

Signal Festival starts on Thursday. Here are 5 tips to make the most of this year's edition

The fourteenth edition of Signal Festival begins on Thursday, October 15, and runs until Sunday, October 18. This year's theme of the festival of digital and creative culture is **Dream On! Dreams and Visions**. Visitors can look forward to 21 installations by international and Czech artists, eight of them in the paid Signal **INSIDE** section. Highlights include a video mapping that will light up the façade of the Archbishop's Seminary for the first time, a monumental light installation by American artist Jim Campbell and the very first student zone in the festival's history. The installations are spread across two routes: one again connects locations in the center of Prague, while the other leads through Dejvice for the first time this year.

Tip 1: The new Dejvice route with monumental installations

This year, Signal Festival comes to Dejvice for the first time. The new route leads from the Navigation Channel Troja-Podbaba to the Old Wastewater Treatment Plant and then through the Dejvice parks all the way to Kampus Dejvice. Right at its start, Taiwanese artist Aka Chang presents the ten-meter laser installation [Multimmersion Upside Down](#). He uses the still surface of a Vltava backwater as a mirror. Its reflection multiplies the laser beams into an illusion of infinite depth in which viewers lose their certainty about what is real.

At the nearby Old Wastewater Treatment Plant, the Laterna magika company presents the site-specific production [Water](#). Director Radim Vizváry combines non-verbal theater, video mapping, acrobatics and live singing. The process of water purification becomes a metaphor for a person's inner transformation: what we carry within us, what we are able to let go of and how we can find renewal. The ten-minute performance is part of the paid Signal **INSIDE** section.

One of the most prominent international artists of this year's edition, American digital art pioneer Jim Campbell, has used 1,500 LEDs to create the light installation [Scattered Light](#). In the glow of its lights in General Lázaro Cárdenas Park, human figures appear and disappear again.

In the park on Fleming Square, visual artist and musician Milan Cais presents the audiovisual sculpture [Into Imagination](#). The giant mirrored cube, which looks as if it has just arrived from outer space, emits sequences of images and sound from its core. Cais composed them using data collected from fans. The patron of the installation is glo™.

Czech art on the Dejvice route is also represented by Jan Kaláb's sculpture [Black Mechanical Planet](#) at PPF Gate on Evropská street. The object, which evokes a giant cosmic mechanism, is complemented by a projection created especially for it by Jan

Hladil. The patron of the installation is the **PPF Foundation**, a long-standing supporter of Signal Festival's international program.

Tip 2: Student Visions showcases young talent

This year, Signal Festival **has created a dedicated student zone, Student Visions, for the very first time.** It offers a glimpse into the laboratories of the next generation of creators, scientists and designers. Technická street in Kampus Dejvice is reserved for young talent.

CTU students present their visions here in the light installation [*Impulse*](#), which refers to the moment of initiation: the first movement, discharge, signal or thought, **and in the interactive projection [*Facelt*](#).** It lets visitors try **turning their facial expressions and movements into a stylized portrait that captures each user's unique expression.** CTU is also behind the audiovisual projection [*EFORCE*](#) looking back at more than fifteen years of development of the student Formula race car. UCT Prague students invite visitors to the **chemistry show [*How Do Chemists Dream?*](#)** The performance turns experiments into a light and sound spectacle and shows that science, just like art, is built on curiosity and courage.

Support for young talent is also the focus of **Karolína Schulzová's object installation [*What Are You Responsible For*](#)** in the courtyard of the Church of Our Lady of the Snows. The work, inspired by Václav Havel's essay *The Power of the Powerless*, was created in collaboration with the Faculty of Art and Design of UJEP and the Díky, že můžem association. Light panels simulate a network of everyday decisions. Visitors can walk freely among the panels bearing statements that reflect passivity and witness the collective illusion fall apart. The patron of the work is Václav Havel Airport Prague.

Tip 3: Two video mappings, a premiere in Dejvice and a work by a Ukrainian artist

Another new feature of the Dejvice route is a video mapping on the façade of the **Archbishop's Seminary.** This is where, on Thursday, October 15 at 7:00 p.m., the **fourteenth edition of Signal Festival will officially open.** German artist **Felix Frank** will use his project [*Missing Interval*](#) to transform the building's façade into a dynamic landscape of light and rhythm.

The second video mapping of this year's edition, [*Living in Truth*](#) by Ukrainian artist **Svitlana Reinish**, will spread across two walls of the Old Town Hall. **It is the first video mapping created by a woman in the history of Signal Festival.** The work also draws on the ideas of Václav Havel and his essay *The Power of the Powerless*.

Tip 4: Signal INSIDE offers more intimate experiences in unusual Prague interiors

This year, the paid Signal INSIDE layer of the festival features **eight installations, six on the City Centre route and two in Dejvice.** At Theatre X10, visitors can travel [*To the Moon*](#) with American multimedia artist and musician **Laurie Anderson** and Taiwanese artist

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Hsin-Chien Huang. The fifteen-minute journey through space takes them to a poetic landscape full of stories and unexpected encounters.

What the world might look like ten thousand years from now is explored by the installation [Dreaming Infinite](#) in the Church of Sts. Simon and Jude. The dialogue between the transience of technology and the human desire to leave a trace for future generations is led by **Dutch audiovisual artist and light designer Timo Lejeune.**

Brno-based **MUCHA Studio** pays tribute to **Woody and Steina Vasulka**, pioneers of video art and experimental computer art. The large-scale interactive installation [Residual Signal: Homage to Woody Vasulka](#) transforms the Masaryk Dormitory into a pulsating complex of light and projection experiments. **Cameras break down the visitors' appearance into fragments on a wall of vintage CRT displays.**

One-day, four-day and VIP tickets are available for Signal INSIDE. Among other things, the VIP ticket includes priority entry, the Mercedes-Benz VIP Shuttle between the routes and access to the Signal Space digital art gallery.

Tip 5: Daytime experiences with the Signal Forum conference, the Signal Space program and Sound Robot

For the third time, Signal Festival is holding **the international one-day conference [Signal Forum](#)**, which connects the professional community with members of the public interested in contemporary digital and light art. **The conference will take place on Friday, October 16, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the National Library of Technology (NTK)** and will offer panel discussions with artists and experts, as well as virtual reality demos, musical improvisation on modular synthesizers and a guided tour of the student Formula race car. Signal Forum is made possible by the support of the international project Co-Vision, funded by the Creative Europe programme. The closing presentation will showcase a digital archive and examples of interdisciplinary collaboration. Those interested can **register [here](#).**

Designed mainly, but not only, for children is the **interactive installation [Sound Robot](#) by Slovak artist Ján Šicko** at Kampus Hybernská. The robot's visual design draws on Slovak folk art as well as modernism. **Using handmade wooden toys, instruments and acoustic resonators, visitors can control mechanical systems, digital sounds and robotics.** *Sound Robot* is part of the paid Signal INSIDE section, **but a single-entry ticket can also be bought separately on site.**

The Signal Space digital art gallery has also prepared a special festival program. On Saturday, October 17, from 10:30 a.m., it will host a festival edition of [Signal Talks](#), where six international new media artists will present how their works come to life. On Sunday, October 18, from 7:30 a.m., it invites visitors to a festival edition of [Signal Movement](#), which combines yoga and power pilates with 360° projections and brunch. From 11:30 a.m., the **workshop [Signal Lab](#) with Dutch artist Timo Lejeune** will focus on large-scale light and kinetic installations. **Signal Space will also host live podcast recordings during the**

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festival: the CzechCrunch podcast on Saturday from 5:30 p.m. and the Radio Wave shows *Fasády* and *Hotspot* on Sunday, October 18, from 5:00 p.m. **The gallery will stay open until midnight throughout the festival. The full program is available on the [Signal Space](#) website.**

Bonus tip: Czech Radio audio guide

You can also explore the installations of the fourteenth edition **with the new [Czech Radio audio guide](#), narrated by Signal Festival's chief curator Pavel Mrkus**, which offers a more detailed commentary on the individual works.

About Signal Festival:

Signal is a festival of digital and creative culture. It brings together contemporary visual art, urban space and modern technology. It has become the most-attended cultural event in the Czech Republic. The program features renowned international and Czech artists working in the fields of visual art and light design. Signal Festival is one of the largest producers of contemporary art in the country. It supports the youngest Czech artists and organizes accompanying programs for professionals, students and children. It collaborates with a wide range of international festivals and cultural institutions.

In 2025, the organizers of Signal Festival opened Signal Space, the largest digital art gallery in the Czech Republic, which showcases contemporary digital and interdisciplinary art year-round through exhibitions, installations and an accompanying program.

Signal Festival 2026 will take place from October 15 to 18, 2026.

More information: signalfestival.com. Facebook: facebook.com/SignalFestival. Instagram: instagram.com/signalfestival

Organizer: Signal Creative

Main Partner: Mercedes-Benz

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Official partners: Pražská plynárenská, Red Bull

General media partner: Czech Television

Main festival journal: Deník N

Main media partners: Czech Radio, Refresher, JCDecaux

Media Partners: CZECHDESIGN, Expats.cz, The Muse, PID, Premium Media Group, CzechCrunch, EARCH, Světlo magazine, LURITY

Technology Partner: Panasonic MEVIX

Partners: glo, Ferrero, Pražská teplárenská by Veolia, Palladium, Václav Havel Airport, PERI, Zlatí Grič

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Partner Institutions: Prague 1 City District, Prague 6 City District, 0xCollection, Ministry of Culture, Taiwan, Taipei Economic and Cultural Office, Prague City Technology, CTU – Czech Technical University in Prague, National Theater, Prague City Tourism, Díky, že můžem, Pro Helvetia – Swiss Arts Council, French Institute in Prague, Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, Swiss Embassy

Hotel partners: *Czech Inn Hotels, Fairmont Golden Prague*

Recycling partner: EKO-KOM

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