



Press Information O21, Nr. 16 / 8. September 2021

Saturday, 11., and Sunday 12. September

Sparkasse Family Weekend with Sparkasse Open Air Cinema Night:

# **EXPERIENCING ART WITH THE SPARKASSE**

The Ostsächsische Sparkasse Dresden and the OSTRALE Biennale invites everyone to to the Sparkasse Family Weekend in the former Robotron Canteen (Zinzendorfstraße, Dresden) on September 11 and 12. On Saturday at 3 p.m., 5 p.m. and 7 p.m., the performance "When artists can't travel" by "Topos Kolektiv" (Prague) can be seen in front of the exhibition entrance. Inside the art exhibition, from 11 am - 5 pm, children and adults can have selected works explained to them and discuss them together. For the first time in the context of the OSTRALE, a "Sparkasse Cinema Night" will also take place.

"It is a matter close to our hearts to give children access to art. With its exhibits and performances, the OSTRALE Biennale is particularly well suited for this. Visitors of all ages can also look forward to the films that we will present at the Sparkasse Cinema Night, which will take place here for the first time," says Andreas Rieger, corporate spokesman of the credit institution.

The Topos Kolektiv is a musical-performative ensemble unique in the Czech and European context that creates electroacoustic music directly for the places where its performances take place – in times of pandemic with some hurdles. Andrea Hilger, director of the OSTRALE Biennale: "Visitors can expect an extremely emotional performance by the five artists with reference to the Robotron-Kantine, in which they can fully immerse themselves."

At the Sparkasse Cinema Night, the films "Islands of Forgotten Cinemas" by Ivan Ramljak (Croatia, 2016), "The Green Vessel" by Etienne de France (France, 2019) and "Gifted Men" by Nils Agdler and Timo Menke (Sweden, 2015) will be presented for an audience of all ages. They will be shown with original sound and German subtitles on the evening of September 11 at 20:30, 21:10 and 22:10 at the skate park in front of the main entrance of the Robotron canteen, where there will also be a gastronomic offer - just like in a real cinema.

Children up to the age of 12 are admitted free of charge. Visitors to the Sparkassen Family Weekend who pay with their SparkassenCard (debit card) receive a 25 percent discount on the admission price (11.25 instead of 15 euros, 7.50 instead of 10 euros of the reduced price). Tickets are available on site or can be booked in advance at <a href="https://www.etix.com">www.etix.com</a>.

Visitors are asked to observe the current hygiene regulations, i.e. to wear mouth-nose protection and to bring proof of negative test, recovery or vaccination.

The OSTRALE Biennale is taking place mainly in the Robotron-Kantine until October 3. In addition, the decentralized Biennale exhibitions also invite visitors to the city sewage facility park of the Stadtentwässerung Dresden in Kaditz, and until October 17 to the OSTRALE.Basis in























Dresden Übigau (Rethelstraße 45). A visit to the Gedenkstätte Bautzner Straße memorial museum, where OSTRALE works can also be seen until 3.10., is possible with a Biennale ticket for an additional charge of 3 or 2 euros.

F.d.R.d.A. Tobias Blaurock

See further informations on the program below!

Robotron-Kantine: Tickets available at <a href="www.etix.com">www.etix.com</a>, 15 Euros, reduced price 10 Euro with VVK-Gebühr, open We-Fri (from 21. September: Tue-Fri) 10-19h, Sat-Sun 11-20h</a>
<a href="Gedenkstätte Bautzner Straße:">Gedenkstätte Bautzner Straße:</a> Mon-Sun 10-18h</a>
<a href="Stadtentwässerung Dresden">Stadtentwässerung Dresden</a>, Klärpark Kaditz: Tue, Thur, Sat: guided tours at 10h, 12h, 15h

OSTRALE.Basis, Übigau, Rethelstr. 45: Tue-Sat 12-18h

## **Sparkasse Family Weekend**

11. and 12. September in the Robotron-Kantine

### All day from 11 to 17h: Art Points

At the Art Points in the exhibition, selected artworks are explained and discussed by professional educators.

### Saturday from 15h: When artists cannot travel

The performance group Topos Kolektiv from Prague awaits you with a musical journey on the theme of "How site-specific performances are created in times of coronavirus restrictions."

The Topos Kolektiv is a unique musical-performative ensemble in the Czech and European context that creates electroacoustic music directly for the places where its performances take place. The results are emotional performances in which the viewer can be fully immersed, because the place that surrounds him or her is the strongest actor of the piece. Due to its unique spatial concept and high artistic quality, the Topos Kolektiv is often invited to international tours and conferences.

Since 2020, pandemic restrictions have paralyzed the work of the Czech Topos Kolektiv, which is engaged in creating site-specific performances. Artists, musicians and performers of the Topos Kolektiv, who until recently were accustomed to incorporating the characteristics of the site into their work for each new performance by making preparations and rehearsing directly in it for up to a month, researching it in detail and using its acoustics, found themselves, along with the rest of society, facing new questions about long-distance communication, proximity, and the division of space and time.

"How is communicating, rehearsing, and making music different when each of us is in a different place? What aspects of our real lives don't translate to online? How do you fill the online space with an authentic experience? What will happen to site-specific art in the coming period? And most importantly, how can we explore the specificity of Dresden through online space and translate it into a live performance?" explains the ensemble's vocalist, Annabelle Plum.

Members of the ensemble: **Annabelle Plum** (Voice), **Tereza Kerle** (Voice, Performance), **Tomáš Kerle** (Percussion, Electronics), **Marek Kimei Matvija** (Shakuhachi, Video). Guest: **Ian Mikyska** (Viola da Gamba, Bass Clarinet, Video)























The event is organized by the OSTRALE Biennale for Contemporary Art in cooperation with NEIRO Association for Expanding Arts z.s. with the support of the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic and the German-Czech Future Fund.

# **Program of the Open Air Sparkasse Cinema Night**

11. September from 20:30

### 20:30 Kino otok (Islands of Forgotten Cinemas)

Ivan Ramljak \* 1974 in HR | lives in HR Film | Running time 00:34:50 | 2016

A poetic documentary about the lost film culture of the small villages on the Croatian islands during the second half of the last century. Six witnesses of the time are remembering their favorite films and events related to their viewing and screening experiences, which marked their lives.

#### 21:10 The Green Vessel

Etienne de France \* 1984 in FR | lives in FR

Film | Running time 00:53:00 | 2019

This film tells the journey and the story of an old man on a river. Like a storyteller, he shares with us the tale of a scientist who discovers a contaminated river and tries to understand the sources of this problem. Accompanied by an artist and a young guide, he pursues his research in remote territories covered by a large forest. As he continues his tale, the old narrator engages himself in a long journey between the river and the vegetation, a quest that connects him to his own story. This project revolves around a film that relates to floating sculptures and architectures, drawings and installations. As work of fiction located in an undetermined future and geography, it is inspired by the landscape and history of the several production places of the project, referring to the transformation of Madgalena River in Colombia, to the political debates and oral literature in Aotearoa (New Zealand), and to the polluting impacts of intensive agriculture in that country and France.

### 22:10 Gifted Men

Nils Agdler, Timo Menke \*1969 in SE, \*1967 in DE | live in SE

Film | Running time 01:07:11 | 2015 Digital

The film deals with the commercial distribution of semen in Denmark from the perspective of anonymous donors. Donations are often regarded as selfless good deeds, and are expected to be voluntary, free and anonymous, though they may raise sensitive ethical questions. Danish legislation (unlike that of most European countries) allows for anonymous sperm donations, leading to increasing fertility tourism from other European countries. Sperm banks operate in a complex grey area on several levels, marketing human sperm as a processed product. During the personal interviews conducted with anonymous sperm donors and clinic managers in Denmark, special attention has been given to issues relating to masculinity and fatherhood, and how masculinity is manifested at the sperm banks and clinics.























#### **OSTRALE Biennale**

The OSTRALE Biennale is one of the major temporary exhibitions for contemporary arts in Germany. It is not a sales exhibition per se, which gives it the freedom to discuss socially relevant topics away from the market. The guiding principles of the OSTRALE, such as peaceful coexistence, acceptance of the foreign or unknown, respectful interaction, religious diversity and internationality, among others, are reflected in the content of the exhibitions. The OSTRALE team has already designed large parts of the contemporary arts program of European Capitals of Culture several times, such as in 2010 in Pécs, 2016 in Wroclaw, 2018 in Valletta/Malta, in the Rijeka/Croatia (2020), where, however, due to the Covid-19 pandemic could only be presented digitally, and a presentation of a selection of OSTRALE works in the European Capital of Culture 2022 Kaunas/Lithuania follows. In 2021-2022, OSTRALE is a lead participant in the Flowing Connections project (https://vimeo.com/487428285), (https://vimeo.com/544940287) co-funded by the European Union's Creative Europe program. In collaboration with Art Quarter Budapest (Hungary), Slobodne Veze (Croatia) and ECOC Office Kaunas 2022 (Lithuania), the project includes the OSTRALE Biennale O21 in Dresden and OUT of OSTRALE exhibitions in Budapest, Rijeka, Split, Zagreb and Kaunas in 2022, complemented by an artist in residence program and several workshops on digital cultural management, post-industrial cultural spaces, art education and the inclusion of people with disabilities.

F.d.R.d.A. Tobias Blaurock

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