

The Origin of Stone

Exhibition: 10.10.2023 – 08.12.2023



POLINA DAVYDENKO

Public tinnitus (2020)

Video, 5:50

The main narrator is a piece of coal that sings a ballad about the city of Dobropolje and asks why some habits are so far beyond the boundaries. A fraction of coal compares the whole mechanism of a mining town to a beehive. Honey is taken from bees and replaced with sugar.

Similarly, I perceive a mining town maintained only in exchange of coal for money and products. The ubiquitous coal mining that keeps the entire city alive can be heard and seen, but nobody pays attention to this.

Like tinnitus, whistling in the ears disappears and appears depending on how much attention we pay.

Polina Davydenko works mostly with the medium of photography overlapping with the media of video, audio and text. The key theme of her work is narrative and its various forms. She focuses on human-animal relationships and cultural stereotypes related to the issue. These become the starting point for playing out other contexts, which the author visually sensitively connects into one disturbing message.

Polina was born in Ukraine, but she lives in Czech Republic since her childhood. She completed study at the Ivars Graveljs' Photography Studio at the FFA BUT in Brno. She has furthered her education at KASK in Gent, FAMU in Prague and at the FFA's Studio Environment. In 2022 she was nominated for Futures Photography.