



I think that architects, in spite of all the official red tape surrounding them, must forego problems of architecture and think about problems of cities. Those housing developments, as we all know, are inhuman, and they are inhuman not because the individual buildings are so barren. They are inhuman because they do not create a spiritual environment. There are no holy places there, anywhere. But what kind of holy places could a modern city have? It seems to me that the only answer is to create space for art. In the West a great many museums of modern art are being constructed. These are no longer mere warehouses for hanging and displaying works of art. Unique spaces are being created which are enterprising, very lively and very compelling. It seems to me that such museums of modern art – the word museum is unpleasant but we do not have a better one – that such museums of modern art should be built in the middle of these housing developments as a spiritual center, where people would come for a bit of respite from the profane life elsewhere. This would compensate for the loss of a holy place and would at the same time be a final place where it would make sense to put art. People could come there for a bit of better air, than the air of their everyday lives.

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Jindřich Chalupecký, *Tiha doby. Stati o časových souvislostech a situacích kultury 1968–1988. Náboženství, umění, architektura.* (*Weight of the times. Articles on current affairs and cultural situations 1968 – 1988. Religion, art, architecture.*) Olomouc: Votobia, 1997.

The Ládvi group announces an idea competition:

### **Ládvi Center of Contemporary Art**

The goal of the competition is to propose ideas for the use of the Ládvi area, part of the Ďáblice housing estate for a center of contemporary art. The task is to present a design vision in any form (video, map diagrams, photography...).

A judges' panel composed of architects and theoreticians will select the best proposal. Delivered proposals will be exhibited in June in the NoD gallery in Prague, where the competition results will also be announced and celebrated.

The competition will run from January 1st 2008 to April 30th 2008.

Competition rules and documents for download can be found at:  
[www.ladviweb.ic.cz](http://www.ladviweb.ic.cz)

Please send proposals in electronic form by mail or e-mail to:  
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