

THE CLUB AS A SHELTER (LIGHT UNDERGROUND III): EXHIBITION OF LIGHT INSTALLATIONS

Oct 26, 2021 – Jan 16, 2022

Prague City Gallery

Underground areas of the Stone Bell House

Staroměstské nám. 13, Praha 1

Open 3 to 8 PM except Monday

Curator: Sandra Baborovská

The medieval underground areas of the Stone Bell House will host the exhibition of the audiovisual and light & musical installations focused on club culture and personal shelters. The lineup will include AV artists Radek Brousil and Oliver Torr, the BCAA System art group, and the couple Pavla Beranová and Teres Bartůňková, featuring musical pieces by Jan Burian, Aid Kid and Katarzia.

As the name indicates, the *Shelters* installation, made by light designer Pavla Beranová and stage designer Teres Bartůňková, presents landscape with shelters. Spaces in the space, each one with its own voice. "The levitation landscape. The installation presents the desire to hide, not to be, to be lighter than air. A safe place," said the authors. The musical background was provided by renowned musicians – Katarzia, Jan Burian, and Aid Kid. On top of that, Jan Burian is in charge of the whole sound design of the area.

On the other hand, the BCAA System project, called *I'll See It When I Believe It*, focuses on issues of vague identity and uncertain borders of the musical experience in the current post-digital world. The project features a video that explores the ambiguity and mutual permeability of the physical and digital space, and the ways we, together with many others, inhabit these spaces. The installation will also feature "a haunted dancefloor" – a ceramic object that reifies the spiral hypnotic fall into a different reality, often associated with virtual worlds, and also with the escapism of the club culture. "Its haunted nature may, however, also refer to the fact that a club isn't necessarily a 'safe space'; in its dark corners, we often find things we didn't want to find," says the BCAA group, including, among others, the musician Bílej kluk.

The installation by Radek Brousil and Oliver Torr is based on the infamous words of Chuck Prince, ex-CEO of Citigroup: "As long as the music is playing, you've got to get up and dance, we're still dancing." The installation *X-opia_112007>><<102021* focuses on the globalization of the club culture. The endless club is presented as a sanctuary. Brousil and Torr ask questions about the role of clubs – once the gathering points of subculture, they gradually attract and invite pop-culture, majority and capitalism, and their "sanctuary" role is over. The sound is algorithmically generated by the moves of private planes at the international airport. Each takeoff or landing automatically generates a new loop and its counter melody.

The exhibition "*The Club as a Shelter*" follows up on the last year's series of performances, concerts, and light installation *Light Underground*. The project is supported by the program "Art for the City". The admission fee of Czk 1 will be covered by this program.

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