

WARSAW UNDER CONSTRUCTION 15: *The Cold Days Are Over* at the Wola Museum of Warsaw. On life in a city plagued by heat

curatorial team: Wanda Kaczor, Konrad Schiller, Marta Żakowska

Wola Museum of Warsaw, branch of the Museum of Warsaw
12 Srebrna Street

Exhibition: 22 September 2023 – 24 March 2024

Festival: 22 September 2023 – 22 October 2023



project: Anna Światłowska

Already on 22 September at the Wola Museum of Warsaw, the 15th edition of the WARSAW UNDER CONSTRUCTION Festival will begin, for the first time in a new formula—this year, the exhibition and the festival are organised by the Museum of Warsaw. The 15th edition of WARSAW UNDER CONSTRUCTION, held under the slogan *The Cold Days Are Over*, will deal with the problem of rising temperatures and the strategies of coping with heatwaves in the city. It will also focus on our relationship with the Sun, which has shifted from fascination to fear. The exhibition will feature, among others, 2006 work by Olafur Eliasson titled *Eye See You*, as well as films by Karolina Breguła and Emanuel Levi, and a photomontage by Kobas Laksa.

Since the last decade of the past century, the average annual temperature in Warsaw has exceeded 8°C and it clearly keeps growing. Between the year 1750 and 2013, the average annual temperature rose by almost 2°C. By the end of this century, it will increase to 3,5–5°C. Record temperatures, once occurring every 10, 20 or 30 years, now occur every single year. ***The cold days are over.*** What kind of transformation—in habits, in architectural and urban-planning practice—do cities need to undergo in light of the thermal crisis?

This year's edition of the festival **WARSAW UNDER CONSTRUCTION: *The Cold Days Are Over*** will look at the change in our awareness of Warsaw temperatures and our relation with the Sun—from fascination with its radiation and attempts at using it for treatment to fear of the ozone depletion and climate crisis. It will present various tools to adapt Warsaw and other cities with their communities to the changing conditions and to prevent further growth in the climate and temperature crisis. It will also present old and new ways of how to cope with high temperatures.

The 15th edition of **WARSAW UNDER CONSTRUCTION** will look at heatwaves in a city from different perspectives, using scientific studies, historic documents and art projects from Poland and abroad. Artworks created especially for the Festival by artists such as **Katarzyna Krakowiak-Bałka, Karolina Breguła, Emanuel Levi or Kobas Laksa** will be available for viewing at the Wola Museum. The exposition will also feature paintings by **Wojciech Fangor** and **Ryszard Winiarski**, as well as the famed ***Oxygenator*** by **Joanna Rajkowska**.

Karolina Breguła's film titled *18,6 kilometres* shows one hot day in the life of four couriers who cover the distance of over 18 km by foot every single day. Works by Emanuel Levi and Kobas Laksa also touch upon the subject of high temperatures in Warsaw. Levi produced *Heat Waltz*, a found footage showing the capital city of Poland during heatwave; Laksa created a photomontage which presents a dystopian vision of melting Ursynów.

Katarzyna Krakowiak-Bałka's work titled *Dry in the Throat* tackles the problem of a change in birds' mating calls resulting from the changes in the environment. Increased noise levels drown out the singing and force the birds to increase the

volume. This, in turn, cause false notes to creep into their melody, making the mating calls unintelligible. Grey nightingale has transformed his song, which forms the basis of the composition, to adapt to conditions in an environment altered by humans.

The exposition will also feature an installation by **Olafur Eliasson** titled ***Eye see you*** from 2006. Eliasson is one of the most distinguished and renowned artist on the contemporary art scene. He is the author of spectacular installations in which he reproduces the power of nature. In his artistic practice, he has for years referred to the Sun, exploring its properties as a source of light and energy. In 2003, this Icelandic-Danish artist placed a huge artificial Sun at the Tate Modern in London. The installation was viewed by two million visitors—a record that has not been broken to date. The work, which will be on display at the Wola Museum, alludes to the relationship with what in many cultures is the most ancient force—the central star of the solar system. It shows that the Sun, which on one hand is the source of life, is becoming an increasingly real threat as the climate change progresses. The ***Eye see you*** installation consists of a tripod and a “solar cooker”—a highly polished bowl that uses sun rays to prepare food in conditions where it is difficult to make fire or when it may pose a threat.

The exhibition’s architectural concept is the work of a team led by Jan Strumiłło—a renowned Polish architect. The arrangement of space will let the visitors actually sense the slogan of this year’s edition: ***The Cold Days Are Over***. They will be ‘teleported’, as it were, to a city plagued by heat—provisionally covered with corrugated metal sheets and silver foil, set up with plastic garden chairs.

The **WARSAW UNDER CONSTRUCTION** Festival boasts a rich program of accompanying events prepared in cooperation with the institutions such as the Faculty of Architecture at the Warsaw University of Technology, Museum of the Earth and the Institute of Meteorology and Water Management. The EUNIC European Union National Institutes of Culture is the Festival’s patron, the Museum of Modern Art is its main partner.

This year’s edition of the Festival is the first edition to be organised by the Museum of Warsaw, which thus far cooperated with the Museum of Modern Art on the previous

editions. Starting from 2023, the WARSAW UNDER CONSTRUCTION Festival will be organised alternately by these two institutions.

The WARSAW UNDER CONSTRUCTION Festival was established at the Museum of Modern Art in Warsaw in 2009. It deals with the broadest possible range of design issues: from industrial design, applied graphics, architecture and urban planning to social design.

The Cold Days are Over

WARSAW UNDER CONSTRUCTION 15

22nd September 2023 – 24th March 2024

curators: Wanda Kaczor, Konrad Schiller, Marta Żakowska

consultation: Błażej Brzostek, Michał T. Chiliński, Dorota Heidrich, Joanna Wieczorek

exhibition designer: Jan Strumiłło and team: Paulina Bukowska, Marta Szczepańska, Zofia Zatorska

producer: Monika Mazurek

graphic design and infographics: Hekla Studio – Monika Proniewska, Paulina Ufnal

poster design: Anna Światłowska

translation into English: Ian Corkill, Justyn Hunia, Karolina Partyga,

Aleksandra Sobczak

translation into Ukrainian: Skrivanek, Linglord, Varsovia. Biuro tłumaczeń, Biuro tłumaczeń Koliber, LinguaMania

editing and proofreading: Urszula Drabińska

exhibition design and execution: Jan Augustin, Michał Bogumił, Ksenia Góreczna, Paweł Grochowalski, Piotr Lipiński, Artur Miniewicz, Katarzyna Radecka, Piotr Reszke, Leszek Sokołowski, Mariusz Stawski, Mariusz Wawrzyniak, Piotr Wójtowicz, Adam Wrzosek, Adwave Piotr Kępiński

multimedia: EIDOTECH Polska sp. z o.o.

conservation care: Beata Galperyn-Kołodziejska, Piotr Kaczkiełło, Julia Kłosińska, Robert Kołodziejski, Igor Nowak, Piotr Popławski

digitalization coordinated by: Mikołaj Kalina

external loans: Janusz Kurczak

internal loans: Tomasz Lewandowski, Dorota Parszewska, Zuzanna Sieroszevska-Rolewicz, Joanna Rykiel

accessibility: Katarzyna Szafrńska

accompanying events: Wanda Kaczor, Konrad Schiller, Magdalena Staroszczyk, Marta Żakowska, Katarzyna Żukowska

communication and marketing: Joanna Andruszko, Małgorzata Czajkowska, Agata Fijałkowska, Agata Fronczyk, Klaudia Gniady, Julia Golachowska, Daniel Karwowski, Anna Ładna, Jowita Purzycka, Milena Soporowska, Anna Światłowska, Filip Wielechowski-Olszak

loans from institutions and private collections: Biuro Architektury i Planowania Przestrzennego m.st. Warszawy, Ewa Ludwińska-Chwałczyk, Fundacja Polskiej Sztuki Nowoczesnej, Fundacja Rodziny Staraków, Fundacja Sendzimira, Centrum Sztuki Współczesnej Zamek Ujazdowski, FAAB Architektura Białobrzegi / Figurski, Instytut Adama Mickiewicza, Instytut Meteorologii i Gospodarki Wodnej – Państwowy Instytut Badawczy, Marek Budzyński, Miejskie Przedsiębiorstwo Wodociągów i Kanalizacji w m.st. Warszawie, Narodowe Archiwum Cyfrowe, Ośrodek Karta, Regionalny Zarząd Gospodarki Wodnej w Warszawie, SRDK Studio, Studio Olafur Eliasson – Berlin, Urząd Miasta Hamburg, OKRA Landschaftsarchitecten

contributors: Ewelina Bartosik, Alicja Bielawska, Kacper Borek, Paweł Bownik, Agnieszka Dragon, Karolina Breguła, Władysław Brzozowski, Centrala (Małgorzata Kuciewicz, Simone De Iacobis), Michał T. Chiliński, Jan Chwałczyk, Halyna Dudar, Olafur Eliasson, Wojciech Fangor, Edward Hartwig, Inicjatywa Wschód, Tomasz Kaczor, Aleksandra Kędziorek, Bartosz Kokosiński, Katarzyna Krakowiak, Kobas Laksa, Emmanuel Levy, Aleksander Minorski, Magdalena Mosiewicz, Henryk Poddębski, Wojciech Radwański, Joanna Rajkowska, Waław Saryusz-Wolski, Michał Sapko, Cansu Seyrek Şık, Piotr Sokołowski, Patrycja Stołtny, Lexey Swall, Ryszard Winiarski, Lubomir Winnik, Jarosław Tarań

project *Another Threat*: Halyna Dudar oraz Sofii Avramova, Tereza Balandiukh, Kira Bernatska, Valeriia Bilonenko, Yaroslava Bilonenko, Polina Bondarenko, Sofii Konopat, Anzhela Melikhova, Yelyzaveyta Oliinyk, Alisa Shevchenko, Illia Shevchenko, Polina Shkliar, Anna Snihurenko, Marharyta Stozhok, Solomiia Tiutko i dzieci biorące udział w działaniach lwowskiej Creative Academy

Partner
główny:



Patron:



Organizator:



Instytut Kultury
Miasta Starego
Warszawy

Patroni medialni:



Partnerzy:



More information at: muzeumwoli.pl.

Contact for the media:

Julia Golachowska

Department of Promotion and Marketing

Museum of Warsaw

tel. +48 22 277 43 94

julia.golachowska@muzeumwarszawy.pl