



Landscape Without Land

Artist: **Katarína Hudačínová**
Curator: **Peter Tajkov**

Opening: **Thursday, June 8, 2017 at 6 p.m.**
Duration: 8 June – 27 August 2017

Venue: **Youth Gallery**

The *Landscape Without Land* exhibition is the latest project by Katarína Hudačínová, a Slovak photographer living in Prague. Nitra Gallery is hosting this premiere exhibition of her latest work that mostly features the results of her recent artist residency in Iceland. The artist's primary focus is the medium of photography. In this project, she uses it as a tool for acquiring artistic material that is developed further. The process mostly consists of transforming photographic imagery into spacial objects or object photography. Sometimes she just disturbs the natural concept of the portrayed motive by manipulating the colour scheme, cropping or applying artificial lighting which results into a surprising image/object. On one hand, its origins are based on organic natural shapes, on the other, the artist's transformation creates a new autonomous entity. Her latest inspiration comes from her extensive interest in nature and in this case it specifically involves the Iceland shore that is affected by strong volcanic activity or other atmospherical phenomena. Her goal is to make the viewer experience this remarkable country by filtering it through her optics and other artistic approaches and moving it into the premises of the gallery, mostly in the form of a site-specific installation. It allows the artist to adjust to an unconventional exhibition area that is dominated by a staircase. The transformed country of Iceland is then able to grow throughout the whole gallery. The viewer can witness how the artist's video installation turns the first part of the staircase into a volcanic crater or as atmospheric lights, giant lava lands or the micro-world of minerals turn into autonomous artistic objects of the author's personal fictional landscape. In my opinion, Katarína offers the viewer an attractive take on current photography that keeps building more and more bridges between different kinds of media, including the actual object of photography.

Peter Tajkov

Katarína Hudačínová (1986) was awarded her master's degree at the Studio of Graphics and Experimental Arts at the Department of Fine Arts and Intermedia at the Faculty of Arts at the Technical University of Košice. Later she took an assistant position at the studio. She has presented her work at various group and solo exhibitions in Slovakia, Czech Republic, Slovenia, Poland, Serbia, Portugal and England. She has taken several artist residencies (Portugal, Slovenia, Iceland, Serbia and Czech Republic) and led numerous photographic workshops.