

## Ezkapizm by Francis Hunger

»Second, we put the ›Victory over the space‹ on the agenda. We don't say: air travel – this wouldn't be enough at all – we say space travel. A space ship, directed by the wise biocosmists, our Earth shall become. We are more than shocked, that our Earth shall pass like a goat on the cord of the shepherd Sun, along its orbit forever. It's time to dictate the Earth a new path. ... Our third task is the resurrection of the dead.«  
(Alexandr Svyatogor, Moscow, 1921)

Ezkapizm draws on the ideas of Alexander Svyatogor, Konstantin Ziolkovski and Nikolai Feodorov, in short the biocosmist-immortalist utopias of the early 20<sup>th</sup> century in post-revolutionary Russia and actualizes them to today's conditions. The resulting installation consists of a wooden tower with flags, a video of a person reading a manifesto and a projection with a 3-D animation of space ships leaving Earth.

The biocosmists saw their project as part of the Russian communist revolution, but can be regarded as far more leftist radical than Lenin's Bolsheviks. Their ideas were picked up by many revolutionaries and artists of their time. Main idea was that of reviving all dead, so they can participate in social progress and live in a communist society free from oppression. The idea of social progress implicitly means, that those who would fight for the progress do not necessarily participate in its results. Under the idea of communist equality, the question is, why shouldn't they be able to participate? Following from that it makes sense to promote the idea of immortality and resurrection of all dead. (Svyatogor, Feodorov) The logical follow-up question is, where all those revived should actually live on earth, so it seemed inevitable to expand mankind into space and therefore develop space travel (Ciolkovsky). The downside of all these unifying utopias were totalitarian ideas like eugenics for instance.

The proposed installation picks up, namely on one of Alexandr Svyatogor's radical manifestos »The biocosmistic Poetics« (1921) and »The doctrine of the fathers and the Anarcho-Biocosmism« (1922) both created under the conditions of the post-revolutionary Russia that faced civil war atrocities.<sup>1</sup>

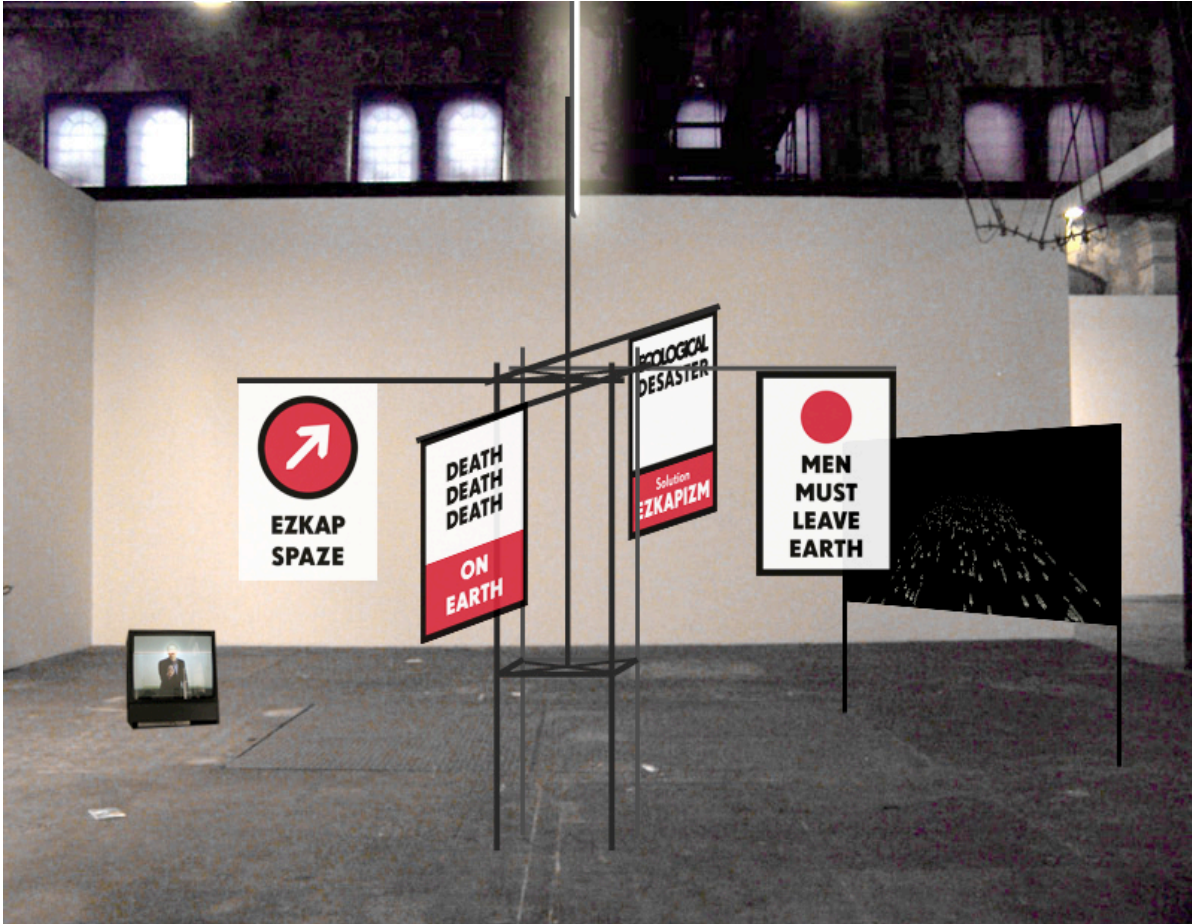
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<sup>1</sup> Unfortunately these texts only exist in Russian and German translation, so it would make sense to translate them into at least English or any other local language to accompany the work

## 1. Wooden tower with Flags

4 Flags 120x200 cm, digital print

Wooden construction holding the flags and a neon light on top.



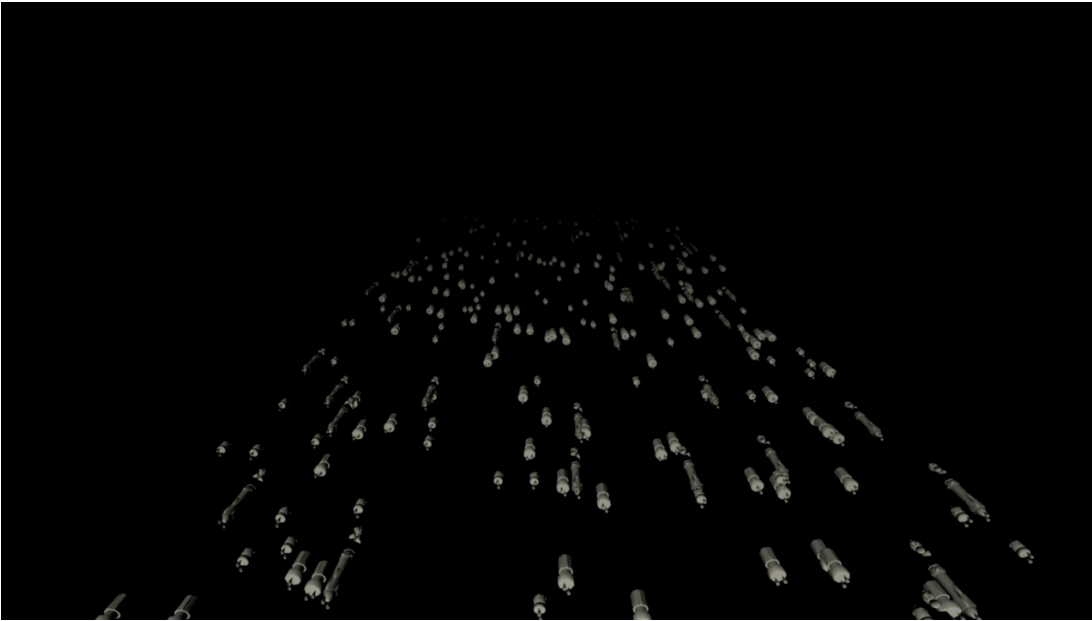
## 2. Manifesto

The 6 minute manifesto is a video recording of a person reading a text, that states that we have to leave earth since we are close to destroying it environmentally and socially. It picks up on the utopian and at the same time totalitarian nature of the Ezkapizm idea, that is, to ezkape the ecological, economical and social disaster on Earth through space travel.<sup>2</sup> Leaving Earth is reached by using a large armada of interstellar space ships, that will – through it's emissions and fumes when starting – definitely destroy the Earths leftover atmosphere, leaving the planet in a barbarian state, close to extinction.

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<sup>2</sup> At the moment the manifesto exists in German only and has to be appropriately translated and re-recorded in English. Therefore a budget is necessary.

### **3. Projection of Space Ship Armada leaving Earth**



3-D Animation, endless loop, HD-Projection

### **4. Booklet with Feodorovs texts**

»The biocomsistic Poetics« (1921) and »The doctrine of the fathers and the Anarcho-Biocosmism« (1922) shall be published in a small booklet (alternatively in the exhibition catalogue) to make them publicly accessible. The booklet could be given away for a small fee at the ticket box for instance. However, they should not be included into the installation itself, since it already has its own manifesto.

## Technical Setup

### 3-D Animation

- rear screen construction, from rear projection foil and black painted wood.
- hd video projector
- hd video player (either mp4 player or some computer)

### Tower

it is feasible to construct the tower at the actual venue, which is cheaper than transporting the existing materials.

- wood and construction materials for the tower
- a neon light bulb
- power cables, connectors
- black color
- a person helping for 8hrs

### Manifesto

- Video Monitor, if possible Hantarex or similar SD (not a flat screen)
- DVD Player
- Sound equipment

## Contact

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