

Press release
23rd September 2021

When a robotic arm controls the piano. Signal Festival is preparing an audiovisual experiment at the Archa Theatre

Signal Festival is coming soon. In addition to the main programme on 4 routes, visitors of the 9th edition will also enjoy a rich accompanying programme. The audiovisual performance **V E K T R O S K O P** will offer live music, a piano controlled by a robotic hand, programmed mobile objects, physical improvisation and laser beams. During the four-day programme from 14th to 17th October, the composer, pianist and singer **Beata Hlavenková**, sound designer and musician **Stanislav Abrahám** and modular synthesizer performer **Leoš Hort (HRTL)** will perform under the direction of audiovisual artist **David Vrbík**. Signal Festival together with the creative workshop **PrusaLab** and **Archa Theatre** are behind the realization.

The mutual dialogue between the creators of musical and visual projects creates new and unexpected messages. **V E K T R O S K O P** is a celebration of audiovisual correlation, a meeting of trendsetters and media archaeologists. Top artists of the jazz and dance electronic scene will be confronted by the performance of programmed and robotic objects. The kinetic sculpture *Reflection* will become a common element of the evening program. This large kinetic mirror object is the result of the open call *Signal Calling*, organised by Signal Festival in collaboration with **PrusaLab** to support the youngest generation of Czech audiovisual, lighting and digital artists. A pair of architects, **Adam Cigler** and **Petr Vacek**, created a computer-controlled mobile sculpture that successfully debuted at the Signal Festival in 2019. In December 2020, the work became part of the first unique test experiment at the Archa Theatre. As part of the *We Don't Play, We Create!* programme responding to the pandemic situation, the artists had the opportunity to explore and test different possibilities of working with lights, with precision laser and with sound generated by the sculpture itself for several days. The audio-visual performance **V E K T R O S K O P**, which will take place from 14th to 17th October always from 8 pm to 9:30 pm, is a continuation of these earlier creative encounters.

The four-day programme, put together by audiovisual artist **David Vrbík**, will offer performances by choreographer, dancer and performer **Tomáš Krivošík**, composer and pianist **Beata Hlavenková**, artist **Soňa Koutová**, audiovisual artist **Ondřej Skala (JTNB)**, audiovisual performers **Stanislav Abrahám** and **Leoš Hort (HRTL)** and others.

"Our aim is to propose to the audience a demonstration of how audiovisual, dance and physical theatre elements can meet and communicate through their characteristic means on different levels of spaces, qualities, impulses and physicalities. We want to explore dance and physical practices and their relationship to objects and audiovisual art," describes audiovisual artist and project director **David Vrbík**.

Tickets for the performance at the Archa Theatre can be purchased for 290 CZK. A student ticket costs CZK 190, while holders of the festival's Signal Pass will pay CZK 220.

About Signal Festival:

Signal is a festival of digital and creative culture. It combines contemporary visual art, urban space and modern technologies. It has become the most visited cultural event in the Czech Republic. The programme is composed of renowned international and Czech artists from the fields of light design, visual and digital art, artificial intelligence and conceptual art. The festival likes to educate itself and its visitors. It combines the historical backdrop of beloved Prague with the latest technologies and contemporary social issues. Signal Festival is one of the largest producers of contemporary art in the country. It supports the youngest Czech artists and has been behind the creation of more than seventy original installations created especially for the festival. It organises accompanying programmes for children, professionals and students. It cooperates with a number of foreign festivals and cultural institutions.

The ninth edition of the festival will take place from 14th to 17th October 2021.
Every day from 7 pm to 12 pm

For more information visit www.signalfestival.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/SignalFestival

Instagram: www.instagram.com/signalfestival/

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Partner of the festival journal: Deník N

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