



## **FALL is in the air!**

The FALL festival is a space for the thoughts and voices of writers, artists, and other creative minds from various disciplines and their inspiring “borderlands”.

We are delighted to offer a four-day programme featuring writers, artists and other interesting guests from the United Kingdom, Belgium, the United States, Israel, Turkey, Ireland, Italy, Portugal, and, of course, the Czech Republic. Their books, works, and ideas are definitely not to be missed.

The FALL festival is an opportunity to slow down, listen, and discover. To see the world through someone else’s eyes for a moment, to enter into someone else’s story. To try to “share” experiences in a different way than with a click. To ask if creativity, imagination, and empathy are what set us apart from our artificially intelligent future (at least for now).

We invite you to exhibitions, discussions, readings, guided tours, interdisciplinary workshops, evenings of music and film, and activities for schools and families, all on board the Gulliver Airship and throughout the DOX Centre for Contemporary Art. Welcome to FALL!

## **portrait / self-portrait or narrating the self in the digital age**

The theme of Empathy in the Digital Age, which kicked off the first year of the FALL festival, remains more relevant than ever, and this year’s theme Portrait / Self-Portrait will build on it further. Guests of the festival include authors of distinctive autofiction novels and writers and artists who truly put themselves on the line in their books or works. However, the programme also features those who have attempted to capture the lives of others in their literary or artistic portraits, detailing the fates of real people, historical or living.

Much has been written and said in the past few years about the authenticity or unreliability of literary (auto)biographies, “fiction fatigue”, and other related topics. The FALL festival opens the topic in the broader context of multiple artistic genres but also in the context of social issues and aspects of the digital age that affect all of our lives on a daily basis.

## **FALL is in the air on board the gulliver airship!**

The story of the Gulliver Airship is a story of the desire for adventure, creative freedom, the courage to take risks, and the conviction that even in today's accelerated, over-saturated, and over-digitalised world, things can be done differently – dreams can come true.

The Gulliver Airship is hard to describe in concrete terms and easily labelled categories. It is a place of imagination. A place where stories are told and shared. A place where time flows differently, where the surface velocity of our lives can be slowed down. A place between heaven and earth, between dream and reality, between art and literature.

It is also the home of FALL Festival of Arts, Literature & Learning.

# Festival day by day

## 19. 9. — 24. 9. 2024



# Thursday 19. 9.

**9.30**

**STORY EXCHANGE WITH JAN NĚMEC**

Jan NĚmec

Auditorium

**discussion, workshop CZ**

A 60-minute discussion with Czech writer Jan NĚmec followed by an immersive workshop focused on building empathy through story exchange and a visit to the exhibition KAFKAesque.

**10.30**

**EMPATHY THROUGH STORY EXCHANGE**

Studio

**workshop EN / CZ**

A seminar for librarians and teachers. Presentation of the Narrative 4 global initiative focused on developing empathy through story exchange by Rachel Gleeson and Laura Duff will be followed by a visit to the exhibition KAFKAesque.

**19.00**

**FALL 2024 – OPENING**

Max Porter, Alberto Manguel, Marek Torčík,

Bianca Bellová, Dimitri Verhulst

DOX+

**performance, conversation, fireside reading and storytelling EN / CZ**

Welcome to FALL 2024! Max Porter performs The Death of Francis Bacon. Writers Alberto Manguel, Marek Torčík, Bianca Bellová and Dimitri Verhulst discuss PORTRAIT / SELF-PORTRAIT or Narrating the Self in the Digital Age. Festival guests read and tell stories by the fire.

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**19. 9.**

# Friday 20. 9.

**9.30**

**STORY EXCHANGE WITH DIMITRI VERHULST**

Dimitri Verhulst

Auditorium

**discussion, workshop CZ**

A 60-minute discussion with respected writer Dimitri Verhulst followed by an immersive workshop focused on building empathy through story exchange and a visit to the exhibition KAFKAesque.

**14.00**

**GUIDED TOUR OF THE EXHIBITION KAFKAESQUE**

Otto M. Urban, Leoš Válka,

Michaela Šilpochová, Rowynn Dumont

Gallery A

**Guided tour EN/ CZ**

Guided tour of the KAFKAesque exhibition in English with curators Otto M. Urban, Leoš Válka and Michaela Šilpochová. Special guest: artist Rowynn Dumont

**16.00**

**THE LATEST CZECH PROSE**

Petr A. Bilek, Jan M. Heller,

Marta Ljubková, Olga Pavlova

Gulliver Airship

**discussion CZ**

Respected literary critics discuss which of this year's books are worthy of attention and by what criteria they should be judged.

**20. 9.**

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**17.30****ON THE VERGE OF WORDS WITH MAX PORTER****Max Porter, Petr Vizina****Gulliver Airship****discussion EN / CZ**

In 2015 Max Porter hypnotized the literary world with his debut novel *Grief is the Thing with Feathers*. His writing seems to defy any categorization. Bordering on poetry, essay, novel and painting, hovering between musicality, visuality and writing. With each new book Max Porter seems to be pushing the limits of language and those of the reader's imagination. Meet Max Porter in conversation with Petr Vizina.

**19.00****THE ENIGMATIC UNIVERSE OF THE QUAY BROTHERS****Bratři Quayové, Benjamin Balint****DOX+****discussion EN / CZ**

The world-renowned artists and film-makers Timothy and Stephen Quay have built up a remarkable body of work that includes stop-motion animation, drawings, and performing arts productions. Influenced by Central and Eastern European writers, artists, and musicians including Jan Švankmajer, Leoš Janáček, the Prague-born Franz Kafka or the Polish-Jewish writer Bruno Schulz, they have created a dreamy universe filled with lyrical darkness, strange characters, and curious psychological scenarios. Meet the Quay Brothers in conversation with Benjamin Balint and watch their award-winning short films.

**20.30 NIGHTFALL****SLAM POETRY SHOW:****SELF-PORTRAIT OR A VERBAL SELFIE****Vášek z Aše, Večerka, Tim Postovit****DOX café****CZ**

Poetry as show! An exhibition set of the Czech top slam poetry, a genre of performance poetry, on the terrace of the DOX Café.

**8****20. 9.****Saturday 21. 9.****9.30****STILL LIFE WITH GLASS GOBLETS AND LEMON****Petr Borkovec****Studio****workshop CZ**

A two-day poetry and prose course with poet, writer, translator and author of more than thirty books Petr Borkovec.

**9.30****SELFIE VS. SELF-PORTRAIT****Adam Štech****DOXLAB****workshop CZ**

A two-day painting workshop with painter Adam Štech, whose latest paintings can currently be seen in the exhibition *houellebecq!* at DOX.

**9.30****WRITING FROM SPACE****Anna Beata Háblová****Auditorium****workshop CZ**

Two-day literary-architectural workshop with artist, writer, urban planner and architect Anna Beata Háblová.

**21. 9.****9**

# 9.30

## VISUAL STORYTELLING

Stefano Carini

Gallery B1

workshop EN

A two-day workshop focused on photography with Italian photographer and visual storytelling expert Stefano Carini.

# 11.00 — 17.00

## RECYCLITERATURE

Courtyard

Family workshop CZ

An open family workshop for children aged four and up where we will breathe new life into discarded printed materials.

# 11.00

## SELF-PORTRAIT AS THE FIRST SIN IN ART

Daniela Vodáčková, Hynek Martinec, Otto M. Urban

Gulliver Airship

discussion CZ

In the history of art, the self-portrait was the first attempt to humanize art. In recent decades new technologies have opened up possibilities for different ways of capturing the self, and pop culture too has made its mark. Join us for a lecture by curator and art historian Otto M. Urban, accompanied by a debate with poet Daniela Vodáčková and artist Hynek Martinec on non-traditional approaches to self-portraiture in contemporary visual and poetic art.

10

21. 9.

# 14.00

## READING *houellebecq!*

Tereza Matějčková, Adam Štech,

Otto M. Urban, Miloslav König

Gallery A2

discussion, reading CZ

How does the public image of authors and our awareness of them change our view of their work? A debate between philosopher Tereza Matějčková and painter Adam Štech and curator Otto M. Urban in Adam Štech's exhibition *houellebecq!*.

# 16.00

## THE LEGEND OF MYSELF, AS TOLD BY MY MOTHER, WHILE GRANDMA WAS SITTING NEXT TO ME

Petr Borkovec

Gulliver Airship

reading CZ

A reading of Petr Borkovec's short true prose, characterised by very compelling - especially visual - links to the lie.

# 17.30

## BRUNO SCHULZ: A WRITER, AN ARTIST AND THE HIJACKING OF HISTORY

Benjamin Balint, Magdaléna Platzová

Gulliver Airship

discussion EN / CZ

An exceptional portrait of the “writers’ writer” Bruno Schulz. In a new seminal biography by Benjamin Balint the examination of the life, death and afterlife of the magician of the Polish language and genius artist Bruno Schulz becomes part of Balint's own story, the path to self-discovery and the search for the lost world of Eastern European Jewry. Benjamin Balint in conversation with writer Magdaléna Platzová.

21. 9.

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**19.00**

**PORTRAIT OF A WRITER AS A READER**

**Alberto Manguel, Ali Kazma, Petr Vizina**

**DOX+**

**discussion EN / CZ**

World-renowned writer, critic and essayist Alberto Manguel has dedicated his life to promoting the importance of reading. He will share his thoughts on reading to Borges, libraries at night, the healing effects of literature, and the use of one 40 000-volume personal library in conversation with video artist Ali Kazma, who captured Manguel's poetic film portrait, *Alberto in Lisbon*, which will be premiered at the festival.

**20.30 NIGHTFALL**

**THE GLORY OF LIFE - CZECH PREMIERE**

**DOX+**

**DE / CZ**

Czech premiere of a surprisingly „un-Kafkaesque“ film portrait of Franz Kafka's last romance.

Drama, 2024, 98 min

Directors: Georg Maas, Judith Kaufmann

Cast: Henriette Confurius, Sabin Tambrea

Distributor: Film Europe

Screened in German with Czech subtitles.

# Sunday 22. 9.

**9.30**

**STILL LIFE WITH GLASS GOBLET AND LEMON**

**Petr Borkovec**

**Studio**

**workshop CZ**

A two-day poetry and prose course with poet, writer, translator and author of more than thirty books Petr Borkovec.

**9.30**

**SELFIE VS. SELF-PORTRAIT**

**Adam Štech**

**DOXLAB**

**workshop CZ**

A two-day painting workshop with painter Adam Štech, whose latest paintings can currently be seen in the exhibition houellebecq! at DOX.

**9.30**

**WRITING FROM SPACE**

**Anna Beata Háblová**

**Auditorium**

**workshop CZ**

Two-day literary-architectural workshop with artist, writer, urban planner and architect Anna Beata Háblová.

# 9.30

## VISUAL STORYTELLING

Stefano Carini

Gallery B1

workshop EN

A two-day workshop focused on photography with Italian photographer and visual storytelling expert Stefano Carini.

# 11.00 – 17.00

## TAKE NITKA ON A WALK

Courtyard

Family workshop CZ

An open family workshop for big and small; recommended for children aged nine and up or younger children with a guardian.

# 11.00

## THE ARTIST AND ARTIFICIAL CREATIVITY

Josef Bolf, Tomáš Hříbek, Otto M. Urban, Michal Kern

Gallery B2

discussion CZ

A debate between philosopher Tomáš Hříbek, artist Josef Bolf and curator Otto M. Urban in Josef Bolf's exhibition Melancholy of the Outher Limits, for which the artist has written a new short story in collaboration with artificial intelligence.

# 14.00

## AUTOFICTION:

### BETWEEN EMPATHY AND EMANCIPATION

Marek Torčík, Alena Machoninová, Blanka Činátlová

Gulliver Airship

discussion CZ

Debate with Alena Machoninová and Marek Torčík not only about the limits of (auto)biographical writing and literary memory, but also about their own readerly empathy and the forms of literary authenticity. Hosted by Blanka Činátlová

14

22. 9.

# 16.00

## THE SELF IN THE AGE OF COMPLEXITY

Alice Koubová, Tomáš Koblížek, Anna Beata Hábllová

Gulliver Airship

discussion CZ

A debate between philosopher Alice Koubová and philosopher Tomáš Koblížek on how selfie culture influences us and the difference between self, ego and identity, moderated by writer and artist Anna Beata Hábllová.

# 17.30

## LIFE AND OTHER ADDICTIONS

Dimitri Verhulst, Josefína Formanová

Gulliver Airship

reading, discussion EN / CZ

In his work, novelist and poet Dimitri Verhulst depicts the erosion of humanity without sentimentality, but with unflinching wit and humour. He is not interested in man as an aspirant for success but as an ultimate failure. Verhulst himself does not mistake the aura of an outsider – often attributed to him – for a halo. He undermines the general belief that literature holds up a mirror to society by questioning who it is that actually looks in the mirror. Meet the author in conversation with Josefína Formanová. Reading by translator Veronika ter Harmsel Havlíková.

# 19:00 NIGHTFAL

## GOODBYE KAFKAesque!

BERG Orchestra

DOX+

Closing of this year's FALL festival and the KAFKAesque exhibition with the soloists of the BERG Orchestra.

Programme:

Steve Reich: Different Trains

Gideon Lewensohn: Odradek (selection)

Soloists of the BERG Orchestra

Roman Hranička – 1st violin

Anna Romanovská Fliegerová – 2nd violin

Martin Stupka – viola

Balázs Adorján – cello

22. 9.

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# Monday 23. 9.

**9.30**

**STORY EXCHANGE WITH ALENA MACHONINOVÁ**

**Alena Machoninová**

**Auditorium**

**discussion, workshop CZ**

A 60-minute discussion with respected writer Alena Machoninová followed by an immersive workshop focused on building empathy through story exchange and a visit to the exhibition KAFKAesque.

**16.00**

**THE TRUTH, OR A LIE?**

**Studio**

**workshop CZ**

A teaching workshop in the framework of the FALL festival and connected with the exhibition Point of View: Identity.

# Tuesday 24. 9.

**9.30**

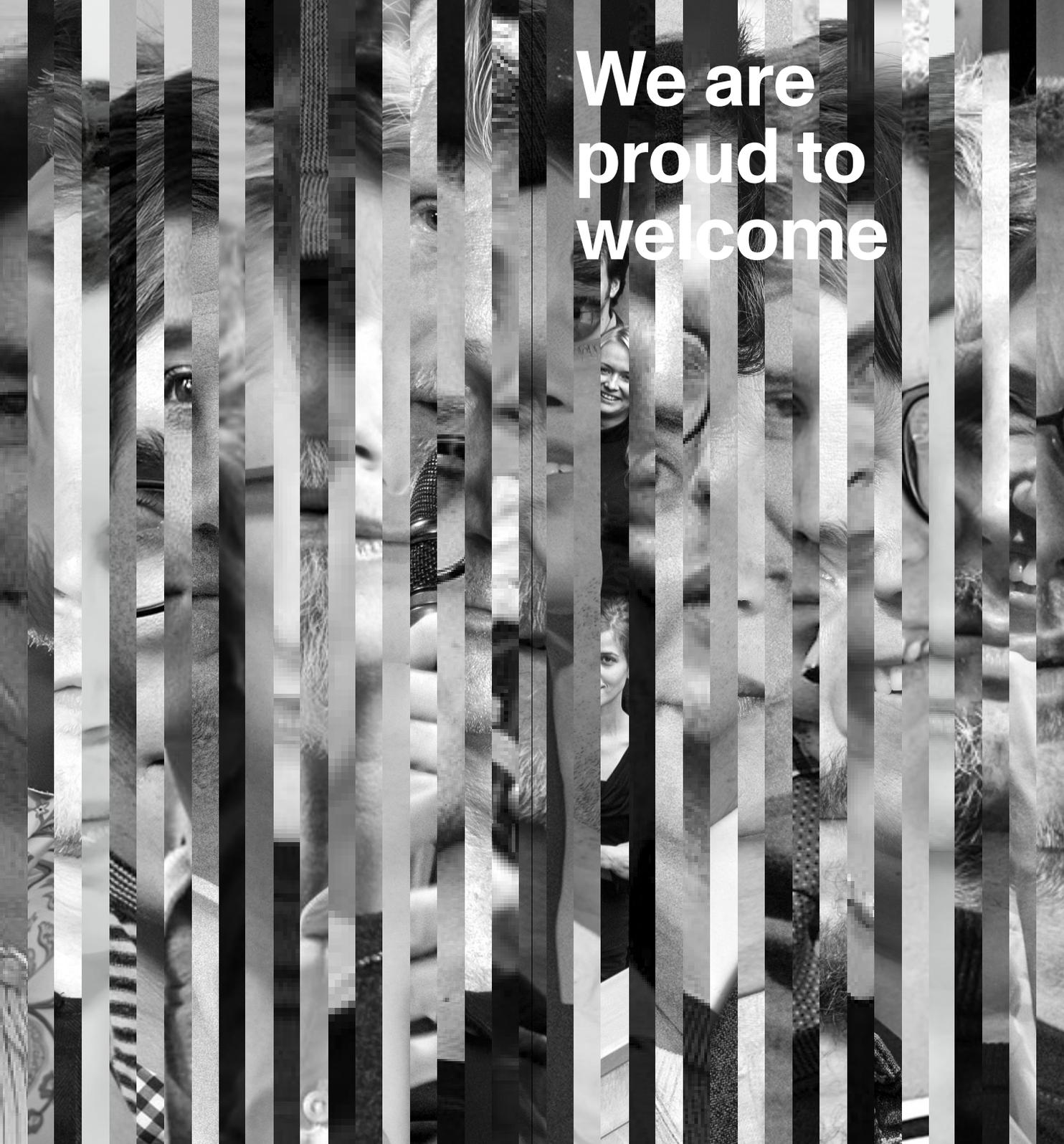
**STORY EXCHANGE WITH MAREK TORČÍK**

**Marek Torčík**

**Auditorium**

**discussion, workshop CZ**

A 60-minute discussion with respected writer Marek Torčík followed by an immersive workshop focused on building empathy through story exchange and a visit to the exhibition KAFKAesque.



**We are  
proud to  
welcome**



## Benjamin Balint (1976) USA / Israel

Benjamin Balint is an American-Israeli writer, journalist, historian, and translator based in Jerusalem. He is the author of *Kafka's Last Trial* (2018), a captivating portrait of the legal dispute over Franz Kafka's legacy. The book won the Sami Rohr Prize for Jewish literature. In 2023 Benjamin Balint published a comprehensive and highly praised monograph on the Polish-Jewish writer Bruno Schulz.



## Bianca Bellová (1970) Czech Republic

Bianca Bellová is a Czech novelist. She is the author of the novels *Sentimentální román* (Sentimental novel, 2009), *Mrtvý muž* (Dead man, 2011), *Celý den se nic nestane* (Nothing happens all day, 2013), *Mona* (2019), and *Ostrov* (The island, 2022) as well as the collection of short stories *Tyhle fragmenty* (These fragments, 2021). In 2016 she published *Jezero* (The Lake), a critically acclaimed novel for which she won the Magnesia Litera Award and the European Union Prize for Literature. In 2023 the English translation of *The Lake* was awarded the prestigious EBRD Literature Prize. Her most recent novel is *Neviditelný muž* (Invisible Man, 2024).



## BERG Orchestra, Czech Republic

The BERG Orchestra is an ensemble specialising in contemporary music and supporting Czech composers, especially those of the younger generation. Over the course of their existence, they have commissioned and premiered more than two hundred new works. They often combine music with other art forms. They are pioneers in presenting contemporary music outside of traditional halls and have performed in a number of industrial buildings and in an under-construction Prague metro station. In 2021 they won the prestigious Prix Italia award for the Czech Republic for the first time in more than half a century.



## Petr A. Bílek (1962) Czech Republic

Petr A. Bílek is a literary theorist and historian who has authored numerous professional publications and nearly fifty studies, some of which have also been published in English, French, German, Italian, Hungarian, Croatian, and Japanese. He is a professor in the Department of Czech and Comparative Literature at the Faculty of Arts of Charles University and the director of the Institute of Art and Culture Studies at the Faculty of Arts of the University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice. He contributes literary criticism to publications such as *A2*, *Host*, *Respekt*, and *Aktuálně.cz*.



## Josef Bolf (1971) Czech Republic

Josef Bolf is one of the most respected Czech painters of his generation. He studied at the Academy of Fine Arts, Prague (1990–1998), at Kongsthögskolan, Stockholm (1995) and in the Akademie der Bildenden Künste in Stuttgart (1996). From 1996 to 2002 he was a member of the art group Bezhlavý jezdec. His canvases and prints are often characterised by a melancholic, lonely suffering figures and depressing atmosphere. Bolf's work has close ties with literature. He is the author of several comic books and puppet films. His works are currently featured at a solo exhibition *Melancholy of the Outer Limits* at the DOX.



## Petr Borkovec (1970) Czech Republic

Petr Borkovec is a Czech poet, writer, and translator, author of more than thirty books of poetry and prose. Most recently, he released the collection *Básně* (Poems, 2024) and the book of entomological prose *Křehká knížka* (Fragile little book, 2024). Together with Matyáš Havrda, he has translated several Greek dramas – most recently Euripides's tragedy *Medea* (2024). He was the official poet of the city of Prague in 2023.



## Stefano Carini (1985) Italy

Stefano Carini is an independent photography professional, curator and producer, currently working as the creative director of NOOR Images and the NOOR Foundation. His core interest lies in visual education, visual literacy, and indigenous production of visual work. After studying photography and photojournalism in London, UK, and Arhus, Denmark, he briefly worked as photo editor for NOOR Images in Amsterdam before moving to Iraq, where he led Metrography, the first Iraqi photo agency, through the war with ISIS. Carini has trained photographers and visual storytellers, and given lectures and visual laboratories within different communities around the globe. Recently, he has turned his attention to studying permaculture, and he cultivates hundreds of endemic species for regenerative purposes.



## Blanka Činátlová (1976) Czech Republic

Blanka Činátlová is a literary historian and publicist. She specialises in Central European literature, pop culture, literary anthropology, and the didactics of literature. She published the scholarly monographs *Příběh těla* (The story of the body, 2009) and *Odradky: Věc a věcnost v literatuře* (Odradeks: The thing and thingness in literature, 2015). She teaches at Charles University, and since 2010 she has been the literary editor of the magazine *A2*.



### **Laura Duff (1997) Ireland**

Laura Duff is an assistant and instructor for Narrative 4, a global organisation that promotes a methodology developing empathy through story exchange. She graduated from University College Cork. A talented singer and songwriter, she has won several music awards for her charismatic alternative pop.



### **Kryštof Eder (1994) Czech Republic**

Kryštof Eder is a literary critic and fiction editor for the publishing house Lidové noviny. He studied Czech literature at the Faculty of Arts of Charles University, where he is now completing his PhD. He deals with, among other things, the specifics of Czech literary debuts. As a literary critic he contributes to the magazines *Host* and *Reflex*.



### **Josefína Formanová (1992) Czech Republic**

Josefína Formanová studied English and philosophy at the Faculty of Arts of Charles University, and she is currently pursuing her doctorate in philosophy there. She won the Tom Stoppard Prize for best essay. As a literary and theatre reviewer, she contributes to various cultural periodicals (*Aktuálně.cz*, *Artikl*, *A2*, *Host*, *Kapitál*), and since 2024 she has hosted the philosophical video podcast *Mysli a žij!* (Think and live!).



### **Rachel Gleeson (1984) Ireland**

Rachel Gleeson is a programme manager and instructor for Narrative 4, a global organisation that promotes a methodology developing empathy through story exchange. She has a degree in psychology with a focus on early childhood care. She is particularly interested in the topic of interpersonal communication and the impact of sharing personal stories on the formation and development of human relationships.



## Anna Beata Hábllová (1983) Czech Republic

Anna Beata Hábllová is writer, poet, slammer, and visual artist. She is the author of the non-fiction books *Město zdí* (Cities of Walls) and *Nemísta měst* (Non-Places of Cities), as well as four poetry collections. In 2022, she published her debut novel *Směna* (Shift, 2022). She also recently recorded the album *Poetrycore* in collaboration with Martin Kyšperský. Her poetry resounds in her work as a visual artist.



## Tomáš Hříbek (1965) Czech Republic

Tomáš Hříbek is a philosopher who focuses on the philosophy of the mind and language, the philosophy of science, and ethics and aesthetics. He has published three monographs: *Metafyzika antiindividualismu* (The metaphysics of anti-individualism, 2008), *Jaké to je, nebo o čem to je? Místo vědomí v materiálním světě* (What is it like, or what is it about? The place of consciousness in the material world, 2017) on phenomenal consciousness, and *Obrana asistované smrti* (A defence of assisted dying, 2021) on the ethical permissibility of euthanasia. He also deals with selected topics connected with the philosophy and ethics of new technologies, in both a professional and popularising capacity. To this end, he co-founded the interdisciplinary platform The Karel Čapek Center for Values in Science and Technology. He is a proponent of so-called new atheism. He works at the Institute of Philosophy of the Czech Academy of Sciences and teaches at the Academy of Fine Arts in Prague.



## Jan M. Heller (1977) Czech Republic

Jan M. Heller is a literary critic and publishing editor. He studied Czech language and comparative literature at the Faculty of Arts of Charles University and evangelical theology at the Protestant Theological Faculty of the same university. He also pursued anthropology in the scope of his postgraduate studies. He engages in literary criticism, essay writing, journalism, and translation criticism. He is the director of the AMU Press in Prague, and since 2023 he has been the editor-in-chief of the biweekly *Tvar*.



## Marie Iljašenko (1983) Czech Republic

Marie Iljašenko is Czech poet, writer and translator originally from Kyiv. She has written two collections of poetry, *Osip míří na jih* (Osip heads south, 2015) and *Sv. Outdoor* (2019). She translates contemporary Polish and Ukrainian poetry into Czech and is the editor of the anthology of war reports *Chleba z minového pole* (Bread from the minefield, 2022). In 2023 she was awarded the Top Stoppard Prize for her essay *Jsem všudezdejší* (I'm a local everywhere around here).



## Ali Kazma (1971) Turkey

Ali Kazma is one of the most original Turkish visual artists today. In his poetic video essays reminiscent of archaeological records, he searches for the meaning and significance of human work and human activity in general. He has previously collaborated with Orhan Pamuk, about whom he made the video art triptych *A House of Ink*, which explores the writer's work, studio, library, and archive. His latest project, which he will present in Prague in its world premiere, was created in collaboration with the writer Alberto Manguel.



## Tomáš Koblížek (1982) Czech Republic

Tomáš Koblížek is a philosopher and literary scholar. He focuses on the philosophy of language and art and their relationship to ethics. He deals with misinformation, hate speech, and scandalous works of art. He organises international philosophy conferences on art and language, and he was the main coordinator of the conference on hate speech in the Senate of the Parliament of the Czech Republic. He has written a number of books, and he works as a researcher at the Czech Academy of Sciences.



## Miloslav König (1984) Czech Republic

Miloslav König is a theatre and film actor, director, and composer. His home stage is the Theatre Na zábradlí. He plays Michel Houellebecq in the stage production *Public Enemies* (2023), inspired by the French writer's correspondence with the philosopher Bernard-Henri Lévy. This role earned him a nomination for the Theatre Critics' Award in the category of best male performance. He has also acted in a number of films and TV series, most recently the film *Her Drunken Diary* (2024), for which he also composed the score.



## Alice Koubová (1974) Czech Republic

Alice Koubová is one of the most renowned Czech philosophers today. She deals with performative philosophy, empathy, corporeality, and artistic research and develops these topics in her teaching at the Academy of Performing Arts in Prague and other art schools. She also collaborates on projects with Czech theatres and art institutions (Studio Alta, Alfréd ve Dvoře, the National Theatre, the Theatre Institute). She has written a number books, the most recent of which is *Odolná společnost. Mezi bezmocí a tyranii* (The resilient society: Between powerlessness and tyranny, 2023).



### **Marta Ljubková (1975) Czech Republic**

Marta Ljubková is a dramaturge and literary and theatre critic. For many years she worked at the National Theatre as a dramaturge and then the chief dramaturge, and she currently works at the theatre Vztet. She lectures in the Czech Republic and abroad and writes about contemporary Czech prose and drama. She occasionally publishes literary reviews in *Souvislosti*. She studied Czech language at the Faculty of Arts of Charles University and dramaturgy at the Department of Alternative and Puppet Theatre at DAMU in Prague, where she now teaches.



### **Alena Machoninová (1980) Czech Republic**

Alena Machoninová is a scholar of Russian studies, a translator, a literary critic, and the author of the award-winning essayistic auto-fiction novel *Hella* (2023). This story of Helena Frischerová, a Czechoslovak Jew living in the Soviet Union, which the author reconstructed from letters, photographs, and other “fragments”, won the Magnesia Litera Award for Book of the Year. Machoninová worked for many years as a lecturer at Moscow State University and has translated dozens of classic and contemporary works from Russian, but she was forced to leave the country and now lives in Prague.



### **Alberto Manguel (1948) Argentina /Canada**

Alberto Manguel is a respected Argentine-Canadian writer, translator, essayist, and promoter of reading. His probably best-known book, *A History of Reading* (1996), is an engrossing exploration of the role of reading in human culture, from ancient times to the present day. One of Manguel’s mentors in the 1960s was the then already blind Jorge Louis Borges to whom the author would read aloud. Manguel has received numerous international awards for his work as an author and editor. Some of his renowned works include *With Borges* (2004), *Reading Pictures* (2000), *The Library at Night* (2006), and *The Traveler, the Tower, and the Worm* (2013). In April 2024, Manguel inaugurated a new Centre for Research into the History of Reading in Lisbon, which has been built around his personal library of 40 000 books.



### **Hynek Martinec (1980) Czech Republic**

Hynek Martinec is one of the most accomplished artists of the Czech contemporary art scene. After his studies at the Academy of Fine Arts, Prague, he left for Paris (2005 – 2007) and since 2007 has been living in London. He received the prestigious BP Young Artist Award (2007) for his hyperrealistic portraits. His paintings are inspired by Old Masters and/or photographs, which link the past with the future, using modern technologies.



### **Tereza Matějčková (1984) Czech Republic**

Tereza Matějčková is a philosopher, journalist, and columnist. Her philosophical work focuses mainly on German modern philosophy and the philosophy of religion. Her book *Hegelova fenomenologie světa* (Hegel's phenomenology of the world, 2019) was published in German and Czech to great acclaim, and she won the Josef Hlávka Award for her philosophical work. She is the author of *Kdo tu mluvil o vítězství? Osm cvičení ve filosofické rezignaci* (Who here spoke of victory? Eight exercises in philosophical resignation, 2022). In 2024 she won the Magnesia Litera for her book *Bůh je mrtev, nic není dovoleno* (God is dead, nothing is allowed). For many years she was a senior lecturer at the Faculty of Arts of Charles University. Since 2022 she has been working for *Týdeník Echo*, contributing to a number of other media outlets, and lecturing externally at universities.



### **Olga Pavlova (1984) Czech Republic**

Olga Pavlova is a publicist, translator, and literary scholar. She studied comparative literature at the Faculty of Arts of Charles University, where she subsequently earned her PhD. She deals with dystopia in world literature, and she authored a book about the worlds of anti-utopian and dystopian literature. She has published articles in the magazines *Plav*, *revue Prostor*, *Tvar*, and *A2*.



### **Jan Němec (1981) Czech Republic**

Jan Němec is a Czech writer, journalist, and publicist. He is the author of a biographical novel about the life of Czech modernist photographer and artist František Drtikol, *A History of Light* (2013), for which he received the European Union Prize for Literature. He also wrote the auto-fiction novel *Možnosti milostného románu* (Ways of Writing About Love, 2019), which was nominated for the Magnesia Litera Award, or *Liliputin: Povídky z války* (Liliputin, Stories from the War, 2022). Together with Petr Vizina, he compiled a book of interviews on spirituality titled *Znamení neznámého* (Signs of the unknown, 2021). Since 2022 he has been editor-in-chief of the HOST literary magazine.



### **Magdaléna Platzová (1972) Czech Republic**

Magdaléna Platzová is a Czech writer, journalist, and translator. Among her best-known novels are *Aaron's Leap* (2006), *The Attempt* (2016), and most recently *Life After Kafka* (2024), about the fate of Felice Bauer, who took all of her former fiancé Franz Kafka's letters with her when she emigrated to America. Platzová often writes about themes of identity, memory, and history, and her books have been translated into many languages. She lives between the Czech Republic and France.



## Max Porter (1981) UK

Max Porter rose to stardom in Britain following his debut novella *Grief Is the Thing with Feathers* (2015), which won the International Dylan Thomas Prize and was shortlisted for the Guardian First Book Award and the Goldsmiths Prize. It has been adapted for the stage by the Irish playwright and director Enda Walsh, starring Cillian Murphy. His second book *Lanny* (2019) was longlisted for the Booker Prize. His interest in the visual arts gave rise to *The Death of Francis Bacon* (2021), a luminous portrait of a dying artist Francis Bacon written as a series of paintings. His most recent novel, *Shy* (2023), a lyrical study of teenage boyhood, long topped the best-seller lists. Max Porter will chair the judging panel of The International Booker Prize in 2025.



## Tim Postovit (1996) Czech Republic

Tim Postovit is a Czech slammer, poet, translator, and lecturer of Ukrainian origin. He won the Czech Slam Poetry Championship for duoslam (together with Šimon Felenda) in 2019. He has published two collections of poetry: *Magistrála* (Thoroughfare, 2019) and *Motýlí pavilon* (Butterfly pavilion, 2021). Since the beginning of the Russian aggression against Ukraine, he has worked as a social worker in a dormitory for war refugees.



## The Quay Brothers (1947) UK / USA

The Quay brothers – twins Stephen and Timothy – are a world-renowned London-based American creative duo of artists/directors. Their celebrated animation films are characterised by expressive stylisation and often deal with dreams and the subconscious. In 2012, MoMA in New York organised a major retrospective of their work. In 2014, the Eye Filmmuseum in Amsterdam dedicated a special exhibition to the Quay brothers. Perhaps their best known film *Street of Crocodiles*, which is based on a short story by Bruno Schulz and was nominated for the Palme d'Or, can currently be seen in the exhibition *KAFKAesque* at the DOX.



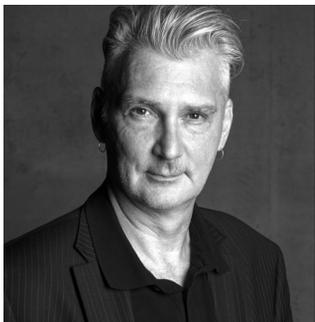
## Adam Štech (1980) Czech Republic

Adam Štech is a Czech painter and sculptor. From 2001 to 2008 he studied at the Academy of Fine Arts in Prague. He works with modernist forms, which he interprets in his own artistic language. He is associated with figurative painting, but his artistic world is diverse, ranging from self-portraits to images of family and friends to depictions of public figures. Štech's works are represented in many private and public collections in the Czech Republic and abroad. In 2011 he won the Critics' Prize for Young Painting. His most recent paintings can be seen in the exhibition *houellebecq!*, currently on view at the DOX Centre for Contemporary Art.



### **Marek Torčík (1993) Czech Republic**

Marek Torčík is a Czech poet and prose writer of the young generation. He rose to public attention with his debut novel, *Rozložíš paměť* (Memory burn, 2024), which deals with a queer boy's coming of age in a small town as well as family history and memory. The book stirred up the debate about the genre of autofiction, but above all, it appealed to readers and critics alike with its polished style and sensitivity, earning the author both the Jiří Orten Award and the Magnesia Litera Award for Prose.



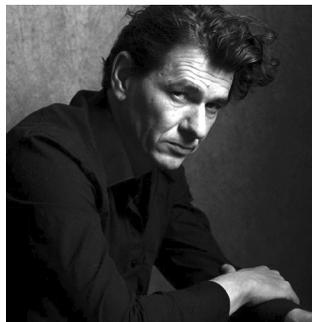
### **Otto M. Urban (1967) Czech Republic**

Otto M. Urban is a curator and art historian. His main professional interest lies in Czech and international art of the nineteenth, twentieth, and twenty-first centuries. He has lectured on the history of Czech modern art at various academic institutions in the Czech Republic and abroad. From 2012 to 2016 he headed the Department of Theory and History of Art at the Academy of Fine Arts in Prague. From 2017 he was the curator and later the director of the Collection of Nineteenth-Century Art and Classical Modernism at the National Gallery Prague. He has written a number of books and monographs and curated many group and solo exhibitions. He has been the chief curator of the DOX Centre for Contemporary Art since 2020.



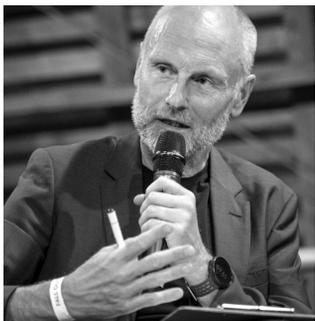
### **Večerka (1997) Czech Republic**

Hana Nguyen, a.k.a. Večerka, is a Czech-Vietnamese slammer and poet from Sokolov. Her texts focus on themes of identity, immigrant life, and emotional experience. At the end of the year she will be publishing her first book of poetry, *Co by tomu řekli doma* (What they'd say about that back home). She lives in Prague, works in the field of AI, and regularly contributes to the media project Page Not Found.



### **Dimitri Verhulst (1972) Belgium**

Dimitri Verhulst is a Belgian writer, considered in his homeland to be one of the most outstanding authors of his generation. His work is characterised by black humour, scathing criticism of society, and empathy for outsiders. Works of his that have been published in English include *Problemski Hotel* (2003), *Christ's Entry into Brussels* (2011), and *The Latecomer* (2017). At FALL he will be presenting his latest novel, *Hebben en zijn* (To have and to be, 2022), which was published in Czech this spring. A film based on his autobiographical novel *The Misfortunates* (2006) was released in 2009.



### **Petr Vizina (1967) Czech Republic**

Petr Vizina studied theology and currently teaches at the Catholic Theological Faculty of Charles University. He is the editor-in-chief of the magazine *Quartal*, which is published by Prague City Gallery. He writes interviews, glosses, and critical commentaries for *Aktualne.cz* and *Czech Radio*. For seven years, he led the cultural newsroom of *Czech Television*. He is a recipient of the *Josef Dobrovský Prize*. Vizina has published numerous books, including the collection of interviews with Czech artists *Stará garda* (The old guard, 2016), the memoirs of Lydia Tischlerová *Se žlutou hvězdou v prázdném kupé* (With a yellow star in empty compartment, 2021), the book of interviews about spirituality *Znamení neznámého* (Signs of the unknown, 2021) and the book interview with artist Křištof Kintera *Nad očekáváníí* (Beyond expectations, 2022).



### **Daniela Vodáčková (1964) Czech Republic**

Daniela Vodáčková is a poet and psychotherapist. She authored the poetry collections *Z období prvních řas* (From the era of the first algae, 2016) and *Autoportréty* (Self-portraits, 2022), which is inspired by the portraits of the old masters as well as those of modern painters. In 2021 she wrote a regular column for *Tvar* called *Báseň v odraze* (A poem in reflection). In 2018 she was a finalist for the *Dresdner Lyrikpreis*. She is currently working on publishing a new collection of poems titled *Grotte*.



### **Vašek z Aše (2002) Czech Republic**

Václav Ponikelský, a.k.a. Vašek z Aše, is a two-time runner-up in the *Czech Slam Poetry Championship* (2021, 2022). He was the first Czech slam poet to achieve significant success abroad, winning a bronze medal at the *European Slam Poetry Championship* in 2023. He originally hails from Aš but now studies in Prague at the Department of Alternative and Puppet Theatre of the Theatre Faculty of the Academy of Performing Arts. Born in 2002, he belongs to the youngest generation of slam poets.

## Visit our exhibitions!

### KAFKAesque

The exhibition KAFKAesque focuses on reflections on Kafka's work and poetics in contemporary visual art offering not a historical perspective of his work, but a view that reflects our present-day situation with all its complexities and ambiguities.

Curators: Otto M. Urban, Leoš Válka, Michaela Šilpočová

### Adam Štech: houellebecq!

The exhibition houellebecq! by Adam Štech is neither a tribute to the French writer Michel Houellebecq nor an illustration of his works. Nor does it attempt to interpret or explain anything of his texts. Štech explores primarily himself, mediated in any way.

Curator: Otto M. Urban

### Melancholy of the Outer Limits

The exhibition Melancholy of the Outer Limits presents, for the first time in its entirety, an extensive body of paintings created over the last ten years. Filled with faceless people lost in the ruins of cities, these paintings are a mirror of the artist's own soul.

Curator: Otto M. Urban

### Jiří Hůla: Eight Crosses

An exhibition of works related to Jiří Hůla's exceptional scalpel drawing technique in honour of his 80th birthday. Exhibited at the Fine Art Archive.

### Point of View: Identity

Another instalment of the long-term project, which combines the format of an exhibition and a classroom and focuses on the theme of human identity. Who am I? What am I? The human form naturally takes centre stage; the body, its clothing, its behaviour. A person's identity and the different ways of looking at it.

### When to visit the exhibitions?

Another instalment of the long-term project, which combines the format of an exhibition and a classroom and focuses on the theme of human identity. Who am I? What am I? The human form naturally takes centre stage; the body, its clothing, its behaviour. A person's identity and the different ways of looking at it.

## Do not miss

### Fine Art Archive book bazaar

Open 21–22. 9, 11.00–19.00

Café

A selection of antiquarian books, art catalogues, and publications from the Fine Art Archive.

### Book release:

### Edice současné poezie Cesty

### + guided tour of the exhibition Jiří Hůla:

### Eight Crosses

20. 9. 2024, 17.00

Fine Art Archive

### Bendox bookshop

Open 19. 9. , 11.00–22.00 and 20–22. 9. , 11.00–19.0

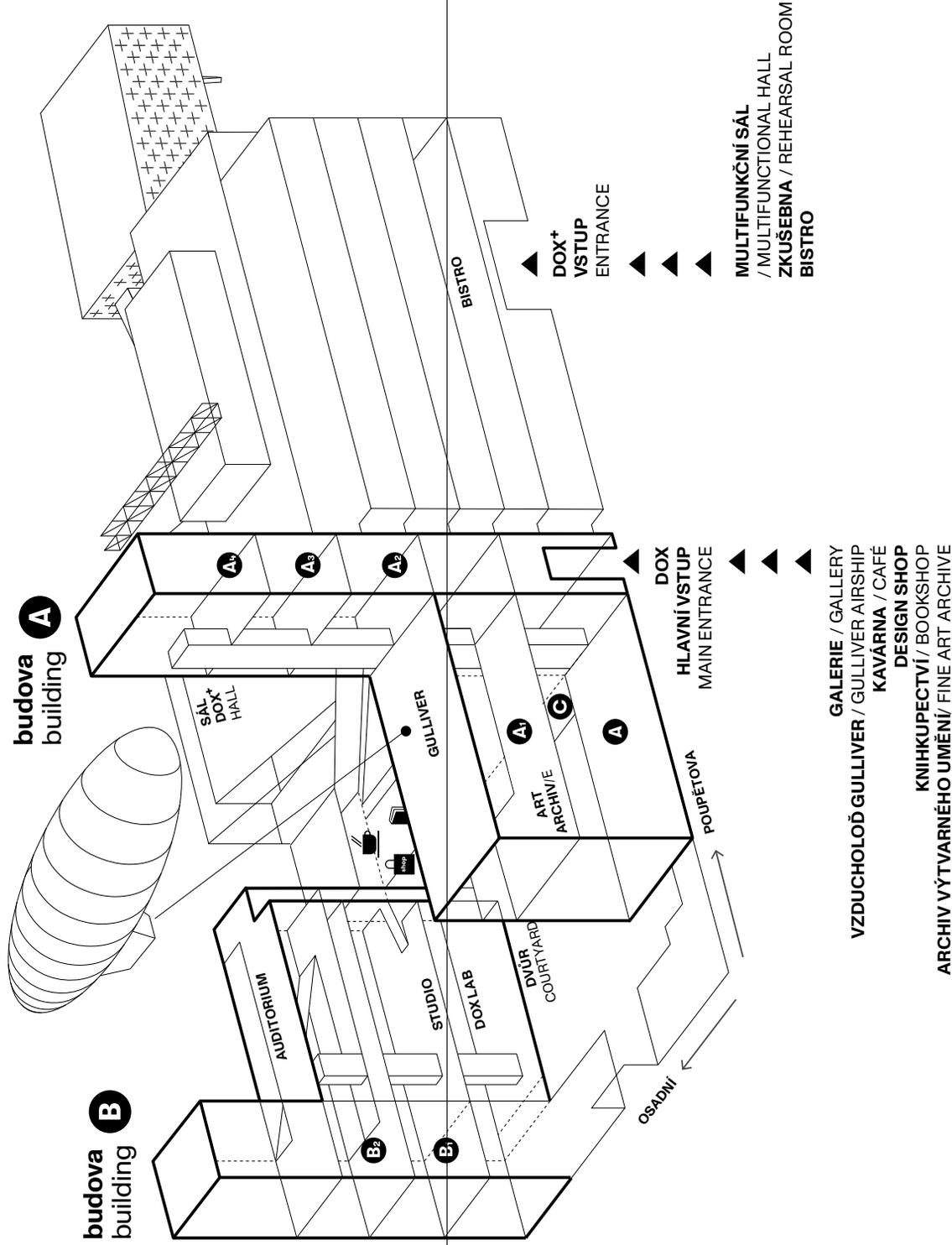
With books on art, architecture, design, or photography, you can extend your journey through DOX by as many pages as you want. You'll find a great selection of titles in English and Czech, for adults and children alike – and especially festival titles!

### DOX café

Open 11.00–23.00

Do you need to catch your breath after all those astonished gasps? Stop by the DOX Café for a coffee, a fizzy drink, or a snack. The café, which is located on the second floor, is handicap accessible and has free Wi-Fi.

# Floor plan of the DOX gallery



# Practical info

## Tickets

### Festival pass

festival programme from Thursday to Sunday:

**1200 CZK** / student, senior, disabled **30 % discount**

### One-day tickets

Friday: **450 CZK** / student, senior, disabled **30 % discount**

Saturday, Sunday: **500 CZK** / student, senior, disabled **30 % discount**

### Combo: full-festival pass + two-day workshop

workshop Writing from space: **1600 CZK**

workshop Selfie vs. self-portrait: **1600 CZK**

workshop Still life with glass goblets and lemon: **1600 CZK**

workshop Visual Storytelling: **1600 CZK**

### With a full-festival and one-day pass, you get free entry to:

all festival events (except the two-day workshops)

all special NIGHTFALL evening programs

all DOX exhibitions

the Gulliver Airship

all open workshops for children and adults

### It is also possible to purchase tickets for individual events:

discussions, lectures, book readings:

**150 CZK** / student, senior, **disabled 100 CZK**

guided tours: **200 CZK** / student, senior, **disabled 130 CZK**

family workshops: **free**

educational programmes for schools: **100 CZK** per person for groups of 10–25 people, free admission for the accompanying teacher

NIGHTFALL: Slam Poetry Show: **250 CZK**

NIGHTFALL: The Glory of Life: **200 CZK**

NIGHTFALL: Orchestr Berg – Goodbye KAFKAesque!: **250 Kč** / student, senior, **disabled 200 CZK**

two-day workshops: Writing from space / Selfie vs. self-portrait / Still life with glass goblets and lemon / Visual Storytelling: **800 CZK**

**Are you a member of the DOX Club? You can enjoy free admission to all exhibitions, guided tours, all open workshops for children and adults as well as family workshops, and you also get a 30% discount on the rest of the programme including the NIGHTFALL.**

Purchase tickets at [www.doxfall.cz/en](http://www.doxfall.cz/en) or at the ticket desk of the DOX Centre.

# How to get here?

## DOX Centre for Contemporary Art Poupětova 1, Prague 7

**By metro** – Take line C to the station Nádraží Holešovice, then a five-minute walk or take the tram one stop to Ortenovo Náměstí

**By tram** – Take the tram 10 minutes from the city centre to the stop Ortenovo Náměstí

**By car** – Use the P+R parking lot at Nádraží Holešovice

## **DOX Centre for Contemporary Art**

The DOX Centre for Contemporary Art was established through a private initiative in a former factory in Prague's Holešovice neighbourhood. Since 2008 its mission has been to create a space for the exploration, presentation, and discussion of fundamental social issues, wherein visual art, literature, the performing arts, and other disciplines enable a critical approach to the so-called reality of today's world.

DOX is a place where art transforms everyday experience. Through contemporary art exhibitions, performances, debates, readings, workshops, concerts, film screenings, and educational programmes, DOX reflects on the themes and issues that shape the world today. The exhibition space of over 3000 m<sup>2</sup> is complemented by the DOX+ Multifunctional Hall, the Gulliver Airship, the Fine Art Archive, a café, a bookstore, and a design shop.

**[www.dox.cz](http://www.dox.cz)**

## **DOX and creative education**

DOX Centre for Contemporary Art has been developing and implementing educational programmes as well as activities for children and families since its inception in 2008. The DOX Centre's long-term educational concept is based on the idea of an art institution that responds to the themes that shape today's world. The education department develops its own methodology in relation to the institution's exhibition programme, interconnecting different artistic fields, themes, and approaches, with the goal of fostering empathy and critical thinking. DOX is involved with the defining of creative learning and its benefits and is a co-founder of the Festival of Art and Creativity in Education – the largest event of its kind in the Czech Republic. DOX's educational programmes have garnered awards from the professional community. In the scope of its permanent offering of programmes, DOX produces an average of around 600 educational programmes yearly for schools, educators, and families with children.

# Thank you! We couldn't have done it without you!

## With support



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