

Portfolio: Tamara Moyzes

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Date of Birth: 27. 03.1975, Bratislava, Slovak Republic

‘Artivism’

A presentation of Tamara Moyzes' last projects (Artivism) related to activism and happenings. Moyzes will present her strategies concerning her actions in public space and her reaction to actual and social issues, related to the use of media as a tool for political art.

The exhibition ‘**Artivism**’ integrates installation of documents, videos and large-format print of two projects: happenings, Yad Vashem (2012) and Holocaust memorial at Prague 7, Holešovice Triangle (2012),

„**Czech delegation at Yad Vashem**“ was built as a "demonstration" in the time that the delegation came to visit the Holocaust memorial “Yad Vashem” in Jerusalem, Israel. Among the members of the delegation participated the minister of Education Josef Dobeš.

The action was against the position of Ladislav Bátorá who served at that time an high official position at the Ministry of Education and holds racist and xenophobic views. This event was very well received by the media and demonstrating the visibility of the respective positions on this issue.

<http://www.tamaramoyzes.info/?p=327>

„**Holešovice Triangle / Business center instead of Holocaust Memorial**“

is wedged between the streets of Veletržní and Strojnicka in Prague 7, where the Artist wanted to draw attention about the construction of the commercial shopping center: gallery Stromovka, to be built on the site where 44,688 Jews were deported to concentration camps during World War II. Tamara Moyzes considers it important to raise public discussion: “It draws attention to the fact that the public has a right to know about this situation, which can radically change the location that was the end of thousands of Jews during the Second World War”. <http://www.tamaramoyzes.info/?p=333>

Tamara Moyzes / 5 kolona

Česká delegace v památníku Jad Vašem / Czech delegation at Yad Vashem
2011

Pfoto: Zdroj ČTK

Audio: Zdroj Český Rozhlas

Blízkovýchodní zpravodaj Českého rozhlasu Břetislav Tureček



Demonstrace v Izraeli proti Ladislavu Bátorovi - Autor: Břetislav Tureček

ZAVŘÍT X

Tamara Moyzes

Holešovický trojúhelník / Business center instead of Holocaust Memorial
2012, Foto: Michal Šajmír



Tamara Moyzes

Holešovický trojúhelník / Business center instead of Holocaust Memorial
2012, Video 2, Terezin, Propaganda movie



Tamara Moyzes

Holešovický trojúhelník / Business center instead of Holocaust Memorial
2012, Video 2, Terezin, Propaganda movie



Source: Czech Defence League
www.czdl.cz

TAMARA MOYZES

Položilná Slovensko-židovská imigrantka v ČR, co v Izraeli škodí Židům a u nás Čechům. Ultralevicová propalestinská aktivistka, profesionální pouliční demonstrantka a údajně i umělkyně, spolupředsedatelka "pochodu proti Čechům":

"Všichni mí přátelé v Izraeli se stali levicovými propalestinskými aktivisty. Dokonce jsem se tehdy setkala s Jásirem Arafatem. V Palestině jsem s kamarády vymýšlela různé demonstrace na hraně performance, abychom se dostali do médií. Byli jsme v Bilinu, v Jižním Hebronu, kde jsme navázali výbornou spolupráci s palestinskými vesničany".

Jásir Arafát(!) líbá ruku Tamaře Moyzes:



* zdroj: Youtube
facebook.com/IVCRN

CZDL

Installation in The Brno House of Arts:









ARTIVISM in The Brno House of Arts: http://www.dum-umeni.cz/cz/clanek/tamara_moyzes_aktivism

ARTIVISM Projects: <http://www.tamaramoyzes.info/?cat=8>

"Freedom of information"

Tamara Moyzes, Shlomi Yaffe

Photos, 2012

Photograph: Václav Vašků

The work "Freedom of information" reconsiders the position of the "freedom of information" in the "free world" according to the recent developments with Wikileaks and the possible extradition of Julian Assange from the UK. In the work we will imitate a practice that shares and distributes leaked information. We will hold the work / performance in Malostranská namesti with 1500 printed balloons with leaked information, between the U.S. embassy and the British embassy, a location and a path which symbolize the path of possible extradition of Julian Assange to the U.S. A symbol which determines whether it is possible nowadays to block the phenomena of leaked information by extermination of an accused individual.

Our statement:

Is to ask questions about the confrontation of the individual with the centers of power, and how the centers of power with the aid of the media's practice channel the attention from the leaks topics to other external topics as for example: the personality of the accused individual etc..





Silence Is Consent!

TAMARA MOYZES, photo, 2011

Foto: Tomáš Třeštík

Photographed on Old Town Square in Prague on the day of the memorial service for three Czech hockey players who died in a plane crash in Russia

Roma activist David Tišer (on the right in the photo) and I went to this nominal place of reverence for Czechs with signs of North Bohemian towns, where neo-Nazi demonstrations against Roma are currently taking place. Our intention was not to undermine the memorial but to show which tragedies we ignore. To me it's extremely dangerous when normal citizens march together with neo-Nazis and everyone else stays silent, as it was the case with the neo-Nazi-demonstrations in North Bohemia. If no one will speak out we soon will have a different, much more odious national tragedy on our hands.

Tamara Moyzes

Šluknovsko (in the North Bohemian Region) is one of the bleakest areas in the whole country. Several factories have shut down over the past years (especially due to the economic crisis), and thousands of people have lost their jobs. The negative impact on social relations has been dramatic, and the local population, experiencing privation, sought someone to blame for their situation, a defenseless scapegoat to point a finger at. Czech Roma offered an easy target as the majority population unjustly accused them of having a high crime rate, abusing the social welfare system, and being resistant to

integration. Groups of right-wing extremists and other populists decided to capitalize on the increasingly tense situation and intentionally fanned the flames in the towns and communities of Šluknovsko. This escalated in 2011 when a mass lynching of Roma was attempted by “model citizens” in Varnsdorf, Rumburk, and in other communities, after which followed dozens of demonstrations against the “maladjusted,” and these continue to this day, though with less frequency.

Lukáš Houdek, Romani scholar and photographer



TV t_error, 2007, Video installation



Roma television by Tamara Moyzes

Tamara Moyzes has in her work always focused on political problems and she does so again in her newest project called TV Terror. She deals with one of the most controversial topics of contemporary Czech society - the coexistence with the Gypsy community. Her project can be seen also as an artistic addition to the current political discussion. It illustrates the public opinion which makes the politician a hero because of his speeches full of racism - the public admires him, because he is not afraid to express what many people think. The videos of the author play with the possibility that the constant discrimination could drive the Gypsies to suicidal bomb attacks. The suicidal bomb attacks have lately become the weapon not only of organized terrorist communities, but also of desperate isolated individuals. The wish to promote their problems in such a brutal way can be and is often detected in every discriminated

group of people. The instruction video in Gypsy is a tragically comical parody of Palestinian video showing how to make a bomb, of a video that was supposed to infiltrate every single household. To make a bomb is today just as simple as cooking a dumpling. Personal testimonies of Gypsies styled, as suicidal bombers are true stories, which tells us that the seemingly shocking parallel with the situation of Palestinian terrorist is not so far-fetched. The documentary videos show interviews with people in the streets and prove that the "majority" has hardly ever any personal experience with Gypsies, nevertheless the people have a strict and distinctive opinion on them: "We do not mind them", if they are "decent", which in newspeak means "assimilated". The main media that forms opinions of the majority is television. The media brings us the second-hand news on well-selected reality, infiltrating the subconscious of the viewers and thus forming their opinions. It also filters away all the information that makes the society uneasy or that the society considers incorrect. Tamara Moyzes does not openly criticize the media, but she uses and uncovers their technique: in the artistic project of her private television she shows a mixture of reality and openly arranged situations. But the borderline between them can be sometimes quite indistinct. Some of her videos on purpose resemble "home-videos" that transgress social and media limits. Tamara Moyzes tries not to be too academics in her work, her art is straight-forward imagination - she does not comment upon the reality from afar, she enters the very epicenter of all action. The people in her fictitious documentaries are not actors and their artistic "character" only emphasizes and enlarges their real situation. To uncover the current social controversies, the author uses a mixture of documentary, poetic and funny sequences. But the parody is only a strategy, it does not ease the situation - quite on the contrary - it helps her to present the explosive content in a form that is more acceptable to us.

Text: Lenka Kukurova

http://www.tamaramoyzes.info/tv_t/index.html

Miss Roma, 2007, Video 1'42min.



In the video 'Miss Roma' 2007, Tamara Moyzes cooperated with Jana Buchlova: Miss Roma, Czech Republic for 2006 that was not permitted to enter to some public places because of her color.

The video confronts with the Czech ideal model's notion, which deliver racism, and asks ironically if by a simple act of changing colors of the Roma's ideal model into white, the majority would accept the Roma community as part of them.

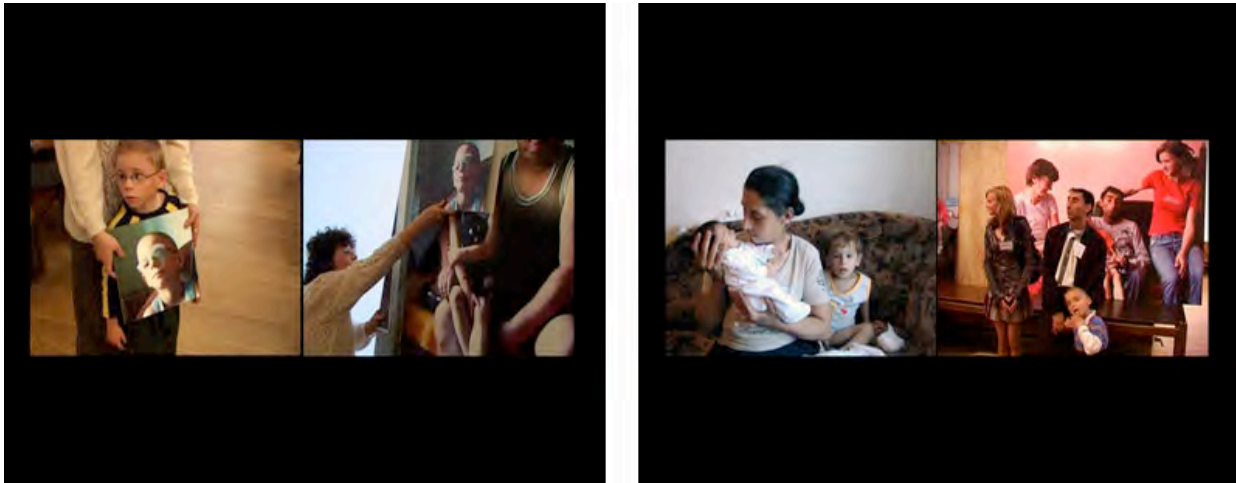
Text: Shlomi Yaffe

<http://www.tamaramoyzes.info/missroma.html>

Family happiness 2009, 6 x Digital print, 150 x 200 cm.



Digital print, 150 x 200 cm.



Performance, Czech Parliament, 2009, Prague, CZ

I imitated family photographs that are mostly taken during family celebrations when the family is together in its living room. These photographs were taken when the children temporarily returned from the children's homes to pay a visit to their parents. Part of this work was a happening in the Czech Parliament where the parents removed the faces of their children from the photographs and ostentatiously posed with the photos together with the politicians. All around the world, families struck by various tragedies often demonstrate holding photographs of their children. These images are often cut out and enlarged from family photos.

Project Family Happiness comments on the problematic practice of withdrawal of children from socially handicapped (predominantly Roma) families and their placing in state childcare institutions. This practice is widespread in the Czech Republic in spite of overwhelming evidence that this procedure leads to total collapse within the family, the disruption of emotional ties of the children, and severe problems in their personal socialization throughout their lives. The number of children growing up in the anonymous and pathological environment of institutional childcare in the Czech Republic is alarming (60 out of each 10 000 children under the age of 3). Currently more than half of the numbers of children placed in state institutions are positioned there on the premises of problematic economical situation within their families and another third because of their health problems. A large number of children placed in childcare institutions are of Roma origin. Mostly they are not orphans or victims of violence or abuse but children from poor families. These children become "hostages" of the state power.

Family Happiness is a campaign organized by the NGO Life Together as a part of their ongoing project "Prevention of Forced Removal of Roma Children From Their Families to the Institutional Care Through Support of Families and Dialogue with State Institutions" The project was supported by European Committee – the program Daphne

II. Life Together association has been involved in the project of prevention of the removal of children from socially weak families and their placement into institutional care. Apart from the fieldwork, the NGO concentrates on spreading information on the problem and offers free legal aid to their clients. The campaign aims at dissemination of information on the topic. It is addressed to expert as well as laymen public and seeks to provoke a wide debate.

<http://www.tamaramoyzes.info/happiness.html>

Czech selection, 2009, Digital print, 100 x 150 cm.



Radoslav "Gipsy" Banga
Hip-hop, musician and singer
Photo: Jarka Šnajberková



Jan Musil
TV host
Photo: Dana Kolarova



Aňa Geislerová
Actress
Photo: Michal Šajmír



Tomio Okamura
Press officer of the Association of Czech Travel
Agencies, businessman
Photo: Dana Kolářová

The topic of the exhibition is the series of photographic portraits Czech Selection by Tamara Moyzes, who engaged local celebrities (actors, singers, TV presenters) in the role of mutilated victims of attacks motivated by racial intolerance and homophobia.

Photographers: Michal Šajmír, Dana Kolářová and Jarka Šnajberk

Lejla Abbasová

Moderator, former press officer to the Minister of national minorities Michael Kocáb.
Photo: Michal Šajmír

Unknown attackers resembling the followers of the skinhead movement attacked D.B., a citizen of Ghana, born 1976, in a tram between the stations Balabenka-Palmovka. Given the serious injuries she was taken to the Bulovka Hospital. The case was qualified as misdemeanor and later, the matter was requalified as a criminal act of defamation of nation, race and religion. The case was put off.

Ali Amiri

Doctor, singer, actor

Photo: Dana Kolářová

Two skinheads, J. S., born 1981, and P. Z., born 1979, attacked a student of The University of Economics H. E. A., born 1974 in Sudan, at half past two a.m. at a disco in Biskupcova street. They yelled racist slogans and threatened to kill him. The Sudanese hid at the student housing facility Jarov, where he was followed by P.Z. P.Z. caught up on H.E.A. on the ground of the housing facility and stabbed him twice in the stomach. The Sudanese student died of the injury. Another student's arms sinews were cut. The Municipal Court in Prague sentenced P.Z. to 14 years imprisonment in a maximum security prison and J.S. to mandatory sentence of 7 and half months in a close security prison. They both appealed. P.Z. was sentenced by the High Court in Prague to 13 years imprisonment in a maximum security prison and J.S. to 7 and half months with a deferred period of three years in a close security prison.

Jarmila Balážová

Journalist, moderator, editor in chief of Roma monthly Romano Vod'ň

Photo: Jarka Šnajberková

On the night of 19 April fire starters attacked a house of a Roma family of nine in Vítkov near Opava. They threw three gasoline-filled flammable bottles into the house. The fire injured three people. The 33 year old J.S. and 27 year old A.S. suffered serious burns. The 2 year old N.S., who is still being treated at the burn recovery centre of the Ostrava hospital suffered burns of the second and third degree in 80% of the body and her condition remains grave. The police arrested twelve followers of extremist groups in relation to the attack. Four of them were imprisoned. The police accused four of attempted racially motivated murder. Some of them pleaded guilty.

Radoslav "Gipsy" Banga

Hip-hop, musician and singer

Photo: Jarka Šnajberková

P.K., a 22 year old racist skinhead attacked and brutally beat a 6 year old Roma boy R. R., who was playing in a local park. P.K. initially strangled him with his hands. Then carried the immobile boy into the building of a former tannery where he strangled him with electric wire and stabbed him with a glass splinter. The criminal was sentenced to 17 years imprisonment.

Robert Ferko

Moderator, editor of Czech Radio

Photo: Michal Šajmír

Three aggressors attacked Roma K.B around 2 a.m. near the club KD Sázava. One of the attackers stabbed him in the throat. K.B. died of the injury. The attacker was an employee of the Alma security agency. The District Court in Prague sentenced Z.Š., born 1972, for the crime of murder, to 11 years imprisonment in a maximum security prison. The Supreme Court confirmed the sentence in an appeal trial.

Aňa Geislerová

Actress

Photo: Michal Šajmír

M. Y. was attacked by three ultra-right extremists in Prague's Jewish Quarter. The aggressors attacked M. Y. when she came in front of a kosher restaurant in Široká street and abused her verbally with racist slurs, hit her with their fists, kicked her and one of the attackers threw a cobblestone at her. The woman sought shelter in the restaurant; the staff confronted the attackers. The three extremists aged 21 and 23 were arrested by the police on their attempted escape in the Jewish Quarters.

Jan Musil

TV Host

Photo: Dana Kolářová

After leaving the Red Cat gay club in Brno, M.F. was attacked by three skinheads. They beat him with fists and kicked him. The attack was followed by homophobic verbal attacks. The young man managed to escape. The incident was reported to the police but classified not as homophobic hate crime but as non-specified street violence.

Tomio Okamura

Press officer of the Association of Czech Travel Agencies, businessman

Photo: Dana Kolářová

Brno police officer D.P. beat the Vietnamese H.S.L. during patrol of neighborhood disputes. The foreigner received several blows of the fist. He was later placed into a police cell where his condition deteriorated and the ambulance had to be called the following day. H.S.L. was transported to a hospital where he died. The attacker can be

sentenced to up to 15 years imprisonment. Along with him, two other police officers, who witnessed the attack and did not take action against the attacker, are being pursued for malfeasance. They can be sentenced to imprisonment of six months up to three years.

Yemi A.D.

Dancer, moderator

Photo: Jarka Šnajberková

J. M., born 1971, mailed the citizen of Angola A.L., born 1968, at least two postcard in which he addressed the addressee as “subhuman – negro, fucking negro and nedger” and signed as Rudolf Hess. The text also read “look forward, you negro face, Sieg heil, Heil Hitler, all negroes are just feces of society, drop dead you black pig, death to all black swine”, etc. A week later, J.M. threw a petrol-filled bottle into A.L.’s apartment window. A.L. Suffered burns on 15% of his body. The District Court sentenced the accused to a two-year prison sentence deferred for five years. Based on the appeal of the district attorney, the Municipal Court ruled the District Court to reopen the case. The District Court than sentenced the accused to six months imprisonment in a prison with close security.

<http://www.tamaramoyzes.info/selection.html>

'Protocol' 2009, Video audio installation 17'41 min by Tamara Moyzes and Shlomi Yaffe



'Protocol' is a reconstruction of interviews conducted by the Czech foreign police. The work tackles the forced overlaps between the private and the public sphere represented by the artists and the prying power executed by the authorities.
Text: Zuzana Stefkova

The interviews were conducted on February 4, 2009 at the police station in Prague.

Tamara Moyzes

Pronouncement: I do not want.

Q: Are you healthy and fit for the drafting of this protocol?

A: Yes.

Q: Your marital status?

A: I am married according to Israeli law, but according to the Czech and Slovak I'm not.

Q.: When did your husband first time arrive to CR?

From: It was a long time ago. We were together in Prague. We came from Slovakia. It was about 10 years ago. He studied at Slovak Republic.

Q: what kind of transportation? Was your husband travel alone?

Since: we arrived Together, it was New Year's. Probably by train, I don't really remember.

Q: Why to Czech Republic?

A: We spent the night here; it was New Year's celebration.....

Shlomi Yaffe

Pronouncement: I do not want.

Q: Are you healthy and fit for the drafting of this protocol?

A: Yes.

Q: Your marital status?

A: I am married with Tamara. It is valid according to Israeli law, but according to Czech law it isn't. The Rabbi has not officially reported it.

Q: When you first arrived to the CR and by what kind of visa?

A: a tourist visa. I don't know when it was. But probably it was in 2004.

Q: what means of transport did you use? Did you travel alone?

A: I traveled alone by plane.

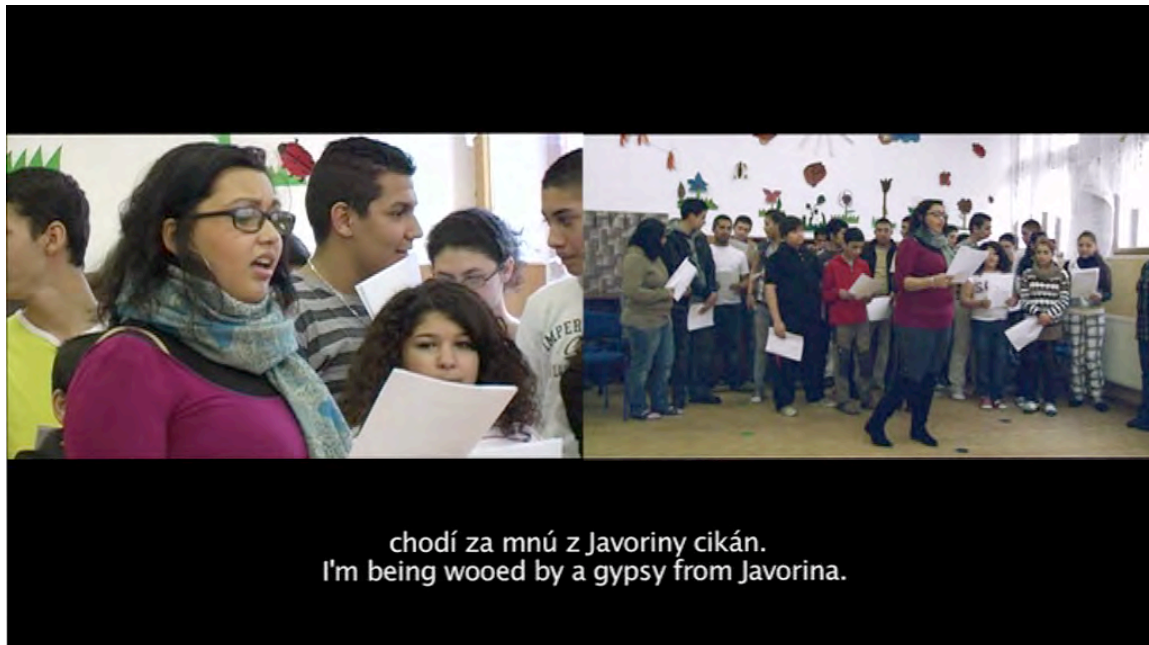
Q: Why to the CR?

A: I came to study and because at that time my girlfriend Tamara has been studied here, too.....

Mamko moja/ Folk song

Tamara Moyzes and Shlomi Yaffe, Video 04:48. 2011

The video refers to Slovak and Czech folk songs with racist content. In this work, Roma children from a segregated secondary school in Předlice, Ústí nad Labem, Czech Republic, are singing a folk song that is often taught in schools. The controversial text is taken as non-problematic and is not explained. The leading singer is Pavlína Matiová, a Roma activist and a semifinalist of Czech Super Star.



Integ(r)ace

Tamara Moyzes & Shlomi Yaffe: Inte(g)race
curator: Zuzana Štefková



In their projects Tamara Moyzes and Sholmi Yaffe frequently occupy the position of mediators among various cultures. Their point of departure is personal experience. As a couple of Slovakia – Israeli origin based in the Czech Republic, Israel and Slovakia they are more than familiar with the concept of “the foreigner”, including its ramifications. After dealing with the condition of foreigners who live in the Czech Republic (among other the *Welcome to Prague* and *Protocol* projects), the couple return to the subject of citizenship, and its allied issues - this time however from an international perspective.



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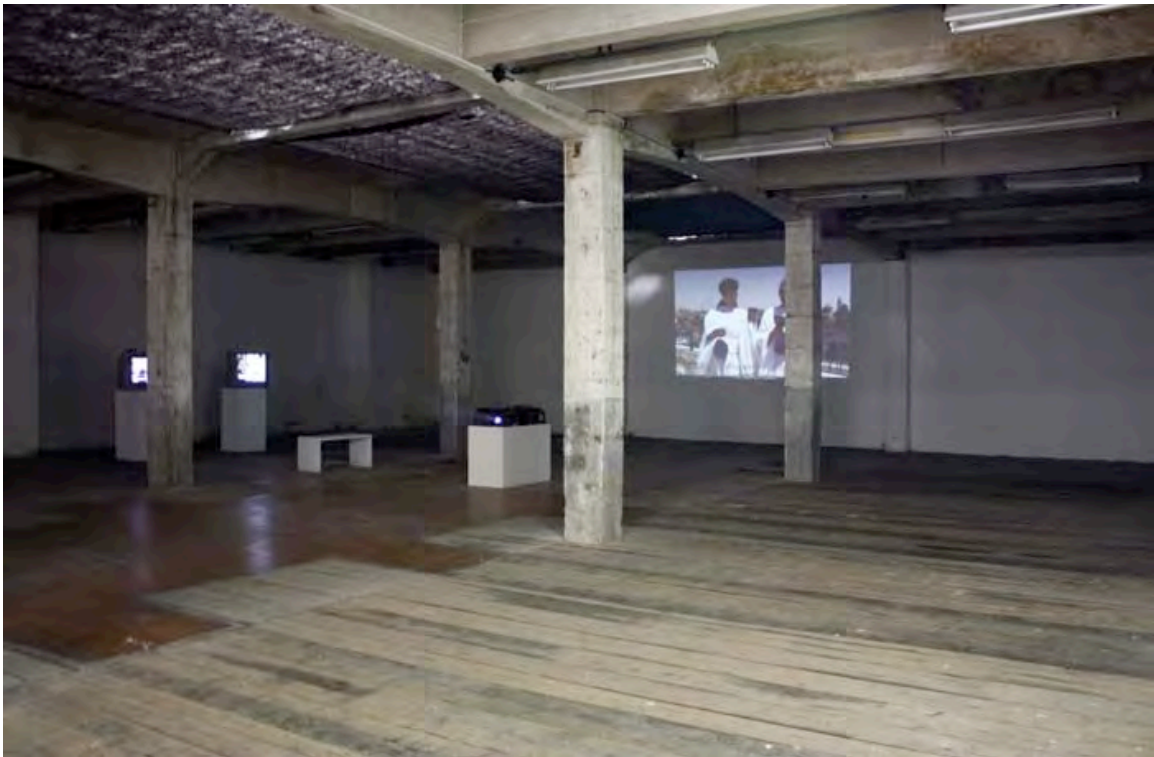


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The Integration exhibition documents a fictional project, which deals with the integration of Israel into the European Union. This provocative plan introduced to citizens of the Czech Republic as a possible resolution to the conflict in the Middle East and Israel, confronts the hopes, fears, ideals and indifference of citizens of both countries. The fictional survey on the possible integration of Israel into Europe embodies a number of levels; it points on the one hand to the mystifying documents that verify the Israeli-European contract, the foundation of the Euro with an Israeli motive, or artifacts such as the EU Israeli passport, as well as surveys and performative readings of the project's manifest organized in Jerusalem and Prague.

The plan for peace in the Middle East similarly to the *European passport for redemption of Zion* manifest, both suggest that for decades Israel considers itself to be an inseparable part of European culture. It thus comes as no surprise that many representatives of the Israeli state would like to affirm their pertinence with Europe also politically. The viewpoint of those who defend ethnical homogeneity of the Jewish state is rooted in the fact, that connecting with the European Union would open doors to Palestinians living in Europe, who could suddenly return to Israel. Besides other, the survey points to the fear from the downfall of the Jewish state, resembled also in the Israeli constitution and tenancy of individual Israelis who adhere their national symbols.

Nevertheless, the exhibition is ambiguous with a focus on the Czech scene. The Prague survey therefore still touches up on the poignant question of anti-Semitism. Would contemporary Czech Christian, or more precisely secular society accept the Jewish population, or would the Czechs relinquish the Jews as frequently is the case with other religious minorities? Could the Czech society guarantee that a history of discrimination and oppression won't reiterate?

Although members of the European far right frequently criticize Israeli operations towards the Palestinians, it is far less likely that they would agree on the possible return of Jews to Europe. A number of European leftwing pro-Palestinian activists believe the conflict in the Middle East could be resolved by emigration of Jews to Europe, even though a majority of Israeli citizens lack any form of relation to the old continent. Several Israeli representatives hope for Israel joining Europe, while for example Silvio Berlusconi or Javier Solana suddenly remind us that Israel already operates as an informal part of the European Union, and meets the requirements for entering the EU more than a number of European Union existing members.

The goal of the artists is not to provide staid answers to questions of Israeli cultural and political future. Through the process of mystification their aim is to point to the fear from chauvinism, embedded in the heart of any form of racial detestation. In times defined by the rise of extreme rightwing doctrine on the local political scene, this question gains on urgency and the topic under scrutiny becomes unduly topical.

Zuzana Štefková