



INV-NTURA

# **NORMÁLNÍ** **FESTIVAL 2009** *Challenged by art*

Praha **4.–7. 11. 2009** | Plzeň **10. 11. 2009**  
Hradec Králové **13. 11. 2009** | Brno **30. 11. 2009**

FESTIVAL PROGRAMME

*Inventura presents*



## **Normal Festival 2009** – *Challenged by art*

*This year for the fourth time... this year's theme is*  
**Art is work, work is art**

*For the fourth time Normal Festival presents the life stories and artwork of people with learning disabilities who find many of life's tasks difficult and who were probably not able to succeed in school.*

Roll down the zip of your overalls, undo your top button, get out of those tight shoes, throw off your shirt and beret and sit yourself down next to gear wheels and a band saw, which are the work clothes for this year's Normal Festival. Soon you'll get it that art is work and work is art.

It was people with learning disabilities who inspired this year's theme, people who actively work in varied situations that many of us would not expect. Art is traditionally one of those and this year Normal Festival presents the best from this field, from the Czech Republic and abroad.

Film lovers can look forward to quality feature, animated and documentary films, including A Lure From Meadows (Die Heide ruft) the bold and, from a Czech point of view, controversial German documentary about sexual identity, which will be presented by its authors and protagonists. There is also an evening dedicated to Australian Adam Elliot. His Harvie Krumpet won the Oscar for best animated short film in 2003, and his full length feature, Mary and Max,



is hitting Czech cinemas this year. Music lovers are catered for this year at Normal Festival more than any year before. Music meets film in the dynamic documentary about British band Heavy Load. Also on the film menu will be works by people with learning disabilities from all over the world.

The main stars of the theatre part of the festival will be the actors of the Polish theatre group Teatr trochę inny, who will take to the stage twice, once with Beckett, once with Kafka. Divadlo Inventura will lighten the mood with their 'etudy' and Martin Mařák's Martian photographic portraits. Slam poet Bohdan Blahovec will also be running a workshop.

Come and do a stock check of your own assumptions about people you might not expect much from.

*The Inventura festival team*



## NORMAL FESTIVAL 2009 COULDN'T HAVE HAPPENED WITH SUPPORT OF THE FOLLOWING DONORS AND PARTNERS:

### *Sponsors*

International Visegrad Fund / IMOS Brno, a.s. / Ministry of Culture  
Prague City Hall / Czech-German Fund For The Future  
Život umělce Foundation

### *Media partners*

Nový prostor / Radio 1 / Radio Wave / Kulturní čtrnáctideník A2

### *Partners*

Kino Aero / Komorní kino Evald / La Fabrika / Bar Krásný Ztráty / Anděl Café  
kino Central / klub Fléda / Bioscop / Meet Factory / SiteOne / Marie Bartošová  
Titio, s.r.o. / Nextweb / Nightmare / Fake Blonde Sounds / Stowarzyszenie  
Skrzydła OskBright Film Festival / Glad TV / ABM / Agenzia regionale per il lavoro

### *Catering*

SIMPatická kavárna Café ([www.simp.cz](http://www.simp.cz))

### *Design*

Studio Pí ([www.studiopi.cz](http://www.studiopi.cz))

# Sponzoři



# Mediální partneři



# Partneři



## Kino Aero

Biskupcova 31, 130 00 Praha 3, 608 33 00 88



/ Wednesday 4. 11. 2009 / 19.00–22.30

## INVENTURA PRESENTS NORMAL FESTIVAL 2009

### Zdeněk Bína in concert

Entrance: 100 Kč

Traditionally the opening night of the festival presents the year's newest films from, for and about people with learning disabilities. Meet the most terrible Danish terrorist Teddy; discover what's new in British short films. Travel through a psychedelic hell and end up in heaven while watching a video accompaniment to the Mejla Hlavsá song Houby (better known as Muchomůrky bílé by Tony Ducháček & Garage) which was produced in Inventura's film workshop. And to reduce the temptation to get high on psychedelic stimulants, we have Zdeněk Bína, who doesn't need 5 nor -123 minutes to win over the whole hall with his singing and guitar. And not to forget food for the audience; SIMPaticka kavarna believe the way to the heart is through the stomach and will be providing refreshments before the evening starts.





/ Thursday 5. 11. 2009 / 19.00–22.30

## SEXY EVENING WITH THE AUTHORS AND PROTAGONISTS OF DOCUMENTARY A LURE FROM MEADOWS AND DOUBRAVANEK IN CONCERT

### **A Lure From Meadows**

Entrance for the film: **80 Kč** (Entrance for whole evening: **120 Kč**)

(Die Heide ruft / Mirjam Mirwald / 2007 / Germany / 60 mins / German version, simultaneous translation in headphones)



"I don't do intercourse or oral sex. That's a line I don't cross so I don't feel like a prostitute," says one of the 'sex guides' in this documentary about paid sexual services for people with various types of handicap. The film tells the stories of three men with learning disabilities who use services offered by sex guides, exploring the role of sexuality in forming our identity and ideas about what is a fulfilling life in very frank fashion. There is no room for moralising or narrow-mindedness, the main message is respect. The film was incredibly well received at Normal Festival last year and so is back again, being prefaced by two shorts: *About sex...* (Bára Dlouhá, Kateřina Mikulcová / 2008 / CR / 10 mins) and *Yolk* (Stephen Lance / 2007 / Australia / 15 mins). After the film the protagonists and makers of *A Lure From Meadows* will take part in a panel discussion, where no question will be considered taboo.



## **Doubравanek – Concert**

The films which are being shown tonight are all similar that they break down stereotypes in ways that may well make some of us blush. The members of vocal/instrumental group Doubравanek do exactly the same thing, but in a musical way, though instead of changing colour, those of us of weaker disposition should count on strained stomach muscles instead.



/ Friday 6. 11. 2009 / 19.00

## TRIBUTE TO ADAM ELLIOT: MARY AND MAX, HARVIE KRUMPET

Entrance for the film: **80 Kč** (Entrance for whole evening: **200 Kč**)

Australian artist and director Adam Elliot is a supporter of people with learning disabilities. He has supported amongst others the Czech animated educational film 'About Sex...', which was produced by Inventura (visitors to this year's Normal Festival can see the film on Thursday November 5<sup>th</sup> at Aero). Adam writes and directs original animated stories, two of which will be presented in this year's Normal Festival.



## Harvie Krumpet

(Adam Elliot / 2003 / Australia / 23 mins)

Harvek Milos Krumpetzki was born in Poland in 1922. After the start of the Second World War he emigrated to Australia and changed his name to Harvie Krumpet.



Harvie is a real loser: He suffers from Tourettes syndrome, a lightning strike left him without one testicle. In spite of all this he remains optimistic, he is married to a nurse and is bringing up an adopted daughter. Despite his fate and his naïve outlook he really enjoys life. Harvie Krumpet won the Oscar for best animated short in 2003.

## Mary and Max

(Mary and Max / 2003 / Australia / 89mins)

Two different characters, two different destinies and a distance of half the world connect this story about the friendship of two very different people whose only contact is through letters: Mary Daisy Dinkle, a chubby eight year old girl living in a Melbourne suburb, and Max Horowitz, an extremely obese forty-four year old



Jew with Aspergers, living in vibrant New York. The film charts Mary's correspondence and Max's change from middle to old age and the strong bond that forms between them, which overcomes more than the typical ups and downs. Mary and Max takes us on a journey of untypical friendship which must deal with autism, taxidermy, psychiatry, alcoholism, obesity, kleptomania, sexual differences, faith, copulating dogs, religious differences, agoraphobia and many more of life's challenges.

 / Friday 6. 11. 2009 / 21.00

## Normal Festival 2009 and Fake Blonde Sounds present Malcolm Middleton

Entrance: 200 Kc

Scottish songwriter Malcolm Middleton first came to the public's consciousness as a member of post-folk combo Arab Strap. They formed in the first half of the 1990's and along with Belle and Sebastian were the most significant members of the post-folk scene in Glasgow. Arab Strap released six studio albums before splitting up in 2006. Middleton continued on a successful solo course writing sad and fragile songs infused with black humour. This year saw the release of the critically acclaimed LP Waxing Gibbouns. For Normal Festival, Malcolm will perform an exclusive acoustic show at Aero.

[www.malcolmmiddleton.co.uk](http://www.malcolmmiddleton.co.uk)

[www.myspace.com/malcolmmiddleton](http://www.myspace.com/malcolmmiddleton)

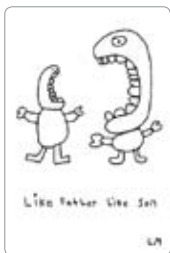


**La Fabrika** Komunardů 30, 170 00 Praha 7, info@lafabrika.cz

La Fabrika / Thursday 5. 11. 2009 / 15.00–18.00

### **A different me: Workshop with British artist Lester Magoogan**

Free Entrance



Lester Magoogan, a talented young artist from Hastings, is visiting Normal Festival for the second time. Last year he exhibited his original drawings (which will be on display in Hradec Kralove). This year he will be running a special workshop on his own style of animation along with his father, Wesley. The workshop is built around teambuilding activities and offers the chance to be, at least for a short time, someone completely different.

La Fabrika / Thursday 5. 11. 2009 / 19.00

### **Teatr troche inny: Without Words (theatre presentation)**

Entrance: **60 Kč** (Entrance for whole evening: **140 Kč**)

Written and directed: Jan Molicki, music: Arkadiusz Reikowski, art design and costumes: Jan Molicki, Rachela Molicka, equipment and stage setting: Rachela Molicka, Elwira Piątek, Gabriela Pierek, Monika Stanaszek, Gabriel Molicki, Jacek Podskarbi, cast: Marta Gierałt, Katarzyna Stawarz, Ireneusz Buchich de Divan, Piotr Chmielek, Piotr Dylkowski,

Konrad Gastoł, Marcin Kardacz, Paweł Kudasiewicz, Tomasz Pachel, Maciej Sokołowski, Rachela Molicka and Gabriela Pierek as assistants.

Polish professional theatre group Teatr troche inny is made up of people with learning disabilities and those suffering social exclusion. 'Without words' is based on three one act plays from Samuel Beckett – Act without words I, Act without words II and Catastrophe. The plays explore the themes of the right to personal freedom and the right to a life amongst others. The life conditions that 'the others' impose on us are presented in direct, almost brutal scenes. However, in each play in the end the protagonists taste victory. Heads held high, fighting for respect and uncovering lies and manipulation of their surroundings, even though no one would expect it from them.



La Fabrika / Thursday 5. 11. 2009 / 20.00–21.00

### **Poetic Inventura: Bohdan Bláhovec's Slam poetry**

Bohdan Bláhovec presents team slam poetry in a workshop setting. Featuring leading young Czech poets and members of Divadlo Inventura.



La Fabrika / Thursday 5. 11. 2009 / 21.00

## Neočekávaný dýchánek (concert)

Entrance: 100 Kč

The playful, poetic lyrics and music taking its cue from Eastern European folk as well as drawing on all imaginable genres will get the audience's blood pumping on the second festival day.



La Fabrika / Saturday 7. 11. 2009 / 19.00 hod.

## Teatr trochę inny: Proces (theatre presentation)

Entrance: 60 Kč (Entrance for whole evening: 200 Kč)

screenplay and direction: Jan Molicki, music and sound effects : Jan Molicki i Jacek Podskarbi, stage design and costumes: Jan Molicki, Rachela Molicka, technical and stage care: Rachela Molicka, Elwira Piątek, Gabriela Pierek, Monika Stanaszek, Gabriel Molicki, Jacek Podskarbi, cast: Marta Gierałt, Rachela Molicka, Elwira Piątek, Gabriela Pierek, Monika Stanaszek, Katarzyna Stawarz, Ireneusz Buchich de Divan, Piotr Chmielek, Piotr Dylikowski, Konrad Gastoł, Marcin Kardacz, Paweł Kudasiewicz, Tomasz Pachel, Jacek Podskarbi, Maciej Sokołowski and Gabriel Molicki as Lalkarz

Proces, as all the performances by Teatr Trochę Inny, is ambiguous and very symbolical. Three main heroes — Josephs K. — are fighting the cruel system machine. They are looking for a way out of the office and institutions labyrinth. It turns out they are totally alone. They are actually surrounded by uncles, aunts, attorneys and assistants. But no-one gives them real support, no-one is in touch. fed with 'good advice', they can count on themselves only. Finally they win the case but cannot break the walls of misunderstanding, indifference, isolation. In the end they are standing on an abandoned stage, with their back on the audience, looking for a human through imaginary windows.





La Fabrika / Saturday 7. 11. 2009 / 21.00

### **Gang-ala-basta + Revalation (concert)**

Entrance: **180 Kč**

Trip-hop combined with electronics and guitars, Gang-ala-basta, who warmed up for Massive Attack during their 1999 Prague appearance, together with dynamic alt-pop rockers Revalation close proceedings for the forth Normal Festival with a show at La Fabrika.



**Kino Evald** Národní 28, Praha 1, rezervace: 221 105 225

Kino Evald / Thursday 5. 11. 2009 / 19.00

### **Heavy Load: A film about happiness**

Entrance: **70 Kč**

Heavy Load are a punk outfit subject to the inflammatory mix of ego, fantasy, and desire that fuels any emerging band. They are also, uniquely, made up of musicians with and without learning disabilities, which makes the bands' survival a precarious negotiation between two different worlds: on the one hand the institutional timetable of day centres, work placements and social workers; on the other the chaotic slacker life of rehearsal rooms, studios and gigs.



Thursday 5. 11. 2009 / 21.00

## 'SEX, WORK AND MAGIC MUSHROOMS': SHORT FILMS

Entrance: **60 Kč**

### **Magic Mushrooms**

(Inventura / 2009 / Czech Republic / 8 mins)

Music video for the song Mushrooms (known as White Magic Mushrooms) by Garage. An unhappy zoo keeper falls in love with the zoo's director, but she has already given her heart to Tony Ducháček. A psychedelic tale comprising live action as well as animation, this short was conceived in Inventura's own film workshop which produces original shorts every year for the festival to amuse and move.

### **End of the World according to Ram**

(Jaromír Plachý and Inventura / 2008 / CR / 5 mins)

A reminder of last year's festival. A part animated, part live action comic film from Inventura's workshop, featuring festival mascots and Jaromír Plachý's animation.



### **Coping Strategies**

(Adam Koronka / 2007 / UK / 26 mins)



A bizarre and surreal film about a young man with learning disabilities trying to become independent. The film, drawing on the Monty Python and Young Ones comedic tradition, features actors from the Moment by Moment Theatre Company as well as Bill Nighy.



### **Breadmakers**

(Yasmin Fedda / 2007 / UK / 11 mins)

Artistic documentary about a Glasgow bakery where people with learning disabilities work. The film is an acoustic and visual celebration of work.



### **Do not cross the tracks**

(Vietato Attraversare i Binari / Francesco Bussalai / 2007 / Italy / 16 mins)

The story of a Sardinian employment agency which fights against stereotypes of people with learning disabilities, for example those on a course to become professional rescue workers. Francesco Bussalai's film is an inspirational portrait of people on the rescue course, successful and unsuccessful.

## Yolk

(Stephan Lance / 2007 / Australia / 15 mins)

Documentary about a young Australian with Down's syndrome who discovers the joys and pit falls of his own sexuality, a film which gently reminds us that people with learning disabilities physically mature in the same way as other people.



## Connections

(Inventura / 2007 / CR / 13 mins)



Would you like to know what it would mean if a girl liked Bob, and what this Bob would be? Do you confuse connections with contradictions? Do you think that people with learning disabilities are children with no interest in intimate relationships with the opposite or same sex? Come and watch this film and discover the answers.



| Friday 6. 11. 2009 | 19.00

## The Black Balloon

(Elissa Down / 2008 / Australia, UK / 97 mins)

Entrance: 70 Kč

Thomas wants nothing more than to grow up normally. However, his brother Charlie, who is autistic, frustrates him at every turn. Will Thomas, with help from his girlfriend Jackie, manage to take his brother for what he is? Engrossing original bittersweet story of fitting in, love and family acceptance.



| Friday 6. 11. 2009 | 21.00

## Normally we are different

(Normaal zijn we anders / Susanne Engels / 2006 / Netherlands / 67 mins)

Entrance: 60 Kč

"I know what I want." These are the words of a self-confident woman with learning disabilities. She wants to fall in love, get married, have a family... but at the same time she painfully realises just how impossible some of her dreams are. Through a fine camera lens and a gentle musical soundtrack, viewers get to know the character, interests and feelings of four people with learning disabilities. Compared to their daily routines, their ambitions are only as different as we allow ourselves to think they are. What is for one person a given, for another impossible.



bar **Krásný ztráty** listopad 2009, Náprstkova 10, Praha 1

**Vernisáž výstavy: 2. 11. 2009 v 19.00 hod.**



**Martin Mařák: Martians: Exhibition of portraits of Divadlo Inventura's actors**

Martin Marak's original photographs originated as portraits of Divadlo Inventura's actors, the newly founded first professional theatre group for people with learning disabilities in the Czech Republic. The Martian style of the portraits relates to Divadlo Inventura's first ever performance, whose fruits will brighten up the exhibition.

ECHOES PILSEN 10. 11. 2009

**Anděl Café** Bezručova 7, [www.andelcafe.cz](http://www.andelcafe.cz)



**Tuesday 10. 11. 2009 / 18.30**

Entrance: **50 Kč**

### **The Black Balloon**

*(Elissa Down / 2008 / Australia, UK / 97 mins)*

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**Tuesday 10. 11. 2009 / 20.30**

### **Footnote (concert)**

The band's inspiration comes from funky, blues, latino or fusion and names like Ray Charles, A. Jobim, A. Winehouse or Jamie Cullum.



ECHOES HRADEC KRALOVÉ 13. 11. 2009

**Kino Central** Karla IV. 774, www.kinocentral.cz



/ Friday 13. 11. 2009 / 19.00

Entrance: **90 Kč**

### **Inventura presents: Normal Festival 2009**

Selection of short films from Inventura's workshop and from the OskBright Film Festival 2007 a 2009.

### **Connections**

(Inventura / 2007 / CR / 13 mins)

Would you like to know what it would mean if a girl liked Bob, and what this Bob would be? Do you confuse connections with contradictions? Do you think that people with learning disabilities are children with no interest in intimate relationships with the opposite or same sex? Come and watch this film and discover the answers.



### **About Sex...**

(Bára Dlouhá, Kateřina Mikulcová / 2008 / CR / 10 mins)

Petr and Eva are quite an ordinary couple, but they are occupied by some concerns rather extraordinary for their age. Why is no one willing to understand that they have the right to privacy and that they are not little children anymore? Let us explain it all from the beginning: a man and a woman, love, sex, children or not, that has to be thoroughly considered. A short animated film About Sex... takes those, who are often considered to be children despite their real age and therefore do not have sufficient information or education, through the pitfalls of sexuality and intimate relationships. And as for others, a little revision can do you no harm.



/ Friday 13. 11. 2009 / 20.00

### **DVA – concert**

Acoustic concert from electric duo Dva, who describe their sound as "folklore of a non-existing country" and draw influences from tango, cabaret, the circus, pop, kitchen beatbox and freakfolk.



## **Lester's world – exhibition**

Lester Magoogan is a young man with a unique perspective on life. The world and people around him are captured in his simple but evocative line drawings, which bring a smile to the face of all who see them. To meet Lester, laugh and smile with his drawings and be imbued with his contagious love of life and bubbling personality, is an experience not to be missed. Lester's World exhibition opens people's eyes as to the depths of Lester's observational drawing powers even though he cannot really read or write, and has the condition of Down's Syndrome.



ECHOES BRNO 30. 11. 2009

**Fléda** Štefánikova 24, [www.fleda.cz](http://www.fleda.cz)

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**Fléda** / Monday 30. 11. 2009 / 18.00  
.....

Entrance: 150 Kč

## **The Black Balloon**

(Elissa Down / 2008 / Australia, UK / 97 mins) and short films from Inventura  
(Magic Mushrooms, About Sex...)

Thomas wants nothing more than to grow up normally. However, his brother Charlie, who is autistic, frustrates him at every turn. Will Thomas, with help from his girlfriend Jackie, manage to take his brother for what he is? Engrossing original bittersweet story of fitting in, love and family acceptance.



.....  
**fiada**™ / Monday 30. 11. 2009 / 21.00  
.....

### **Květy** – album release party with concert

One of Brno's leading alternative groups, Květy have been together since 1993. Front man Martin E. Kyšperský best described their sound when he said "We like hip hop, old blues, noise, electronica, chansons... all these sounds are reflected in what we do." He forgot to mention folk, country, free jazz and musical playfulness a la Jablkoň. This autumn Květy are releasing a new album which they will christen at Normal Festival.



ECHOES NITRA 8. 12. 2009

**Aula UKF** Tr. A. Hlinku 1, [www.ukf.sk](http://www.ukf.sk)

.....  
**Aula UKF** / Tuesday 8. 12. 2009  
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### **Mary and Max**

*(Mary and Max / 2003 / Australia / 89 mins, simultaneous translation)*

Two different characters, two different destinies and half the world connects this story about the friendship of two very different people whose only contact is through letters: Mary Daisy Dinkle, a chubby eight year old girl living in a Melbourne suburb, and Max Horowitz, an extremely obese forty-four year old Jew with Aspergers, living in vibrant New York. The film charts Mary's correspondence and Max's change from middle to old age and the strong bond that forms between them, which overcomes more than the typical ups and downs. Mary and Max takes us on a journey of untypical friendship which must deal with autism, taxidermy, psychiatry, alcoholism, obesity, kleptomania, sexual differences, faith, copulating dogs, religious differences, agoraphobia and many more of life's challenges.



## **My little village**

*(Jiří Menzel / 1985 / Czechoslovakia / 98 mins / Czech)*

One little village contains so many stories. We've all seen Otik Rakosnik, Mr Pavek, Doctor Skruzny and all the other characters a million times on TV. But when was the last time you saw them in the cinema? In 1985? Come after 24 years and celebrate Menzel's brilliant direction and Janos Ban's unbeatable performance as Otik celebrating the best of Czechoslovak cinema focussed on people who are a little slower, have problems orientating in the world and who were probably not the best at school.

