



Visual identity: Terezie Štindlová & Oriol Cabarrocas

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Beyond Nuclear Family: Home Sweet Home
November 17, 2022 – January 7, 2023

Curated by: Jindřich Chalupecký Society curatorial team (Barbora Ciprová, Veronika Čechová, Tereza Jindrová, Karina Kottová)

Artists: Karolina Balcer, Lizza May David and Claudia Liebelt, Kristina Fingerland, Robert Gabris, Johannah Herr & Cara Marsch Sheffler, anette hollywood, Binde Hyrcan, Charlotte Jarvis, Signe Johannessen, Agnė Jokšė, Eva Kořátková, Marie Lukáčová, Mary Maggic, Markéta Magidová, Mothers Artlovers, Chiara No, Alanis Obomsawin, Nina Paszkowski, Minh Thang Pham, Anni Puolakka, Vojtěch Radakulan, Tabita Rezaire, Janek Rous & Architects without Frontiers, Adam Rzepecki, Jiří Skála, Jonne Sippola, Maja Smrekar, Martina Drozd Smutná, Sophia Süßmilch, Marie Tučková, Sophie Utikal

Family album: Khairani Barokka, Catherine Biocca, Triple Candie, Lenka Klodová, Michelle Lévy, Laure Prouvost, Egill Sæbjörnsson, Tai Shani, Jakub Woynarowski

EFA Project Space, 323 W. 39 St., 2nd Floor, NYC, between 8th and 9th Avenues, Hours: Wed - Sat, 12 – 6 PM
www.projects-space-efanyc.org | projects-space@efanyc.org | 212-563-5855

EFA Project Space presents ***Beyond Nuclear Family: Home Sweet Home***, an international group exhibition developed by the Jindřich Chalupecký Society curatorial collective and production platform based in the Czech Republic.

The exhibition seeks to provide a critical revision of the modern Western concept of the family and, through the works of more than forty international artists, explore the alternatives – historical and contemporary, geographical and cultural, utopian and fictional. The third chapter of this long-term research and discursive project, after two iterations in Berlin and in Prague, seeks to redefine the questionable concept of the Nuclear Family and bring it back to its original ‘home’, the U.S., where it was coined and distributed in the second half of the 20th century.

Defined as a married union of a man and a woman living together with their biological children, the term Nuclear Family still represents the unwritten status quo of the cultural and legislative context both in Europe and the USA. This is true despite the fact that a large segment of society lives in arrangements that differ from the nuclear structure, and although some non-European cultures and even in the Christian Europe, family and cohabitation have long been characterized as intergenerational or even outright communal. The short-lived triumph of the nuclear family was ultimately just the period of economic growth and specific socio-cultural conditions of the 1950s and early 1960s in North America. Later on, due to economic and cultural changes, the seemingly ideal structure of the single family member breadwinner (which were predominantly male), began to deteriorate rapidly. The nuclear family had shown its darker side.

This type of familial unit is the ideal site for the fulfillment of the imperative of progress, the division between paid or unpaid and better or worse labor, and the rise of the associated gender, class, and other inequalities.

As German-British author, Sophie Lewis, argues in her book *Abolish the Family*, family is used in the neo-liberal capitalist system as an ideological tool but also as a practical apparatus of demonetization of society and a mean to outsource unpaid labor, as reproductive labor and care, from the state’s responsibility and from society in general. In this sense, she proposes to abolish the family as a structure that actually limits social solidarity and comradeship. Because although the word ‘family’ typically evokes (or at least we are used to thinking it *should* evoke) notions such as closeness, mutuality, care, and warmth, for many it is just a kind of desired ideal by which they judge their own, often much harsher, reality.

The exhibition is co-funded by The European Union, Czech Ministry of Culture, the City of Prague, and EFA Project Space.

EXHIBITION EVENTS

Thursday, November 17, 2022, 5-8 PM w/Lecture at 6:30 PM

Opening Reception and Lecture:

The Legal Movement to Take Us Beyond the Nuclear Family

Lawyer and queer activist **Diana Adams** is the Executive Director of the New York City-based legal nonprofit Chosen Family Law Center, and an international legal leader in advocacy for queer family forms beyond the romantic dyad.

Friday, November 18, 2022, 6-8 PM

Taka Taka: Artist’s Lecture

Dragtivist, educator, queer theorist and independent curator Taka Taka will share their knowledge and methodologies for drag mothering and gendered character based practices.

Saturday, November 19, 2022, 2-6 PM, at House of Yes

Taka Taka: DRAGGING WARMLY!

We play half a day with our body-ies like clay.

The esteemed camp drag queen, scholar, and dragtivist Taka Taka will present a lecture followed by a practical workshop exploring character creation with tools that they have developed, resulting in short performances for and with our characters.

[RSVP Here](#) (limited capacity, RSVP required)

Gallery will be closed November 24 - 26, 2022 and December 23, 2022 - January 3, 2023 for the holidays.

PRESS INQUIRIES

Alexander Si, *Program Manager*

EFA Project Space

212-563-5855 x 244 / alexander@efanyc.org

EFA Project Space, launched in September 2008 as a program of The Elizabeth Foundation for the Arts, is a collaborative, cross-disciplinary arts venue founded on the belief that art is directly connected to the individuals who produce it, the communities that arise because of it, and to everyday life. By providing an arena for exploring these connections, we empower artists, curators, and other participants to forge new partnerships and encourage the expansion of ideas. The program is based on Open Calls as well as invitational exhibitions and projects. It is a home for emerging, mid-career, as well as established curators and artists. We focus our attention on community engagement and public programming. www.projectspace-efanyc.org **The Elizabeth Foundation for the Arts (EFA)** is a 501(c)(3) public charity. Through its three core programs, EFA Studios, EFA Project Space, and EFA Robert Blackburn Printmaking Workshop, EFA is dedicated to providing artists across all disciplines with space, tools and a cooperative forum for the development of individual practice. EFA is a catalyst for cultural growth, stimulating new interactions between artists, creative communities, and the public. www.efanyc.org EFA Project Space is supported in part by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council and additional funding from The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts.



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CZECH REPUBLIC



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