

ABOUT AND AROUND CURATING: 7X3 Exhibition Catalogue

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intro.

REDUCTION OF REMNANTS

About and around curating: 7x3 is an artistic exhibition placed in the gallery *Art Space UIO*, produced by selected students of the Faculty of Architecture, Faculty of Fine Arts and the Department of Art History of the University of Belgrade. It represents the result and common goal of the one semester academic course: **About and around curating: The technology of an exhibition process / Realization of the project – "real world"**, in which the twenty of them were participating from the October 2012 until January 2013. Divided into seven mixed groups, they were jointly creating a unique concept in which each of them individually can be identified; by changing roles and learning from each other. Experimental approach during the school part of the course included several workshops, several theoretical unities and continuous dialogue with students – what they want to do, how they intend to carry it out, why are they choosing certain topics, whether they are by developing their team idea aware of the context they are creating and of the environment which defines them at the same time at the micro plan – within the exhibition in the making and also outside – in the so called real world. Teamwork, responsibility, consistency and awareness of one's own place in real-time are some of the key concepts that we, as authors of this course, tried to emphasize, convinced that the new value of one just conquered creation speaks actually about balanced selection of adopted existing cognitions, symbiosis of different skills and truly represents time and space in which is being created.

The concept of the entire exhibition can be recognized somewhere between the terms, which are the titles of individual works, and with such selection of themes they are positioning young people very critically against their own reality, social environment, system of value and anamnesis of the general state of consciousness of the country in which they live, and beyond. To what extent is the imminence of a family, mutual intimacy reduced to the epicenter of living room where the television is the main actor is asked by the authors' team of the work *FAMILY*, and more than that – how do we predict the future of human relations. If your desires and *EXPECTATIONS* are made of birthday wishes and vain repetitions of others's advices what is that you *should* do in life, maybe it's the right time to address to a *MAGE*, who *understands* you, and from whom you may get some *answers*, but also the *healing through art*. If you want to be a creator of an art work yourself you have the opportunity to become familiar with a material, to feel the process of creation, but also to observe the whole installation *FROM THIS CLAY IT CAN BE MADE* as a certain critique of consumerism. If the process of reinterpretation of natural forms itself has now become redundant, like a human portrait, maybe it's the time to undergo yourselves under a software calculation and to get a unique series of numbers that represents the mathematical function by which your face can be portrayed, as in the work *PHOTOBOOTH*. Tracing completely different way of thinking, a creative process is the theme of the *MONTH OF WORK*, by which are followed, in the spiral course, a series of unprocessed and occasionally unbridled

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flow of thoughts of two young artists, which can help or obstruct the demystification of an artwork creation. *FIN DE PARTIE* leaves questions about our persistence in many wrong moves in the recent past, but also about the consequential social insensibility which does not recognize causes nor notes the consequences in whole, but in the inserts, like through a veil voyeuristically observing the personification of ourselves, as a comfortable self-deception that these are *some others*. As a final point, the work *I DON'T HAVE A TALENT* by Radoš Antonijević, as an *intruder* at the students' exhibition, represents to a great extent the *statement* of all four course lecturers, openly alluding to the dominant television product for general public, but on the other hand, seeking for the answer – who, in fact, raises the question of the definition of the term *talent* today? And to whom and what kind of talents are needed? This exhibition of students' works, which seriously incline towards fully formed artworks, does not provide any answers; it could happen that, like an echo, after the exhibition, some of these questions remain in your mind. That would be enough. Then we all have passed the exam.

Andrej Bereta, Curator and Art Historian

FIN DE PARTIE

Luka Tripković / Sara Sopljć / Hristina Stojanović

Post-conflict, transitional society in which we are living in, caused by the 1990s that were filled with wars, bad political moves and extremely difficult economic situation, has created the atmosphere of complete hopelessness. The work "Fin de Partie" is trying to emphasize one of the most pronounced negative aspects of the Serbian society, the poverty. It was inspired by Samuel Beckett's drama of the same name in which the absurdity of life was brought to its zenith and there was impossible to find a cure for life on Earth. Today's world is like Beckett's, it seems that we don't learn from our own mistakes and they are only repeating. The work of Luka Tripković, directly and without censure shows the state of our society, people we meet every day, poor and beggars. They are not only those who literally don't have a home or food to eat, those are the ones whose life is colored with hopelessness. Spiritually impoverished, not believing in a better future, not having a tolerance for people of other races and sexual orientations, wandering without hope and not seeing the meaning of life they live. The screen wall standing in front of the sculpture of Luka Tripković is a part of the work of the student of architecture, Hristina Stojanović. Her basic idea is to provide different way of observation of an artwork in the gallery space. A few images don't reveal the whole sculpture, but only some parts. In that way, a puzzle is set up in front of us, in which we assemble parts individually and only after passing behind the screen wall we can compare our own image with the real one. The screen wall standing in front of the artwork is possible to pass by and see the complete picture, compare it with your own and correct the mistakes, but it is more difficult to pass by the screen walls in the real world and to return colors to the greyness of everyday life?

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MAGE

Mladen Janković / Senka Latinović / Anastasija Protić

The work "Mage" was created as a product of cooperation of three students from different faculties, initiated at the academic course *About and around curating: The technology of an exhibition process / Realization of the project – "real world"*. "Mage" as the part of the larger project of creation of the alter ego of one young artist was already previously exhibited, nonetheless, for this occasion it was set in a different context. The student of architecture saw the work placed within the frames of one fictional platform, which would over the exhibition elements be a place of the communication between the exhibited work and the observer. The student of art history, however, envisioned to bring the work closer to the audience in the form of text: in the form of posters placed near the gallery space and in the form of interview with the artist himself – mage Artaniel Simrak. The whole process of working on the exhibition made us to adjust to each other, reshape our own ideas and improvise when necessary – because it is exactly what awaits us in the "real world". We hope that the cooperation was successful and that you will enjoy!

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MONTH OF WORK

Aleksandra Kovačević / Mladen Janković / Tijana Zebić / Sofija Bojanović

The project "Month of work" deals with the research of the creative process which leads to the development of an idea for creating a work of art. It was conceived as a one-month experiment in December 2012, during which two students from the Faculty of Fine Arts every day without censure were producing one per each idea for artwork with a completely open outcome. What we expect to become a work of art is actually a manifestation of the process of creation, and this experiment placed the focus on the process itself. 30 ideas created during this experiment were inspired by everyday occurrences that surround students. The diversity of the ideas just confirms the fact that ideas are completely independent.

The spiral form in the function of presentation of the work "Month of work" provides unobstructed insight into the work of artists and their processes of thinking in the observed time interval. It also shows the connection between the outer and inner world of authors and change of that relation over time. The way in which is necessary to show an interest in order to find out what is behind the artists' presentation of themselves, it is also necessary to find a way to get to the inner world. By touring finished works, we are entering even more into the intimacy of their creators and slowly realizing the course of thoughts and course of formation of the work concept.



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video, 1'41"

EXPECTATIONS

Jelena Nikolić / Kristina Grebenar / Filip Mikić

A birthday is a symbol of rapidity and the passing of time; an objective indicator of aging. It is also an event that is celebrated, at which you receive greetings, but also a reminder of what "was supposed to be", what "should be" and what "is". In a particular year of old age there are expectations for the fulfillment of specific social, family, emotional, educational and our own norms. Behind stereotyped and the most beautiful wishes there are not hiding anything, or there is hiding the fear of failure of the aforementioned expectations.

The day of birth becomes completely impersonal, and instead of celebration it deforms into the test of fitting into the required behavior and goals. The results of the survey on the social expectations from an individual based on the age category, to which he/she belongs, are written on the box aiming each visitor toward the video work. The box separates visitor from the real space, bringing him to a direct contact with the work. This work has a different, individual meaning for everyone. That meaning is in the proportion with the empathy to which contributes the isolation and specific expectations written on the box.



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FROM THIS CLAY IT CAN BE MADE

Maja Đorđević / Dušan Savić / Ivana Jevremović

The course of thoughts about the work of art is prior to its materialization and its placement into space. The artwork begins to live with its physical presence and encounter with the audience, introducing it with the idea that defines it. In the basis of the perception of an artwork is an imaginary barrier due to the lack of the visible process of its own creation. With its form and position, the barrier becomes physical connection canceling the visual; it grows with and becomes the work of art forming and defining the space at the same time. The main idea of the work "From this clay it can be made" is to, through its interactivity and accessibility by touch, enable visitors to participate in the process of creating the work of art. Accessibility by touch enables users to feel and to get to know the clay as a material in its original form, and therefore to motivate and arouse the imagination and desire for active participation in the work. With the engaged approach, the visitor shapes the work and with its action contributes to the life of the work.



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PHOTOBOOTH

Bogdan Pavlović / Sandra Nikuš / Maja Morošan

Photobooth is a space in which the new way of drawing – rejecting not only the activity but also the presence of the artist – becomes available to everyone. A computer program based on the photography of individual portrait (profile) gives as a final result as a mathematical formula – drawing in his new sense. The line is no longer a basic expressive or descriptive mean. All specifics of the visual identity of a person are expressed in this hyper-productive system, by mathematical symbols. It starts from the manifestational, organic and specific, but the result becomes something perceived as impersonal and artificial, numerical. In this way, in contact with a final product, we are faced with a reviewing of the expectations of an artwork. Likewise, there arise questions concerning the perception of artistic expression, mutual interdependence between the manifested world and its transposition in art.



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FAMILY

Jelena Nikolić / Iva Parađanin / Anđela Nikolić / Kristina Manolev

The average family has one TV.

It occupies a central position in the living room, so that everyone can see it. Television is the largest mass medium, whose program is dictated by the interests of society, and which displays a program of more entertaining character, while informative program becomes less important.

The place where family gathers the most often is the living room that is in front of the TV. Watching television creates a "pleasant" silence. The lack of communication and the desire for same is justified with the preoccupation. The family is losing quality time together.

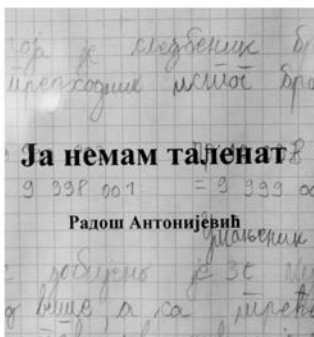
Family shows are propagating the desirable model of a modern family, cheerful, funny and happy. Problems are harmless, easy and always solvable. Audience laugh gets an ironic connotation, unintentionally emphasizing the entire artificial performance; the one that society has chosen to watch and has set it as an ideal. The family is the basic unit of a society.



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I DON'T HAVE A TALENT

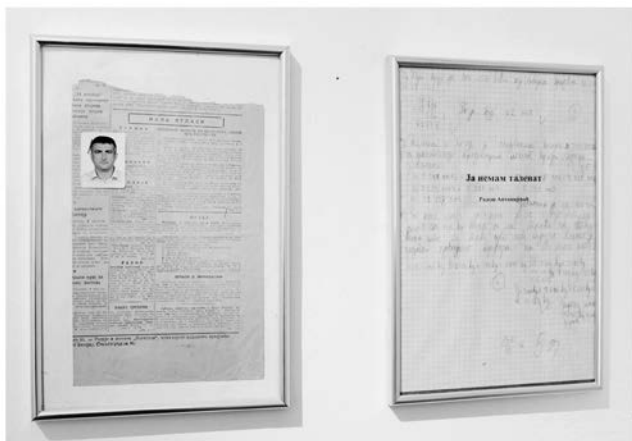


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outro.

AND AFTER THE END - A BEGINNING

The great challenge was in front of us from the fall semester 2012 until the spring 2013 colleague Bereta and I are organizing the academic course *About and around curating: The technology of an exhibition process / Realization of the project - "real world"*, as an improvement of the educational and research curatorial project *About and around curating*, of which we are the authors. We have designed this course according to the bold suggestion, upon invitation and in cooperation with Prof. Milorad Mladenović, academic painter and architect, (Faculty of Architecture in Belgrade) and Ass. Prof. Rados Anonijević, academic sculptor (Faculty of Fine Arts, University of Arts in Belgrade). While professors of both faculties gathered students through their elective courses, the two of us announced a Public invitation for students of art history informally including the Faculty of Philosophy in the program. The entire course has a formal curriculum within the elective course M17.1 of the undergraduate studies of the Faculty of Architecture.

Students of the undergraduate studies of architecture, art history and fine arts/sculpture on this occasion had a unique opportunity to jointly, proactively acquire knowledge and skills about the process and technology of an art exhibition, developing the concept and production of a work of art, curatorial practices and realization of an exhibition project. Through lectures, workshops, discussions, evaluations, individual presentations and based on the common interests, we have formed seven mixed teams in which there was at least one student from each faculty. Our aspiration was for students to recognize the importance of cooperation, perspectives of other team members, as well as to have an open space for experimentation and exchange of professional roles. Special attention we paid on the motivation of students by allowing them to choose their own topics and tasks that they solved by learning the different problems of the contemporary art practice.

Recognition of the importance of this project was followed by the call for exhibiting from the Art Council of the Gallery U10, which is a unique artistic space in Serbia and region, based on a bold enterprise of association of group of artists, led by artist and curator Nemanja Nikelić. Completely in accordance with the exhibition concept of U10 - the successful promotion of the fresh production of the most interesting generation of artists, actors of the group student exhibition, as new in the field of art, gained the opportunity to formally present themselves in the representative exhibition space. Through teamwork, students of three faculties of the University of Belgrade have responsibly formed the concept of works, related texts and program through the realization of the group exhibition 7x3 within the Art Space U10 in Belgrade from 21st March until 6th April of the year 2013. This exhibition and catalogue represent an opportunity for public to get an insight into the results of work and methods of art education that were formed during the project.

The importance of this project is generated interfaculty and intersectional collaboration, multidisciplinary training and the working method which confronts students and prepares them for the real situations in which they will find themselves after graduating. On the basis of this course, I believe that the biggest challenges were (and in the current context remain) reducing the gap between theory and practice, fostering of teamwork, proactivity, connecting of profession and professionals making the future of the art scene.

UČESNICI IZLOŽBE

Students of Architecture:

Hristina Stojanović, Filip Mikić, Maja Morošan, Sofija Bojanović, Anastasija Protić, Anđela Nikolić, Kristina Manolev i Ivana Jevremović.

Students of Art History:

Tijana Zebić, Kristina Grebenar, Sara Sopić, Sandra Nikač, Senka Latinović, Iva Paradanin, Dušan Savić.

Students of Sculpture/Fine Arts:

Aleksandra Kovačević, Jelena Nikolić, Bogdan Pavlović, Maja Dordević, Luka Tripković i Mladen Janković.

Lecturers, Moderators:

Milorad Mladenović, Radoš Antonijević, Andrej Bereta i Srdan Tunić.



Production and realization of this exhibition was supported by Art Space U10 and Faculty of Architecture - University of Belgrade.

Kustosiranje About and around curating
ACADEMIC EYE

