

Václav Cigler and Michal Motyčka draw the audience into the action

You will be visually moved by the exhibition, which has been prepared by DSC Gallery. The unique glass artist and visionary Václav Cigler in collaboration with architect Michal Motyčka have prepared a new exhibition of their unique objects. They titled the exhibition Dialogue because of its visual and lighting means which alter the spatial perception of the viewer.

„Amid the entrance area where there is an opening between floors, is inserted an object in the shape of a pyramid pervading both open spaces. It can be looked through as above, which is compounded through a mirror widening form of body and also, from below, where in contrary the space narrows and can be entered from below,“ describes curator Jana Šindelová, one of many concepts which await the visitor at the exhibition. Cigler and Motyčka's objective is in fact a genuine dialogue between the artwork and viewer. Visitors have the opportunity to enter into the objects and experience them firsthand.

Similarly with the large *Reflective surface*, which levitates in the upper space of the gallery directly above the viewer without being obvious as to how it is even physically possible. The same case goes for the *Vertical* object at the rear of the gallery, which floats mid-air and impresses with its fragility and affect. “*Vertical* is in fact made of optical glass – a material that absorbs light and therefore challenges matter,” explains Šindelová.

Visual aids such as perspective, lighting intensity, gradation, mirroring light were key tools with which Václav Cigler and Michal Motyčka worked in effort to capture the transformation of the environment. The exhibition Dialogue is the current result of their cooperation, which began in 1999. Thanks to their mutual understanding of art they have many successful works and projects in galleries, private collections and public spaces in our country and in the world. “We are honored that Václav Cigler and Michal Motyčka return to our gallery, five years after their great exhibition *Search For Order*, with another exhibition showing further progress in their work. The objects which they have prepared are unique, challenging and inspiring for regular visitors and also private collectors of contemporary art,” says sales director Edmund Čučka, about the exhibition Dialogue.

Václav Cigler (1929) is one of the most significant members of the generation of artists emerging in the beginning of the 1960s. In his work, he anticipated the nascent concepts of contemporary artistic expression (constructive tendencies, minimalism, land art, light and kinetic sculpture). The domain of his creation are works with space, glass, light and water.

Michal Motyčka (1974) is an architect and artist. He graduated from the Faculty of Architecture at ČVUT in Prague, thereafter at the Atelier of Glass in Architecture under prof. Marian Karel at VŠUP in Prague. He also completed an internship with prof. Emil Příklad at AVU in Prague and with prof. Bruce Chao at Rhode Island School of Design in Providence, USA.

16.3.2017

Curatorial Text

Four years ago at DSC Gallery, Václav Cigler and Michal Motyčka created an architectural light exhibition titled *Search For Order* which characterized the interconnectedness of space: above, below, inside and outside. The current installation is again conceived as an experience from object to object which is co-created by the presence of the viewer.

On the principle of dialogue, there are several spatial solutions which expand and invite the visitor to move around and respond to. Amid the entrance area where there is an opening between floors, is inserted an object in the shape of a pyramid pervading both open spaces. It can be looked through as above, which is compounded through a mirror widening form of body and also, from below, where in contrary the space narrows and can be entered from below. In the words of Miroslav Petříček: "Thinking image – as cigler - means to lead a dialogue with the work at all levels (from sensory experience to understanding implicit symbolic meanings), and that dialogue is often induced by the viewer being able to physically move inside the object/installation within the "space" and thus directly experiences it." In the upper space above the viewer levitates an inclined *Reflective Surface*. On the sidewall is an object made from stainless steel, glass and light, titled *Touch*. In the central room through the gallery space are suspended rotating gently plated panels evoking the image of both the viewer and the environment. In the rear space in the hole between the floors is suspended *Vertical* glass that visually connects the space as a point of what happens "above" and "below" the horizon. Then follows a room that is fully intersected with diagonal lights, which creates a cross. The layout is finished with a portal element which we virtually enter the space filled with light.

The new exhibition at DSC Gallery offers movement between "real and imaginary" and signals coming from different parts of the installation convey an ambiguous experience of transformation of space to the viewer.

Jana Šindelová, Curator