9.6. – 20.8.2023 (Kostka Gallery)



Anna Ročňová: Iůně

Curator: Ján Gajdušek Anna Ročňová approaches her works as fragile components of outer and, especially, natural structures. They resemble specific entities which may have come from the world of humans, but their shapes, colors, and exteriors are more similar to embryos or remains of unknown species covered with mimicry of our world. The layers of feedstocks, often many times recycled by the author, get patinized in a specific manner as the time goes, turning into never-before-seen materials. The objects grow softly from their surrounding environment as they are capable of transforming discreetly from their inner environment into the exhibition space as heterogeneous clusters of both natural and human-made materials.

Ročňová applies this way of thinking also reversely as she puts her works into the wild (e.g., the Extended Nature project), making it an open exhibition field. Her works merge gradually into landscape and become its components, emphasizing the natural process which is an important part of her praxis. It could be called a slow growing through or overgrowing.

The exhibition in the Kostka Gallery is based around the same principle. Contrastive fusion of fragile natural and industrial/artificial materials follows indirectly on from the previous function of the exhibition space which used to be a furnace of the Inwald glassworks. The central object created from unfolded paper filters soaked in engine oil represents a central metaphorical deep hole. Fragile clusters of fans and nets are spread around the space in a levitation-like notion over the hole. Fuming engine oil intensifies the distant odor soaked in the walls of many abandoned industrial plants. The installation affects our senses literally and makes us want to physically observe every one of its details.

The exhibition is intended to be a theme equivalent of the collective exhibition Only Transitions and Translations in the main MeetFactory Gallery. Anna Ročňová (*1989) studied Sculpture at the Faculty of Design and Art of University of West Bohemia in Plzeň and at the Fine Arts I Studio of Academy of Arts, Architecture, and Design (UMPRUM) in Prague under the tutelage of Edith Jeřábková and Dominik Lang. She graduated in 2017. She was on educational stays at Universität für angewandte Kunst in Vienna as a part of the TransArts program in 2013 and at the Painting 2 Studio of Vladimír Skrepl at The Academy of Fine Arts in Prague in 2015. She has exhibited at several group exhibitions, e.g., at the National Gallery in Prague as a part of the Against Nature project (2016), at the Tranzit-Display Gallery (2016), or at the Soda Gallery in Bratislava (2015). Her solo exhibition took place, e.g., at the Prague City Gallery in Colloredo-Mansfeld Palace with the exhibition Luxurious Moments (2018), Blansko Town Gallery (2020), or at the exhibition space Zaazrak |Dornych in Brno (2020). Her diploma exhibition Vějíř took place the Botanical Garden of the Faculty of Science of Charles University in Prague in 2017 and later in hunt kastner gallery in Prague. She often co-exhibits with Jan Boháč, e.g., in Karlin Studios (2019) and the Gallery of Modern Art in Roudnice and Labern (2022). In 2021, she won the Jindřich Chalupecký Award.

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