

Josef Pluhar was born in 1963 in Zlin, in the former Czechoslovakia.

Education

- 1978–82 Secondary school for applied art in the department of stone masonry, Umeleckoprumslova skola in Uherske Hradiste, Czechoslovakia.
- 1982–85 Academy of Fine Arts Prague (Akademie Umeni v Praze). Sculpture Department.
- 1987–94 Hochschule der Kunste, Berlin. BA and MA in Fine Art.

Konfrontace

Founding member of the now infamous *Konfrontace* group of artists in Prague. Participated in the first exhibitions of the group from 1983 to 1985. These exhibitions were anti establishment and therefore took place in secret in various private locations within the city. Exhibited installations of objects where the process of making each object was important and evident: for example starting with found objects like a pair of shoes where the character of the shoes influences the shape but also acts as a base from which the object stands.

Berlin

Left Czechoslovakia illegally in 1985 and escaped to West Germany. From 1987–1994 based in Berlin and participated in exhibitions in East and West Berlin. Exhibited site specific installations placing objects that utilized early filmic technologies into public streets and yards as part of events organized by Galerie Ozwei in Oderbergerstr. Made short films that were screened in galleries and public spaces.

Performance

Performance has been a key aspect of practice which began whilst at secondary school,, progressed as the subject for super 8 films and more recently took the form of public performances in London. In the performance projected large scale drawings are presented in their simplest form, and are 'cartoon like' in that the narrative of the images is articulated through sequencing and by a written or spoken text. In particular these have been developed through participation in events at Area 10 in Peckham, London.