

Opening Vernissage of the Exhibition "Amicable Separation" in New York

Czech Center New York, August 29, 2023

On September 7, 2023, the Czech Center in New York will inaugurate an exhibition titled "Amicable Separation," which presents a remarkable dialogue between the artistic works of Czech and Slovak creators. This exhibition is organized on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the establishment of the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic after the division of the former Czechoslovakia.

The project is guided by curator Charlotta Kotík, the great-granddaughter of the first Czechoslovak president, Tomáš Garrigue Masaryk. She highlights the significant collaboration between artists of both nations and the ongoing cultural exchange that transcends the boundaries of both states. The vernissage will take place during the United Nations General Assembly in New York, attracting the highest representatives from countries worldwide, including the Presidents of the Czech Republic and Slovakia, who will commemorate the entry of both countries into the UN exactly 30 years ago as independent states.

The "Amicable Separation" exhibition provides a unique platform for presenting diverse perspectives, stories, and creative approaches of Czech and Slovak artists currently active in New York. These artists have participated in artistic residencies in the USA, received prestigious scholarships, or had the opportunity to showcase their works in local galleries, significantly contributing to the global artistic dialogue.

One of the artists whose work will be featured in the exhibition is Adam Vačkář. His work reflects the connection between art and natural sciences, highlighting our relationship with the environment. The exhibition also showcases the artistic visions of other creators, such as Radek Brousil, who expresses himself through installations that combine textiles, ceramics, photography, and videos, as well as Martin Vongrej, whose minimalist and conceptual creations demand deep visual concentration. Czech artists Kristýna and Marek Milde, residing in Brooklyn, explore the tension between civilization and nature in an urbanized environment through their project "Motherboards."

"The Motherboard project stems from our fascination with the ubiquitous electrical wiring crisscrossing the Brooklyn sky, often intertwining with trees. We believe that wires and tree branches represent two distinct worlds, yet their connection serves as an intriguing metaphor that underscores the interdependence of urban energy systems on natural resources," says artist Kristýna Milde.



"Amicable Separation" is not just an exhibition; it's also an opportunity to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the independence of the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic. It encourages intellectual dialogue and demonstrates that separation can yield positive results. Curator Charlotta Kotík and art critic Lenka Lindaurová have collaborated with the Czech Center in New York to develop the concept of dialogue between artists, curators, and institutions, paving the way for future profound artistic collaborations. This exhibition offers an experience filled with inspiration and reflects the rich artistic potential of Czech and Slovak creators who have found a home in New York. Their works remind us that art transcends borders and can connect even the most distant cultural ties.

Miroslav Konvalina, Director of the Czech Center in New York, expressed: *"I am pleased that Czech and Slovak artists, who are currently successful in New York, are presenting their work here on Manhattan. Curator Charlotta Kotíková is showcasing the works of artists chosen by Americans for prestigious residencies and presentations in September when the eyes of the entire art world are on New York. As the Czech Center in New York, I am delighted that, instead of static long-term exhibitions, we are creating more dynamic pop-ups, art talks, and supporting artists at the pace of New York. Adapting to the rhythm of this greatest cultural metropolis makes more sense."*

The exhibition will be open for viewing at the Gallery of Czech Center in New York from September 7 until October 5, 2023. Admission is free and visitors are warmly invited to explore this unique artistic exposition.

Exhibiting artists: Radek Brousil (SK/CZ), Kristyna and Marek Milde (CZ), Tamara Moyzes / Romane Kale Panthera (SK/CZ), Gregor Petrikovic (SK), Ezra Šimek (CZ), Adam Vačkář (CZ), Martin Vongrej (SK)

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