

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

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**Assessment of the Bachelor's Thesis**

Author of thesis: Gabriela Benish-Kalná

Title of thesis: REGENERATIVE ART

Assessment of the primary advisor

Assessment of the opponent

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

Mgr. Josef Ledvina PhD.

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.....  
Logicality of the thesis structure, connection of its chapters.....A.....  
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.....B...  
Overall evaluation of the thesis.....A.....

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

Gabriela Benish-Kalná's thesis is a passionate argument in favour of art that would be "regenerative" in relation to environmental crisis; and at the same time, it represents a kind of "cookbook" with prescriptions how to achieve such art. The key in this endeavour shall be recognition that the industrial exploitation of environment is inseparable from colonial exploitation of indigenous peoples and from suppression of indigenous knowledge. Benish-Kalna thus points out that ontological turn or new materialism is not just another invention of white male intelligentsia of the West but

has a long tradition in indigenous cultures (the target of well-founded criticism is Bruno Latour`s recent exhibition project Critical Zones).

Benish-Kalná`s thesis could be easily criticized as too schematic and simplifying in its reliance on the vague notion of West and its nonspecific concept of “indigenusness”, yet author`s ability to write a coherent, logically interconnected text is admirable and so is her stylistic dexterity. I propose grade A.

Date: .....

Signature:.....