CARYATIDS BENEATH MOUNT OLIVET / JOSEF PLESKOT

PRESS RELEASE

**CARYATIDS BENEATH MOUNT OLIVET**

2art

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Galerie Zdeněk Sklenář

Mariánská 1097, 570 01 Litomyšl, CZ

[www.zdeneksklenar.c](http://www.zdeneksklenar.cz/)om

Galerie Zdeněk Sklenář in Litomyšl is pleased to present a performance art project by the architect Josef Pleskot. The happening entitled *Caryatids Beneath Mount Olivet*, to be held in the 2art zen garden, is a celebration of the human body placed in contrast with the strict geometric lines of architecture. The central motif is the caryatid – a sculpture of a woman that serves both as a structural support and as an ornament in ancient architecture. The way in which Pleskot has conceived this project, traditional caryatids are presented in an entirely contemporary form.

On 28 September, an extraordinary performance will take place in the 2art zen garden, which Josef Pleskot designed and brought into existence with the support and collaboration of the gallerist Zdeněk Sklenář. Six women in colourful neoprene robes will dance onto the scene to a special choreography and take their places on pillar structures. They will be a symbol of grace and elegance, just like the architectural elements called caryatids, to whom the concept of the happening is dedicated.

“Architecture is about the person; architecture is about motion; architecture is about elegant movements; architecture is about the opportunity to communicate, to gesticulate, to somehow draw people to itself – positively or negatively – that is all architecture,” says Josef Pleskot, adding that specifically these thoughts were his inspiration for the caryatid project. During the happening in Litomyšl, a special collection of six caryatids will be presented – women clothed in colourful neoprene robes reminiscent of ancient attire, and supporting an architectural element in the shape of a cube. For this occasion, Pleskot also designed some special hairstyles inspired by organic architecture, which were created by the Misha | Hair Studio salon.

“This is a show that is somewhere between body art and performance art. Do not look art it as art – it is more of a happening, a joyful and playful event,” says Josef Pleskot, who often completes projects that interlink architecture with art and design. Keep in mind his [zen garden in Litomyšl](https://www.zdeneksklenar.cz/en/exhibitions/48-2art-of-josef-pleskot), the recently opened Sýkora Piazzetta in Louny, and the project during which he created a piece of jewellery for the designer Eva Eisler’s collection.

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