

Description of the idea and background for the Installation “Shelters”

The title of my installation: “Shelters” revolves around the idea of nomadism – also what touches us nowadays when we think of nomadism – the big metropolis and their “flexible nomads” often changing their flats and jobs, countries and continents. Packing their homes and details. They are looking for something familiar in the new-the-same cityscapes, which in fact are more or less homogenous. World is covered by a layer of a global behavior of people under which nevertheless appear plenty of cultures, nations, religions, historical traditions and life statements.

In my installation I am inspired by shapes and forms of traditional nomadism. Working with them I became able to express my ideas and feelings about this contemporary nomadism and its consequences for human beings. My main inspiration are the former not only Siberian nomadic folks from central Asia who developed the great form of their movable domes-yurts. I consider the Yurt as a substance which protects, gathers, and condenses the spirit of the community.

Of course I do not re-built a real yurt. What I am trying to achieve through this form, however, is an idea of the place which could surround me and you and evoke the “shelter” above our heads.

The materials which I use to build it play an as important role as the colours. Preponderance of white colour. The wool which I use to cover the construction was found by me in the oldest Hutsulian fortress-house in the Ukrainian Carpathians. For me this is not just a place where I gather material. It is much more, it is a place with semantic importance for the work as a whole and an important building stone in my personal biography of my emotional *Bildung* in terms of my own search for shelters.

Longingly, I try to discover shelters in the landscape, in the mountains, in the cityscape among the buildings. I try to find my own place following the shape of the yurt.

Kata Adamek (Leipzig, January 2007)

Description of the installation contents

The “yurt” consists of a fiber glass octagonal construction (width: 5 meters), a system of belts on the floor to connect the fiber glass construction tent poles and the pole in the centre (height: 2,5 meters). Material to cover the construction: white fabric, white wool and woolen felt. The object is lit from inside and can not be entered.

A light box (1,40 x 1,20 meters) covered with the felted wool functions as an integral flank object and emits warm, honey-coloured atmosphere.