowl – crystal glass with coloured glass decorations and leaves - height 12–14 cm, diam. 21 cm



# SPERMIE LONG

Šípek Shelf



Wine glass – crystal glass with coloured effect - height 17 cm, diam. 6.5 cm

# SPERMIE WHISKY

Šípek Shelf



Whisky glass – crystal glass with coloured effect - height 10 cm, diam. 9 cm

# SPIRALLE

Šipek Shelf



Sparkling wine glass – crystal glass - height 29 cm, diam. 8 cm

# STROMEČEK I.

Šípek Shelf



Wine glass – crystal glass with coloured handle - height 29 cm, diam. 9 cm

# STROMEČEK II.

Šípek Shelf



Wine glass – crystal glass with crystal handle - height 30 cm, diam. 9 cm

# STROMEČEK III.

Šípek Shelf



Wine glass – crystal glass with black handle - height 30 cm, diam. 9 cm

# STÝBLO

Šípek Shelf



Wine glass – crystal glass with coloured handle - height >28 cm, diam. 9 cm

# SUMMIT

Šipek Shelf



Candle holder with vase – crystal and pink glass, chrome candle surround - height 30 cm, diam. 17 cm



# SWEET ROSE

Šipek Shelf



Candle holder – pink crystal, filled with watter for floating candles - height >23 cm, diam. >14 cm

# ŠÁRAL

Šípek Shelf



Bowl – with red and green appliqués - height 37 cm, diam. 28 cm

# THE BALLS

Šipek Shelf



Carafe – crystal glass - height 30 cm, diam. 23 cm

# TRINITÉ

Šípek Shelf



Bowls – crystal glass with optical effect and coloured handles - height 13 cm, diam. 33 cm

# TRIPLE

Šipek Shelf



Bowls – crystal glass with optical effect - height 8 cm, diam. 18 cm

# VALENTINE GLASS

Šipek Shelf



Aperitif glass – crystal glass - height 24 cm, diam. 10 cm

# VALENTINE VASE

Šipek Shelf



Vase – crystal glass with optical effect and red handle - height 25 cm, width 18 cm

# VETEV

Šipek Shelf



Candle holder – crystal glass - height 37 cm, diam. 28 cm



# VITIS

Šipek Shelf



Candle holder – coloured crystal glass - height 15–16 cm, diam. varies

# VODA

Šípek Shelf



Water carafe – crystal glass - height 24 cm, length 11 cm, width 6,5 cm

VOGL

Šipek Shelf



Candle holder with vase – polished chrome and blue glass - height 36 cm

# WHISKY

Šípek Shelf



Whisky glass – crystal glass with optical effect in the glass bottom - height 9 cm, diam. 7 cm

# WISTERIA

Šipek Shelf



Wine glass – crystal glass with optical effect and coloured rim - height 25 cm, diam. 8 cm

# YOSHIKI I.

Šipek Shelf



Beer glass – crystal glass with optical effect; 0.4 l - height 23,5 cm, diam. 9,5 cm

# YOSHIKI II.

Šipek Shelf



Beer glass – crystal glass with optical effect; 0.25 l - height 23.5 cm, diam. 8.5 cm

# YOSHIKI III.

Šipek Shelf



Beer glass – crystal glass; 0.15 l - height 25.5 cm, diam. 8,5 cm





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