

curtesy: the artists & Attila József Museum

Dear,
Thank you for joining Night Bodies. Night Lights. Here is how you can prepare for our 'Thumb Cinema':

We suggest you to choose a room in your flat that can be darkened. Ideally it's a place where you feel comfortable to sit alone for a moment - undisturbed. You are invited to close the door, draw the curtains, turn off the lights, switch off the television or laptop to eliminate any light source except your mobile phone or tablet. Please switch the video settings to full screen mode, and keep the phone or tablet in a vertical position. Adjust the volume and listen with headphones.

You are now ready to meet a community that has lived more than 100 years ago. Although the bones of these people have been resting under the ground already for a long time, their physical presence is still captured inside hundreds of cardboard boxes piled on dusty shelves. These boxes look very much like small coffins. Each of them contains about 15 glass plates. Some of the plates are broken, others are moldy and corroded, yet each glass plate carries a chemical layer that once has captured the light reflected by the living bodies of this community.

Where are the boxes stored? They rest in the back room of a local archive in a small Hungarian town called Makó. Makó is located on the Romanian and Serbian borders, where the three countries meet. Over a thirty-year period, more than 16,000 people visited the studio of the photographer Nándor Homonnai, who was a member of the large Jewish community for which the town Makó was once famous. Thousands of citizens of different origins, ages, professions and social status gathered in front of Homonnai's camera and were immortalized by this modern technology...

Thank you for joining our research presentation, Boglárka Börcsök & Andreas Bolm

P.S: if you wish to participate in the documentation of this late night event, we kindly ask you to take a selfie in the dark and send it back to the registration email.