

The Lie of the Land

Exhibition of works by Magdalena Jetelová

Curator: Tomáš Zapletal Cermak

Organiser: gallery Cermak Eisenkraft_, cermakeisenkraft.com

Authors of the project Magdalena Jetelová and Tomáš Zapletal Cermak

Place: gallery Cermak Eisenkraft_, Národní 9 (2nd floor of Topič House), Prague 1

Opening hours: Tue–Sun 11:00–18:00 (closed on Mondays and public holidays)

Deadline: from 31 March to 27 April 2023

Andreas Künne, Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany in the Czech Republic, took over the patronage of the exhibition. The exhibition was realized with the financial support of the Czech–German Future Fund. The exhibition catalogue was made possible thanks to the financial support of the State Culture Fund of the Czech Republic.

Galerie Cermak Eisenkraft_ continues its series of important contemporary art projects in the gallery space at Topič House on Národní 9 and presents an exhibition of the world-renowned Czech artist living in Germany, Magdalena Jetelová, entitled *The Lie of the Land*.

The exhibition will offer a varied cross-section of the artist's work from the 1970s to the present. It will feature works from the *Domestication of a Pyramid* series (1992–1995), *Iceland Project* (1992), *Pacific Ring of Fire* (2018), iconic wooden sculptures, new smoke drawings that build on previously created works realized through a combination of calculations, imagery and signs, as well as drawing documentation of the artist's projects. Some series of works will be exhibited in their entirety for the first time. The exhibition will highlight new possibilities of expression within the contexts and contexts of the artist's work, offering the opportunity to transform the understanding of the world around us.

The idea of states of disequilibrium and environmental instability, of the material fragility of the Earth, runs like a continuous thread through much of Clover's subsequent project work up to the present. It reveals that material boundaries are always necessarily crossed, whether through the uncertain natural potential for planetary catastrophe or the contemporary climatic Anthropocene consequences of ill-considered human interventions.

Mark Gisbourne

Magdalena Jetelová stands out for her original and multidisciplinary way of creating, which is characterized by artistic radicalism and consistency. Her work stands on the borderline between land art, pure concept, object and architecture and is often imprinted with ecological and cultural-historical issues. In her installations she deals with changes in reality, working with landscape in a similar way to architecture, with specific places, their history, memory and story. He explores the relationship between visuality and physical space. Time and space play a fundamental role in her work as two inseparable aspects of human existence. She reflects both of these dimensions in all her works, whether politically or non-politically motivated, and always tries to cross boundaries with her art. Light also plays a major role, which the artist works with as a sculptural material by projecting laser beams and inscriptions onto objects in the landscape. Over the last thirty years, the artist has incorporated the use of drones, satellites and GPS navigation alongside lasers, but never at the expense of her

fundamental clarification of the environmental issues at the heart of the exploration of each of her projects.

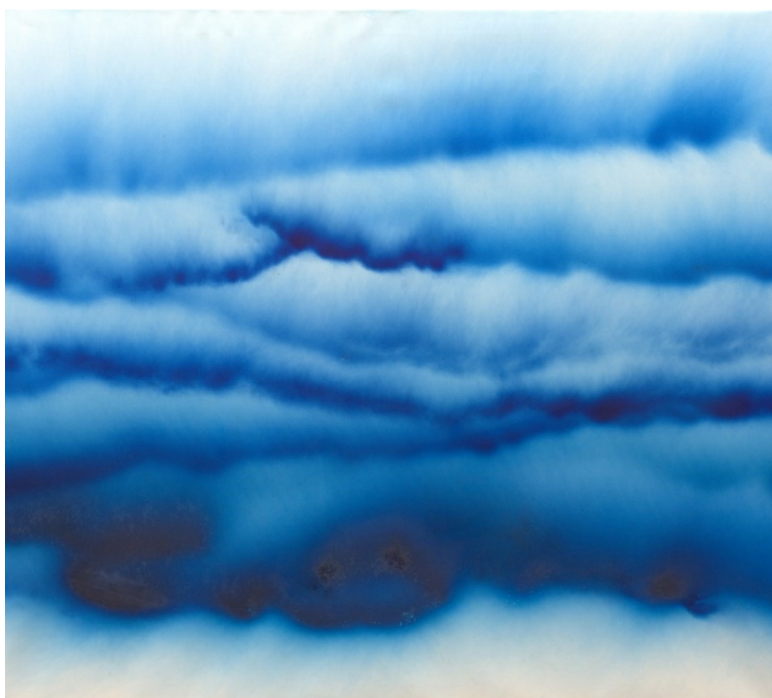
You work where you live, and the whole world becomes your studio. I use satellites, lasers, wood, clay, lava, all spaces - just the world has become my studio. [...]

Magdalena Jetelová

Keywords: Magdalena Jetelová, exhibition, Cermak Eisenkraft_ gallery, Prague, April, art, land art, concept, sculpture, object, installation, architecture.

Admission to the Cermak Eisenkraft_ gallery is free for the duration of the exhibition.

Print quality photos on request at office@cermakeisenkraft.com



Magdalena Jetelová, *untitled*, 2017, smoke drawing on canvas 115 × 127 cm

Magdalena Jetelová (* 1946, Semily) lives and works in Germany. She studied at the Academy of Fine Arts in Prague (1965-1971). She made her mark in the development of the Czech art scene in the 1970s with her wooden objects whose dysfunctionality and material monumentality pointed to the absurdities of real socialist life, such as *Židle* (1979-1980) and *Stairs* (1985), creating the illusion of a never-ending staircase. At the beginning of the 1980s, he deals with experiments in urban spaces, realizing a land art project for Prague's South City (*Underground City*) and a project in Prague's Šárka

with red signal smoke (*Marking by Red Smoke*) reminiscent of former political maps marking socialist states in red. Participation in several exhibitions outside the official galleries made it virtually impossible for her to realize herself artistically in the then Czechoslovakia. In 1985 she emigrated to the West, living in the UK, the USA and then Germany. She gained worldwide recognition with her project *Domestication of a Pyramid* (1992-1995), simultaneously presented in several places in Europe, in which she presented a meeting of two different worlds of Egyptian and European architecture. In 1994 she realized *Translocation I* at the Kunstverein Hannover, in which she transformed the architecture of the building and its acoustics. In a laser projection redrawing the course of the Mid-Atlantic Ridge, *Iceland Project* (1992), he continues his interventions in the landscape and later creates many important installations: the *Atlantic Wall* (1994), *Crossing Kings's Cross* (1996), *Pacific Ring of Fire* (2018) and others. In addition to her artistic practice, she has taught at the State Academy of Art in Düsseldorf (1990-2004), where she received a professorship in 1989, at the Academy of Fine Arts in Munich (2004-2012) and as a visiting professor at the Academy of Fine Arts in Prague (2008).

Cermak Eisenkraft

She has received many awards for her work, including the prestigious Arnold Bode Prize (1993). Her works and projects have been presented in many major museums and art shows in Europe and around the world, including the USA, Japan and Australia (Documenta 8 in Kassel, Tate Gallery in London, Echigo-Tsumari Art Triennial in Niigata, Sydney Biennale). Solo exhibitions include Riverside Studios, London (1985), MoMA, New York (1986), Museum für angewandte Kunst, Vienna (1992), Brno House of Art (2001), Prague City Gallery (2001), Museum of Modern Art, Olomouc (2013), National Gallery Prague (2017). Her works are represented in many private and public collections (Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington D.C., Musée National d'Art Moderne Centre Pompidou, Paris, Gallery of the Capital City of Prague, National Gallery Prague, Museum Würth, Künzelsau, Galleria degli Uffizi, Florence and others). Thanks to the cooperation with Cermak Eisenkraft_ gallery, many of her works are also in private collections in the Czech Republic.

On the occasion of the exhibition, a publication will be published in Czech-English with a text by art historian Mark Gisbourne and an interview with Magdalena Jetelová by gallerist Tomáš Zapletal focusing on the key themes of the artist's work.

Mark Gisbourne (* 1948, Stratford-upon-Avon) is an exhibition curator and art historian. Visiting professor at 17 universities in the UK, USA and Germany during 1987-2013. President of the British Section (AICA) of the International Association of Art Critics from 1994-1997. Author and co-author of over 250 books and essays on 20th and 21st century art. Contributor to many cultural periodicals and close associate of the BBC in London.

Links

Magdalena Jetelová is exclusively represented in the Czech Republic by Cermak Eisenkraft_ Gallery, Prague.

Gallery representing Magdalena Jetelová

Cermak Eisenkraft_ gallery, Prague

Michael Haas Gallery, Berlin

Galerie Walter Storms, Munich

cermakeisenkraft.com

[instagram.com/cermak_eisenkraft](https://www.instagram.com/cermak_eisenkraft)

clover.de

prag.diplo.de

fondbudoucnosti.cz

About the gallery

Cermak Eisenkraft Gallery_ was established in 2014 with the ambition to become a major player in the field of trade in post-war and contemporary Czech and international art. The founders, Tomáš Zapletal and David Železný, who had previously been active on the Czech art market independently, set as their main goal the creation of a trustworthy, reputable institution of international importance, which, thanks to the highest standards of its work, contributes to the cultivation of the art market in the Czech Republic. The gallery is affiliated with the CE Foundation, which has been supporting contemporary Czech and international artists in their activities for seven years. Magdalena Jetelová, Milan Kunc, Vladimír Škoda, Jiří Černický, Šimon Brejcha, Martin Velíšek, František Matoušek, Pavel Baňka and others. It also supports the *Fotograf* magazine and thus

helps the creation of the highest quality media about Czech photography in the Czech Republic.

Currently, Cermak Eisenkraft_ Gallery operates an exhibition space on the 2nd floor of Topič House, Národní 9, Prague 1.

About the exhibition space



After several years of operating in Dlouhá Street and later in the SmetanaQ house on Smetana Embankment in Prague, the Cermak Eisenkraft_ gallery will move in the spring of 2021 to the renovated premises of the listed Topič House, where it will offer the public an exhibition in sensitively restored exhibition halls on the second floor. The genius loci of this place provides visitors with an unforgettable cultural experience. Topič's Art Nouveau house has influenced many destinies and has continued to shape Czech society for over 125 years. Originally an Empire tenement house, it was built in 1894 as an exhibition hall and shop for Topič's publishing house on Ferdinandova Street, now Národní třída. An exhibition of graphic arts in 1896 featured sixty European graphic artists, including Toulouse-Lautrec, Rops, Marold and Mucha.

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