mala voadora x HOŠEK CONTEMPORARY

GIL RUSS & ORDINARIO - CONFLICT ZONE

Opening reception: 10th November 2023, 6 - 10 pm

Exhibition period: 10th - 20th November 2023

Curated by Petr Hošek

What happens when positions collide? What happens when a confrontation is being reflected in an artistic expression? What happens when viewpoints from different disciplines want to be brought together in an exhibition?

Gil Russ and Ordinario work and create in different scenes, however here we see them coming together. That togetherness represents the contradiction of the differences, which can result in a flourishing outcome. In their case, the artificially created conflict is developed into an interaction that makes the friction between different positions visible. While Russ' grids and evenly distributed surfaces are an expression of order, Ordinario creates his absorbed environment through abstract forms.

Russ' grids are not only internal order, but also the basis of life and individual development. This is where his architecture begins, while for Ordinario architecture becomes a carrier, almost a host. The forms remain misunderstood, impose themselves and remain independent.

In their collaboration, the artists and architects dedicate themselves to the gathering, creations that arise when they look beyond their positions. Russ and Ordinario move out of their comfort zone and explore their previously unknown conflict zone. The exhibition is an expression of a friendly dispute with a good outcome, showing that a conflict does not always have to be negative.

This new installation is created particularly for the foyer space of mala voadora, based on the exact architectural plans of the ground floor of the building. While the painter Ordinario creates his art without a label or purpose, but with the idea of a form, Russ thinks more about his creations beyond their original purpose. He creates an architectural space with the vertical scaffolding lines. By examining the area through them, he is constructing the architecture backwards, positioning the scaffolding in their places as in the past, but with a playfulness in mind, not thinking of the real static purpose, but rather creating a new narrative with lines and perspectives.

On the contrary, Ordinario's forms serve their own constructional purpose within foreign systems. One could see this duality in opposition, but that is rather a different approach to creation. The coexistence of these two principles within the installation invites the viewer to see the scaffolding differently after visiting it, while the painting could be understood simply as beauty causing shadows.

The exhibition is accompanied by two site-specific performances:

Marcelo Reis - cutting Glass nails (Friday November 10, 2023 at 8 PM)

The performance continues Reis' work on transcoding text to other physical representations, where the referent is almost impossible to reach. In this case each letter or mark is transcoded into kicks per ten seconds (i.e.: a = 97 kicks/10s), while the pitch of the kick is also affected by this value. It is possible to distinguish space and character (letter), so we can begin to shape a text without knowing what it is saying to us, raising the question: do we need to know what the text is saying so it exists as a text? The title gives us hints of words and characters used in the text that is being transcoded, despite the fact the text itself doesn't really matter for the discussion. For this performance Reis includes a circle of car lights around the site-specific piece of Gil Russ & Ordinario, that are in sync with the sound. The installation casts shadows around the space of mala voadora that shape another transcodification of the same text.

Giovanni Concato - Safari (Wednesday November 15, 2023 at 9 PM)

The prelude to the 'Safari' performance involves the distribution of messages, which are referred to as 'Smoking thoughts'. These texts are written on small pieces of paper, rolled up and placed within various cigarette boxes. These boxes are arranged above tables created using a delicate balance of objects, including gas bottles, broken tree trunks, dried roots, plexiglass sheets and driftwood. His performance-in-installation consists of both organic and non-organic detritus reallocated in self-balancing structures. No glue, screws or joints are used to secure these objects, just the careful alignment of their centre of gravity. The concept revolves around the interplay between objects, words and the surrounding environment. The delicate balance of the objects symbolises the fragility of our existence. The dark or dimly lit space adds depth to the experience, intensifying the atmosphere and encouraging introspection.

Hošek Contemporary

Established by Petr Hošek in 2016, Hošek Contemporary is a gallery and art residency located on a historical cargo ship next to Fischerinsel in Mitte, Berlin. The gallery focuses primarily on site-specific pieces, performing arts and experimental sound works. During the spring and summer months, the gallery is hosting weekly improvised and experimental music installations, with local and international musicians.

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