**Peter Griffin.** Born in 1947, England. He studied at the Royal Art College in London and was given the Prix de Rome scholarship which allowed the artist to live and study in Rome for two years. During his studies, he got acquainted with such world famous artists as Francis Bacon, Howard Hodgkin, David Hockney and worked together with painter-surrealist Roberto Matta. In this period he gained understanding about how the world of internal imagination could be visualized. In Rome, Griffin understood the principle underlying the balance that should be achieved between the abstract and the graphic portrayal, and this enabled the artist to freely use both abstract and figurative elements in his works.

The artist asserts that his works strive to give the answer to the question: “What does being alive mean?” Therefore Griffin studies human emotions and behavior in all endless and universal manifestations of life.

During his creative activity the artist has realized that his ideas, feelings and experience have much in common with the worlds of the Chilean poet, the Nobel Prize winner, Pablo Neruda and the Spanish philosopher Ortega y Gasset.

The exhibition of Peter Griffin’s works “Sealed with Fire”, which the author has presented to Daugavpils Mark Rothko Art Centre, includes a series of 12 silk screen printings supplemented by Pablo Neruda’s verse. This series was created in 1997 as a dedication to the 25th anniversary of the poet’s death, and it has been shown in Great Britain, Argentine, Chile and many other places of the world.

Though Neruda’s poetry and Griffin’s works have identical titles, the artist’s graphic art drawings are by no means the illustrations of poetry, but are rather the reflections on those common things that conceptually unite two creative personalities. Like P. Griffin, who speaks about the meaning of being alive, about freedom, love and passion in his works, Pablo Neruda, being not only a poet but also a diplomat and politician who feels himself responsible for the fates of people, too, in his poetry reflects on life as such, on grief, love, relations and loneliness in it. While reading Pablo Neruda’s poetry, you can trace his poetic grasp and emotionally experience images created by the poet, visualize colors and feel the aroma of the air. In their turn, Griffin’s graphic art drawings are like a world where poetic color fields and lines mutually interact, and the presence of the phenomenon of human relationships in its wide range of emotions and sensations is observed. Almost ephemeral lines of verse incorporated into Griffin’s works also indicate to the emotional and intellectual intimacy with Pablo Neruda. Text, colors and lines here create a peculiar, fantasy-like texture, which fragmentary reminds of the world of a dream. And just “A Dream” is one of P. Neruda’s poems, which has not only provided Griffin with inspiration for some silk screen printings of this series, but has also given the name to the exhibition.