



## Krištof Kintera Your Light is My Life

1<sup>ST</sup> press release, 21 January 2015

28 February to 7 June 2015

For the first time in the Netherlands, the Kunsthal Rotterdam is presenting a major solo exhibition by the Czech artist Krištof Kintera. Kintera addresses politically charged issues with his evocative installations full of ironic, almost slapstick-like and sometimes dark humour. His work is staggeringly imaginative and powerful and subtly provides food for thought. Kintera's sculptures and installations are lifelike, can move and communicate, are dysfunctional and sometimes completely absurd. Visitors to the exhibition become immersed in Kintera's world. It is remarkable experience and an absolute must see!

### **Provocative, melancholy and poetic**

Everyday life and a sense of wonder regarding world issues both great and small are never far removed from Krištof Kintera's work. His provocative, melancholy and poetic work explores the boundaries of contemporary sculpture, examining issues ranging from the crisis, mass consumption, stress and tax, to the darker side of society. Kintera creates alternative meanings by depicting absurd possibilities and unrealistic applications. Expressive, colourful and skilfully crafted using a wide range of materials, his sculptures sometimes stir up unexpectedly strong emotions.

### **Astonishment and alienation**

This artist is no newcomer to creating confusion and contrast, and visitors to 'Your Light is My Life' feel this at once. The exhibition presents work from the past fifteen years including approximately forty sculptures and over twenty-five large scale drawings and sketches, such as 'Talkmen' (1999-2003), which portrays a group of small scale human beings posing critical questions about the future of mankind, or the visionary grumbling of a crow commenting on the world from the branch of a tree in the work 'I see, I see, I see' (2009). Together with sculptures like the gigantic 'Shiva Samurai' (2014), the colourful 'Demon of the Growth' (2012), the poetic 'A Prayer for Lost of Arrogance' (2013) and the incredible and frustrating sound in 'Revolution' (2005), the exhibition presents the freaky world of Krištof Kintera in which astonishment and alienation play a leading role.



### **Public Jukebox**

Several public works exhibited at other locations also form part of this exhibition (subject to change). The works include, for example, 'Public Jukebox', in which the power of sound, the memory of it and its social impact play an important role. For a small fee, anyone can choose a sound and practice using it to affect their surroundings in some way. The playlist is highly diverse and will be kept secret for the time being.



### **Publication**

The exhibition catalogue is an original artist's publication comprising loose-leaf reproductions of his work, photographs and interviews. Every box is unique! (ISBN 978-3-9523990-7-1, price € 79,95 )

### **Activities**

The exhibition is accompanied by an extensive educational and supporting programme that focuses on the socially critical aspect of Kintera's work, the production processes involved, and the interaction between the art and the audience.

### **Save the dates! Freaky opening and Freaky Weekend**

The opening of the exhibition will take place on Saturday 7 March, simultaneously with the opening of Freaky Spring (see inset) and the Rotterdam Museum Night. The Freaky Weekend will take place on Friday 17, Saturday 18 and Sunday 19 April, with dance & drinks on the Friday, a programme geared towards adults on the Saturday, and a special family day on the Sunday ('FAMILIEdag'). The programme will be announced on the Kunsthal website at [www.kunsthall.nl](http://www.kunsthall.nl) and on our social media channels.

### **Krištof Kintera at Art Rotterdam and Galerie Ron Mandos**

During Art Rotterdam (5–8 February 2015) D+T Project Gallery (Brussels) will present works by Krištof Kintera. Galerie Ron Mando, who is representing Kintera in the Netherlands will show works by Kintera in May 2015.



### **Krištof Kintera**

Krištof Kintera (1973) lives and works in Prague and is one of the most prominent contemporary artists in the Czech Republic. Since 1996, he has been working on a multifaceted oeuvre of performances, installations and sculptures. Originally from the world of theatre and influenced by the Velvet Revolution (the period of political upheaval in Czechoslovakia in the spring of 1989), Kintera turned his attention increasingly towards creating sculptures, from works exhibited in public spaces to small, kinetic products.

His work has been exhibited in international cultural institutions and galleries including the Tinguely Museum in Basel, Kunstmuseum Bonn, Casino Luxembourg, Palais de Tokyo in Paris, Hamburger Bahnhof in Berlin and Moderna Museet in Stockholm. The exhibition is the result of a close collaboration with Krištof Kintera, who has a warm relationship with the Netherlands thanks to the time he spent at art academy the Rijksakademie van Beeldende Kunsten in Amsterdam (2003-2004).  
For further information about Krištof Kintera, please visit [www.kristofkintera.com](http://www.kristofkintera.com)

# FREAKY

VOORJAAR / SPRING

The Kunsthal Rotterdam 'goes freaky' with its exhibition programme next spring; 'freaky' in terms of strange, disturbing and dark, but also 'freaky' as in fanciful, intense and resplendent. Under this heading, visitors can see a variety of exhibitions on contemporary art, photography, design and history. Works on show range from the thought-provoking installations by Bjørn Melhus to the powerful and absurd installations by Kristof Kintera, and from the intriguing portrait series by CharLotte Lybeer to the ironic drawings and playful designs by Parra. The 'freaky spring' will end with a family exhibition about the wonder world of early 20<sup>th</sup> century picture postcards in which mysterious dreams and surreal fantasies form the central theme. For more information: [www.kunsthalthal.nl](http://www.kunsthalthal.nl)

*Photos of work by Krištof Kintera (from left to right): My Light is Your Life II (model: Shiva Samurai, 2014), Bad News (2011), Demon of the Growth (2012), Public Jukebox (2011-2014), My Light is Your Light (2008), I see, I see, I see (2009) en Revolution (detail, 2005).*

→ For press information and/or image material, please contact the Marketing and Communication Department at Kunsthal Rotterdam: Mariëtte Maaskant, t. +31 (0)10-4400323, +31 (0)6-14437789; Sabine Parmentier, t. +31 (0)10-4400321; [communication@kunsthalthal.nl](mailto:communication@kunsthalthal.nl)  
→ Please include the following information in all publications: info +31 (0)10-4400301, [www.kunsthalthal.nl](http://www.kunsthalthal.nl), opening hours: Tuesdays to Saturdays from 10 am to 5 pm, Sundays and public holidays from 11 am to 5 pm.