

Press release, 10 August 2023

The eleventh edition of Signal Festival will offer two videomappings. It will also revitalize existing works by Jiří Příhoda, Zdeněk Sýkora, and Federico Díaz

Signal Festival is coming. The eleventh edition of the festival brings a number of novelties. It will offer two festival routes and twenty festival locations. The popular videomappings will light up two iconic buildings of Prague - the Municipal Library building on Mariánské náměstí and the Church of St. Cyril and Methodius on Karlínské náměstí. Viewers will also be able to venture off the main festival route, where so-called Satellites will be waiting for them. These are existing artworks in public space by Zdeněk Sýkora, Jiří Příhoda, and Federico Díaz, which will be accompanied by new light projections during the Signal Festival.

Signal Festival brings a new three-year programme cycle under the umbrella title Ecosystems. It will focus on the artistic exploration of environmental, cultural or scientific, and technological connections in our society.

The artwork Echo, created especially for the Signal Festival, brings a fresh wind to the genre of videomapping. Nature, the environment, the connection between man and invisible, yet vital natural processes. All these are the motives on which videomapping at Karlínské náměstí is based. The author of the projection is the audiovisual **studio Flightgraf**, which was established in Tokyo in 2013. Its notable projects include the monumental Sand of Light video mapping for Qatar 2022, and it also presented itself to the audience of Milano Design Week 2022.

Video projections on the building of the Municipal Library on Mariánské náměstí will connect history and modern technology. It uses artificial intelligence and programmed robotic lights, which extend the entire animation of the facade into space. The author of the videomapping called Luminary Glyphs is Hungarian artist **András László Nagy**. He studied fine art and classical music, and today combines the best of both disciplines. Both videomapping screenings are free. The international programme of Signal Festival 2023 is for the second year thanks to the support of the PPF Foundation.

Signal Festival changes the public space of Prague. *"Most of the artworks are created every year, especially for the festival. However, the eleventh edition brings a novelty. This year, we have also included permanent art installations in Prague's public space, which we consider to be of high quality and importance. We would like to draw attention to the great works that already exist and present them to festival visitors in a new light,"* explains **festival director Martin Pošta**. The project called Satellites will revive a trio of artworks that are located outside the main festival route this year. These are unique works that work with digital tools,

modeling, and construction in an innovative way, and which are in line with this year's festival theme, Ecosystems I: Explore!

The first festival Satellite is Aerial (On the Mountain), an eight-meter high-strength concrete sculpture by conceptual and multimedia artist **Federico Díaz**. This installation is sponsored by KKCG and is located in the public space of the Bořislavka Centre. The monumental work will be highlighted during the Signal Festival by the projection "Concrete Layers", a collaboration between Federico Díaz, visual artist Jan Hladil, and musician Jonáš Rosůlek.

The Signal Festival will also light up **Zdeněk Sýkora's** iconic work *The Facing of the Four Wind Chimneys* of the Letenský Tunnel. This 1969 realization was based on a series called Black and White Structure, an installation created using a proprietary software algorithm that combines segments of black and white geometric shapes. One of the first Czech artists to use a computer-generated visual language to create a work of art, Black and White Structure will be played by audiovisual artist **David Vrbík** with his laser projections during the Signal Festival.

The Signal Festival will also present the kinetic object VISTA MARS by **Jiří Přihoda**, a Czech artist who works at the intersection of sculpture, object, and architecture. The object is located in the public space of the Rustonka administrative complex in Karlín and contains an exterior 360° video projection of the real landscape of the planet Mars with real footage taken from NASA. The patron of the installation is White Star Real Estate.

About Signal Festival:

Signal is a festival of digital and creative culture. Signal brings together contemporary visual art, urban space, and modern technology. It has become the most visited cultural event in the Czech Republic. Signal Festival is one of the biggest producers of contemporary art in the Czech Republic. It supports the youngest Czech artists and organizes accompanying programmes for the professional public, students, and children. It cooperates with a number of international festivals and cultural institutions. Signal Festival 2023 takes place from 12 to 15 October 2023.

The festival is supported by the City of Prague - Signal Festival is supported by a grant from the City of Prague. The Signal Festival is supported by the City of Prague in the amount of CZK 5,000,000, the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic, the State Culture Fund of the Czech Republic

Main partners: Mercedes-Benz, Kooperativa, ČEZ Group

The international programme of Signal Festival 2023 is supported by the PPF Foundation

Official partners: Pražská plynárenská, PlayStation

General media partner: Česká televize

Main media partners: Český rozhlas, JCDecaux, Reflex

Festival diary: Deník N

VIP Partner: Forbes

Patrons of Federico Díaz's installation: KKCG, KKFF, Aricoma, Centrum Bořislavka

Patron of Jiří Příhoda's installation: White Star Real estate s.r.o.

Media partners: CzechCrunch, Art&Antiques, CZECHDESIGN, Refresher, Prague Morning,

Partners: THMP, Prague 1, Prague 7, Prague 8, PrusaLab, Kunsthalle Praha, Vision Factory, Emexkon

Official Transport: Dopravní podnik hl. města Prahy

More information at signalfestival.com

Facebook: facebook.com/SignalFestival

Instagram: instagram.com/signalfestival

Contact for media:

Kateřina Lohrová, katerina.lohrova@piaristi.cz, 776 698 176