

•ONLINE, REVIEWS

6 November 2025, 11:19 CET

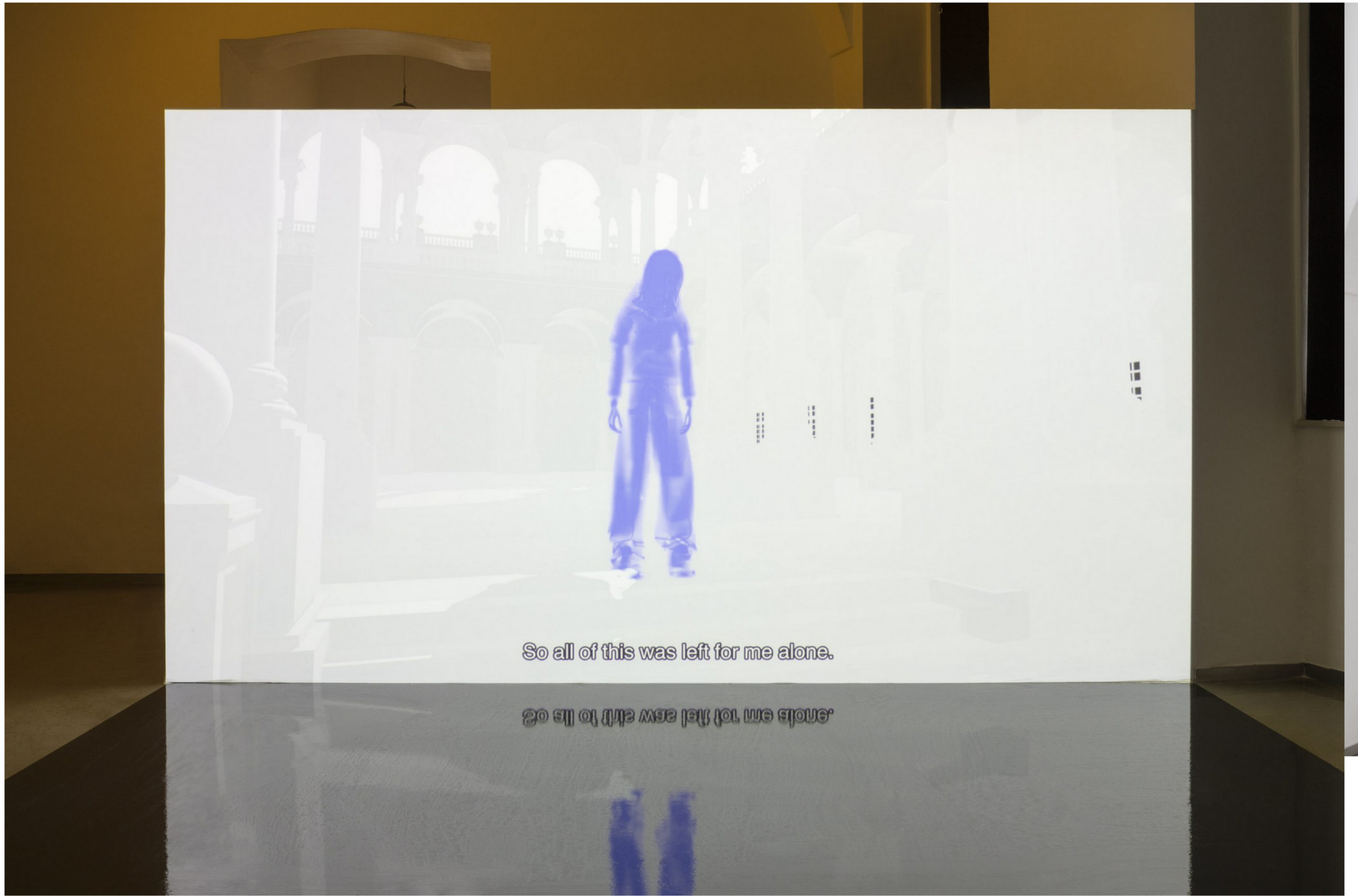
home is where the haunt is by [Barbora Bahlsenová](#)



View of the exhibition *home is where the haunt is*, Galerie Kvalitář, 2025, photo: Eva Rybářová

If you were a ghost, where would you like to haunt? With this question, Mariana Pecháčková opens her curatorial text for the exhibition *home is where the haunt is* at Galerie Kvalitář. It is not a rhetorical question but a phrase taken from one of the exhibited works, specifically from a 3D-rendered video by Megan Bruinen and Elouan Le Bars. An abandoned avatar tells us its *origin story*, reaching back to the mid-1990s when the first internet chat forums were emerging. The most successful of these, where a physical person could choose or freely create their virtual likeness, gradually became commercialized, sold, and eventually emptied out. The "owners" of their avatars left them to their fate in the boundless space of the internet and may have forgotten them entirely. Where, then, and how do the virtual shadows of our physical *selves* haunt?

The works of Antonie Stanová and Olga Hohmann appear in a seeming juxtaposition to this theme. Through two different media, both artists explore questions of memory, remembering, and forgetting in connection with the experience of losing close relatives, in this case grandmothers. Antonie Stanová stitches memories into canvas through drawings whose charcoal marks, depending on the pressure of the hand, highlight images that surface or fade from memory. Balancing the delicacy of the charcoal drawings are smaller ready-made canvases sewn from the artist's grandmother's dish towels. The similarity between the motifs in the drawings and on the towels is certainly not accidental. The constant humming in Olga Hohmann's work acts as a soothing entry point that wraps around our experience of the exhibition. When listened to more closely, it reveals a sequence of several unfinished tunes the artist learned from her grandmother, who was able to recall them even at the end of her life despite a degenerative neurological illness.



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View of the exhibition *home is where the haunt is*, Galerie Kvalitář, 2025, photo: Eva Rybářová

The exhibition ultimately does not offer the catharsis we often seek in art, whether as an escape from everyday life or as a higher guiding principle. It points out that the physical loss of a loved one does not mean their complete disappearance from our shared physical space, and it also links the experience of human life with its virtual counterparts. The selection of works, which the curator connects through the concept of *hauntology* concerned with the persistence or return of elements from the past, places us within a subtle exhibition that opens space for reflecting on the presence of physical death in our lives, the ghosts of those close to us, and compassion for the spirits of our digital *selves*.

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Barbora Bahlsenová

Folklore Is Not Dead

17 října 2022, 21:34 CET



Východiskem výstavního projektu *Folklore is not dead* je především porozumění tradicím v kontextu kulturního a sociopolitického konstruktu, potažmo mýtu, který se& [Read More](#)

Hello my name is

8 května 2022, 18:12 CET



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16 října 2020, 20:40 CET



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25 července 2023, 22:40 CET



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