



## Press Release - A Czech Art Project Selected by the Linhart Foundation Wins a Prestigious Grant from Burning Man to Take Part in the Festival

*Prague, March 9, 2017.* Following a call for proposals in September 2016, the Linhart Foundation selected five Czech art projects from nearly 20 applying for funding to take part in the legendary Burning Man 2017 festival in the Black Rock Desert, northern Nevada. The festival's Grant Committee chose one of these to be supported through its Black Rock City Honoraria program.

The first round of art project applications for this year's event, themed Radical Ritual, was completed in December. The Linhart Foundation selected the five best among 17 projects. Burning Man's organisers approved all five projects for the next selection round. In the second round, the festival's Grant Committee selected one Czech project among competing entries from around the world: **HEARDT**, by Anna Feyrerová, Bára Anna Stejskalová, Tomáš Bukáček and Richard Dobřichovský.

The winning project is a heart-shaped installation made from chains of lights controlled by a piano's keyboard. It achieves a "flowing light" effect, making the heart "pulsate" when the piano is played. Besides with music, players can express themselves artistically by changing the piano's appearance. The piano in the desert will thereby create an environment for encounters and discovery of others and oneself – a medium for self-expression, for the gift of music to the audience and for the liberty of expression. The project's multifaceted nature responds to most of Burning Man's principles.

The Linhart Foundation helps Czech artists take part in major international festivals and events through the LinhArt Crossing Borders program. For 2017, the foundation selected the Burning Man festival, an annual event in the Black Rock Desert of Nevada, USA. Up to 25,000 people meet there every year in the temporary metropolis of Black Rock City, covering some 9 km<sup>2</sup> with art and communities of participants, who are encouraged to express their inner selves, however bizarre. The Linhart Foundation will cover the HEARDT project's travel costs to Nevada, while the Honoraria grant will enable the artists to build the installation.

Contact: Šárka Syslová, [sarka@linhartovanadace.cz](mailto:sarka@linhartovanadace.cz), +420777551848

The Linhart Foundation was founded in 1987 with the purpose of fostering artistic expression, the emergence of novel ideas and the public debate. The foundation's projects create space for creativity, where the younger generations and the public in general can meet artists and discover their works. Besides offering direct support to individual artists, the Linhart Foundation supports young workers in the cultural industry, the development of arts management and related professions. In 1992, the foundation opened the now legendary Roxy arts and music club, and later the NoD Experimental Space and the Školská 28 Communication Space, all in central Prague.

