

fjk3 – Contemporary Art Space

Franz-Josefs-Kai 3
1010 Wien, Austria

Ján Mančuška Incomplete Movement

Opening: Tuesday, October 10, 2023, 7 pm
Exhibition: Oct 11, 2023 – Feb 11, 2024

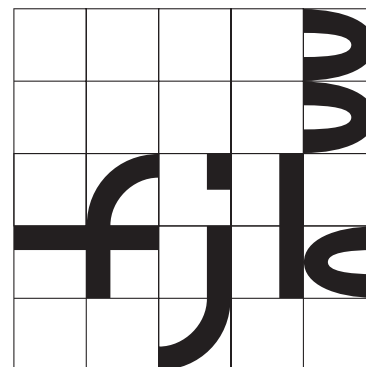
Opening hours:
Wed – Sun: 12 noon – 6 pm
Fri: 12 noon – 8 pm

Curators:
Fiona Liewehr with Julia Hölz (Ján Mančuška Estate)

Incomplete Movement is the first comprehensive presentation of **Ján Mančuška's** oeuvre in Austria. The exhibition is not conceived as a retrospective of the artist, but focuses on works that reflect on the central themes of his art in a characteristic manner. Mančuška first embarked on his artistic career in Prague in the late 1990s and passed away there in 2011 at the age of 39. In the space of just over a decade he developed an immensely complex oeuvre that gained international acclaim. It drew on a strain of Central and Eastern European conceptual art from the 1970s, in which language is reified and coupled with performative elements.

From a deeply existential perspective, Mančuška explored the connection between language and reality as it relates to the individual and physical space, so as to get to the bottom of mechanisms of perception, thought, and memory and render them physically tangible. Apart from drawings, objects, performances, and expansive installations composed of words and text fragments, he created film-based works. They provided him with an avenue to further pursue his interest in non-linear, fragmentary narrative forms, having already prepared the ground for this approach in his previous text installations.

Mančuška once characterized his artistic work as a contextual exploration of immediate reality, which involves interlacing different fields of art: Literature, film, conceptual art, theater, installation, video, and text. It is this entanglement of different disciplines, that renders the artist's reflective approach to media palpable. The artist saw the relationship of the "self" to others as the fundamental element of political life. In this sense, he conceived of his art as a political enterprise.



Contemporary Art Space

Ján Mančuška (born 1972, Bratislava, died 2011, Prague) lived and worked in Prague and Berlin. Solo exhibitions, a.o. at Centre Vox (Montréal, 2017), Kunsthalle Bratislava, City Gallery Prague (2015), Kunstverein Braunschweig (2010), Kunsthalle Basel (2008). Furthermore, he regularly exhibited at his galleries Andrew Kreps, New York, Meyer Riegger, Karlsruhe and Berlin, and Hunt Kastner, Prague. Group exhibitions: a.o. at National Gallery Prague (2023), Ludwig Museum Budapest (2019), Bundeskunsthalle Bonn (2018), New Museum, New York (2015), Institut d'Art Contemporain, Villeurbanne (2013), Festival Panorama de Dança, Rio de Janeiro (2010), MOMA, New York (2009), Tel Aviv Museum of Art (2008), ZKM Karlsruhe (2007), Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam (2004), 2nd Prague Biennale (2005), Berlin Biennale (2006), Atelier Augarten, Österreichische Galerie Belvedere, Vienna (2005), and Manifesta 4 in Frankfurt (2002). At the 51st Venice Biennial in 2005, he exhibited with Stano Filko and Boris Ondreička in the joint pavilion of the Czech Republic and Slovakia.

Works by Ján Mančuška are represented in the collections of the MOMA (New York), Centre Pompidou (Paris), Bundeskunstsammlung Germany, TBA21 Thyssen-Bornemisza Art Contemporary Collection (Vienna) and Kontakt Collection (Vienna).

In cooperation with the Kontakt Collection, Vienna, the exhibition will be accompanied by a talk program curated by Vít Havránek.