

Inventura presents

## **Normal Festival 2010** — Challenged by Art

Celebrating our fifth anniversary this year on the theme of  
**Conquering Public Spaces**

**For the fifth year the Normal Festival is dedicated to the life stories and artistic work of people who are slow at some things, who have more difficulty getting their bearings in the surrounding world and who probably did not excel in school.**

They hit the streets with microphones and cameras capturing events small and large – pre-election political jousting as well as art festivals, organic markets and an alien landing on Letná Plain. They adapt *The Little Prince* for their first professional theatrical performance. They conduct interviews with ferrymen, residents of the MeetFactory, experts on the cosmos, and prostitutes. They exhibit in your favourite cafés. They work at Inventura and – they have a learning disability. Despite all the sceptics, all year long they've been conquering and continue to conquer public spaces. At the Normal Festival they are your guides to the festival programme, which this year offers the best of the past five years in the world of art by, about and for people with learning disabilities. We are preparing more films than usual for you this year and in addition to cinematographic gems you can also look forward to controversial documentary films from around the world as well as the unconventional per-





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## Profiles of Inventura's interns



**Jakub Zachata** – I spent my childhood with my grandmother, who took care of me. My grandmother was an actress, and so am I – I've been in commercials and teleshopping. I met a lot of actresses there. My grandmother wanted me to work in a film workshop. I've got a lot of chummy friends. I'm a great guy.



**Aleš Koudela** – My Aleš Koudela interests are Harry Potter and the universe. I like the group Weird Sister; they sing "Do the Hippogriff", "Magic Works" and "This Is The Night". I like working at Inventura. I enjoy it, making films. I filmed How Aleš Koudela Met Harry Potter. I also go to the film workshop. I film for myself and for other people. I'm glad it's on the web and that people can have a look at it.



**Igor Fidler** – I was already nine years old when Prague bid farewell to the good old trolley buses and the Praha Těšnov station. Some people may think that I belong to the older generation. I remember things that young people don't. But in spirit I'm getting younger, as if I was going back.



**Josef Fojt** – I can still remember my mother telling me that I didn't like breast milk. I don't even know why. I like films, theatre, humour, drawing, music and good people. The first film that really influenced me in childhood was Revolt of the Toys by Mrs. Týrlová. I've made several short films and I collaborated artistically on the film About Sex.



**Šárka Hojaková** – I was born in Prague. After I was born, the doctors determined that I had a brain defect. Only an operation could help me to live my life, which I enjoy so much. My childhood was problematic but thanks to my mother, with whom I have a great relationship, I was able to overcome all the difficulties.



**Lucie Mudročenková** – I was born when it was freezing cold, but I prefer summer. I went to photography school for three years. I don't like it when my mother tells me how I should take pictures. I also worked at the Vesmírna café for a couple months.



**Robert Novák** – My dream is to become a cameraman and also to learn how to take pictures. My father bought me a new digital camera with only a screen but no viewfinder and he taught me to take pictures, but he didn't know he could make my dream come true.



## Kino Aero

Biskupcova 31, Praha 3, ticket reservations: 608 33 00 88

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Kino Aero / Wednesday, 17 November 2010 / 4.00 p.m. **Entrance:** CZK 90  
.....

## Gimme Some Respect

(Vähän kunnioitusta / Pekka Karjalainen / 2010 / Finland / 93 min.)



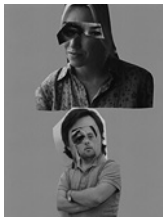
Young Siiri is about to move away from home. Her aim is to become independent and she is dreaming about love. Like many young women, however, there is one separating factor: Siiri has a learning disability. Siiri makes progress in becoming independent. She lives in an innovative dormitory and will not live on social security, instead getting a real job. She falls in love with Santeri, who does not have a learning disability. For a while, happiness is blooming. Siiri's friend, Suski, who lives in the same dormitory, is desperately dreaming of marriage and – not being careful enough – is subjected to sexual abuse. This event, along with the unbiased relationship with Siiri and Santeri, brings all people's hidden attitudes flooding to the surface.



.....  
Kino Aero / Wednesday, 17 November 2010 / 6.00 p.m. **Entrance:** CZK 90  
.....

## Me Too

(Yo, también / Álvaro Pastor, Antonio Naharro / 2009 / Spain / 103 min.)



34-year-old Daniel (Pablo Pineda) is the first European with Down syndrome to complete university. He starts work in social services in Seville, where he becomes acquainted with his free-thinking colleague, Laura (Lola Duenas). They soon become friends, which draws the attention of their colleagues and families. Their relationship becomes even more complicated when Daniel falls in love with Laura. Both are outcasts in "their" worlds, and together they find love and friendship the likes of which they had never known before.

.....  
Kino Aero / Wednesday, 17 November 2010 / 8.00 p.m. **Entrance:** CZK 90  
.....

Inventura presents:

## Normal Festival 2010 – Conquering Public Spaces

The opening evening of this year's Normal Festival will again offer the traditional amalgam of the most successful audiovisual creations from Inventura and associated foreign organisations. This time, the common theme of all videos presented will be conquering public spaces. Molotov cocktails and cobblestones aside, our weapons are cameras, candid questions, openness and creativity. The Prague Inventura team will present its latest film, this time a documentary, Earthlings, Who Are You

Voting For?, which emerged during the pre-election jousting at political party meetings and in the Inventura film workshop at the MeetFactory. The evening will be accompanied by the improvisational trio of Josef Fojt, Patrik Horvát and Martin Vošmik from Inventura Theatre.

## Earthlings, Who Are You Voting For?

(Inventura / 2010 / Czech Republic / 40 min.)



Earthlings, Who Are You Voting For? is a documentary project created by people who have difficulty getting their bearings in the surrounding world and who probably did not excel in school. To be politically correct – they have a learning disability. This does not prevent them, however, from having an original and novel perspective on the world around them, sensitivity, curiosity and even audacity – all necessary traits of a documentary filmmaker. In Inventura's six-month documentary workshop under the direction of Linda Jablonská, a film emerged which demonstrates that even people with a learning disability can get their bearings in public spaces and have a political opinion. Dokumentality crew followed a phenomenon which affects all of us – elections to the Chamber of Deputies. They participated in pre-election meetings and recorded surveys with citizens as well as politicians on topics which in other media are unusual to say the least. External cameras captured everything that happened in the vicinity – the reactions of security personnel, supporters and opponents of particular political parties. The film crew also investigated whether political correctness and pre-election promises aren't just empty slogans, and attempted to reveal the extent to which – 20 years after the revolution – a prejudice against everything that is not "completely normal" is still rooted in the Czech psyche. The film received the Audience Award at Jihlava International Documentary Film Festival.

## Tying Your Own Shoes

(Shira Avni / 2009 / Canada / 16 min.)



"My name is Petra Tolley. I'm 36, and don't worry, I'm fine." Tying Your Own Shoes explores how it feels to be a little bit unusual. Directed by award-winning filmmaker Shira Avni, this animated documentary provides an intimate glimpse into the exceptional mindsets and emotional lives of four adult artists with Down syndrome. Petra, Matthew,

Katherine and Daninah's artworks are combined with footage from interviews to blur philosophical lines between personal power and "disability". Their first-person narratives challenge widely-believed stereotypes about Down syndrome. Their stories are direct, hard-hitting and wondrous, conveying each artist's individual attitudes to create a touching, four-way essay about ability. The film was created and distributed in cooperation with the National Film Board of Canada

Intern's comment



**Jakub Zachata:** They were discussing Down syndrome – I was listening to the girl who was talking about it and then I remembered that I have a learning disability too, and that I also have Down syndrome just like that girl. I wrote my memories down – that it is expressed in the body, that the body is saying something. The girl pointed to her heart, that it is in the heart – her own life. She acquires knowledge just like everyone else. I found out that I can express myself on my own, with my body. So that people don't laugh at me. How can I get my own life, so that people are different, that they want to live too...



## 35Km

(Vilmos Kerecsendy / 2009 / Hungary / 8 min.)

In this film, Vilmos shows life in his village. He presents himself and his friends. It is possible to present your life in just a few minutes but the pleasure of it lasts much longer.

Intern's comment



**Šárka Hojaková:** About a disabled boy who had a learning disability and maybe other disabilities too, who likes to travel and likes to go on walks. I was intrigued by how he presents everything – his uncle, the streets... it was cheerful and humorous.

Inventura nd Oska Bright Film Festival present:

## Feelings

OskaBright Film Festival / Great Britain / 2009)

Our film is about feelings. It's also about turning negative feelings into positive one.

## Ha Bi Ba

(Samuel Cariaux (OskaBright Film Festival) / Belgium/ 2009)

This is a film about my art work and how it comes to life.



## Mrs. Sparkle

OskaBright Film Festival / Matthew Hellett / 2009 / Great Britain / 3 min.)

It's about me, Matthew, my alter ego person, and what it means to me to be Mrs Sparkle.



### Aleš Koudela:

I think it was a disability – that that guy was just polishing his nails and putting on makeup. Was it a man, or was it a woman?

### Lucie Mudročenková:

It was a man, because he was shaving his face; a woman shaves somewhere else.



### Aleš Koudela:

That guy didn't do anything but polish his nails and put on makeup. I don't know what kind of disability that is. Maybe it was Down syndrome or I don't know what kind of disability that is.

### Igor Fidler:

You could call it metrosexual, a.k.a. an eternal show-off.



## Memories of Glasgow

(OskaBright Film Festival / Robert Reddick / 2009 / Great Britain / 2 min.)

A journey from past to present, through drawings by Robert, of the buildings of Glasgow.



**Robert Novák:** I liked the cars most of all. Like when I was little and used to go to see the old-fashioned locomotives. They're my memories; now there aren't any old locomotives anymore; they don't run.

## The Story of the Beatles

(OskaBright Film Festival / Hughie McIntyre / 2009 / Great Britain / 3 min.)

From the creation of the Beatles to John Lennon's death. This is the shortest story of the famous band ever.



**Lucie Mudročenková:** It was poetic and they killed John Lennon and then there was an angel. It was nicely animated and colourful. There was also a gray pig. You'll either like it or you won't.

.....  
Kino Aero / Thursday, 18 November 2010 / 7.00 p.m. **Entrance:** CZK 90  
.....

## Filmmaker, Fan, Freak (premiere)

(Kateřina Mikulcová / 2010 / Czech Republic / 59 min.)



Josef F., a young cartoon filmmaker, living in the world of cinema and theatre is a social case. He has a slight learning disability. The documentary's aim is not to portray a learning disabled person, but to present a man living at the edge of two worlds – living a life at the top and the life of an outsider. Josef is in frequent contact with the environment of film and theatre celebrities. At the same time, he lives a rather lonely and chaotic life with his caretaker, in a house without running water. The contrast between the glittering world of the celebrities and the colourless, slow-paced existence of social cases forms the scope of Joseph's life and also frames the film.

Guests: Josef Fojt and Kateřina Mikulcová

.....  
Kino Aero / Thursday, 18 November 2010 / 8.30 p.m. **Entrance:** CZK 90  
.....

## The Idiots

(Idioterne / Lars von Trier / 1998 / Denmark / France / Italy / The Netherlands /  
/ 117 min.)



The Danish film *The Idiots*, subtitled *An Idiotic Film about Idiots and for Idiots*, has provoked viewers since its first screening. In a family house in a Copenhagen suburb, there lives a group of intellectuals with a strange hobby: they pretend to be variously disabled and use this to deliberately provoke their surroundings. The people at

Inventura of course remember the film from their youth, but now they like it mainly for a different reason: ahead of this year's elections, Inventura's *Dokumentality* film crews were often suspected of feigning their disabilities in an effort to more effectively corner politicians. Come and refresh your film memory with us and see where such efforts can lead.



## Kino Světozor

Vodičkova 41, Praha 1

ticket reservations: [www.kinosvetozor.cz](http://www.kinosvetozor.cz)

Wednesday, 17 November 2010 on the topic of **Autism**

.....  
Kino Světozor / Wednesday, 17 November / 6.00 p.m. **Entrance:** CZK 90  
.....

## Refrigerator Mothers

(David E. Simpson / 2003 / USA / 60 min.)



It is America of the 1950s and 1960s, when a woman's most important contribution to society is generally considered to be her ability to raise happy, well-adjusted children. But for the mother whose child is diagnosed with autism, her life's purpose will soon become a twisted nightmare.

Looking for help and support, she encounters instead a medical establishment that pins the blame for her child's bizarre behavior on her supposedly frigid and detached mothering. Along with a heartbreaking label for her child, she receives a devastating label of her own. She is a "refrigerator mother". *Refrigerator Mothers* paints an intimate portrait of an entire generation of mothers, already laden with the challenge of raising profoundly disordered children, who lived for years under the dehumanizing shadow of professionally promoted "mother blame." Once isolated and unheard, these mothers have emerged with strong, resilient voices to share the details of their personal journeys. Through their poignant stories, *Refrigerator Mothers* puts a human face on what can happen when authority goes unquestioned and humanity is removed from the search for scientific answers.



## Drona and Me

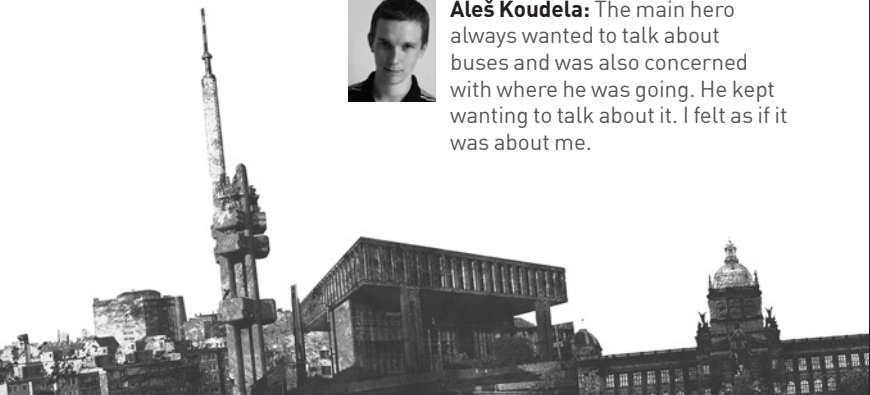
(Drona & ik / Catherine van Campen / 2009 / The Netherlands / 19 min.)



Drona is crazy about buses and knows the stops of all the bus lines in Amsterdam by heart. He is of Hindu origin and has autism. We follow him through the eyes of his older brother, Arjun, who says: "When I was eight or nine, I got angry and said to myself: 'What's with him?'". Arjun finds it especially unpleasant when Drona occasionally sticks out his tongue at strangers. In such moments he asks himself what will become of his brother. But Drona has no doubts about his future: one day he will become a bus driver. The film has received a number of awards and nominations at international film festivals.



**Aleš Koudela:** The main hero always wanted to talk about buses and was also concerned with where he was going. He kept wanting to talk about it. I felt as if it was about me.



Kino Světozor / Wednesday, 17 November / 8.30 p.m. **Entrance:** CZK 90

## The Red Carpet

 (Der Rote Teppich / Andrea Asch / 2006 / Germany / 88 min.)

The autistic author Axel Brauns tells the story of how he has conquered and still battles his present developmental disabilities in everyday life, in order to fit into a so-called "normal world". After having completed a German bestseller novel, he now turns to film as a creative medium. Directing his first 90-minute film poses a completely new personal challenge, which eventually leads him on to The Red Carpet. A touching, yet humorous documentary about autism and the oddities of normalcy.

## Tying Your Own Shoes

 (Shira Avni / 2009 / Canada / 16 min.)

"My name is Petra Tolley. I'm 36, and don't worry, I'm fine." Tying Your Own Shoes explores how it feels to be a little bit unusual. Directed by award-winning filmmaker Shira Avni, this animated documentary provides an intimate glimpse into the exceptional mindsets and emotional lives of four adult artists with Down syndrome. Petra, Matthew, Katherine and Daninah's artworks are combined with footage from interviews to blur philosophical lines between personal power and "disability". Their first-person narratives challenge widely-believed stereotypes about Down syndrome. Their stories are direct, hard-hitting and wondrous, conveying each artist's individual attitudes to create a touching, four-way essay about ability. The film was created and distributed in cooperation with the National Film Board of Canada.

Thursday, 18 November 2010 on the topic of  
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.....

## Body and Soul: Diana and Kathy

(Alice Elliott / 2006 / USA / 40 min.)



Body & Soul: Diana & Kathy is a true story about two life-long friends who have made their home in Springfield, Illinois. Diana drives, cooks, shops, and has been Kathy's personal assistant and friend for the past 35 years. Remarkably, Diana has Down syndrome, a genetic condition that gives her one extra chromosome and a lower

IQ. Kathy on the other hand is 61, has a degree in English, but is non-verbal, and has had cerebral palsy since her birth. As part of their ongoing activist efforts to demystify disability, Diana and Kathy invited Alice into their home over a period of five years to create their film. The documentary is an intimate portrait of two women with disabilities who are determined to live independent, non-institutionalized lives.



**Josef Fojt:** I was intrigued by the fact that they didn't lose their sense of humour. It was humorous, but also touching. It was mainly touching, but in places it was humorous too.

## Earthlings, Who Are You Voting For?

(Inventura / 2010 / Czech Republic / 40 min.)



Earthlings, Who Are You Voting For? is a documentary project created by people who have difficulty getting their bearings in the surrounding world and who probably did not excel in school. To be politically correct – they have a learning disability. This does not prevent them, however, from having an original and novel perspective on the

world around them, sensitivity, curiosity and even audacity – all necessary traits of a documentary filmmaker. In Inventura's six-month documentary workshop under the direction of Linda Jablonská, a film emerged which demonstrates that even people with a learning disability can get their bearings in public spaces and have a political opinion. Dokumentality crew followed a phenomenon which affects all of us – elections to the Chamber of Deputies. They participated in pre-election meetings and recorded surveys with citizens as well as politicians on topics which in other media are unusual to say the least. External cameras captured everything that happened in the vicinity – the reactions of security personnel, supporters and opponents of particular political parties. The film crew also investigated whether political correctness and pre-election promises aren't just empty slogans, and attempted to reveal the extent to which – 20 years after the revolution – a prejudice against everything that is not "completely normal" is still rooted in the Czech psyche. The film received the Audience Award at Jihlava International Documentary Film Festival.

As pre-films, we will screen short videos from the film workshop under the direction of Linda Jablonská.

Guests: Linda Jablonská and representatives of the film crew

.....  
Kino Světozor / Thursday, 18 November 2010 / 8.30 p.m. **Entrance:** CZK 90  
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Inventura, in cooperation with the German festival  
Wie wir leben, presents

## **Your Child Has Down Syndrome Prenatal Diagnosis: Blessing or Curse?**

[Ihr Kind hat Down-Syndrom Pränataldiagnostik: Segen oder Fluch?/ Anita  
Read / 2009 / Germany / 28 min.]

This documentary by German filmmaker Anita Read traces the life of a family into which a child afflicted with Down syndrome is born. After they overcome the initial shock and everything gets on track, there is another pregnancy, this time full of concerns and fears. The doctors know the risks and recommend a prenatal diagnosis. Birte and Matthias are aware that the results could lead to an unsolvable moral conflict about whether every child really has a right to live.

## **Gefühlsecht und lebensnah – documentary about the German festival Wie wir leben**

[Gefühlsecht und lebensnah / Kilian Sterff / 2009 / Germany / 58 min.]

The Wie wir leben (How we live) international festival of short films explores the lives of people with various kinds of disabilities. The documentary summarises the goings-on at the festival, including interesting interviews with filmmakers and jurors, and comments on film trailers.

## **Reporters for Ear Kiss Magazine – A Colourful World in Clear Language**

[Reporter für Ohrenkuss – Eine bunte Welt in klarer  
Sprache/ Christof Stolle / 2009 / Germany / 28 min.]

Most of what one hears goes in one ear and out the other. Certain words and ideas seem interesting to us, sticking in our heads and becoming a kiss for the ear. In Bonn, Germany, there is a magazine with this name and it is produced by people with Down syndrome. The camera accompanies reporters on a trip to Dresden where they are collect material for a new article, tracing the creative process of people who see the world with different eyes.

## **Friday, 19 November 2010 on the topic of Parental Rights of People with Learning Disabilities**

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Kino Světozor / Friday, 19 November 2010 / 6.00 p.m. **Entrance:** CZK 90  
.....

## **Is Love Enough?** (Tom Puchniak / 42 min. / 2002 / USA)



In profiles of four families, the film portrays the profound desire of many “retarded” people to raise children and the social and legal barriers they have to overcome to be able to do so. It also reveals the emotional price their children may pay as they get older and outgrow their parents’ mental abilities. The film offers an often brutally frank perspective on the new and growing phenomenon of people who were once institutionalized and sterilized as “feeble minded,” but who are now having children of their own. It poses the fundamental question about the rights of parents versus those of their children.

## Parents with Limits (Eszter Nordin / 2006 / Hungary / 56 min.)



A young Hungarian couple are expecting their first child, but after the first examination on screen, the doctors make reference to “undervalued contraception”. They are concerned that the parents will be unable to raise the child by themselves – they both have learning disabilities and, in addition, the future father is deaf.

The director of this documentary full of unsettling questions follows this family, into which two children are born, for eight years. The first of them, Laci, intrigued her more: he is a very perceptive boy whose scholastic performance seems to be hampered more than anything else by his uninspiring family environment. And for the director it is increasingly difficult to maintain her professional distance.

Guests: Eszter Nordin, the director of Parents with Limits, Iva Strnadová and Monika Mužáková from the Faculty of Education at Charles University

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Kino Světozor / Friday, 19 November 2010 / 8.30 p.m. **Entrance:** CZK 90

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## Monica and David (Alexandra Codina / 2009 / USA / 68 min.)



Monica and David are in love. They also happen to have Down syndrome. Both have strong and long relationships with their respected mothers. Ali Codina's affectionate documentary is an intimate, year-in-the-life portrait of two childlike spirits with adult desires as they prepare for their

fairy tale wedding and face the realities of married life afterward. Taking immense pride in their new roles as husband and wife, David wants to bring home the bacon, and Monica wants to fry it in the pan. They want babies of their own. But their unique circumstances still have them living with Monica's mother and her husband. Their tender kisses and pet names are captured and treasured, but along with their story is one of two different mothers who sacrificed and struggled against an intolerant world to provide for their children.

Before the film, we will screen short videos from Inventura's film workshop under the direction of Linda Jablonská.



**Jakub Zachata:** They talked about their disabilities. Because I have Down syndrome too, I also see the world variously and graphically. They talked about how they live. That girl was looking forward to the boy. The boy and the girl lived their own life. They took care of their own household.



## Experimental Space Roxy/NoD

Dlouhá 33, Praha 1, <http://nod.roxy.cz>

Roxy/NoD / Friday, 19 November 2010 / 10.30 a.m.—1 p.m.

### Joy of Sound – William Longden's workshop



The Joy of Sound is an inclusive musical workshop led by prominent British musician and therapist William Longden, founder of the non-profit organisation of the same name. For the past 10 years, William Longden has been helping disabled people by working with voice, breathing, and playing traditional as well as non-traditional musical instruments. He is also the inventor of several dozen specially constructed musical instruments enabling certain people to play who would otherwise be unable to do so as a result of their disability. Since 2000, more than 12,000 people with and without disabilities have participated in the inclusive Joy of Sound workshops in several European countries. Workshop participants use various techniques: listening, observation, mirroring, reflecting, searching for soft tones, working with rhythm and voice. Each workshop includes group improvisations which always begin and end in silence.

The Joy of Sound is intended for all those working in an assistive profession and their clients, pedagogues and their students, and last but not least all parents and their children, regardless of age.

**Entrance fee:** employed – CZK 300; students – CZK 200

Roxy/NoD / Friday, 19 November 2010 / 7.00 p.m. **Entrance:** CZK 90

### Normal Festival Closing Party with a performance by Inventura Theater on the topic of The Little Prince

The closing party will be in the spirit of theatre, film and music. The first will be taken care of by the actors of Inventura Theater, the second by Inventura's latest film about the pre-election struggle, and the musical part by the progressive DJs of Radio Wave. During the entire evening it will be possible to view selected films from the Normal Festival in a special installation and have a look at a specially compiled picture installation of photographic and non-photographic Art Brut works.

### Inventura Theater

Inventura Theater's vision is to become the first professional theatre troupe of actors and actresses with learning disabilities in the Czech Republic. It takes its inspiration from similar projects abroad with which Inventura has been collaborating for quite some time (Slovakia's Divadlo z Pasáže, Poland's Teatr troche inny, Hungary's Baltazar, Germany's Ramba Zamba) and which are established professional theatre troupes in neighbouring countries. At present, Inventura Theater is working on productions which attempt to take maximal advantage of the creativity of individual actors and actresses, and to provide them with the space to express their inspirational view of the world.

Film screenings:

## **Earthlings, Who Are You Voting For?**

(Inventura / 2010 / Czech Republic / 40 min.)



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on the world around them, sensitivity, curiosity and even audacity – all necessary traits of a documentary filmmaker. In Inventura's six-month documentary workshop under the direction of Linda Jablonská, a film emerged which demonstrates that even people with a learning disability can get their bearings in public spaces and have a political opinion. The Dokumentalit crew followed a phenomenon which affects all of us – elections to the Chamber of Deputies of the Czech Republic. They participated in pre-election meetings and recorded surveys with citizens as well as politicians on topics which in other media are unusual to say the least. External cameras captured everything that happened in the vicinity – the reactions of security personnel, supporters and opponents of particular political parties. The film crew also investigated whether political correctness and pre-election promises aren't just empty slogans, and attempted to reveal the extent to which – 20 years after the revolution – a prejudice against everything that is not "completely normal" is still rooted in the Czech psyche.

## **Pumpkin**

(Adam Larson Broder, Anthony Abrams / 2002 / USA / 113 min.)

A definitive ironic full stop after the Normal Festival. A great B film without which there couldn't be A films. A dark purple vision of the apocalyptic world of American schools. A parody of cheap sentimental films? Let's hope so!

The always perfect Carolyn McDuffy and her sorority sisters have a plan – they want to win an annual charity award by training athletes with learning disabilities and preparing them to participate in a regional sports competition. Carolyn is assigned to Pumpkin Romanoff. At first she is horrified by him but she soon realises that the young man has something inside which she has never experienced in anyone else: tenderness, humanity, sensitivity and an internal purity which have a deep emotional impact on her. To the horror of her friends as well as Pumpkin's mother, who tenaciously protects her son from the world, Carolyn falls in love with Pumpkin.

DJ's - Radio Wave presents:

## **Exo-planetary Tango with STIMUL DJs or Chill Out with Harry Potter!**

On Friday night the NoD Roxy space will be animated by the frenetic duo of Aleš Stuchlý (alias Nick "The Slasher" McGuirk) and Honza Vávra. The music critics and organisers of the STIMUL festival, known as promoters of new musical trends, are appearing this time as DJs Iva 8-bit and DJ Ultramilan.

In (non-)traditional costumes and accompanied by vuvuzelas, they will serve up audacious dance music, defective rhythms and delicious sonic swipes. The evening and night will resonate with delirious 8-bit preludes, mutated wonky honky tonk, alien electro and progressive northern combinations. Look forward to bizarre cosmic cover versions and exo-planetary mash-ups, psychedelic techno and unadulterated noise.

Fig-marigolds will bloom, carrion plants will blossom, syringodeas will swell! Hits generating primitive dance delight? Definitely! But also uncompromising and visionary sounds. Be sure to bring condoms and graphite sticks!



## **MeetFactory** 1st floor, Inventura Studio

Ke Sklárně 3213/15, Praha 5, [www.meetfactory.cz](http://www.meetfactory.cz)

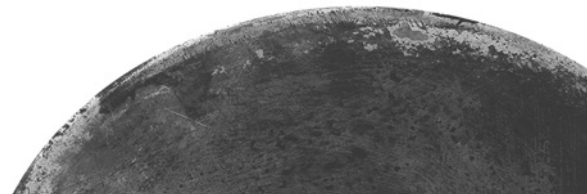
.....  
MeetFactory / Saturday 20 November / 10.00 a.m. until 5.00 p.m. .  
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### **Koert Dekker Workshop**



Koert Dekker is one of the world's most renowned artists working with people with learning disabilities in the area of theatrical production. Theater Maatwerk, which he runs, has become a standard of quality in this area over the duration of its existence. Koert Dekker is particularly interested in creating idiosyncratic presentations in which actors' abilities are used not to imitate standard theatre but rather to create new artistic qualities. During a seven-hour workshop, he will present the possibilities and limitations of his work and will share with participants the method he uses for working with people with learning disabilities.

**Entrance:** CZK 800



## French Institute in Prague

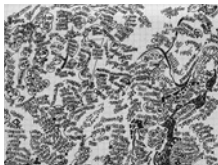
Štěpánská 35, Praha 1, www.ifp.cz

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French Institute in Prague / Friday, 19 November 2010 / 6.00 p.m.

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### Evening on the topic of Art Brut



Despite the fact that Japanese Kunizo Marsumoto is illiterate, he invented a beautiful and secret writing system. Even though society considers him an outsider, American George Widener is capable of holding in his memory the events of the past 1500 years and of writing even the distant future into his "magic squares" made out

of paper napkins. While Czech Zdeněk Košek has been designated as crazy, he has directed the weather on the entire planet using his graphic diagrams. The feature film *Rouge Ciel* by French director and Art Brut collector Bruno Decharme is dedicated to geniuses who operate outside the norms. A collage of their portraits, historic excursions and the reflections of theorists, philosophers, psychoanalysts and gallery curators batter our methods of thought and crush well-established views on art and its aesthetic canons.

After the screening there will be a debate with the film authors and two participants: creator Zdeněk Košek and theorist Manuel Anceau.

## EXHIBITIONS

**Art Brut – Josef Hofer** 16 November 2010—5 January 2011

**Austrian Cultural Forum in Prague**, Jungmannovo náměstí 18, Prague 1

Austrian Josef Hofer (born 1945) ranks amongst the most distinctive living artists professing Art Brut.

Hofer – deaf-mute, uneducable and suffering from a learning disability – was cast into social isolation in early childhood. But in return, this not only brought him independence from both social and artistic conventions, but also absolute creative freedom. He chose drawing as his main means of communication. Hofer draws in an unrestrained manner, spontaneously, moving beyond any inner or outer censorship. The authenticity, originality and artistic qualities of his oeuvre make him one of the pre-eminent masters of Art Brut.

Essential to Josef Hofer was his discovery of the human figure or, rather, the reflection of his own nudity in the mirror. The image of his sexually aroused body came to fascinate him. Hofer is magically and irresistibly drawn to that image in the same way as Narcissus was mesmerised by the reflection of his own face on the water's surface in the well. But while Narcissus' self-centred love, which could never be fulfilled, brought him nothing but suffering and death, Josef Hofer's awakening to his own corporeality and the introduction to his alter ego represented a kind of rebirth. Hofer retains in his memory the erotic moments, experienced in the company of his mirror alter ego, until the



next day in order to transfer them onto paper and insert them into a precisely outlined frame in the studio of a daytime social welfare institution in the Austrian city of Ried, near Linz. And while he can sketch his figures on paper in a few minutes, he needs hours to frame them. A certain kind of a scaffolding of lines helps him build structures which lock his figures into either confined or protective cages. The posture and gestures of the figures then tell us whether the personality in question is suppressed or triumphant. The way in which Hofer features these individuals is as astonishing as his perspective construction of space and flawless composition. He has managed to arrive spontaneously at the shortcut which many modern artists have strived for perennially. Hofer's expression is so powerful that it tears down all barriers between the professional and the amateur, as it does between the oeuvres of "the normal" and "the disabled".

The first Prague exhibition of Josef Hofer is the result of collaboration among the Austrian Cultural Forum, the civic association Inventura and the civic association abcd.



Šárka Hojaková: The pictures present nudes which may seem provocative for some. I don't mind at all because today there are nudes in photographs as well as pictures. The painter has a major disability and cannot speak, so his work speaks for him. I admire that a lot.

## Art Brut – Justyna Matysiak

15 November 2010 – 5 January 2011

**Polish Institute**, Malé náměstí 1 (entrance from Karlova ulice 27), Prague 1



The oeuvre of Polish artist Justyna Matysiak (31) has received numerous awards for its exceptional qualities. Among other things, the mentally disabled artist won the competition section of the international 2007 INSITA exhibition, i.e. the Triennial of Untrained Art, held in Bratislava. Her solo exhibition was organised within the framework of the same event this year.

Justyna Matysiak was born in 1979 in the Polish city of Poznań. She currently lives with her family in the Polish countryside. The ensuing lifestyle is also significantly reflected in her work – she loves to draw animals, but also human figures and architecture. Her drawings are fragile, almost disembodied, and they usually display a monochrome palette. They testify to the artist's extraordinary aesthetic maturity which remains in a raw state – for it has never been moulded by any art education. Justyna Matysiak simply ranks amongst the most noteworthy phenomena in the field of contemporary Art Brut.

The first Prague exhibition of Justyna Matysiak is the result of collaboration between the civic associations Inventura and abcd.



## **Lester's World** 9 October—7 November 2010

**Café Jericho**, Opatovická 26, Prague 1

Lester Magoogan is a young man with a specific and original perspective on life. He captures the world and people around him in his minimalist yet evocative drawings, which have already been viewed by visitors to the Tate Modern as well as the Normal Festival 2008 and 2009. Now Lester Magoogan is presenting in the lively environment of Café Jericho.

## **Martin Mařák: Martians** 4 October—5 November 2010

**Café Therapy**, Školská 30, Prague 1

Portraits of actors from Inventura Theater in the roles of Martians were made in 2009 when the protagonists began to prepare for the acting track through the photography of Martin Mařák. You can view the photographs over beer or coffee at Café Therapy, and you can follow the progress of the first Czech professional theatre troupe composed of actors and actresses with learning disabilities in their performance of The Little Prince on 19 November at Roxy/NoD.

## **Aleš Koudela: Our planet is of Earth's type**

11 October—1 November 2010

**Kavárna Mlejn**, Kampa

You can't stop Aleš Koudela. You can't silence him. You won't misunderstand him. Give him a camera and, thanks to his fascination, he'll return it to you in an hour with a full memory card. For his teachers, the 24-year-old autistic is sometimes a catastrophe, but you can't deny his creativity. He is interested in objects, phenomena and details about which others would not give a second thought. Aleš has captured the subjects of his interests in several photographic series, some of which are on display in the entry hall of Kavárna Mlejn.

Aleš about his exhibition:

When I was born I didn't know how to take pictures. I think my parents taught me how to take pictures. I also used to go to a photography workshop. I enjoy photography. I like taking pictures because it's interesting for me and I'm happy when others can see it. I like to photograph everything: people, landscapes – the sky is pretty too – plants, friends, and I also like photographing my family – everything, even animals. I also like to try out all the things the camera can do. This is my pretty exhibition, my first.



## ECHOES HRADEC KRÁLOVÉ 13. 11. 2010

AC club <http://acklub.wz.cz> / **7.00 p.m.**, Entrance CZK 90

**7.00 p.m.** Inventura presents a new documentary Earthlings, who are you voting for? and selection of short films, videos and animations created in Inventura workshops. We will also be screening some of the best films from the Normal festival.

**9.00 p.m.** Concert: Ska'n'daal [www.skandaal.cz](http://www.skandaal.cz)

## ECHOES PLZEŇ 1.-2. 12. 2010

Kačaba club / **6.00 p.m.**, Entrance CZK 40

**6.00 p.m.** Inventura presents a new documentary Earthlings, who are you voting for? and selection of short films, videos and animations created in Inventura workshops. We will also be screening some of the best films from the Normal festival.

**8.00 p.m.** Concert: Footnote (concert only 1. 12)

## ECHOES OSTRAVA 10. 12. 2010

Atlantik club / **6.00 p.m.**, Entrance CZK 90

**6.00 p.m.** Inventura presents a new documentary Earthlings, who are you voting for? and selection of short films, videos and animations created in Inventura workshops. We will also be screening some of the best films from the Normal festival.

**8.00 p.m.** Concert: El Rey

## ECHOES KOŠICE 13. 12. 2010

Inventura presents a new documentary Earthlings, who are you voting for? and selection of short films, videos and animations created in Inventura workshops. We will also be screening some of the best films from the Normal festival.

## ECHOES BUKUREŠŤ 29. 11. 2010

**Czech centre**

Inventura presents a new documentary Earthlings, who are you voting for? and selection of short films, videos and animations created in Inventura workshops. We will also be screening some of the best films from the Normal festival.

