

MeetFactory

A PLACE FOR LIVE ART

ABOUT

MeetFactory is a non-for-profit International Centre for Contemporary Art. Our mission is to support and help develop contemporary art and present it in a comprehensive and accessible way to a wide range of audiences. MeetFactory was founded in 2001 by artist David Černý, whose intention was to run an independent cultural centre, and cultivate the institution into a platform that would enable Prague to join the international art scene.

In the wake of the destructive floods of 2002, MeetFactory was forced to evacuate its previous premises in Holešovice. The project was resurrected three years later in an industrial building in Smíchov, a unique space tightly squeezed between a motorway and an active railroad.

MeetFactory facilitates the development of original projects and events either free of charge or executed with small budgets. It is a space where people and various art forms such as visual art, music, theatre, film, photography, and literature meet, connect and converse. It brings together various art groups and generations.

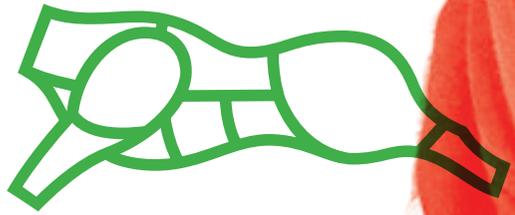
The long term planning of the MeetFactory is approved by a Management Board composed of the artist David Černý, musician David Koller and film and theatre director Alice Nellis.



HISTORY OF THE BUILDING

The company Inwald (which started operating in Prague in 1878) erected the building as one of the last of their glasswork factories in the 1920s. The production line of cut glass, including the popular Durit glasses, closed down in 1935. The building was then used for the manufacturing of diesel engines by the company Škoda until the late 1940s. At that time the building was taken over by Czechoslovak railways. During the 1990s, the building was deserted, except for a short spell when it was used as accommodation for construction workers working on the Mrázovka tunnel project.





Artist-in-residence



Artist-in-residence

ARTISTS-IN-RESIDENCE PROGRAM

The international Artists-in-Residence Program is one of the key areas of MeetFactory's event planning. It rests on two pillars: residencies for foreign artists at MeetFactory and exchange programs (reciprocal residencies).

Annually, 3,500 square metres and 16 studios are available for up to 30 artists from abroad on the first floor of the building. The program's focal point is international visual artists. Over the years, MeetFactory has been proud to welcome renowned artists such as Iede Reckman from the Netherlands and three German artists, including Pola Sieverding, Alexander Hacke and Danielle de Picciotto.

Because MeetFactory connects various art forms in a unique way, as of 2013 the residency program has opened up to other realms of creativity, especially theatre and performance. We have been working on a project entitled Performance Workshop, which hosted the residents' performances conducted with the support of amateur visitors. One of our residents was the Hungarian theatre group Lakmusz Csoport. The individual residencies are processed and approved by the managing teams of the respective areas.

The artists and the projects to be carried out are selected by a board of artists, whose task is to ensure transparency combined with high quality. The board's members are: sculptor David Černý, MeetFactory's curator Karina Kottová, curator of the Artists-in-Residence Program Zuzana Jakalová and independent curators and other professionals. Some artists are also recommended by our partner organizations, both local and international. Some of our partner organizations are: EFA Project Space in New York, Künstlerhaus Bethanien in Berlin or CEAAC in Strasbourg. We have been negotiating residencies and exchanges with other art centres throughout Europe, North and South America and Asia.

Since 2010, MeetFactory has been collaborating with the French Institute, whose support has enabled us to send Czech artists on residencies in France. Thanks to our partnership with the Mondriaan Fund, we have also established links with the Dutch art scene.

The Artists-in-Residence Program's objectives are:

- a) Sustainable development of the Artists-in-Residence Program
- b) Building of networks and quality relationships with interesting residential and exhibition centres in Europe and in the world
- c) Establishment of a pleasant, inspiring and professional work environment
- d) Linking of Czech and international art scenes and providing background and support to new projects
- e) Availability of living art to the public



ARTISTS-IN-RESIDENCE PROGRAM AND THE PUBLIC

As one of the objectives of MeetFactory is to bring living art to the public, the residencies are open to visitors. Our goal is to help visitors get acquainted with the life and work of MeetFactory's Artists-in-Residence in the authentic environment of their studios, which are usually hidden from visitor's conventional sight. Visitors have a unique opportunity to communicate with the artists, discuss their artistic practice and thus overcome the barrier between the passive viewer and the active creator. Workshops with resident artists seek to assist visitors in directly participating in the creative process and to acquaint them with art as its creators.

MeetFactory regularly puts on Open Studio days, when visitors are welcome to roam the studios freely and chat with the residents. Solo exhibitions of our residents are accompanied by curator-guided tours at MeetFactory Gallery or Kostka Gallery and resident-run workshops, and we support further programming, e.g. presentations, Kičn Betl events, screenings etc. In the course of 2013, we enjoyed such events by French artist Adrien Giros, a presentation of contemporary Mexican video-art entitled GRIT and prepared by Joaquin Segura, or an interactive workshop lead by our Hungarian artist-in-residence Andrea Gombos.



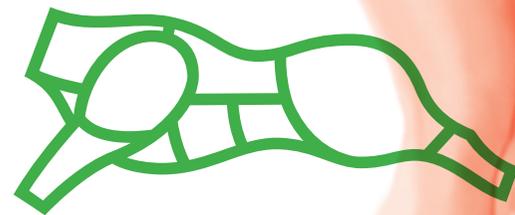
LINKING THE ARTISTS-IN-RESIDENCE PROGRAM AND LOCAL ART SCENE

The Artists-in-Residence Program is run in a close-knit relationship with MeetFactory galleries.

New works of art which have been created on our grounds are exhibited in solo shows at Kostka Gallery. At MeetFactory Gallery, we try to weave these new artworks into the fabric of group exhibitions in a conceptual way, involving them in group shows with other international and local artists.

Thanks to MeetFactory's central position within the art scene of Prague and the Czech Republic, our Artists-in-Residence Program also works as a starting point for the initiation of new collaborative projects across national borders, and thus transcends the venue's agenda. A case in point was the project of MeetFactory's resident, curator Jean-Marc Avrilla from France, or Katharina Fricke's Artist Book, which she has been collaborating on with Czech artist Aleš Čermák.





Gallery



EXHIBITIONS

Three separate galleries, each with its unique mission, can be found on the grounds of MeetFactory: MeetFactory Gallery, Kostka Gallery and Wall Gallery. The galleries co-exist and co-operate with the residency program as well as theatre and music events, all of which are hosted by the venue. The visitor can therefore not only enjoy quality art exhibitions, but can also encounter contemporary art forms across different genres in interdisciplinary projects.

The MeetFactory exhibition program reflects contemporary trends in art. It stresses the connection between the local art scene and renowned international artists, and promotes confrontation across generations. In our exhibitions, we try to go beyond the framework of individual art forms and media in an attempt to tap into the current issues which touch upon various philosophical and socio-political questions. Hand in hand with our philosophy of high-quality presentation runs the on-going effort to create an open user-friendly space where the public may encounter living art.

The highlights of our program are:

- a) We are a civic cultural initiative aimed at living art

MeetFactory was not founded by any state agency, but by a group of citizens. It specifically supports emerging, unique artworks that are neither commissioned nor motivated by the art market demand. They reflect the needs of free thinkers, artists and audiences. The art gallery's operations do not depend either on art collections or on art history research.

This makes our position unique in that we can support new innovative art which comes into being entirely independent from powerful structures.

The gallery's goal is to support the youngest "live" art and its theoretical reflection.

- b) Mobility and international co-operation

The result of our residency program for foreign artists joining in with local artists' projects is the unique coming together of the emerging European

and international art generation. Thanks to MeetFactory's partnership with organizations such as the Czech-German Future Fund, the International Visegrad Fund and the Czech-Polish Forum, it has had a direct impact on the gradual improvement of our relationship with neighbouring European countries.

- c) Networking of local and foreign institutions

What the gallery and the residency studio program have in common is cultivating contact with partner institutions, art centres and both non-profit and top commercial galleries.

MeetFactory galleries cooperate with galleries and art centres from its vicinity in Prague 5 (Contemporary Art Centre Futura, Svit, Jelení Gallery), but also with other venues in Prague and the Czech Republic (Tranzit Display, Hunt-Kastner Artworks, Drdova Gallery, TIC Gallery, The House of Art Brno and others). Internationally, its partners are Künstlerhaus Bethanien and KW Institute for Contemporary Art in Berlin, Rote Fabrik in Zurich, National Sculpture Factory Cork in Ireland, Fabryka Sztuki in Lodz, Bunkier Sztuki in Krakow, Kunsthalle Budapest, Space Gallery in Bratislava, Elisabeth Foundation for the Arts in New York and others.

- d) Supporting contemporary art

MeetFactory galleries are closely linked to the contemporary local and international art scene and they directly contribute to the creation of new artworks. MeetFactory's staff and technical equipment provide the artists with all conceivable support while planning, realizing and promoting their projects.

Because of the industrial location of MeetFactory, we welcome new provocative art forms. With the removal of commercial demands, we are able to offer both the youngest and most established generations of artists a space where they can take risks and experiment.

GALLERY MEETFACORY

The largest of our exhibition spaces has an area of 300 square metres. Our curators strive to exhibit both local and foreign contemporary art. The area of the gallery allows for conceptually complex projects with challenging production to introduce local artists to the international context and vice versa. Thanks to its spaciousness, the exhibitors may enter the space of the gallery radically and change its layout and overall character. This spatial aspect makes the gallery's position on the local scene unique.

MeetFactory Gallery focuses on large group exhibitions with a common theme; presentations of MeetFactory's residents' work juxtaposed against the local art production and guest curator projects.

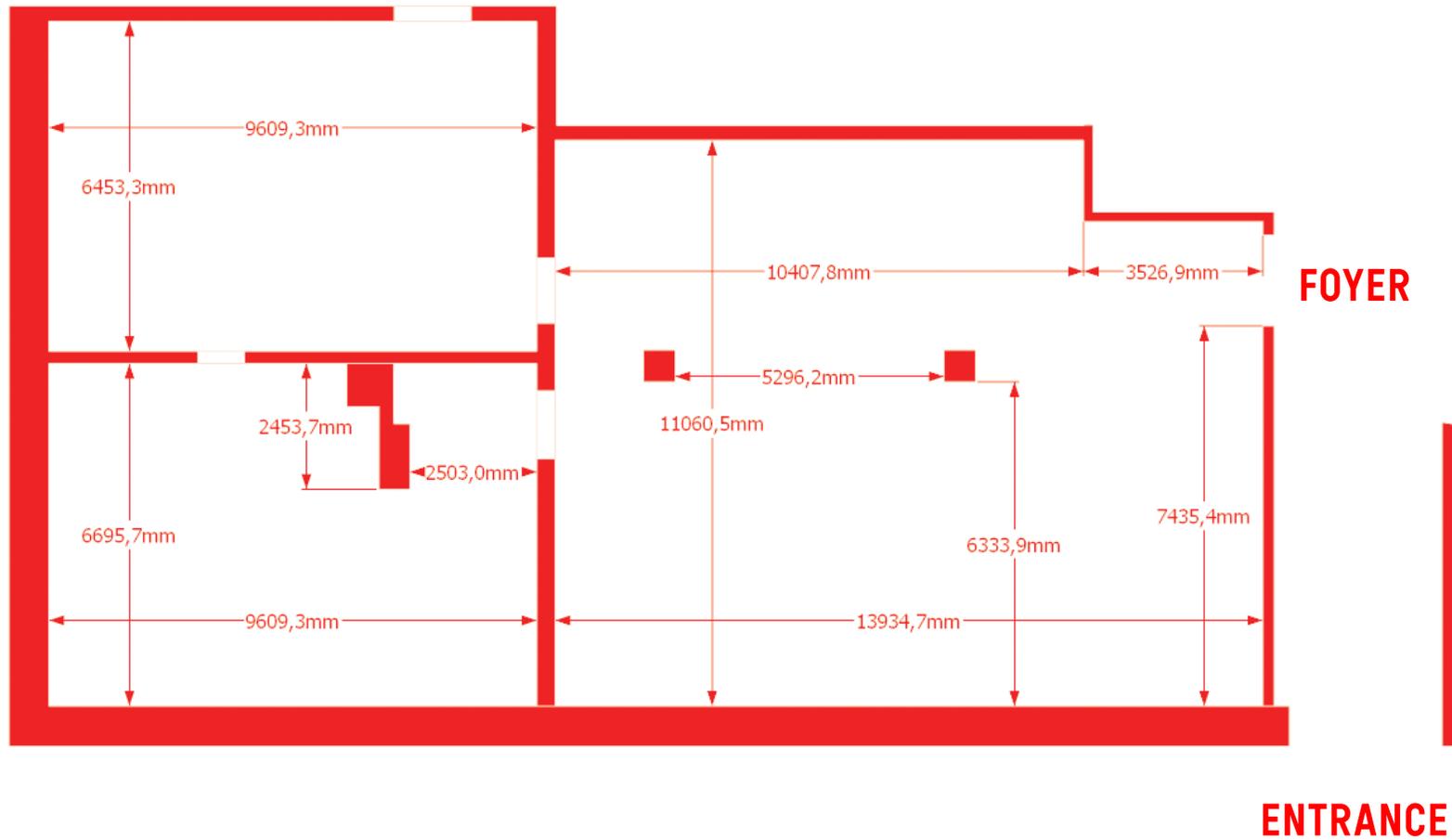


The bottom line of the gallery's orientation is the currently insufficient reflection and unresolved relationship between:

- a) The pre-revolutionary and post-revolutionary art generations
- b) The Eastern and Western European/international art scenes
- c) The up-and-coming and well-established groups of art critics and curators



TOP VIEW OF MEETFACORY GALLERY





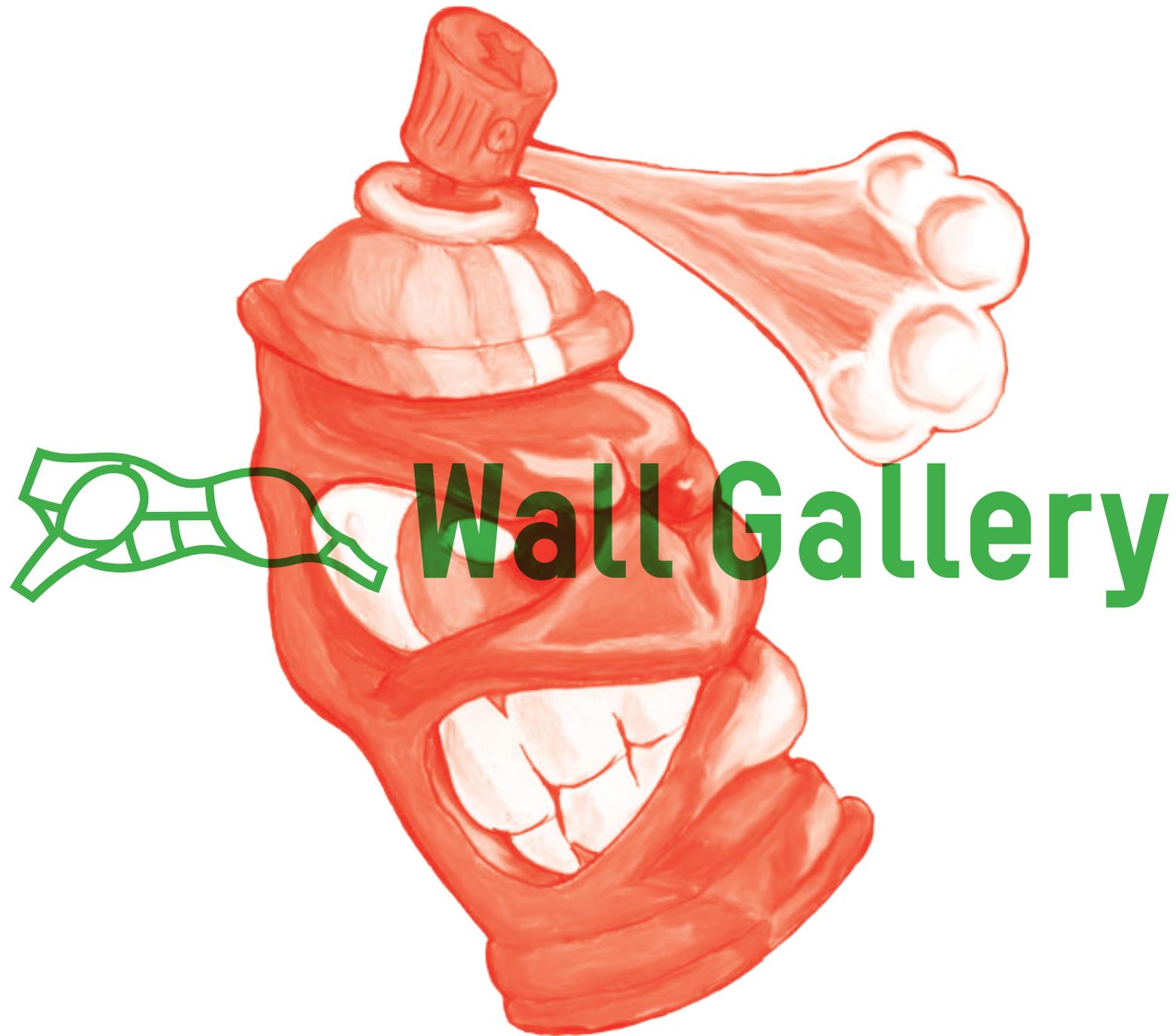
Gallery Kostka

GALLERY KOSTKA

Kostka Gallery primarily focuses on solo exhibitions and team or group projects. It is a space for experimentation and site-specific installations in direct response to the unconventional typology of the venue. It is above all directed at emerging young artists and solo projects from MeetFactory residents. Every year, an open call for projects from the general art scene is advertised to cover about one half of all the exhibition slots.

The venue's area is 160 square metres.





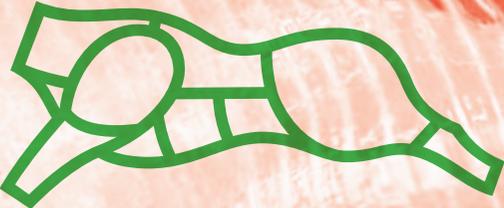
GALLERY WALL

The facade of the sidewall of MeetFactory serves as an exhibition space for large-scale paintings, sculptures and installations. Our goal is to let street art compete with less traditional art forms and projects unusual for this kind of public space, from conceptual art to geometric abstraction.

The area of the exhibition wall is 130 square metres.





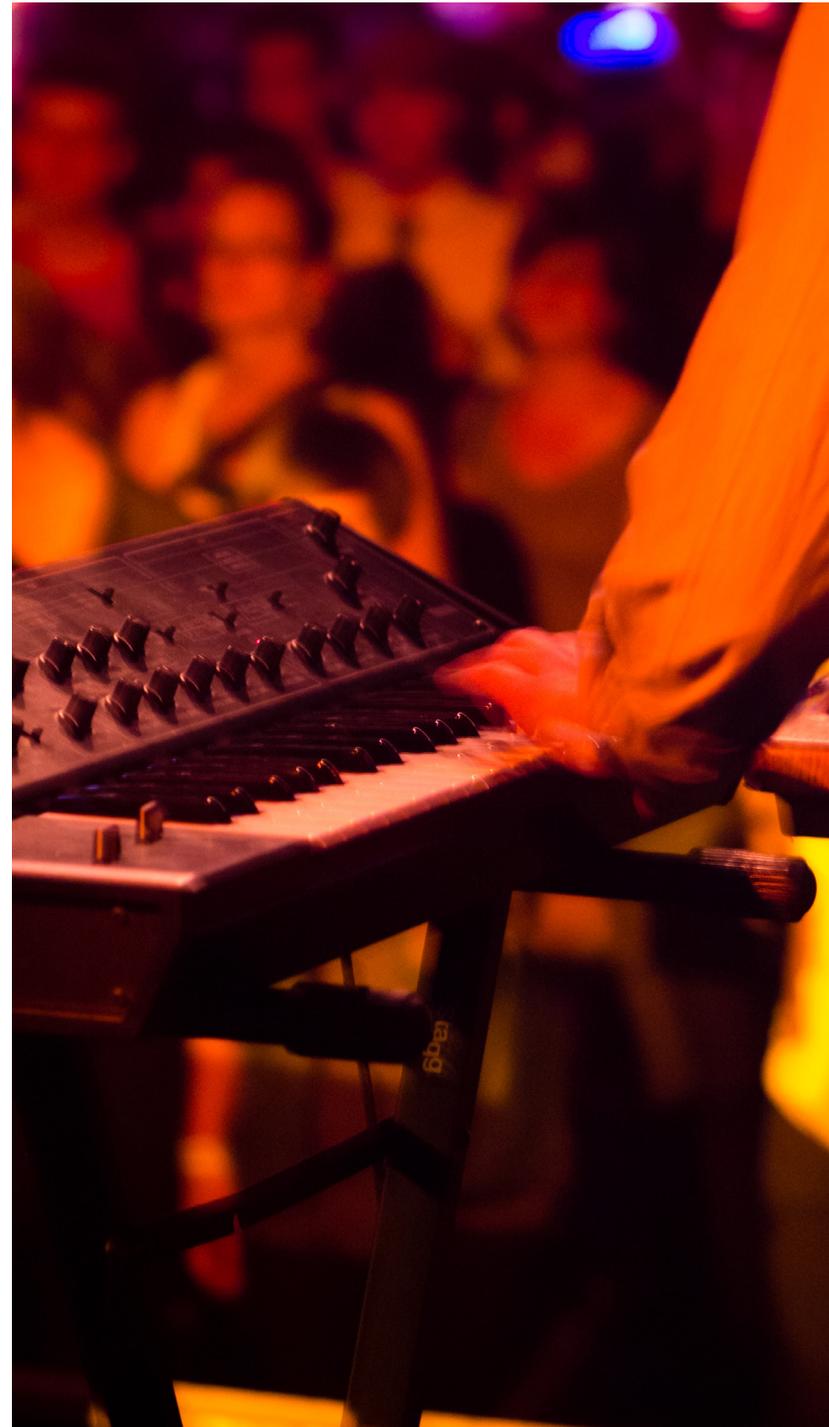
 **Music**

MUSIC EVENTS

In March 2010, MeetFactory expanded from running the residency program, exhibiting art and staging theatre to a fourth authentic line of production, music. Every year, between 50 and 70 music events are staged in the factory hall converted to a top quality music venue, which can hold an audience of up to one thousand people. The shows are either part of a regular line of music events, or unique ad hoc performances. This steady series of music shows mostly targeted at younger audiences, enriches what is already on offer on the Prague music scene. MeetFactory not only runs its own range of musical events but also co-hosts about forty events a year in collaboration with leading Czech promotion companies. The multifunctional venue is also regularly used for a variety of guest events; film shoots (advertisements, student films), product presentations (e.g. Puma, Citroen, Ducati) or social events (fashion shows, post-premiere parties, company parties, weddings etc.).

MeetFactory's music strategy is based on a range of genres and particularly accommodating. Anything goes- from major gigs by indie groups both local and foreign, as well as regular community and subculture events (electronic music, hard & heavy etc.), to more intimate and specialized affairs reaching out towards contemporary classical music, alternative scene or electronic experiments. Apart from single events, MeetFactory also regularly co-hosts festivals such as Lunchmeat, Sperm, Komiksfest or Stimul and collaborates with charities such as Amnesty International, Coolich for Africa and the Czech Paraplegic Association.

Among most memorable recent events were the concert of Animal Collective from the US, the birthday party of the industrial legend Einstürzende Neubauten, the gigs of the British bard Fink, the electronic Ratatat, Caribou or Hercules & Love Affair. Some very popular events originated from the local music scene, e.g. the double-billing of Monkey Business and PSH, the launching of MIDILIDI's third studio album, the sold-out gig of WWW or the concert of the Havířov singer-song writer Xavier Baumaxa.



MAIN FEATURES OF OUR MUSIC PLANNING

Bohemian Like You – this is a production line introducing new trends in international indie guitar and electronic scene, simultaneously supporting local prodigies. Between 2011 and 2012, MeetFactory hosted performers and groups such as the Eferklang, Beach House, Austra, The Black Lips, Tortoise and Dan Deacon

Contact – in this line, we lend an ear to foreign emerging stars. Most often, it is their first appearance before the Czech audience. In the course of 2012, MeetFactory thus introduced Emika from the UK, The Pains of Being Pure at Heart from the US and the British-Spanish ensemble Crystal Fighters

New trends in dance music – regular underground dance parties featuring foreign producers and DJs



Music matinees – these music events, targeting young audience between 16 and 23 years of age, combine low cost with music education

Trainspotting – a complementary free-of-charge line of DJ production takes place in the lounge with the view of the tram tracks or the courtyard at the back of the building

These regular features are complemented by other events such as periodic discos on roller skates, flea markets, university student fresher parties and lots more.



AUDIO/VIDEO EQUIPMENT OF THE CENTRAL VENUE

Sound Equipment

PA Loudspeakers:

8x EAW KF730
(Gunness focusing)
8x EAW SB330z

Speaker Processors:

2x EAW UX8800

Amplifiers:

2x QSC ISA 1350
4x QSC ISA 750
2x QSC ISA 280

Monitors:

4x EAW MW12 (passive)
2x EAW NT59 (active)

FOH Console:

Soundcraft Vi4
(48-ch)

Microphones:

2x Shure B56
4x Shure SM57
4x Shure SM58
2x Shure B58
1x Shure B87A
1x Shure B52
1x Shure B91
2x Shure B81
4x Shure B98
4x AKG C451
2x AKG C519
4x DI box BSS AR133
2x 4xch DI box BSS AR416

Stands:

10x K&M 210
10x K&M 252
2x K&M 259
3x single-tier keyboard stands

DJ Equipment:

2x Technics SL-1210 M5G
1x Pioneer DJM-300

Light & Video Equipment

Lights on stage:

16x PAR 56 Eurolite 300W
11x PAR 64 Stairville 1000W
4x Scanner HES Cyberlight CX

Dimmers:

2x 12-ch Electron Actor 716
1x 8-ch VEHA DD8.1w+z 8x1kW
1x 4-ch Botex DD-4 III

Console:

Avolites Pearl 2004

Extra lights & equipment:

4x PAR 64 Stairville 1000W
4x PAR 56 Eurolite 300W
1x Eurolite DMX Superstrobe 2700
4x Ultralight Strobe 2000
(analog, 500W)
1x Flashcontrol (analog) + cables + generator
1x 4-ch dimmer BOTEX DDP 405
1x 4-ch dimmer Showtec Multidim Mk II
1x Ottec Viper NT smoke machine
(1300W, DMX 512)



1x DMX Scanner Processor HES Cyberlight (1 x DMX 512)
1x DMX PAR operator GLP Scan FX - 8 channels (1 x DMX 512)

Projection screens:

1x fixed screen on stage horizontal 4x3 m
1x front projection screen 4x3 m on stands
2x pull-down screens 2x1.2 m

Projectors:

BenQ MX660P XGA/ DLP 3000 ANSI

Stage

niVtec flexibel staging system:

30x platforms 200 x 100 cm (60m2 total) 44x legs 80 cm
1x stairway 80 cm

Additional staging legs:

16x legs 100 cm
29x legs 80 cm
14x legs 40 cm
12x legs 20 cm

HEIGHT OF THE MUSIC HALL FROM FLOOR TO CEILING

height of the music hall

lowest height of the hall

A = 3,85 m

height from the ground to the main cross-beam

B = 4,10 m

height from the ground to secondary cross-beam

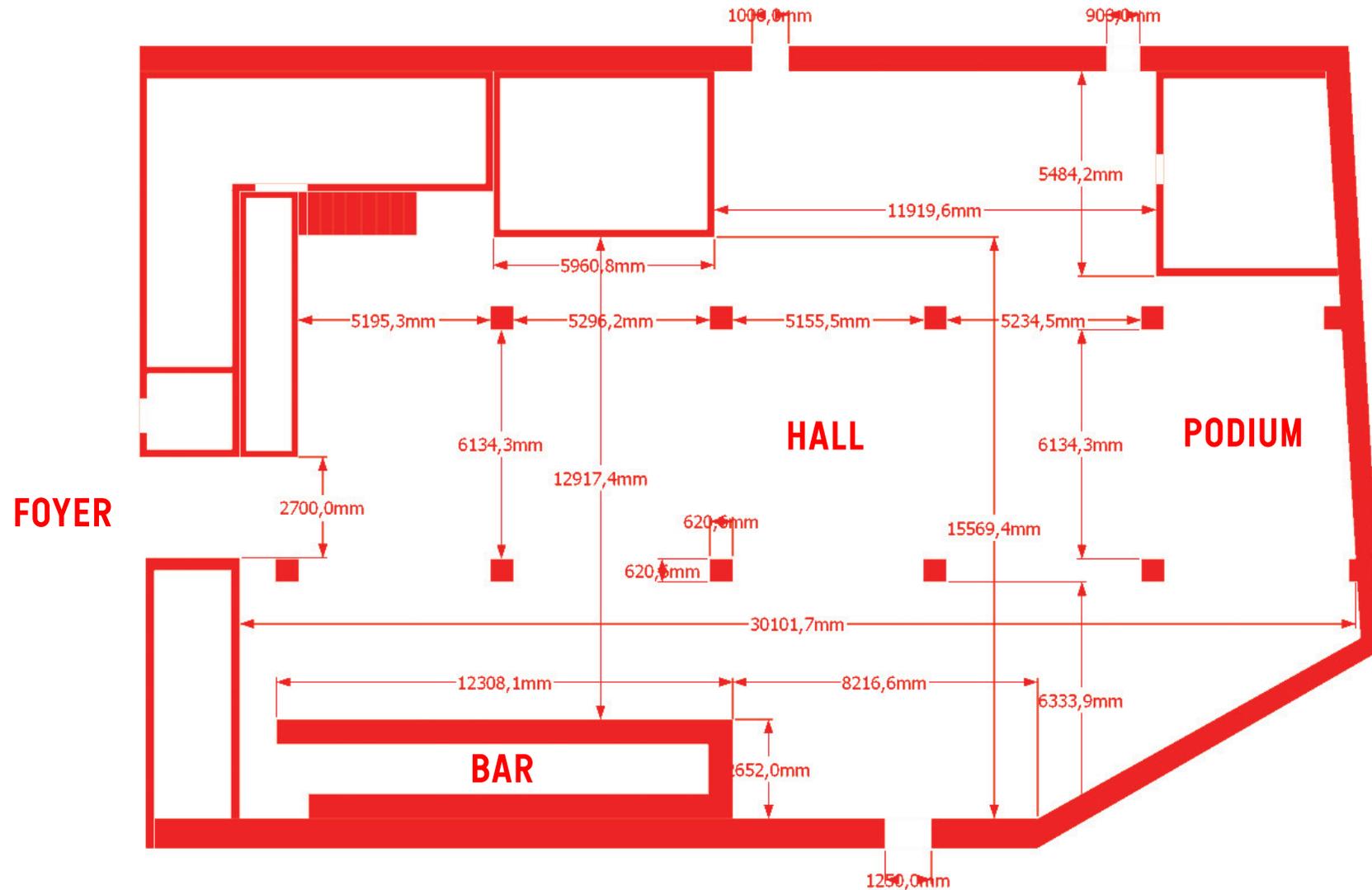
C = 4,4 m

height from the ground to the ceiling

D = 4,89 m



TOP VIEW OF MUSIC HALL





Theatre

THEATRE

The theatre based at MeetFactory was founded in 2008. Since then, its several scores of original productions have won it a considerable reputation amongst the theatres of Prague for being an inspiring space for the plays of uncompromising freethinkers. Some of the actors and directors have matured during their engagement with the theatre and have become publicly recognized.

MeetFactory theatre prefers to collaborate with artists who are used to project work. The ensemble promotes original projects rather than the interpretation of classical pieces; they “do theatre” with multiple meanings

and socio-political significance. Over the years, a number of foreign collaborators have made their first appearance in the Czech Republic via MeetFactory theatre, primarily directors and scenographers. We support young emerging dramatists. Dramatists from abroad are also eligible for residency stays.

The overall area of the theatre is 150 square metres. The venue can seat an audience of 150 or 100 with a sloping audience area.



OUR PRODUCTIONS

MeetFactory theatre does not employ a fulltime ensemble.

We put on roughly four to five new productions by inspiring directors every year.

Our principal space for the staging of theatre productions is the versatile Theatre Hall but theatre groups may also make use of the Music Hall or any of the rooms on MeetFactory's first floor which also offers two rehearsal rooms.

The plays at MeetFactory have frequently been adapted from works of contemporary literature or are based on the principles of devising theatre. Our mission is to reflect burning social issues and tap into the contemporary theatre trends around the world. The framework of well-established theatre genres such as musical or road-movie is being disrupted and shifted into new contexts. The writers and directors often choose primary sources with no apparent dramatic potential and they look for original ways of staging them.

We try to make space for the interaction of our theatre productions with the other productions of MeetFactory. We also encourage artists from different areas to join in.

MeetFactory theatre's ambition is to participate in international theatre co-productions. We have been communicating with the EU's theatre and cultural programs, especially those whose objective is theatre research and the staging of extreme scenic forms such as documentary theatre, social theatre, performing arts, devising theatre etc. We have been collaborating with, amongst others, The Poiesis Theatre Project from the US and Earth Fall Dance Co. from the UK.



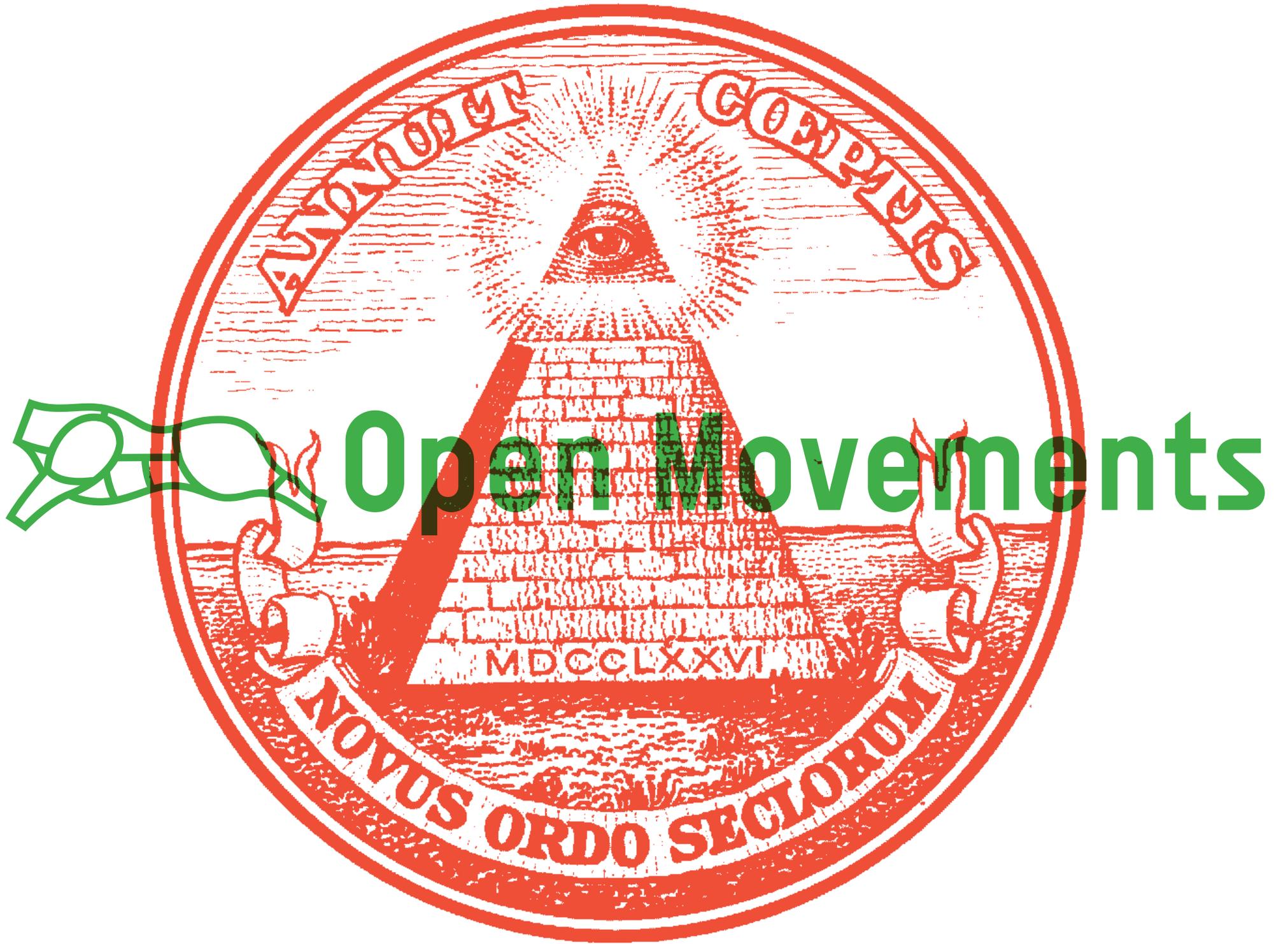
SUPPORTING NEW ORIGINAL PROJECTS

MeetFactory's interest lies primarily with young directors and theatre groups in the making. We provide them with rehearsal space and we rent out the venue at a low cost or free of charge.

We support:

- a) The staging of new scripts and translations
- b) Projects linked to theatre research
- c) Experimental theatre trying to redefine theatre communication
- d) Site-specific projects relating to MeetFactory's building and history
- e) Interdisciplinary projects merging different art forms





Open Movements

OPEN MOVEMENTS

As part of our theatre endeavours, we also organize events which go beyond the individual program areas of MeetFactory. The umbrella term for these thematic cycles is Open Movements and they are:

- a) Literary Nights – literary readings of both emerging and established writers, followed by a discussion
- b) Academia – visitors meet experts from different areas of human activity (scholars, craftsmen, technology specialists etc.)
- c) Consequences of the Bizzare – film parties with screenings of new documentaries, especially by film-school students



Open Movements are a unique platform where artists and specialists from different areas meet the public and together contribute to the intellectually challenging background of MeetFactory.



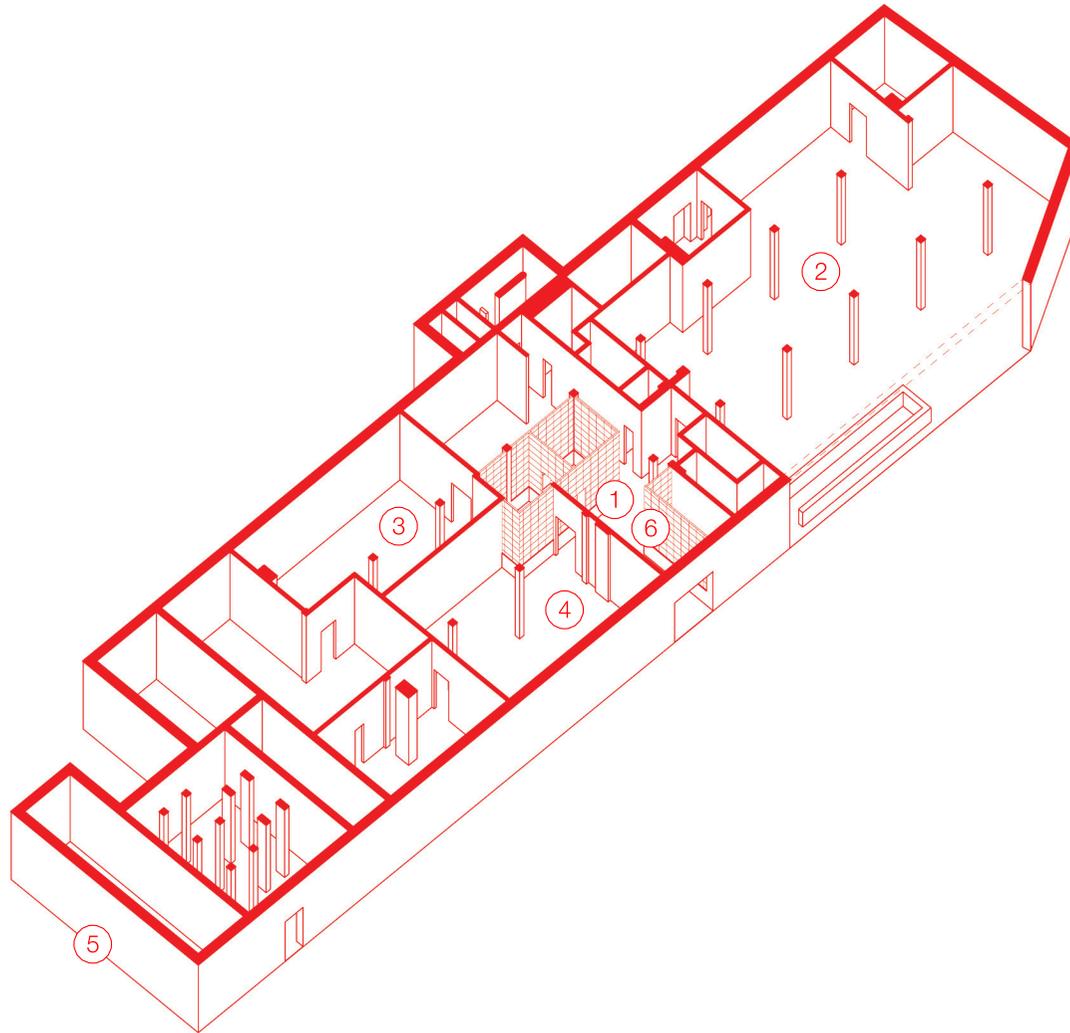
PERFORMANCES

MeetFactory is also a platform for performing arts. We put on Slam Poetry nights and encourage new unestablished performance events such as Frivol Battle. We would like to be a space for the presentation of artworks by genre-crossing artists whose creation does not meet the conventional standards and rules.

MeetFactory's staff are about to launch a new program called Performance Workshop, which will enable performing artists to fully concentrate on their projects and will eventually become part of our established residency stays for visual artists.

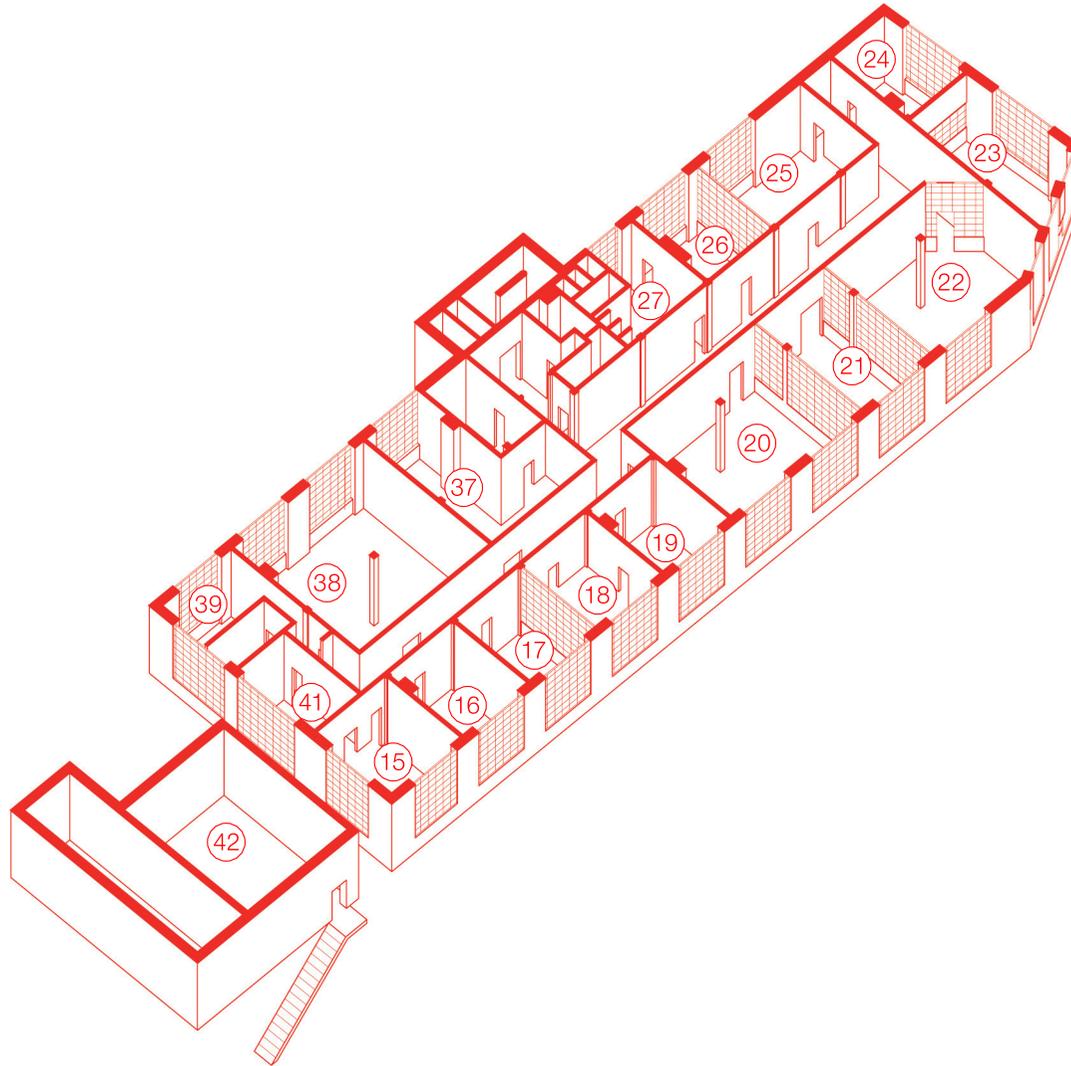


GROUND FLOOR PLAN



Total floor area	5100 m ²
Studios, rehearsal rooms, studios and deposit 1/ Foyer and amenities	3500 m ²
1 Foyer a facilitie	450 m ²
2 Large multifunctional hall (music)	600 m ²
3 Small multifunctional hall (theatre)	150 m ²
4 MeetFactory Gallery	300 m ²
5 Wall Gallery	160 m ²
6 Café Konzum	40 m ²

FIRST FLOOR PLAN



- 15 50 m²
- 16 40 m²
- 17 40 m²
- 18 40 m²
- 19 40 m²
- 20 100 m²
- 21 58 m²
- 22 Performing Arts Studio
- 23 52 m²
- 24 33 m²
- 25 60 m² / Project Room
- 26 40 m² / Kitchen
- 27 40 m² / Bathroom
- 37 110 m²
- 38 100 m² / Rehearsal Room
- 39 55 m²
- 41 28 m²
- 42 Cube Gallery



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wMeetFactory, o. p. s.

Ke Sklárně 3213/15 150 00, Praha 5

IČO: 26466708 DIČ: CZ26466708

Opening hours:

every day from 13:00 to 20:00

+ according to the programme

www.meetfactory.cz

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David Černý, Tomáš Souček, Dita Havrdová, Phatbeatz.cz, Marsha Ginsberg

Partners:



Medial partners:

