

Resonance

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Category: Short Form

Title: Rezonansas

Company: Bilietų nėra

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SUMMARY

The architectural conversion of the Vilnius Sports Palace raises not only questions about socio-cultural responsibility relating to the Jewish cemetery that has been there since the fifteenth century, but creative aspirations as well. The factography of the abandoned building is revealed through the eyes of a stranger who came here from the future.

Resonance. Résonance, Резонанс, רֶזוֹנָנְס

Repeats in English, Ukrainian and Hebrew

Fact: Military units are prohibited from marching abreast across bridges.

Fact: Almost five thousand people in this palace after the concert marched abreast across the bridge and destroyed it.

It is the year of twenty twenty two, fourteen hundred hours and forty five minutes.

It is the last day of the expedition.

I am here. An object is standing in front of my eyes.

Its size is breath-taking.

I vaguely see something. A door has opened.

Got it. I am entering the space of the building. Over-and-out.

Repeats in English, Ukrainian and Hebrew

Fact: Since the fifteenth century, Jews were buried in this land in accordance to their burial rituals. Until the nineteenth century this cemetery expanded over four hectares in size.

Fact: After the Second World War, on this land the Soviets built the Vilnius Sports Palace and a swimming pool.

Fact: Relatives of a dead Jew tear their clothes up to a level of their heart.

I am taking it in. Trash. Nettles. Graffiti. Bottles. Shorts. Cigarettes. Plates. Beer cans. Life. A jar of gouache. A branch breaking a window. Jewish star. Glass shards. A letter.

Life.

And where is that cemetery, I don't understand? Over-and-out.

Repeats in English, Ukrainian and Hebrew

Fact: It took two thousand one hundred and ninety days to build the palace.

Fact: It has been closed for four thousand three hundred and eighty days, or one hundred five thousand one hundred and twenty hours.

Fact: You'll spend ten minutes here and your family won't know what you're going through.

I am taking it in. I see it. Down there, all you had to do was to walk down right next to the cemetery: pots, shoes, firewood, an outdoor kitchen, the door blocked with a stone. A flower is blooming in a pot hanging above its door. A shack of a homeless person. I'm walking around in an out-of-bounds area. I feel the risk, I have invaded another person's space. Over-and-out.

Repeats in English, Ukrainian and Hebrew

Fact: During this walk, your eyes can distinguish up to ten million different colours, but your brain will not be able to remember them all.

I am taking it in. People are leaving through the door all at the same time, it became congested with people, everyone is striding down rhythmically towards the bridge, shouting, singing, screaming, smoking, I can feel their breathing, their heartbeat. You are like them. You are a wave of resonance, the same as this abandoned building – high and powerful. You fit into the architectural conversion,

your consciousness is changing, your body is responding to you. Their footsteps are approaching closer and a wave of vibrations is enshrouding the water. This is resonance.

Resonance. Résonance, Резонанс, רֶזוֹנָנְסָה

Repeats in English, Ukrainian and Hebrew

Fact: Do cemeteries have an expiration date?