

HOŠEK CONTEMPORARY



Woven All of Dream and Error

An exhibition by **Kata Kovács** and **Tom O'Doherty**

11.–15. September, 2024 · Berlin Art Week

Hošek Contemporary, MS Heimatland, Fischerinsel, Berlin-Mitte

Vernissage: **Thursday, 12. September, 2024 · 7pm**

Introductory video, full details, sounds, images, downloads, etc: dreamanderror.com

Hošek Contemporary is pleased to announce ***Woven All of Dream and Error***, the second solo exhibition at the gallery by **Kata Kovács** and **Tom O'Doherty**. On view will be two video installations, a series of image grids, an accompanying artist book, and a series of hand-made lathe-cut records. The exhibition will also feature a discussion event about the wider social context of the work, and a concert by Berlin drone act **KvT**. All dates and times for specific events are given below.

Woven All of Dream and Error is an exhibition that considers the overlap of two areas of the history of technology: the sites of abandoned railway lines, and the emergence of machine learning — or what has popularly come to be referred to as artificial intelligence. The exhibition, which takes its title from a poem written in 1918 by the Portuguese modernist Fernando Pessoa, investigates the artistic and practical implications of the overlap of these two technologies. The exhibition demonstrates the commitment of **Hošek Contemporary** to presenting investigations into the radical potential of time-based, sound-based, performative, and ephemeral work.

Kata Kovács and **Tom O'Doherty** have collaborated since 2011 on work that overlays sound, time, and movement. These investigations have led them to present work in diverse locations — from LACMA, Los Angeles, and Serralves Museum, Porto, through to Digital in Berlin's *Kiezsalon* series, Ars Electronica, Linz, and beyond. ***Woven All of Dream and Error*** is the latest step in their ongoing work with these artistic possibilities. The exhibition is presented as part of *Zeitgeist Irland 24*, an initiative of Culture Ireland and the Embassy of Ireland in Germany, and has been supported and assisted by Adam Audio.

About the work

Woven All of Dream and Error juxtaposes machine-dreamt sound with the sites and routes of abandoned railway lines.

The exhibition centers on films showing a series of walks, undertaken by the artists, along the paths of now-disused railway routes in Berlin and Brandenburg. In these walks, the artists carry portable speakers, through which they play the sounds of machine-learning-generated audio of trains: sound that has been hallucinated by contemporary computational technology, and which is juxtaposed with the remains of disappearing layers of the built environment.

In writing about the history of technology in 1999, the philosopher Paul Virilio quipped that “the invention of the ship was also the invention of the shipwreck” — making the point that all technologies not only become more obsolete over time, but they also contain hints of their own future state of disuse and abandonment. The social and industrial innovation of railway infrastructure was once the radical cutting-edge of human technology. However, it has had the time not only to become mature, but also to develop layers of ruins, disused remnants, and buried vestiges, both physical and social.

At present, machine learning and artificial intelligence is likewise in the process of steadily becoming technologically ubiquitous. At the same time, these technologies contain their own inherent biases and flaws, and the possible future integral “shipwrecks” that these technologies contain are still largely unknown. In juxtaposing sounds generated by contemporary machine-dreaming tools with the traces of past efforts to build the future, the work aims to cast a durational perspective on technological innovations — to

consider them as historical and social forces that unfold over centuries.

The films and image grids in the exhibition will be accompanied by a book about the work, and a series of *zeolas*, or hand-made lathe-cut records. The book will feature texts about the work from Petr Hošek and Linda Toivio of Hošek Contemporary, and Harley Aussoleil of Coven Berlin. The lathe-cut records will be unique one-off vinyl records, with each containing a single minute of computer-hallucinated sound, transferred to a physical form. These singular objects were produced by the artists in collaboration with technologist and artist Kris Slyka.

Events and dates

Vernissage: Thursday, 12. September 2024 · 7pm

Finissage: Sunday, 15. September, 2024 · 7pm · Concert set by KvT at 8:30pm

Discussion event: Saturday, 14. September, 2024 · 5pm

The discussion event will consider the implications of machine learning, in the context of German state support for the obliteration of Gaza, partly achieved using these technologies, and the responsibility of artists and cultural workers in Germany

Exhibition dates: Wednesday, 11. September – Sunday, 15. September, 2024 · 12 noon to 9pm daily

Please note that these dates also include a preview day on Wednesday, September 11., the day before the Vernissage

About Kata Kovács and Tom O'Doherty

Kata Kovács and Tom O'Doherty have worked as a collaborative duo since 2011; they live and work in Berlin. Their work combines elements of durational and time-based art, minimalist movement, and electroacoustic music and sound. They are interested in processes, sounds, and movements that come close to imperceptibility, and the ways in which this material can be transformed through repetition, patterning, layering, and archiving.

Their work has previously been exhibited and presented at Los Angeles County Museum of Art, California; Serralves Museum, Porto; National Museum of Contemporary Art (Chiado), Lisbon; Ars Electronica, Linz; Kunstquartier Bethanien, Berlin; and Digital in Berlin's *Kiezsalon* series, Berlin, among others.



Kata Kovács and Tom O'Doherty are available for interviews and press queries — for more information, please phone 0049-151-1658-3748 or email mail@kkto.net.

About Hošek Contemporary

Hošek Contemporary, established in 2016, is an gallery and artist residency location in Berlin-Mitte. The gallery is located on a boat, the *MS Heimatland*. Hošek Contemporary focuses primarily on performing arts, site-specific installations, dance, and experimental sound works, and also hosts weekly events for improvised music.

Woven All of Dream and Error is presented as part of Zeitgeist Irland 24, an initiative of Culture Ireland and the Embassy of Ireland in Germany, and is part of the Month of Contemporary Music Berlin, initiated by Neue Musik e.V. / field notes berlin.



Woven All of Dream and Error: dreamanderror.com · Hošek Contemporary: hosekcontemporary.com · Kata Kovács and Tom O'Doherty: kkto.net