

Zpěvomat in Tábor 21 September 2020



The Zpěvomat project was created by Ridina Ahmedová and originally it was supposed to be a one-off event within the OFF CITY festival in Pardubice. But the response was so enthusiastic that it was a shame to let the idea fall asleep. The project is spreading more and more into the regions every year - besides Prague, it has already taken place in Pilsen, Pardubice, Tišnov and Telč. Plans are underway to implement it in Brno, Karlovy Vary, and a Zpěvomat in Iceland is also under discussion.

On Monday, 21 September, the first ZPĚVOMAT took place in Tábor. The premiere was very successful. Despite the initial shyness, a large number of singers signed up.

**ZPĚVOMAT
V TÁBOŘE**
celodenní projekt přinášející na ulici živou hudbu
V PONDĚLÍ 21.9.2020
více o projektu
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There are many cultural events in Tábor, but there has never been a musical project like this, in which the people themselves would become active participants under the guidance of professional musicians. People are mostly used to being passive "receivers", but to create a set of songs in a group, under the guidance of a tutor and basically based on improvisation, and then to go out on the street with it, was a great challenge for many.

But the participants became convinced that there is a kind of intimate space of a circle, that it is not a performance where you stand in a row on the stage and the audience listens. The magic of Zpěvomat lies precisely in the fact that there are only four listeners, for whom chairs are prepared inside the circle of singers, so that people from the outside cannot see them and at the same time hear the singing from all sides. So it's a kind of musical bath from which people leave refreshed and with a smile on their face.



In Tábor, two voice workshops were held simultaneously in the morning. One of them was led by Petr Váša, an exceptional singer, songwriter, performer and experimenter who performs as a musician with his band Ty syčáci. He is also active as an artist and regularly leads workshops and seminars.

Petr Vasa's group was based basically only on verbal improvisation and live looping. The participants tried out an improvisational round, which means that one of them gave out short melodic phrases to the other singers and the song was gradually shaped accordingly.

In the second workshop there were two lecturers, Adéla Slachová and Benjamin Lovett. The basis of their songs were original compositions, playing with invented words or simple sentences, which they gradually settled into multiple voices. This base was complemented by two gypsy songs and a black gospel.



Lecturers of the Tábor Zpěvomat:

Petr Váša <http://www.petrvasa.cz/>

singer, lyricist, representative of live poetry, performing with the band Ty Sycáci

Benjamin Lovett <https://www.facebook.com/benjamin.lovett.39>

violinist performing with Jiří Smrž, Jazz Pilgrim and acting as choirmaster in a women's ensemble

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Adéla Slachová www.hlasovysalek.cz

singer, leader of voice workshops for adults and music groups for children

Adéla

Slachová Benjamin

Lovett Petr Váša

A total of 26 participants signed up for Zpěvomat in Tábor, which we divided into 2 groups. Each group spent about 3.5 hours (9.30-13h) with their tutor, who sang and taught them several songs.

After the lunch break, the individual groups went to the busy places in Tábor (Křižík Square and Žižka Square), where they performed their songs for free at the request of random passers-by.

Each group stayed at their station for 2.5 hours and then, whoever still had the desire, moved on to the mass singing at Žižka Square by the fountain, where between 5.30 and 6.30 p.m. there was a jamming meeting of all singers from both groups.

The event took place in its entirety as originally designed. Around ninety passers-by attended. Czech Radio České Budějovice made a short live documentary about the event.





Photo above © Pavla Weinzettel

With Petr Váša on Žižkov Square

With Adéla Slachová and Benjamin Lovett at nám. F. Křížík

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Zpěvomat was co-produced by Hlasový šálek and Hlasohledu, z.s. and supported by the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic, the State Culture Fund and the City of Tábor.



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