

THE ART OF INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE



CZECHOSLOVENIA

ARTIST INFO

Galerie Gong

Opening: 20/09 2022, 18.00
21/09-30/10 2022

Revenge exhibition: November, Ptuj City Gallery, Slovenia

Marko Batista
Mirko Bratuša

Beti Bricelj

Dušan Fišer

Metod Frlic

Marko Jakše

Jernej Forbici

Duša Jesih

Aleksij Kobal
Tomaž Plavec
Sandra Požun
Oto Rimele
Marika Vicari

www.dolnivitkovice.cz/galerie-gong
Vítkovice 3004, Ostrava, Czech Republic

Curators: Dušan Fišer, Jernej Forbici, Marek Schovánek
Cooperation: Tereza Čapandová, Pavel Forman, Tomáš Koudela



CVS OU

UNIVERSITY OF OSTRAVA
FACULTY OF EDUCATION

GDM CONTEMPORARY

MESTSKA OBČINA PTUJ

PTUJ CITY GALLERY

ART STAYS

GALERIJA MESTA PTUJ
PTUJ CITY GALLERY

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THE ART OF INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE CZECHOSLOVENIA

**GALERIE GONG
21. 09. - 30. 10. 2022
OSTRAVA, CZ**

Marko Batista
Mirko Bratuša
Beti Bricelj
Dušan Fišer
Jernej Forbici
Metod Frlic
Marko Jakše
Duša Jesih
Jurij Kalan
Aleksij Kobal
Tomaž Plavec
Sandra Požun
Oto Rimele
Marika Vicari

Everything has a catalyst, a beginning and a reason. And in this sense, it is chance risk, random situations and circumstances that often yield the greatest offerings and write the future. I met two people, fellow artists and curators, Jernej Forbici and Pavel Forman. We met under a curatorial undertaking that, at the time, was for each of us a milestone. No one thought that the event that we were involved in would take us on a life long journey of mutual enrichment and continual cooperation. This it can be said was the foundation upon which this exhibition rests.

There is often a confusion between Slovakia and Slovenia - a slight intonation and your geographical understanding shifts a few hundred kilometres. And what started as a play on words snowballed into the last installation of a long series of engagements and exchanges that I have had the pleasures of being involved in between the Czech Republic and Slovenia.

This latest installment, the double exhibition “CZECHOSLOVENIA - The Art of international Exchange” utilizes all the mutual talents that we have come across in the last 20 plus years and showcases the best of what both countries have to offer in the contemporary arts. It is a strong testament to the quality and talent that we have had the pleasure to work with, and the imperative demands action that history cannot do without.

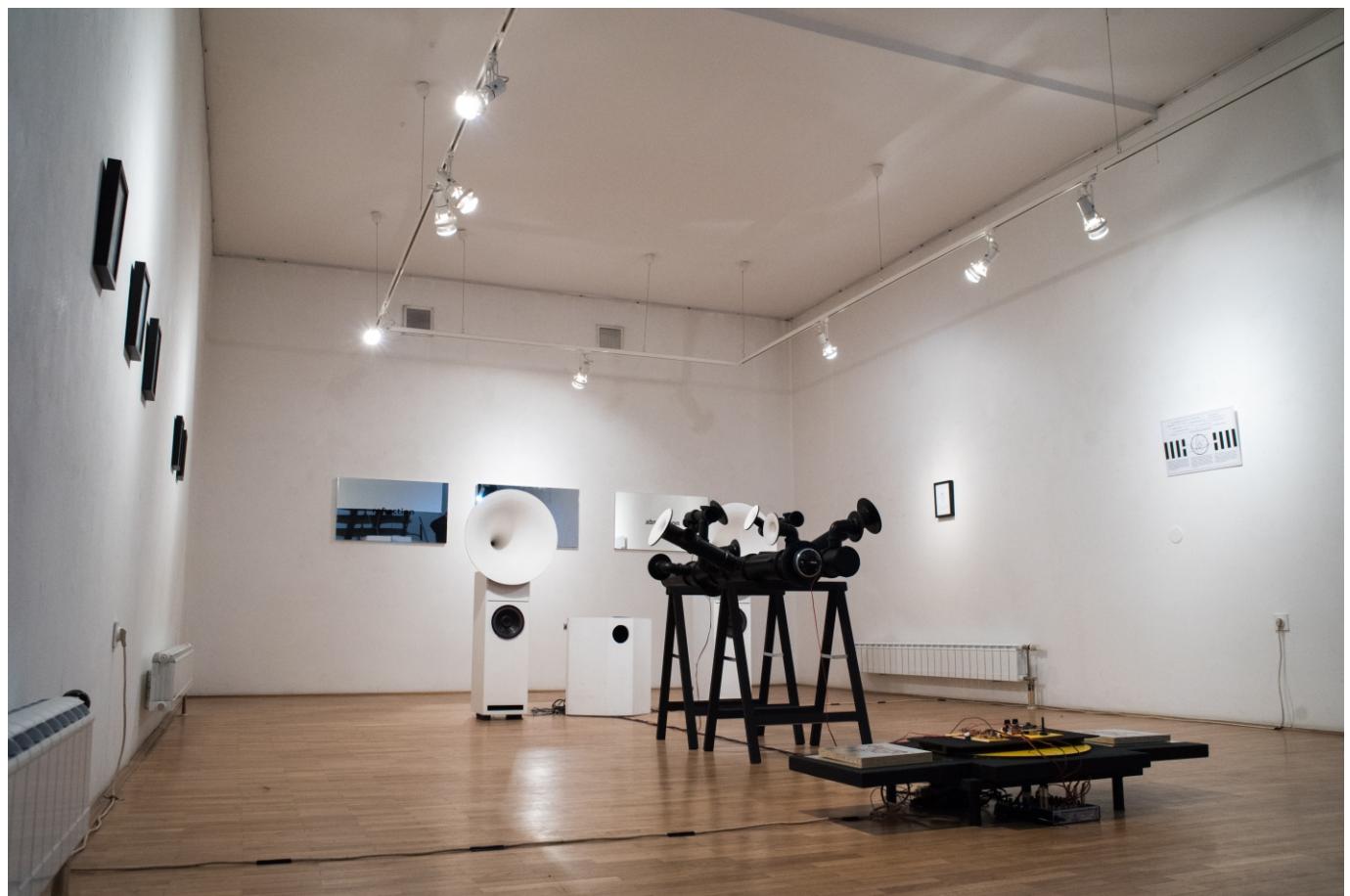
Marek Schovanek
curator CZECHOSLOVENIA

MARKO BATISTA

MARKO BATISTA is Ljubljana based tech-mixed-media artist, sound researcher, video experimentalist and AV performer, born in Tito's Yugoslavia. Batista focuses on themes such as displaced sound-scapes, video transformation processes, networking data, collaboration, linking concepts, hybrid spaces, politics of art and other fields of contemporary media art. Graduated from Academy of Fine Arts in Ljubljana and finished Master of Arts degree from Central Saint Martins in London. Marko Batista is a founding member of experimental multimedia group Klon:Art:Resistance. In 2003 he collaborated on a project for 50th LA BIENNALE DI VENEZIA: VV2 .

His works have been presented at ARS ELECTRONICA-Featured Art Scene in 2008, 10th INTERNATIONAL ISTANBUL BIENNIAL, BIX Facade KUNSTHAUS GRAZ, Cellsbutton#3-Indonesia, VIENNABIENNALE 2008, ART STAYS FESTIVAL, ELECTRONIC CHURCH Berlin, CCA Glasgow, SLOWTIME 2007, Museum of Modern Art-Ljubljana, PIXXELPOINT 2005, 15th International Festival of Computer Arts-Maribor, ZERO Gallery/TRANSMEDIALE.10-Berlin ...

Marko Batista, Sonic Geometry of Space, 2016



MIRKO BRATUŠA

He was born on the 19th February 1963 in Negova. He studied sculpture at the University of Ljubljana Academy of Fine Arts (ALU), graduating in 1989. In the following three years, he studied with professor Leo Kronbrust at the Academy of Fine Arts in Munich, and with professor Tony Cragg at the Düsseldorf Art Academy in 1993, and finished his postgraduate studies with professor Lujo Vodopivec at the ALU in 1993.

Teaching sculpture at the Department of Art Pedagogics at the University of Ljubljana Faculty of Education (PEF) since 1997, he was appointed assistant professor in 2003 and professor in 2013. He is an associate member of the Slovenian Academy of Arts and Sciences (SAZU) since 2019.

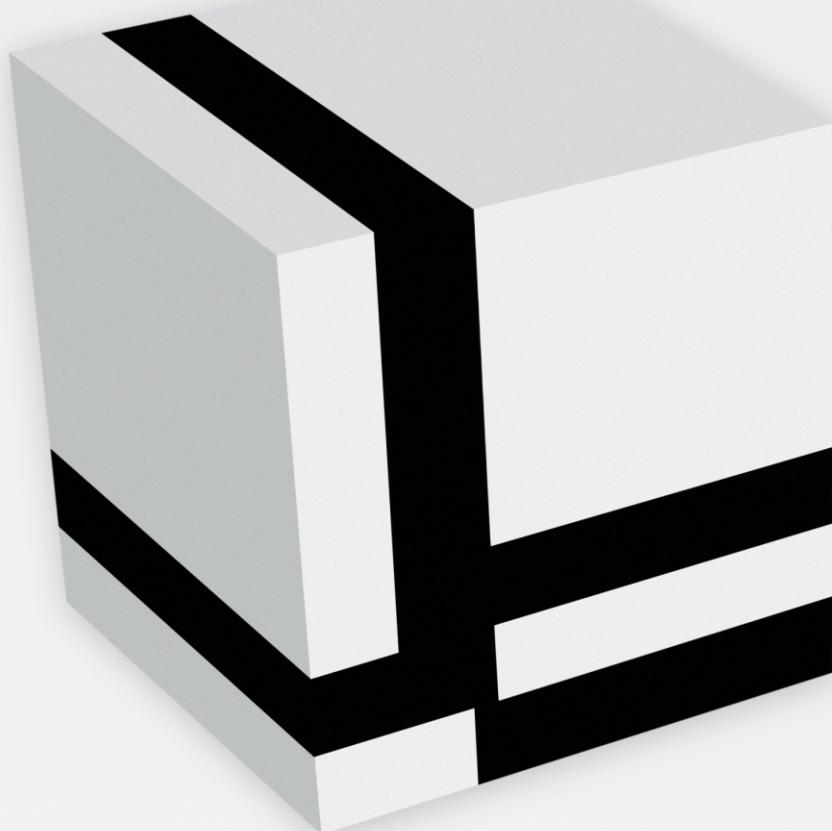
Mirko Bratuša, SYSTEM M0822012B, 2012



BETI BRICELJ

Beti Bricelj is Slovenian visual artist born in 1974 in Postojna. In 2000 she graduated from Fine Arts on Arthouse – College of Visual Arts in Ljubljana. After completing her studies she continued her education in Australia (1998/99) Beti Bricelj has been invited to numerous Art Symposium, and has presented work for independent and joint exhibitions in Slovenia and abroad (Australia, Europe, Israel India and including the renowned Museum of Geometric and MADI Art in Dallas Texas, USA). Her work is published in various international catalogues and books of contemporary art. Since 2002 Bricelj has been a member of the Slovenian Association of Fine Arts Societies. She lives and works in Postojna.

Beti Bricelj, Flat Cube, 2020



DUŠAN FIŠER

Dušan Fišer was born on 1 February 1962 in Ptuj. He graduated from Academy of Fine Arts in Ljubljana. In 1991 he finished the post-graduate studies in painting. He received scholarship from Academy Minerva in Groningen in the Netherlands and also studied in Vienna and Paris. He has made many solo and group exhibitions all over Central and Southern Europe.

Dušan Fišer, Untitled, 2021



JERNEJ FORBICI

Jernej Forbici was born in Maribor (Slovenia) in 1980. Graduated in Painting at the Academy of Fine Arts in Venice (C. Di Raco chair), after the Specialist Degree in Visual Arts and Performing Arts, he dedicated himself to landscape and large formats , telling the story of its country of origin, Kidričeve, a town surrounded by greenery marked by the aluminum industry. In 2002 is his first solo show, Genesis. He exhibits in 2005 at the IBCA in Prague and in 2009 the Academy of Fine Arts in Venice dedicates to him the retrospective In My place at the Magazzini del Sale. This was followed by the 54th Venice Biennale, Standing in the edge in Vienna and residences in Berlin, London and Paris. Sleep now in the fire, Blurry Future, Auri sacra fames, Welcome to the final show and Long gone are the last great solo shows that see him protagonist in Luxembourg, Italy, Slovenia and New York. With his works, Jernej Forbici has won the interest of the entire international art system and today his works are present in many exhibitions, fairs, institutions and public and private collections all over the world. He lives and works between Strnišče (SI) and Vicenza (IT).

Jernej Forbici, A big pile of garbage, 2020



METOD FRLIC

Metod Frlic (Suša in Poljane Valley, 1965), after finishing third year of the School of Design and Photography (department of graphics), enrolled in the Ljubljana Academy of Fine Arts, field of sculpture. He graduated in 1989 under Prof. Lujo Vodopivec, continuing under him to complete postgraduate studies in 1996. Already immediately after secondary school, he travelled extensively around the world. In 1995, he studied in Germany and in 2000 in Japan. He has taken part in numerous international sculptural symposia, in Austria, Hungary, Italy, the United Arab Emirates, China, Greece, Croatia and Slovenia. Since 1979, he has had 27 individual exhibitions, participated in many group exhibitions at home and abroad, and received fifteen awards and recognitions, including in 2008, a recognition for artistic work from the University of Ljubljana. His portrait statuary and numerous public monuments at home and abroad are identifiable.

Since 2009, he has lectured at the Department of Sculpture at the Academy of Fine Arts and Design University of Ljubljana. He lives and works in Ljubljana and in a studio in Malenski Vrh above Škofja Loka.

Metod Frlic, Angel Evrope, 2018



MARKO JAKŠE

Marko Jakše (1959, Ljubljana) graduated from the Academy of Fine Arts in Ljubljana in 1987 as a self-taught artist. Ever since he has been a freelance artist. He has had many solo and group exhibitions, both at home and abroad, and has received several national and international prizes for his works. He is currently presenting Slovenia at the 59th Venice Biennale.

Marko Jakše, K tebi



DUŠA JESIH

Duša Jesih was born on 16 January 1977 in Ljubljana. In 1996, she completed the Secondary School for Design and Photography in Ljubljana, specialising in graphic design. She obtained her BA in painting at the College of Visual arts in Ljubljana where she also completed her specialisation in painting three years later. In the period 2006–2007, Jesih attended specialisation courses at the Cité Internationale des Arts in Paris. In 2012, she enrolled in the master's programme at the Academy of Fine Arts and Design in Ljubljana and received the Preseren Award for students in 2015. She lives in Ljubljana.

Duša Jesih, Go with the flow, 2017



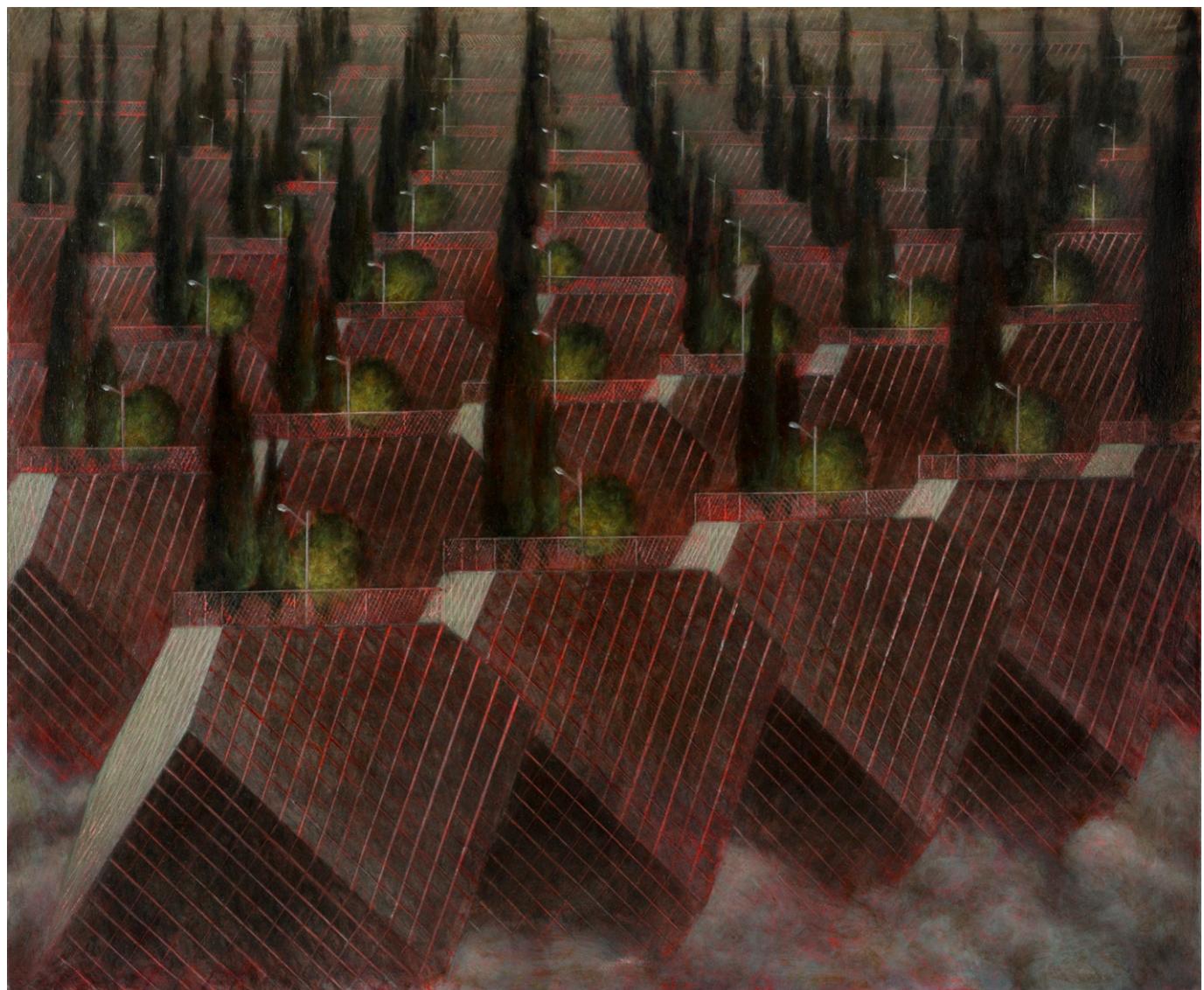
ALEKSIJ KOBAL

Aleksij Kobal, born on October 23, 1962 in Koper, graduated from the Academy of Fine Arts in Ljubljana under Professor Janez Bernik in 1986 and postgraduated in 1993 under professor Metka Krašovec. He participated in many group exhibitions and organized several solo exhibitions, among them the most popular: Starless - the story of Prešnica, Providence, Wounds of Time, Wedding of the Centuries, Forbidden City and Nocturno.

Between 2004 and 2008 joined experimental musical group The stroj. In 2009, he published his first book, 'Glas', with Cankarjeva založba publishing house. This was followed in 2022 by his second novel, 'Topologija zlatoroga', released with Sanje Publishing.

He has received several recognitions and awards for his artistic activities, including the "Nagrada Prešernovega sklada" award in 2016. He lives and works in Ljubljana as a freelance artist.

Aleksij Kobal, Dekonstrukcija melanholije



TOMAŽ PLAVEC

Born in 1972 in Ptuj, Slovenia. Graduated from the Academy of Fine Arts in Ljubljana in 1999. Painter, sculptor and graphic artist. Art director of the Terra Petovia project. Member of the Council of the Gallery of the City of Ptuj. Awarded with the highest cultural recognition of the city of Ptuj. Numerous exhibitions at home and abroad. Known for public sculptures in Ptuj, Kidričeve and Maribor. Professor of fine arts at the Ptuj Art High School. He lives and works in Ptuj, Slovenia.

Tomaž Plavec, Tears for trees, 2020



SANDRA POŽUN

Born in 1972 in Zadar (Croatia), she completed primary school in Buje in Croatian Istria and secondary school in Izola (Slovenia). She currently lives and works in Ptuj (Slovenia). Her main artistic interest is both black-and-white and colour photography in the genre of nude photography.

Sandra Požun, Pain, 2016



OTO RIMELE

Oto Rimele, born in 1962 in Maribor. In 1990 graduated from the Academy of Fine Arts in Ljubljana in the class of Professor Emerik Bernard. In 1992 completed postgraduate studies of fine arts in the class of Professor Janez Bernik. He is member of the Union of Slovene Fine Arts Associations. Since 1997 he has taught painting and drawing at the Faculty of Education in Maribor, now as Full Professor. He has travelled around Europe, Great Britain and the United States. In 2004 he received the Prešeren Fund Award for the fine arts exhibition Illuminations.

Rimele is a painter, visual artist and author of visual spatial environments. He expresses himself with pure form and almost monochromatic colour expression.

Oto Rimele, Round Mirror, 2012



MARIKA VICARI

MARIKA VICARI was born in Vicenza in 1979. Graduating with Honours in Painting (professorship Prof. Carlo Di Raco) from the Academy of Fine Arts in Venice in 2003, she then graduated in 2005 in Design and Production of Visual Arts at the Faculty of Design and Arts at the Venice University of Architecture. The subjects of her works are filiform trees suspended in indefinite and dreamy mountain landscapes. Her technique, which is constantly evolving, has involved the production of works on poplar boards while, starting from 2019, she began experimenting on cotton paper with an increasing watercolour presence. This new medium adds grace to the forests she portrays by feeding the metaphor with the human being and its fragility, transience. She has studied and worked on site-specific projects with international artists, curators and photographers including: Hans Ulrich Obrist, Mona Hatoum, Antoni Muntadas, Armin Linke and Angela Vettese. Since 2000 she has had numerous solo and group exhibitions in Europe, the United States, Mexico, Brazil, Canada and China. For years her works have been presented at art fairs in Italy and Europe. She lives and works in Creazzo (Vicenza).

Marika Vicari, The time of the trees, 2015

