



Jan Vorisek

No Sun

May 5 – August 29, 2021

No Sun is the first institutional solo exhibition in the United States by Jan Vorisek, composed of new works commissioned by Swiss Institute. Vorisek works across sculpture, performance and sound to create autopoietic, site-specific installations that examine formal hierarchies through feedback, distortion and the delineation of space. In assemblages of accumulated found materials and sound-producing devices, he explores the fluctuation of noise as a medium for information. Split into two interrelated architectural interventions, the exhibition at SI is organized with experiences in mind that crossfade from corporeal to cerebral, increasing an awareness of the body in situ while evoking associative memories from the collective unconscious.

On the ground floor, *Curved Passage* consists of industrial strip curtains that are typically used for protection and safety in logistical buildings such as shipping warehouses. Inside the cast of their jaundiced plastic glow are sculptural works made of coated Styrofoam packing materials. Emanating from a dark corridor, a low-frequency oscillator generates visceral tones that are composed randomly in real time. Within this tunnel the space becomes darker and the noise louder, culminating in a void where the feedback weaves information into itself and extends back from where it originated, overwriting what once was.

A curtained maze that encircles the second-floor gallery opens into a theater setting where Vorisek's new video work, *Dog Cloud*, is projected. Taking the form of a soap opera turned cosmic horror story, it points to the unreality of the present in a surreal depiction of relationships, desires, and communication or its failures.

With its spatial composition of architectural passages, *No Sun* outlines a multitude of potential pathways and spiraling dead ends. Dramatizing deferral and perpetuating transition, the exhibition creates an experiential score which never climaxes and instead swings between lucidity and opaqueness, oppositions that eventually dissolve as light and sound permeate the space.

On the occasion of *No Sun*, Swiss Institute together with Czarnagora is pleased to present *Erratic Shine*, the first music record by Jan Vorisek, which is released as a double 7" vinyl in an edition of 100.

SI gratefully acknowledges the support of Pro Helvetia, Canton Basel-Stadt, Florian Gutzwiller, and Teo Schifferli. Production support for the exhibition is kindly provided in part by Galerie Bernhard.

This exhibition is organized by Alison Coplan, Curator, Swiss Institute.

About Jan Vorisek

Jan Vorisek (b. 1987, Basel) lives and works in Zurich. Recent solo exhibitions include *Collapse Poem* at Kunsthau Glarus, Glarus (2020); *Crisis Instrument* at Observation Society presented by Bottom Space, Guangzhou (2018); and *Total Fragmented Darkness* at Hard Hat, Geneva (2017). Recently he has shown in group exhibitions at Kunstmuseum Bonn, Bonn (2020); Luma Westbau, Zurich (2019); Kunsthalle Exnergasse, Wien (2017); and Kunstverein Braunschweig, Braunschweig (2017).

Planning Your Visit and Safety Precautions

Swiss Institute will allow a limited number of visitors at a time. Visitors are required to wear masks at all times and to keep six feet of distance to other visitors. Swiss Institute will have hand sanitizer stations available for visitor use. Entry is free as always. Swiss Institute's hours are Wed/Thurs/Fri 2- 8pm, Sat 12-8pm, Sun 12-6pm. Please check our website for the most up to date information: <https://www.swissinstitute.net/visit/>.

About Swiss Institute

Founded in 1986, SI is an independent non-profit contemporary art institution dedicated to promoting forward-thinking and experimental art making through innovative exhibitions and programs. Committed to the highest standards of curatorial and educational excellence, SI serves as a platform for emerging artists, catalyzes new contexts for celebrated work, and fosters appreciation for under-recognized positions. Open to the public free-of-charge, SI seeks to explore how a national perspective can foster international conversations in the fields of visual and performing arts, design and architecture.

SI Programming is made possible in part with public funds from Pro Helvetia, Swiss Arts Council; the New York State Council on the Arts, with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature; and the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council. Main sponsors include LUMA Foundation, the Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, and Friends of SI. *No Sun* is made possible in part by the Swiss Institute Annual Exhibition Fund with leadership support provided by the LUMA Foundation, Max and Monique Burger, the Garcia Family Foundation, the Kevin Wendle Foundation, and the Freedman Family Foundation. SI gratefully acknowledges Swiss Re as SI ONSITE Partner, Vitra as Design Partner, Crozier Fine Arts as Preferred Shipping Art Logistics Partner, and SWISS as Travel Partner.

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