

Press release for the exhibition

Dana Bartoníčková, Jakub Ťytykalo – Fragments of the Day, Light of the Night
19.06.2026 – 16.08.2026
Curator: Petr Vaňous



Ťrafo Gallery presents an exhibition project by sculptor Dana Bartoníčková (1988) and painter Jakub Ťytykalo (1984) titled Fragments of the Day, Lights of the Night. Ťhis group exhibition, curated by Petr Vaňous, establishes a dialogue between two distinct artistic personalities who use the mediums of painting and sculpture to create unique parallel worlds where lived reality intertwines with untamed imagination. Ťhe title of the exhibition gestures toward the essential dialectic of day and night in the movement of human imagination. Stimulated by the heterogeneous fragments of the day, the human mind dreams at night. Ťhe logic of dreams alters the rules of the game: at times liberating one from banality, at others ensnaring one in unforeseen situations. Although we sleep at night because of darkness, our dreams paradoxically illuminate much. Ťhe opening reception will take place on June 18 from 7:00 PM. A guided tour of the exhibition combined with a catalogue launch, with graphic design by Kryštof Doležal, will take place on July 29 from 6:00 PM. For more information, please visit. For more information, visit www.trafogallery.cz.

Ťhe exhibition by sculptor Dana Bartoníčková and painter Jakub Ťytykalo invokes a vital inner ambivalence, a sense of the absurd, and a playful scepticism characteristic of the artistic generation born in Czechoslovakia during the 1980s. Ťhe consumerist exuberance of the free-spirited 1990s, having proliferated unchecked, finds itself in the second decade of the new millennium poised between the complex demands of sustainability and the spectre of collapse. On the horizon of development, anxious interrogations multiply, bound up with both the collective and individual destiny of humankind, whose consciousness and cognition encounter new thresholds of experience shaped by mass manifestations of self-alienation. Amid a fragmentation of values, memento-like echoes of the past emerge, while social dynamism loses its former sheen. Ťhe human relationship to space and time becomes increasingly fraught and problematised.

Into this framework enter the concrete sculptures and sculptural constellations of Bartoníčková, which operate through a reduction of the human body to an anthropological sign and a relational moment. Joy and vitality are here set directly alongside irony and scepticism. Ťhese elements dialectically intertwine within ritualised forms and staged festivities that transcend the suffocating monotony of everyday life. Matter itself is animated by both exuberance and sorrow—it rejoices and suffers, much like the human subject. Ťhe paintings of Ťytykalo, by contrast, emit signals from an imagined, timeless sphere in which the future is equated with the past. Ťhe human figure appears only as an absurd plaything, mediated through material or astral references—fragments, imprints, and traces. Ťhese paintings constitute a dreamlike, constructed meta-narrative of an absurd tenor, recounting the story of half-forgotten inhabitants of the Earth, upon whom the ever-expanding cosmos gazes with a calm, metaphorical eye. Physical presence, like death itself, is relativised; within this staged order of meaning, neither assumes any fundamental significance.

Dana Bartoníčková (born 1988 in Pardubice) studied between 2009 and 2015 at the Ladislav Sutnar Faculty of Art and Design at the University of West Bohemia in Plzeň (studio of Milena Dopitová), and between 2013 and 2018 at the Academy of Fine Arts in Prague (studios of Lukáš Rittstein, Jiří Příhoda, Dušan Záhoranský, and Pavla Sceranková). In 2017, she undertook a study stay at Ťhe Cooper Union in New York City, and in 2023 participated in the Magnus Art and J&Ť Residency in Karlovy Vary. Her work was most recently presented in the exhibition Ťhree Dimensions of Love: Students of Sculpture under Lukáš Rittstein at the Gallery of Modern Art in Roudnice nad Labem (2025–2026) and at Galerie Portheimka in Prague (2026).

Jakub Ťytykalo studied between 2008 and 2014 at the Academy of Fine Arts in Prague (studios of Jiří Lindovský, Jiří Petrbok, and Jaroslav Róna). In 2013, he completed a study stay at the Universidad Complutense de Madrid in Spain. In 2017, he received the Art Prague Young Award. In 2024, Ťhe Chemistry Gallery, in collaboration with the BADOKH Foundation, published his first retrospective catalogue. His work was previously presented at Ťrafo Gallery in 2018 in a joint exhibition with Andrea Lédlová entitled Metaphysical Bedtime Stories, for which a publication of the same title was also issued.

Ťhanks to the partners of Ťrafo Gallery: Magistrát hlavního města Prahy, Nadace ČEZ, Hospodářské noviny, Seznam.cz, Art District 7, Art Revue, Radio 1, Wine4You a MOSŤ Nápoje / Beverages s.r.o.

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Ťrafo Gallery, Hala 14, Pražská tržnice, Bubenské nábřeží 306/13, Praha 7, tram 1, 12, 14, 25, metro Vltavská (300 m), open Ťue–Sun 15–19 h, Sat 10–19 h, www.trafogallery.cz, IG: trafo_gallery