

KUNSTHALLE PRAHA OPENS TO THE PUBLIC 22 February 2022

- **Kunsthalle Praha (Prague, Czech Republic) opens its doors to the public, offering a brand-new space on Prague's cultural map.**
- **The major new not-for-profit organization, non-governmental institution, is dedicated to bringing new perspectives on Czech and Central European art of the 20th and 21st centuries, and to creating an open, interdisciplinary space for the exchange of ideas and knowledge.**
- **The exhibition programme will see up to eight exhibitions each year, with a focus on contemporary and modern art. The inaugural exhibition *Kinetismus: 100 Years of Electricity in Art*, is on view through 20 June 2022.**
- **The Kunsthalle Praha Membership will allow visitors to take full advantage of the Kunsthalle Praha experience and offers exclusive access to the exhibition programme.**

Kunsthalle Praha opens its doors on 22 February, 2022, offering an exciting addition to Prague's thriving culture scene. Its dynamic programme of short-term exhibitions strives to bring modern and contemporary Czech and Central European art to a wide audience connecting it to its international counterparts, whilst offering innovative educational activities.

Directed by Ivana Goossen and established by the Pudil Family Foundation, Kunsthalle Praha is located in the former Zenger Transformer Station and is the first space dedicated to art to be built in the city centre in almost 100 years. Designed by Czech architecture studio Schindler Seko and spanning 5,700 sq. metres, the space includes three large galleries, a design shop, a bistro, and a café with a terrace that features views of Petřín Hill and Prague Castle.

The opening exhibition, titled *Kinetismus: 100 Years of Electricity in Art* celebrates the original function of the building and explores how electricity has transformed artistic practice from the start of the 20th century to the present day. Guest curated by Peter Weibel along with Christelle Havranek (Chief Curator at Kunsthalle Praha) and



Press Release

scientific associate Livia Nolasco-Rózsás, the show includes over 90 artworks by artists such as Refik Anadol, Marcel Duchamp, Olafur Eliasson, Shilpa Gupta, Ryoji Ikeda, William Kentridge, László Moholy-Nagy, Man Ray and teamLab.

The exhibition is accompanied by a comprehensive digital guide that visitors can connect to on their devices and through which they can choose from several options, including two thematic routes and an audio guide.

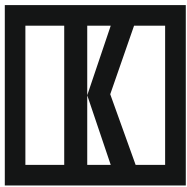
A richly illustrated catalogue published in conjunction with the exhibition features contributions by the curatorial team and many other relevant authors, and an illustrated timeline tracing the milestones of technological, theoretical, and artistic developments thanks to electricity from the 1920s to the present day.

The exhibition features interactive activities designed for visitors of all ages – a nine-metre Art Wall offering the unique experience of creating one's own work. The Art Wall is dedicated to 'light graffiti', which thanks to an interactive console allows drawing with light and creating large-format works. Moreover, children together with adults can enjoy the playful space of Kidshalle and unleash their creative potential.

Kunsthalle Praha also pays tribute to the building's rich industrial past in a second show titled *The Zenger Transformer Station: Electricity in the City, Electricity in Architecture*, which explores the role electricity and modern technology have played in the development of the building as well as Prague's history more generally.

The space houses one permanent site-specific installation titled *Cabinet of Electrical Curiosities* by conceptual artist Mark Dion. As an archaeologist of the present, the artist assembled the cabinet out of objects and artefacts collected on site during Kunsthalle Praha's construction.

In order to take full advantage of everything the Kunsthalle Praha has to offer, the Kunsthalle Praha Membership is currently on offer for the public, and will allow visitors exclusive access to exhibitions, which will include unlimited entry (over 12 months), preview access, guided tours and a 10% discount in the Kunsthalle Design Shop. Members become an integral part of a dynamic creative community situated at the heart of the artistic and cultural scene in Prague.



Press Release

Local press contact

Kunsthalle Praha | Ondřej Čížek | ocizek@kunsthallepraha.org | +420 605 921 770

International press contact

Sutton | Ella Roeg | ella@suttoncomms.com | +44 (0) 20 7183 3577

Facebook Kunsthalle Praha

Instagram kunsthallepraha

Twitter @KunsthallePraha

Vimeo Kunsthalle Praha

#KunsthallePraha

About Kunsthalle Praha

Kunsthalle Praha (Prague, Czech Republic) is an international and interdisciplinary platform for art and culture; an open meeting point where art lives and engages with a wide audience. Located in the former Zenger Transformer Station in the historical centre of Prague, Kunsthalle Praha's mission is to support artistic discovery and research, to connect the Czech and international art scenes and to bring the experience of art of the 20th and 21st century to the widest possible audience with a dynamic, contemporary programme. Directed by Ivana Goossen, the Kunsthalle occupies a total of 5,700 square meters, encapsulating 1,300 square metres of exhibition space. Its programme consists of temporary exhibitions, educational projects, workshops, and cultural events. Kunsthalle Praha was established as a not-for-profit and non-governmental institution by The Pudil Family Foundation.

About the Pudil Family Foundation

The Pudil Family Foundation was established in 2014 by Mr. Petr Pudil and Mrs. Pavlína Pudil. It is an open non-profit organization dedicated to supporting innovative exhibitions, research projects and educational activities that promote the understanding and appreciation of Czech and international modern and contemporary art.