Press release for the exhibition

O m²: exhibition for Naděje

12 - 30 March 2025

Curators: Blanka Čermáková, Viktorie Varvařovská



Exhibiting artists: Daniel Balabán, Dana Bartoníčková, Ondřej Basjuk, Michal Cimala, Epos 257, Jan Kaláb, Barbora Němcová, Karolína Netolická, Fomáš Rasl, Michael Rittstein, Martin Salajka, Adriana Sarnová, Zbyněk Sedlecký, Martin Skalický, Michal Škapa, Foy Box and Ondřej Vyhnánek.

Frafo Gallery warmly invites you to a collective exhibition of leading Czech contemporary artists who have joined together to support the renovation of the shelter home of the non-profit organization Naděje. The opening will take place on Fuesday, March 11, 2025, at 7:00 pm. For more information, visit www.trafogallery.cz.

The exhibition entitled **O** m² presents works by contemporary Czech artists whose aim is to support the non-profit organization *Naděje* (Hope). Its shelter house in Radotín provides temporary shelter for homeless men and for many of them represents the last chance to return to normal life – but to continue to fulfil its role, it needs renovation. Profits from the sale of artworks will therefore go towards creating more dignified conditions for those currently facing a difficult life situation.

Naděje in Radotín provides accommodation for 25 men in 7 rooms, the shelter house itself is an older three-floor building with no lift. Over the next 2 years, the organization would like to replace the windows, dehumidify the lower floor, fix the drainage pipes and renovate some of the rooms. These are costly repairs for which it is gradually seeking monetary and material support. In addition to shelter accommodation, Naděje provides overnight stays in dormitories, food and showers in low-risk day centers, talks with social workers, direct assistance on the streets or medical treatment in doctors' offices. In the last year alone, it has supported more than 500 homeless people, provided shelter for more than 200 people a day and treated up to 15 patients a day in doctors' offices.

Jiří (58 years old) also asked for her help: "I worked in the customs administration all my life, I was married and had a son, whom I unfortunately lost tragically a few years ago. In 2021 I had to undergo three difficult operations on my lower limb. The treatment did not go well, and I lost my job and subsequently my home after splitting up with my girlfriend. Now I hope to be able to return to work as soon as possible and save money to rent an apartment."

Visitors to the exhibition have the opportunity to experience a variety of contemporary art forms that sensitively reflect the complex issues of homelessness, as well as themes of hope, relationships, the desire for change and the strength of local communities. Each of us seeks our own guide through life's difficult journeys in different places. People almost instinctively turn inward to their communities, to spirituality, or just to the safety and warmth of their homes. Hope, in short, takes many forms - what does yours look like?

We would like to thank the partners of Frafo Gallery: The Office of the city of Prague, Canadian Medical, ČEZ Group, Hospodářské noviny, Art District 7, Art Revue, Radio 1, Wine4You and MOSF Nápoje / Beverages s.r.o.

Contact for visitors and media: Blanka Čermáková (trafogallery@trafogallery.cz, 739 517 758), Alice Hromádko (alice@trafogallery.cz, 725 857 476), Šárka Samková (sarka@trafogallery.cz, 724 349 590)

Frafo Gallery, Hala 14, Pražská tržnice, Bubenské nábřeží 306/13, Prague 7, tram 1, 12, 14, 25, metro station Vltavská (300 m), opening hours Fue-Sun 3-7 p.m., Sat 10 a.m. - 7 p.m., www.trafogallery.cz, IG: trafo_gallery, FB: trafogalerie.

Frafo Gallery has been chosen Gallery of the Year by the Czech Academy of Visual Arts. Fhank you!