

Canticle of Death

When words such as “Green Parrot”, “Blue Bunny”, “Red Rose”, “Green Flax”, “Yellow Sun”, and so on are heard, one might think that they are words picked out from children’s storybooks or perhaps names of toys. Shockingly enough, these pretty colour mixings with living beings are nothing but nicknames given to some of the British nuclear weapon project disguised under the code name Rainbow! For now “Canticle of Death” exhibition chases after the British and the American nuclear arsenal since World War 2, searching for reasons behind naming bombs after animals, plants, human beings, sonatas and so forth. Why personify a weapon that destroys cities? Could it be true what Howard Zinn, the American historian and pacifist, once proclaimed, “the use of nuclear weapons was made possible through years of dehumanizing the enemy....”?