**Martin Zet presents an exhibition titled
Sculptor Miloš Zet – Walls, Plinths and Mock-ups
in the Brno House of Arts**

***Since the early 1990s, Martin Zet has been a prominent figure in contemporary Czech visual art, often cooperating with the international art scene. His installation extending the entire Brno House of Arts is inspired with the work of his father, sculptor Miloš Zet. The exhibition titled* Sculptor Miloš Zet – Walls, Plinths and Mock-ups *will be open to the public from 12 February to 21 April, 2020. The opening will take place on 11 February at 6 pm.***

Using his distinctive and up-to-date European art language, Martin Zet deals with issues associated with modern 20th century sculpture in the House of Arts. The current installation includes various examples of the process of making a sculpture, especially for the public space. The exhibition can be understood as a report on sculpture, which is inevitably always confronted with the contemporary social, political and economic situation that influences the outcome of the artist’s work. At the same time, the artist has used the yielding and aesthetically powerful architectural space of the House of Arts to create a framework for a family story narrated from a personal position. Martin Zet presents the sphere of his relationship with his father in a generalized and unpretentious form. The identical initials of the son’s and father’s names (M.Z., M.Z.) have become an excuse for the artist and the exhibition’s visual identity to play with the fragility of one’s own identity – the personality of the individual, family continuity and predestination.

In his exhibition Martin Zet largely focuses on often neglected elements of sculpture in the public space or landscape such as the plinth, the placement of the sculpture, or the environment for setting up a work in the exterior. Zet has placed a large footbridge, a kind of quasi pedestal intended for walking and perception of exhibited works, right into the main exhibition halls of the House of Arts. The installation also includes several sculptures by Miloš Zet, who is primarily known as a representative of Czechoslovak socialist realism. Martin Zet often presents variants, sketches and models of his father’s sculptures on a shifted scale using 3D technologies. Videos and prints convey the atmosphere of the sculptor’s studio and the period character of his work. An outreach of the exhibition in front of the House of Arts is the wooden formwork for the concrete sculpture *Tvárnice* (Construction Block; presented at the Brno Art Open 2019 on a meadow in front of the Dolní Railway Station); it is basically the enlargement of an architecture element designed by Miloš Zet.

The exhibition of Martin Zet *Sculptor Miloš Zet – Walls, Plinths and Mock-ups* is open to the public from 12 February to 21 April 2020 in the Brno House of Arts on Malinovského Square. In addition to exhibition talks, performances by Martin Zet and a sculpture workshop for the public, the accompanying programme will offer a trip to the Beskydy Mountains with a visit to the guerrilla fights monument *Night Crossing* made by sculptor Miloš Zet. The exhibition will conclude with a one-day specialized colloquium on the interpretation of the official culture of the former Czechoslovakia. Martin Zet’s installation ***Sculptor Miloš Zet – Walls, Plinths and Mock-ups*** will be accompanied by a book of the same name containing an artist's collage of texts, records, memories and pictorial documents from the life of Miloš Zet, a list of his realised sculpture works, case studies of his work by Vendula Fremlová, Jana Kořínková, Zuzana Krišková, Tomáš Pospiszyl, and an original essay by members of *4AM – Forum for Architecture and Media*.

**Martin Zet (b. 1959)**, sculptor, performer, maker of multi-genre installations, poet, publisher of artist’s books, former teacher and current student, son of Eva and Miloš Zet. He has been active on the Czech and international scene since the 1990s. The beginnings of his artistic work are based on sculpture training. He was originally interested in elementary construction forms, but humour and the ecological or meditative approach to the environment in which he lives has constituted an important aspect of his work from the beginning. His work has gradually shown increasing interest in political and social life; he deals with history, exploring the role of the artist and the sculptor in particular. He travels a lot and begins to express himself artistically through performance and other contemporary media. Today he uses his literary, performer and artistic skills to make multi-layered works, responding to the environment that he enters. His work is characterized by unpretentiousness and an effort to reduce the message to the very essence. He lives and works in Libušín.

The sculptor **Miloš Zet (1920–1995)**, was a leading representative of Czechoslovak socialist realism. At the same time, he was an artist who had an affinity with the abstracted, organic-inspired artistic language of sculpture that had been gaining ground in European art since the 1930s. He began his career as a sculptor at a time when monumental sculpture intended for urban and other exteriors had become a topic of modern visual culture. Since his early youth, Miloš Zet was among the fighters for a socially fair society, he was a member of the communist party till the “Normalisation” period and even afterwards he kept working for the vision of socialist Czechoslovakia. He made sculptures and three-dimensional plastic works for the public space from the late 1940s till the end of the 1980s.

**Martin Zet:
Sculptor Miloš Zet – Walls, Plinths and Mock-ups
12 February – 21 April, 2020
The Brno House of Arts, Malinovského Square 2
Exhibition curator: Terezie Petišková
Graphic design: Jakub Kovařík
Exhibition opening: 11 February, 2020 from 6 pm
The press conference introducing the exhibition will take place on 11 February from 11 am in the Brno House of Arts lobby, Malinovského Square; the artist will be in attendance.**

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