

Gate to freedom - memorial to the victims of totalitarianism

This gate is represented by a frame made of concrete. On one side it is covered with rusty sheet metal and on the other it is coated with a mixture with moss (it will get attached on the surface and overgrow it). Next to the gate, four figures are standing, also made of concrete.

The gate represents the escape from the yoke of the totalitarian regime, the hope for freedom, the thought that there does exist a gate through which if one passes, the evil will end.

The symbolism of the gate is also hidden in the surface finish. On the one side it represents a fence, the Iron Curtain, a grating, a kind of closing away of people on the side where they do not want to be. The rusty sheet metal should evoke in the viewer the feeling of an inhumane shutting away of people. On the other side the symbolism of the moss is meant to represent liberty, unfetteredness, and also a certain innocence.

There are four figures, symbolising a family, father, mother, son and daughter. The number four was chosen because an even number is not harmonious, evoking strong emotions in a person. There is space left out among the figures, symbolising that somebody or something is missing there. The figures do not have distinct faces, they are replaced by sort of grooves indicating hair, the nose and eyes. This wants to show that practically anybody could become a victim.

The entire memorial is placed in a publicly accessible space, so that anybody can identify with the victims and become a part of the scenery.

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