

Film and TV School of the Academy of Performing Arts in Prague
Department of Photography

Assessment of the Master's Thesis

Author of thesis: Hanna Samoson

Title of thesis: Artist and Athlete: The Search for Meanings of Long-Distance Running in Contemporary Art

Assessment of the primary advisor

Assessment of the opponent

Author of the assessment (first name, last name, workplace):

Mgr. Palo Fabuš, CAS FAMU

Evaluation of the content and final form of the thesis (A/excellent – B/very good – C/good – D/good with objections – E/satisfactory – F/unsatisfactory – not recommended for defence)

Suitability of the selected objective and work approach A

Relative completeness of the literature used for the selected topic A

Ability to critically evaluate and use scholarly literature A

Logicity of the thesis structure, connection of its chapters **not logical, yet meaningful**

Language and stylistic level of the thesis A

Compliance with citation norms (should the text repeatedly contain adopted passages without citing the source, the work cannot be recommended for defence) A

Sufficient extent of image attachments, justifiability and suitability of attachments, graphic layout A

Originality of the thesis, contribution to the development of the field of study A

Overall evaluation of the thesis – as I find the student's work not reducible to a single grade, a die I threw to neutralize this requirement says B

Verbal evaluation of the thesis including questions that the candidate must address in his/her thesis defence:

In a clear and self-conscious break from the traditional form of academic writing, Hanna Samoson decided to reflect upon what is primarily a personal story of a search of meaning of running while augmenting and anchoring this search by a set of comparable attempts expressed in and through contemporary art. Being the supervisor and judging not just from the text itself but also from the process of its writing, I can say that this non-academic starting point didn't prevent Samoson from approaching the research question with diligence, rigorousness, honesty and curiosity. Samoson openly acknowledges her biases and works with them consciously to provide a clearer picture of the answer she is looking for. This situates her effort alongside the kind of research only recently starting to be accepted and that is distinguished by its not shying away from a personal point of view; be it the acceptance of the so called

“artistic research” or the works by prominent scholars such as Donna Haraway (When Species Meet, 2007). While referring to ideas and works on long-distance running both academic and non-academic she finds her own voice, being able to express herself clearly and distinctly using first and foremost her own words and thus showing she writes about something she has been working on long before she even contemplated transforming her experience into the diploma thesis. The organicity of this experience albeit subjected to scholarly questioning and analysis guides her also in the decisions about structure. Without any loss of clarity, the structure is designed rather aesthetically than logically, which I find perfectly adequate for a graduate of an art school.

Date: 31. 5. 21

Signature: 