

Miha Horvat feat. Aphra Tesla

ALBUM

2024

TONSPUR for Ukraine

About Ukraine: The literal translation of Ukraine is "the land within". It is a land of wheat within the wheat of a larger landscape, and nothing more than that (the word "wheat" in Slovene — the mother tongue of Miha Horvat and Aphra Tesla — means life as well as the biography of a saint; the root of the word is wheat – žito).

About the invitation: The label "featuring", translated as "the one who invites and the one who responds collude in the light", establishes clear coordinates between the two authors. The correspondents reveal both their mutual equivalence, adoration and respect, as they are in constant avoidance of rivalry and slavishly collectivist artistic practices whose common denominator is deception.

About the process: The authors play the role of smugglers of the re-constructivist method of composing the contents of their own past into the already existing curatorial concept of Georg Weckwerth and Peter Szely and their sound-image instrumentarium in the public space TONSPUR. A sensory ritual of two human voices in the hollow organ of architecture.

About the artwork: The artwork ALBUM is about the daring bareness of the ego. An operation that attacks and invokes the earliest period of human life. The sonic shreadings domesticated in the architecture of the TONSPUR Passage (<https://tonspur.at/soundworks/>) interrogate the passers-by in the manner of the animal predation of mathematical algorithms. The visitor to the passage enters a phase zone whose spatial destination is in a small dialogic war with matter — a spatiotemporal fusion, a chant advertised from the perspective of a prophet.

About the artists: Aphra Tesla and Miha Horvat, graduates of the Academy of Fine Arts and Design in Ljubljana (<https://www.aluo.uni-lj.si/en/>) and the University of Applied Arts in Vienna (<https://www.dieangewandte.at/>), intermedia artists, interspecies anthropologists and practical philosophers, curators, light and vocal manipulators, and creative representatives of the one and only truly living cultural space in Slovenia, GT22. In many ways, they are the driving forces behind each other's and their individual art. And of the ALBUM, which is a kind of tribute to Kurosawa's "Dersu Uzala".

Written by: Council for the Detection of Crime in the Arts, July 2024.

English translation: Sara Nuša Golob Grabner