

THE
FUTURE
IS OURS;
TO RUIN

MARIBOR
Is the
FUTURE

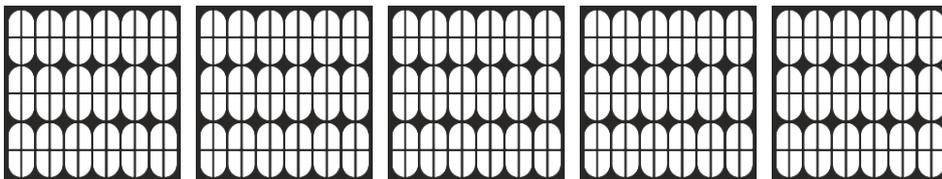
Handwritten graffiti on a building facade, including the word "WARRIOR" and other illegible tags.

Handwritten graffiti including "YOGA" in teal and "GAIN" in purple, with a red-bordered sign that reads "ENJOY THE RULES".



A piece of paper with handwritten text pasted on a wall, featuring repetitive phrases like "the ruler are the rules" and "the rules are the ruler".

Handwritten text on a wall: "How we survive is what makes US Who We Are".



SURVIVAL NARRATIVES
Socio-economic Power Structures
Urban Heat LAB #5

Maribor, 21-25 November 2016

Organized by Bunker / festival Drugajanje and Baltic Circle

There seems to be a general agreement that the world as we know it is coming to an end. The reasons for the coming "apocalypse" vary: the end of Anthropocene will result in the extinction of the most invasive species - human, the capitalism or neoliberalism will end because it will eat itself, the artificial intelligence will take over, our land will disappear due to climate change ... It has become quite easy to imagine the end of the world since we know how apocalypse looks like from art. But as the famous quote says: it is easier to imagine the end of the world than the end of capitalism.

At the same time we seem to be more anxious about our present struggles than with our distant futures or the future of humanity. How to survive now, in the pressing time of constant choice, when – as Renata Salecl elaborates in her book Choice - by working so hard at self-improvement we lose the energy and ability to participate in any form of social change? How to survive now and think about the survival of the whole humanity at the same time?

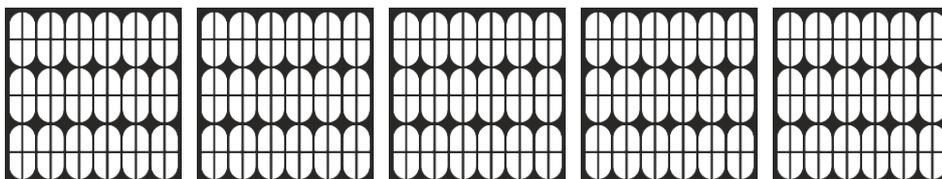
Since human thought is not organized according to the facts, rather facts are organized according to our narratives, stories, structures that offer us framework in which we position the facts, we will try to think about the survival narratives. We will gather an eclectic compilation of narratives - from concrete survival tactics in the system that we are part of to the big utopian narratives on the survival of the humans. The undertone of all our lectures, debates, talks will of course also be the role of art in the survival narratives. Is art the humus of new narratives? And what about the survival of art and artists?

Welcome to Maribor!

The coalition of Maribor's cultural NGOs use the slogan Maribor is the future! The slogan was devised by son:DA and is now used to give a sticker to Maribor's independent cultural and urban life. We can understand it in many ways, our take is that the difficult circumstances of Maribor and its survival – and more important – the survival of the arts scene and artists can be used as a source of inspiration, techniques and strategies that we all need to survive.

We are happy that you have joined us in a town, where also we are guests, not locals. Let's explore together!

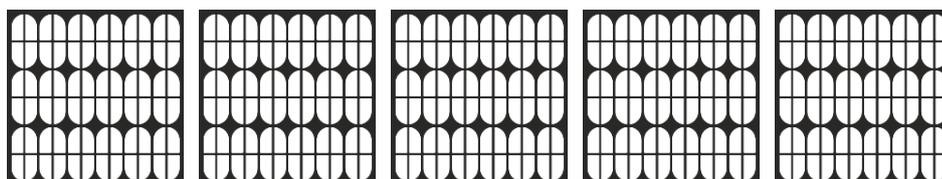
Alma + the Bunker team



Monday, 21 November		
all day	Arrivals	Hotel Orel
19.00	Mark Požlep: Stranger than paradise performance	Amfiteater II. gimnazije
21.00	Dinner and welcome drink	GT22

Tuesday, 22 November		
9.00	Feldenkrais Session with Nevenka Koprivšek	Vetrinjski dvor
11.00	Introduction Sodja Zupanc Lotker & Alma R. Selimović	GT22
11.30	Svetlana Slapšak: Escapism, evacuationism, microcommunism or monasteries, islands, forests: all the escapes from revolution lecture followed by debate	GT22
13.30	Lunch	GT22
15.00	Maja Smrekar: After Anthropocene presentation of her work	GT22
17.00	Artists' Presentations	GT22
18.00	Dinner	GT22
21.00	Beton Ltd.: Ich kann nicht anders performance	Narodni dom

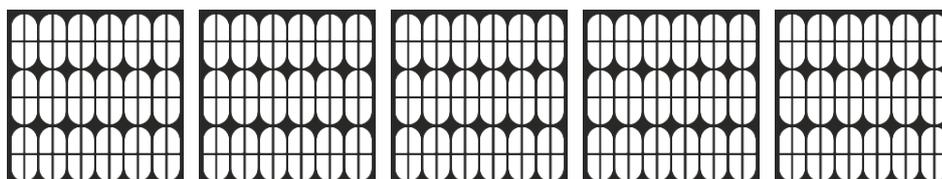
Wednesday, 23 November		
9.00	Studio time	Vetrinjski dvor
11.00	Karolina Babič: The trails of community power in Maribor walk	meeting point: Vetrinjski dvor
13.00	Lunch	GT22
15.00	Tea Party with Kitch	GT22
18.00	Dinner	GT22
19.00	Deborah Pearson: History History History performance	Amfiteater II. gimnazije
21.00	Forest Fringe and Maribor: Curate yourself DIY strategies for artist-led initiatives talk	GT22



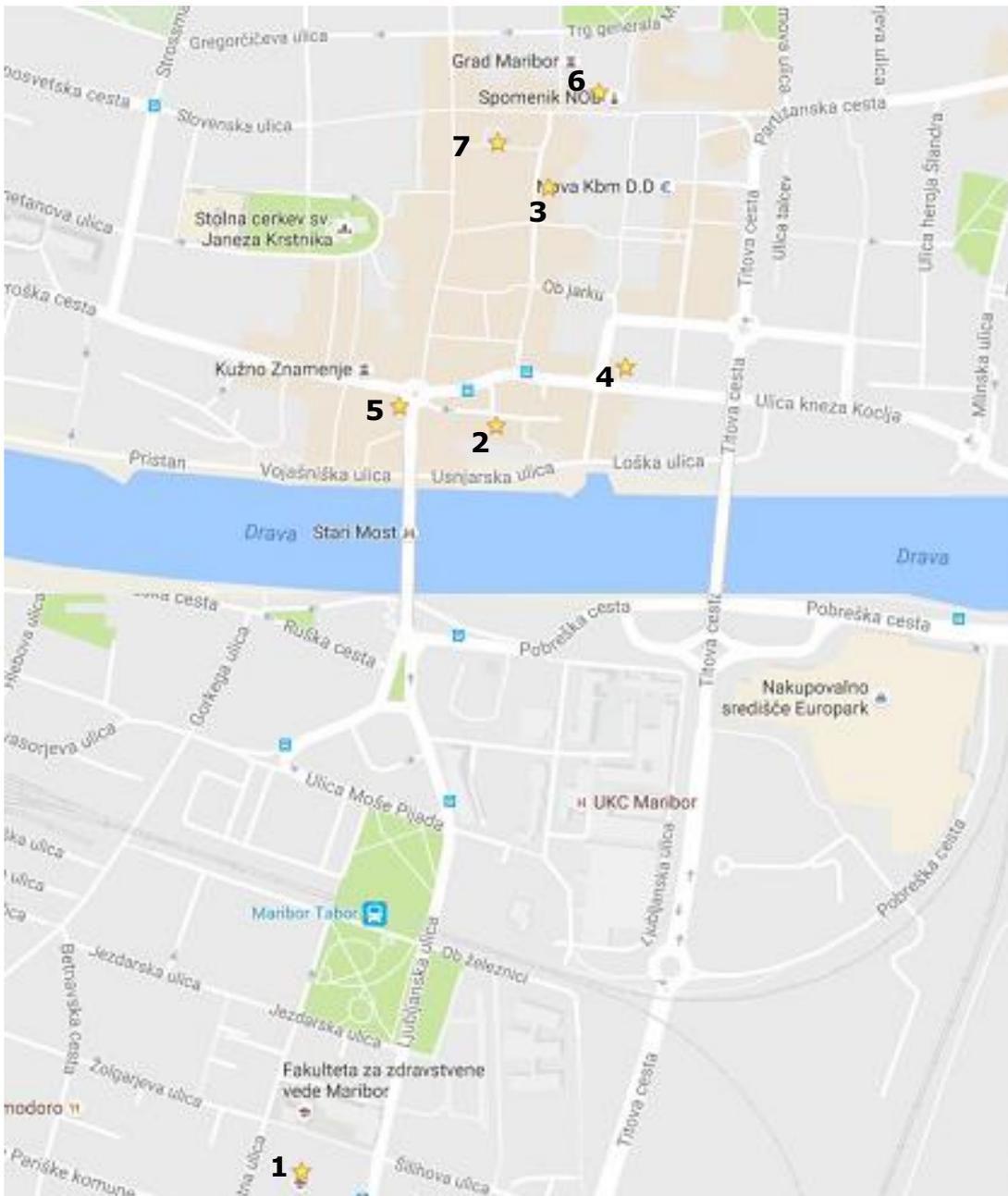
Thursday, 24 November		
9.00	Feldenkrais Session with Nevenka Koprivšek	Vetrinjski dvor
11.00	MIG21 exhibition visit with the curator Peter Tomaž Dobrila	meeting point: Vetrinjski dvor
14.00	Lunch	GT22
15.00	Rima Najdi: Confession #1 lecture performance	TBC
17.00	Evaluation and closing thoughts	GT22
19.00	Balkan Kavkaz: Maribor wrap up of the residency, tour through the interventions	Trg svobode 1 (by the Kojak monument)
21.00	Evaluation and closing thoughts – continuation Dinner and party and drinks and dance	Salon

Friday, 25 November		
all day	Departures	Hotel Orel

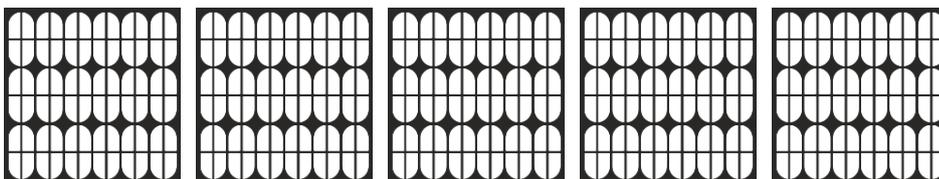
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MAP and LOCATIONS



- 1 – Amfiteater II. gimnazije Maribor, Trg Miloša Zidanška 1
- 2 – GT22, Glavni trg 22
- 3 – Vetrinjski dvor, Vetrinjska 30
- 4 – Narodni dom, Ulica kneza Koclja 9
- 5 – Salon, Glavni trg 1
- 6 – Trg svobode 1 (at the “Kojak” statue)
- 7 – Hotel Orel, Volkmerjev prehod 7



1 – Amfiteater II. gimnazije Maribor, Trg Miloša Zidanška 1

A high school (gymnasium) with one of the best stages in Maribor. Bunker's partner in organizing Drugajanje festival.

www.druga.si

2 - GT22, Glavni trg 22

An artists' run venue, "transnational guerrilla art school" with a library, hacklab, mini sk8 ramp, miniature theatre (Intimate Stage) ... Home of the Maribor Urban Heat Lab.

www.gt22.si

3 - Vetrinjski dvor, Vetrinjska 30

Vetrinjski dvor (Vetrinje Mansion) is a multifunctional venue in a renovated mansion. Its main goal is to offer support to the regional non-governmental organizations as well as to individuals.

<http://www.vetrinjski-dvor.si/o-nas/>

4 - Narodni dom, Ulica kneza Koclja 9

A restored late 19th-century building in the centre of Maribor houses performing arts activities, including theatre, dance and music.

<http://www.nd-mb.si/>

5 - Salon, Glavni trg 1

The Salon of Applied Arts is both a coffee house and an event and exhibition that merges arts fair featuring regional artists, an exhibition and sales floor for local design products and vintage furniture, and a venue for various cultural events. Formerly it was a café and later also a casino.

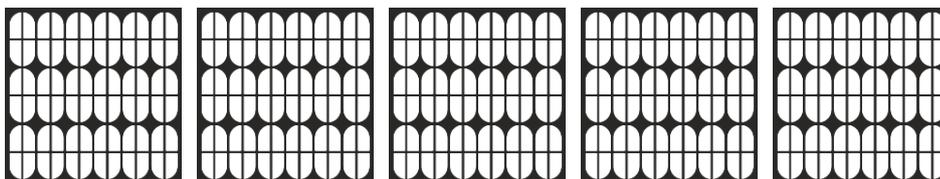
<https://www.facebook.com/SALON.maribor>

6 - Trg svobode 1 (at the "Kojak" statue)

Liberty square with the monument devoted to the national liberation front during the WW2, but people immediately found a better name for the statue: Kojak, the famous TV detective.

<http://spomeniki.blogspot.si/2011/12/maribor.html>

7 – Hotel Orel, Volkmerjev prehod 7



Awareness through movement sessions with Nevenka Koprivšek

What I am after is not flexible bodies, but flexible brains ... actually what I am after is to restore people to their human dignity. (Moshé Feldenkrais)

The Feldenkrais Method is a somatic education system devised by Moshé Feldenkrais (1904–1984). Far ahead of his time he has recognized the plasticity of the brain and understood strong inter-connections between the mind, movement, sensing and imagination. Learning through movement Feldenkrais practitioners work in two different modes – by guided group sessions (awareness through movement) or having individual sessions (functional integration). If we try to apply Feldenkrais's logic to the attempt to think about the future or survival, its utmost value lies in the ability to break away from “ossified” patterns and in recognizing the minimizing efforts which teaches us how to open new paths in our ability to sense, feel, think and possibly act.



Nevenka Koprivšek is – besides being the current artistic and managing director of Bunker – an actress, director, founder and cofounder of many international networks ... She became certified Feldenkrais teacher and practitioner (Paris 11) with Myriam Pfeffer and Paul Newton in 2009, later also continued advanced trainings with Jeremy Krauss, including his JKA for children with special needs. She is giving Feldenkrais group classes and individual lessons and various thematic workshops. She is also integrating the approach into her work as well as everyday life and understands Feldenkrais as continuous learning process. Nevenka will hold two awareness through movement sessions for the Maribor Lab.

Svetlana Slapšak: Escapism, evacuationism, microcommunism or monasteries, islands, forests: all the escapes from revolution

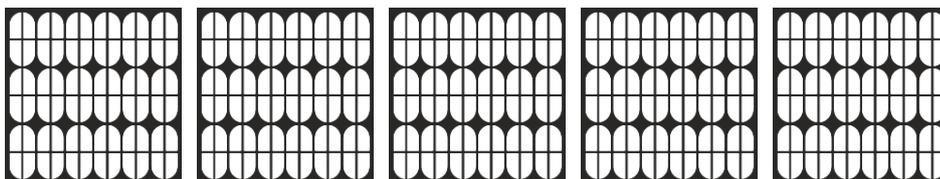


Foto: Dnevnik

Svetlana Slapšak's realm of expertise, publishing and research is so vast, that – as Dijana Matković put it – it is admirable that it is mastered by only one person. Her areas of expertise include linguistics, antic studies, Balkan studies, gender studies ... She has published numerous essays, translations, books and also – started more than 50 petitions. She has fought against death penalty, for peace, for human treatment of refugees, for women's rights ... She is also the current columnist of Maribor's biggest daily – Večer. Svetlana

Slapšak seems to embody the ideal of engaged intellectual who is not afraid to get her hands dirty – either with politics or with banal topics such as cabbage (she wrote a book on cabbage and sexuality) – but at the same time bases her activism and thought on thorough understanding of history and anthropology.

Who best to speak about the future and survival than someone who knows about the history and human nature – either from anthropology or from Greek drama?



Maja Smrekar: After Anthopocene

One of the research and artistic interests of Maja Smrekar is the post-Anthropocene era. She is convinced (by science, of course) that the Anthropocene is ending and humans as invasive species are under threat to become extinct. She will talk about her work, the "survival kit for the Anthropocene" and the cycle of the work she is still developing in which she is trying to think, conceptualize and develop a new species that would be more fit to survive in the new era.



Foto: Borut Peterlin

Maja Smrekar graduated at the Sculpture Department of the Academy of Fine Arts in Ljubljana, Slovenia and is currently finishing her MA at the New Media Department. Her interests are grounded in the phenomenology of perception and the concept of life. She has been collaborating with, among other institutions, the Kapelica Gallery in Ljubljana for the past eight years, and with the Institute Aksioma for the past five. In their production she's been executing projects tying together the intersections between humanistic and natural sciences into interdisciplinary works of art. Maja Smrekar lives and works between Ljubljana and Berlin.

www.majasmrekar.org

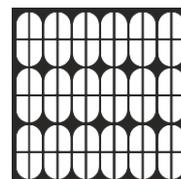
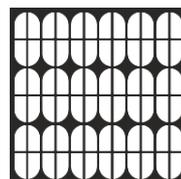
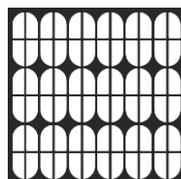
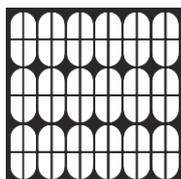
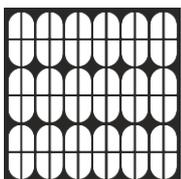
Karolina Babič: The trails of community power in Maribor

We will walk from the train station along the Partisan street past the Center of Mobility and shed in the direction of the old town. Along the famous Nobility street by the Rajzefiber buero and Bikelab. Then we will go through the Weaver passage where everything is bursting of production, coworking ... Back to the Main square by Salon and over the Old Bridge to Camp district where the restaurants are – Roma restaurant and those of nice ladies, then back to the center, to our base – GT22.



Foto: Andrej Cvetnic

Karolina Babič is an expert on social entrepreneurship, cooperatives and social innovation, but especially on new social practices in Maribor. She works for the development cooperative Tkalka, that has become the center of energy, will and courage for survival and life in the city in the last two years. She will take us on the paths of new points of the town that have only arisen in the last five years, but are the pillars of the power of community and the sources for developing new practices.



Tea party with Kitch

If we are speaking about the 5 o'clock tea time, tea trade, children's tea sessions or about tea party movement, tea time is never just about the tea. We will stay true to the tradition of tea being merely the excuse to talk about politics. The starting point (besides the weather and the tea) will be the reader sent to you beforehand.

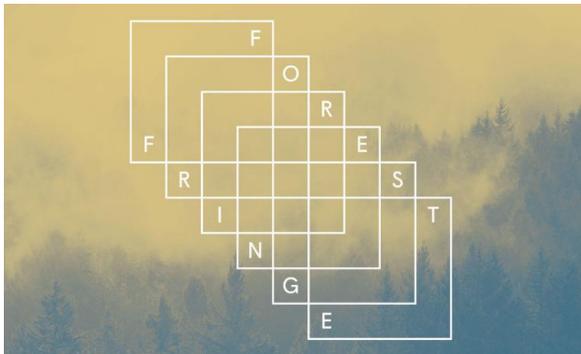


Foto: Nada Žgank

Tandem Kitch has been experimenting with performance and critique in an interdisciplinary manner since 1999. Keeping a strong theoretical and conceptual background, focusing now on performance, especially on the performative potential of kitsch and trash, attempting to directly check beliefs in possibilities of political emancipation and disidentification on stage during the in-depth work with bodies – our own and spectators' ones. Challenged with the collective work of various generations, Kitch reduces theatre language to reach over boundaries of stage, genres and the spectator-performer relationship in a more effective way. Tandem Kitch is Lana Zdravković and Nenad Jelesijević.

www.kitch.si

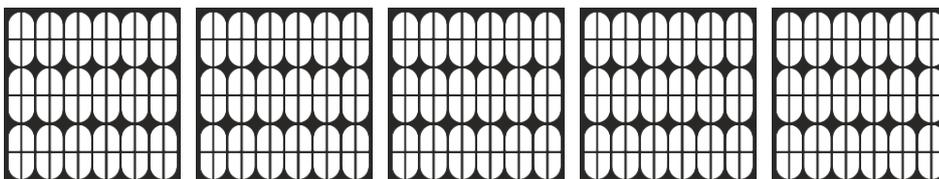
Forest Fringe and Maribor Curate yourself DIY strategies for artist-led initiatives



UK-based organization Forest Fringe has been operating within an informal artist-led structure for the past ten years, and in this guise has curated programs at international festivals and venues throughout the UK, Asia, North America and Europe, and runs a venue at the Edinburgh Festival for ten consecutive seasons. They are visiting Drugajanje festival in Maribor to meet other organizations both similar and different from their own, and to exchange ideas, learning and offering strategies, to discuss how an organization

remains artist-led and independent for the long haul (and indeed whether or not that is even a good idea). In this vein, Forest Fringe will be hosting a round table discussion with several Maribor based artist-led organizations around artist-led initiatives – be they festivals, venues, studio spaces, galleries or record labels – exploring how these structures can counteract capitalist logic and serve as sustainable or unsustainable means of ensuring collective artistic survival. Although there will be three organizations that are invited to speak (moderated by Forest Fringe), engagement in the conversation will be open to any participant who feels they have something valuable to contribute in the form of a question, anecdote, provocation or otherwise.

Forest Fringe visit is hosted by Drugajanje festival. Forest Fringe will be represented by Deborah Pearson, Ira Brand and Andy Field.



MIG21 exhibition - Migratory Interdisciplinary Grid **International art exhibition on the topic of migrations**

MIG 21 proposes an entirely humanist response to a clearly political question, thus connecting 50 exhibiting artists from Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Macedonia, France, Germany, Russia, Poland, the Czech Republic, Japan, USA, Mexico, Canada and Australia.

In the abundance of various isms, we have totally disregarded the only one that truly pushes us forward as a civilization. Humanism as a political program, a surrogate and substitution to capitalism, never really got its chance in history. Indeed, we have successfully cellophaned the humanist note into various, including modern, forms of art, where we are, indeed, still holding on to it firmly for the time being, under the guise of preserving the idea of humaneness. Yet the consideration triggered by MIG 21 is interesting precisely because it proposes an entirely humanist response to a clearly political question.

MIG21 interconnects artistic visions and humanist values with various visual, sonic, and interdisciplinary media, which is a novelty in Slovenia. The exhibition showcases works from the fields of painting, sculpting, photography, video, fine arts, intermedia installations, bio art, and science & art research works. The artworks represent a selection of paradigms that have marked the realm of contemporary art for the last 30 years, with a special emphasis on thematic and interdisciplinary connections between the visual and the contemplative-technological-innovative.



Foto disclaimer: This is not Peter Tomaž Dobrila, it is an image representing the MIG21 :)

Your guide for all three locations of the exhibition will be **Peter Tomaž Dobrila**, one of the curators of the exhibition. He is an iconic figure of the Maribor scene being one of co-founders of the crucial cultural points of Maribor: ŠTUK, MARŠ, Kibla and also: Maribor – European Cultural Capital 2012. Kibla, the organizer of the MIG21 is an NGO for education and arts, specialized for visual and intermedia arts and the rumour has it that the infamous Stelarc said that »Kibla is the best cyber space in Europe«. Peco, as Maribor people call him, is also active in cultural politics and a curator.

Rima Najdi: Confession #1

»Confession#1 an ongoing work on a lecture performance that aims to research the imaginaire around Arab women created through their attire. In this series I recycle material from a previous performance Dress ME how YOU like, wearing the clothes to travel to Lebanon from Berlin. Visit villages in the southern area of Lebanon pose next what became landmarks in 2006, make a costume party at a family dinner, then photoshop myself to some touristic destination in the Arab world. I kept a personal journal during the process. During the lecture I display the photos and read from the personal journal.»

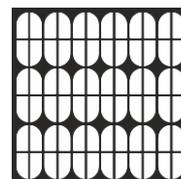
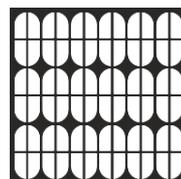
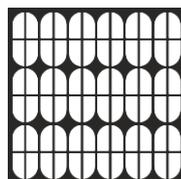
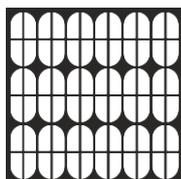
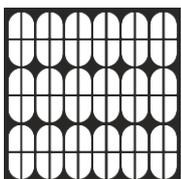




Foto: Rima's archive

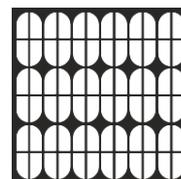
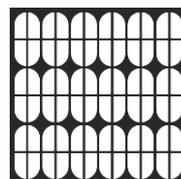
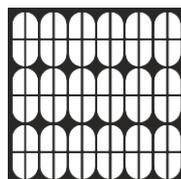
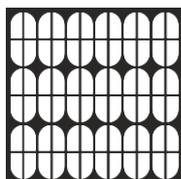
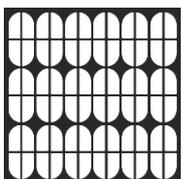
Rima Najdi is a performance artist currently based in Berlin. She works across disciplines including performance, video, installation. Much of the motivation in her work stems from the curiosity to research the production of propositions that challenge and occupy in-between spaces: spaces that exist perhaps only between the self and the other, reality and fiction, physicality and emotion. She focuses on the body as a tool and as a map of experiences and identity politics. She is interested in the vulnerabilities of one's body looking at gender politics, safety, mobility and representation.

A research for an act, a statement, a photo, an art work that questions issues such as stereotypes, identity, gender, failure of language, borders and its representations.

Her art practice tackles identity politics (see: Dress ME how YOU like, and GRAPHIC WARNING: It is not ME it is YOU) and the dynamics that govern frames and gazes (see: Who are they? Who are we? and Madame Bomba: The TNT project). It is not the representation of identities that her work seeks, it is the unearthing of the governing dynamics and strategies.

Najdi has a Diploma in Dramatic Arts from High Arts Institute, Lebanese University, 2008, and an MA in Performance Studies from Tisch School of the Arts, New York University, 2011.

www.rimanajdi.com



If you have the time, we recommend an additional exhibition. If you want to go, ask Alma to organize the visit with guidance.

HEROES WE LOVE. Ideology, Identity and Socialist Art in New Europe



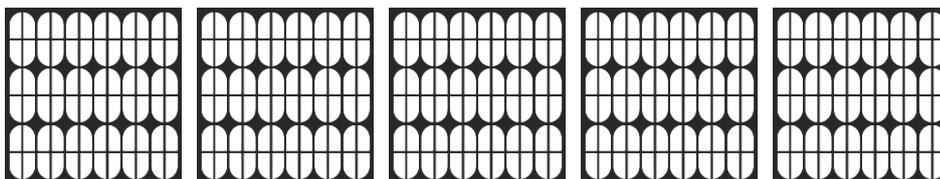
Foto: Markus Krottendorfer

Heroes We Love. Ideology, Identity and Socialist Art in New Europe is a collaborative, multidisciplinary project on the (still controversial) topic of socialist heritage of the 20th century European art. It brings together partners from institutional and non-institutional sectors from Central and South-Eastern Europe. The project is aimed at connecting contemporary art practices with research works and involvement with the audiences on the phenomenon of socialist art in its cultural, social-ideological and political context,

spanning the period from the inception of the communist/socialist states of Eastern Europe until today. It boldly exposes the geo-political term 'New Europe' and encompasses the region from Poland to Albania in a joint transnational project.

www.ugm.si

<https://heroeswelove.wordpress.com/>



MEALS

All meals will be provided by Bunker, breakfasts will be provided in the hotel. We start with Monday dinner and end with Friday breakfast. If you come earlier, you will receive per diems for the extra meals.

CONTACTS

Polona, hospitality master	+386 31 818 633
Tajša, production and Maribor master	+386 40 514 919
Alma, LAB master	+386 31 694 559

Emergency	112
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ARRIVALS/DEPARTURES

Polona has sent you your detailed itineraries. If not, please contact her. Please – give (or send) us your boarding passes.

PRESENT AT THE LAB

Sonya Lindfors, Maryan Abdulkarim, Sanja Mitrović, Jorge Lopes Ramos, Rosie Freeman, Andra Aaloe, Edit Kaldor, Rima Najdi, Aet Ader, Flo Kasearu, Mare Bulc (on Thursday)

Sodja Zupanc Lotker, Andy Field, Alex Neidert, Liesbeth Groot Nibbelink, Sigrid Merx

Racha Najdi, Annika Uprus, Erica Campayne, Gundega Laivina, Tilmann Broszat, Satu Herrala, Hanna Nyman, Lorenzo Facchinelli, Rainer Hofmann, Bjarni Jonsson

Bunker team:

Nevenka Koprivšek, Mojca Jug, Maja Vižin, Alma R. Selimović, Polona Vozel

Forest Fringe team:

Ira Brand, Deborah Pearson, Andy Field

Balkan Kavkaz team:

Vahe Budumyan, Vilmoš Koter, Tanja Radež, Giorgi Khasaia

