The project is a reflection on what we consider to be an important component and dominant element of public space and how we perceive some hidden spaces, which social and cultural activities provide us.

The Baroque Samson's Fountain located on the Square of Přemysl Otakar II in České Budějovice is one of the largest of its kind in the country and is a significant monument and symbol of the city. Its artistic quality is indisputable and currently none of us can imagine the square without this dominant landmark, but the question can be whether we do not perceive such landmarks today already only inadvertently. We walk past them every day and thanks to their value being historically and spatially confirmed we do not think any longer on the nature of this monument or on the relationship to the space of the generous square.

On the contrary, the spaces of the first floor of the House of Art, which in recent years offers very attrac-

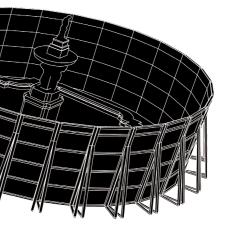
tive artistic experience, are hidden from in the gallery. The circular space was diour sight. A visitor who does not know rectly connected by a path with steps to the situation can hardly find the gallery. the space of the first floor of the House It is clear that a certain form of the conof Art, where again a circle appeared cealment of the space of the gallery can but in another context. The visitor could be also an advantage, nevertheless the move in the space of the gallery only however, the experience of the exhibition in the limited circular path and did not and any discussion on art and culture actually get to the free spaces of the is disappearing from our normal daily gallery. The deliberate theft of the founrepertoire. tain and highlighting of entrance to the House of Art through the window is the The project tries to show how we perceive landmarks and hidden places, whole idea of the project. Things which which are not far from one another, are seemingly are not related thus come into in the centre of affairs and offr cultural an interesting confrontation.

activities. The idea should be to break down our stereotypical perception of such values and the effort for reflection and discussion on these themes.

Samson's Fountain for roughly three weeks found itself in a circular space, which separated it from the actual square and at the same time created a calm background and intimacy for it, which this dominant landmark had never had. The fountain this found itself a jewel

## Jan Šépka: Perception

Authors: Doc. Ing. akad. arch. Jan Šépka Collaboration: Jan Bárta Curator: Michal Škoda Office: Šépka Architekti Location: Náměstí Přemysla Otakara, House of Art, České Budějovice Date of completion: 2016



This exhibition does not stand only on the basis of our own artistically architectural interventions, but was also complemented / every Tuesday from 6 PM / with the participation of guests from the ranks of specialists, artists, architects and politicians - by a block of lectures and discussion programmes for the public.