



Natalie Witkin & Lee Shalev:

הגונב מגונב פטור (*hagonev migonav patur*)

„Whether we fall by ambition, blood, or lust, like diamonds we are cut with our own dust.“
– John Webster

There is a Jewish biblical law “Hagonev migonav patur” which means that if you steal something that was already stolen you don’t need to pay the double price punishment. The straight translation is “one who steals from a thief is exempt from punishment”.

In Vitro gallery is located in a street and so its exhibitions are exposed to vandalism, damage and stealing. We wanted to use the “thief’s” for our advantage and this time instead of blaming them for stealing, thanking them.

Ústí nad Labem is located in the centre of a beautiful landscape, right on the Elbe, next to the mountains, forests, and spectacular nature. Men had conquered this land and filled it with buildings and factories, bombed it and build it again and again, taking over the nature, stealing it, polluting it, and damaging it. We decided to give people an opportunity to steal the buildings and the factories and by doing that, taking Ústí back to be a natural clean land.

The exhibition is dynamic and interactive. It will change day by day and as it changes the Ústí lands will go back to its origins. We invite visitors to come back and witness the changes until the beginning of June.

Natalie and Lee are Erasmus students at the Faculty of Art and Design, UJEP

48th opening of In Vitro Gallery. Accept our invitation for Ústí nad Labem Museum night on May 25th

16. 5. 2018
17:00