К4ЛЕ/ДО5COPE
OF CULTURE
FIVE WEEKS; FIVE ARTS; FIVE GREAT PROGRAMMES AT FIVE WELL-KNOWN PLACES, FIVE NEW LOCATIONS AND THE NETWORK OF CULTURAL STATIONS WILL CONNECT THE LOCAL AND EUROPEAN ART SCENES WITH VISITORS TO NOVI SAD AND THE CITY’S RESIDENTS, CREATING A CITY-KALEIDOSCOPE THROUGH A UNIQUE CULTURE OF TOGETHERNESS.

Every September, Novi Sad turns into a city-kaleidoscope. Examined through the lens of history, from ancient times to the Middle Ages, and all the way up to the present day, many parts of a city, or, indeed, almost the entirety of any medieval European city, have transformed into a kind of theatre. The idea of a city as a stage is connected to the idea that a city shapes the consciousness of its inhabitants, not just in its educational institutions, but in every activity, in every function, at every meeting place. The concept of the Kaleidoscope of Culture is to develop the idea of the ‘city-stage’ through the creation of new audiences and decentralization of cultural content, and activation of all available city spaces and resources (streets, squares, parks, industrial objects, passageways, yards...), placing them in the service of the artistic process. Thus, complete unity of performer–viewer is achieved, as the artistic act plays out in interaction with the audience. The Kaleidoscope of Culture is a year-long project of the culture of togetherness that connects artists, cultural institutions, non-governmental organisations and visitors through various processes in order to present new spaces and programmes across the city by the end of summer. During five weeks of events, five forms of art will intertwine, with each week dedicated to one of them. Through new, renovated spaces and the network of cultural stations, which have become well-known venues for culture, the Kaleidoscope of Culture brings a fresh look to Novi Sad’s cult spaces, giving audiences the opportunity to create, through encounters with architecture, literature, and the performing, visual and applied arts, their own personal kaleidoscope made up of an array of artistic programmes. The Creative District in Great Liman has transformed from an abandoned industrial complex into Novi Sad’s centre of artistic production and contemporary creativity. Korzo in the city centre revives the former pedestrian zone, modelled on European metropolises, thus stopping one of the busiest city boulevards due to a magnificent concert of classical music under the open sky. Suburbium of more than two centuries old Petrovaradin Fortress becomes a city of books, Gallery Square, as part of one of the oldest cultural institutions in Serbia – Gallery of Matica Srpska, has established itself as the epicentre of visual arts, while SPENS, giant of modern architecture in Novi Sad, has been the main place for applied arts and design for years now. The logo of the Kaleidoscope of Culture blends the Cyrillic and Latin alphabets, numbers and symbols, by which we pay tribute to Novi Sad’s
interculturality. The symbol ‘4/5’ refers to the year-long project of the culture of togetherness and its four main processes across five arts: first, volunteers survey visitors to obtain a ‘grade’ for the event, which will later be used by independent evaluators to determine the programme’s future development; an open call for capacity building among local artists, and the engagement of residents, artists, cultural institutions and non-governmental organizations in creating future spaces and programmes; in the preparation phase, the local cultural-artistic scene, in cooperation with artists from abroad, creates the programmes; and, finally, its presentation takes place over the course of a four-day opening and five artistic weeks of the Kaleidoscope of Culture.

In the spirit of engaging relevant actors on the cultural scene, and cult city spaces, cultural stations and New Places, and putting them in the service of culture and art, the Kaleidoscope of Culture, within open calls, supports local artists and the implementation of their projects, also internationalising local art scene and connecting it with foreign artists and organisations through the ‘Artist in Residence’ call. Through this programme, Novi Sad artists are being supported within the implementation of outgoing residencies, while also enabling foreign artists to come to Novi Sad and exchange experience and knowledge by working with local artists. All this is embodied in the Kaleidoscope of Culture.

By permanently building local audiences and raising the capacity of the city’s tourism offerings, the Kaleidoscope of Culture, conceived as a European Capital of Culture in miniature, is one of the best examples of how Novi Sad is a city that lives culture.
OPENING WEEK.
The culture of togetherness, on which the Kaleidoscope of Culture is based, will be presented at the very opening ceremony, within the historic example of celebrating unity through a unique SLET (rally), a mass choreography performance directed by an international team including as many as 500 performers. Following the idea of unity, the rally critically opens the question of unity, but one in which each of us retains the right to freedom, identity and diversity. In these areas, slet (rally) is remembered as one of the most crowded events in former Yugoslavia, when some of the most successful young people carried a baton with a birthday pledge (the relay of youth) to Josip Broz Tito. Still, rally has an even longer tradition. The 20th century saw many regimes of power use the movement of the human body to send ideological messages, attempting to create, through the visual spectacle, a sense of unity. According to the dictionary, a rally is a mass public performance in which participants demonstrate their skill and agility in a combination of gymnastics, choreography, music and other elements of the performing arts. That’s why rally, as a specific artistic and cultural form, actually summarizes the whole idea of the Kaleidoscope of Culture with five arts intertwining, therefore naturally presenting overture into the next five weeks.

Sylvia Kretzschmar, Matthias Anton, Guido van Hengel, Grada Kilomba, while the international team will be joined by important local names such as biljana Srbjanojevici and andraš Urban. The European framework of the rally, shown through a local story will provide audience with a critical overview of historical narrative and ideology, and will open a debate on European history and values, thus creating a new interpretation of the rally. Regarding the expression, the play will be a mix of choreography, choral singing, happening, dialectical theatre, visual arts and video material. The concrete content of the play will be an artistic interpretation of significant, but insufficiently known or controversial events and personalities from the history of European societies. Accordingly, the location of the very grand opening – space of Great Liman, also keeps insufficiently explored and almost unknown, but very important 100-year-long history, due to which we have been reviving the name of the Great Liman for two years in a row within the Kaleidoscope of Culture, thus revealing the heritage of the former centre of industrial development of Novi Sad. Today, it has been transformed into the hub of contemporary creativity. In 2022, the Kaleidoscope of Culture will reveal a century-long history of the rally (slet) in these areas a hundred years of the Great Liman, thus connecting the alternative history of Europe with the alternative history of the Novi Sad industrial site on the Dunabe bank.

In that spirit, we continue to send metaphorical messages through movement as an effective means of expression – special attraction for the audience will present the performance of the French troupe Ecoute/Expansion led by Kitsou Dubois, a dancer and a gravitational choreographer who is known for choreographies that recreate a different, weightless space-time ambience. This way, her choreographies question the view, attention and hearing of the viewers in order to share with them different sensory impressions.

The very opening week will be a kind of Kaleidoscope of Culture in miniature, with an array of events that combine innovative artistic approaches and extraordinary city locations for both performers and audiences.
By laying the foundations of new practices in culture, the Kaleidoscope of Culture has made significant improvements especially when it comes to performing arts by connecting centuries-old music traditions, primarily the performance and creation of classical music, but also contemporary trends, tendencies and education, striving to continue with this synergy in the future as well.

The Kaleidoscope of Culture offers space and an important place to the most diverse music genres, thus implementing its artistic mission thanks to artists, organisations and institutions who, through their work, showed that they are ready to push the boundaries. The year of 2022 will be no different.

As one of the rare cities in Europe, Novi Sad adopted an entirely new approach to opera spectacle, which moved opera, a complex art form that connects all five arts of the Kaleidoscope of Culture within itself, out into the open. Thus, the famous ‘Rigoletto’ was performed at the Czech Magazine, ‘Aida’ at the Petrovaradin Fortress, while in 2022, one of the most famous operas in the world, ‘Carmen’ by Georges Bizet, will be a spectacle in the area of Great Liman, performed by the oldest theatre in Serbia, the Serbian National Theatre. Since its very inception, ‘Carmen’ has been a sensation, too modern for the first half of the 19th century, famous for its representation of a woman whose concept of love is utterly outside existing conventions. Carmen is one of the most poetic opera characters ever written, and her aria ‘Habanera’ is perhaps the best-known melody in all of opera literature.

Denis Matsuev, one of the most famous pianists in the world, brings an extraordinary approach and interpretation of classical music to the opening of the Kaleidoscope of Culture. His performance will transform Great Liman into a space dedicated to high art, therefore pushing its boundaries. The description of his interpretation in ‘The New York Times’, which states that ‘his poetic instincts held fast in tender moments, with trills as thrillingly precise as one might ever hope to hear’, testifies to the authenticity of his playing. Winner of numerous awards, including four Russian National Music Awards, for the Best Instrumentalist in Classical Music, Matsuev was also appointed UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador.
The Kaleidoscope of Culture doesn’t only foster education and audience development in the field of classical music, but electronic music as well. The Days Of Utopia project is dedicated to this theme, with a lot of conferences, panel discussions, workshops taking place and events in the span of two days, with the goal of informing audiences about the world of electronic music and the growing number of independent music producers both in our country and the whole world. There will also be discussions regarding digital multimedia platforms with eminent representatives of the electronic scene in the region, but representatives of festivals and clubs too. Workshops will display an interesting combination of experience and knowledge of European and local artists. On the first day, the interactive workshop will host producer and DJ Benjamin Fehr from Germany, together with Slobodan Jukić Sloks and LAG. Interactive workshops will be held with activists and volunteers. On the second day, a photography exhibition will be held, as well as a lecture on mental health and an interactive workshop about DLing, led by Vladimir Ačić and Pele Drežnić. In the evening hours, Matthew Johnson and Marko Milosavljević will perform, as well as numerous names from the European clubbing scene. The Kaleidoscope of Culture will present the hundred-year history of Great Liman, where the industrial development of Novi Sad began, through dance – from the angle of personal memories, moments, events, which connect the students of the Time Capsule project to that area on the Danube bank, turning the experiences into live action on stage. Project by the ‘New Entertainment’ association from Novi Sad, that emerged in cooperation with ‘Viva Dance Academy’ from Novi Sad, explores means for creative expression. The play will be based on several months of research with participants of singing, movement, dance and drama workshops on the topic of ‘Time Capsule’, that will enrich the programme of the grand opening of the Kaleidoscope of Culture. Time travel, from the hundred-year history of a space and its impact on the citizens of Novi Sad, brings us to the present and future of the centre of contemporary art, which the Great Liman is transformed into, and which is presented through the expression and idea of contemporary dance festival Tanz Platz. Since 2017, this festival has been depicting new tendencies of contemporary dance in the world, as well as young actors of European and local scenes. In the title year, the festival brings three dance plays, thus joining iconic dancers living in Europe. ‘Tanz Platz’ is part of the ‘Freedom Festival – 360 Art Factory’ project by the Student Cultural Centre of Novi Sad, which extends to several arches and contains numerous activities with the goal of supporting young artists to find their own space. Since 2017, the festival has been trying to present the best European works and support their presentation to everyone interested through discussions with the authors and artists. The festival emerged from the European network AEROWAVES which includes forty-four partner organisations from thirty-three countries and deals with the selection and providing support to young talents in the field of contemporary dance.
THROUGH HISTORICAL DANCE OF MACHINES INTO THE NEW WORLD OF CONTEMPORARY CREATIVITY
The ‘Tanz Platz’ festival will offer a new point of view of the former industrial space – Fabrika, through contemporary dance. On the façade of the mentioned object in Creative District, machines will dance, reminding one about the history of this place. *Autokorekt*, an interactive site-specific art installation encompassing three hundred square metres, includes robotic and automated web of industrial mobile elements, that, with their synchronized digitally controlled movement, create choreography, the dance of machines on the facade. Thus, the whole building is turned into a stage, while the audience, passers-by and building users become accidental and intentional co-creators of this work of art. It’s the continuation of the story by the awarded art collective ‘Karkatag’ from Belgrade, with the goal of this art installation becoming a gathering place and a new symbol of Great Liman and Creative District. At the Kaleidoscope of Culture in 2020, the art collective began their story about reviving and reinterpreting the industrial heritage of Great Liman with an attractive, interactive art installation ‘Wirefull’ at the building of the Fabrika Cultural Centre, while the new installation, as a connection of visual arts, architecture, digital and new media art and stage design will be a natural follow-up of this work.

While the art collective Karkatag writes modern history of visual arts on exterior parts of the objects in Creative District, an audio-visual interactive installation *Dark Room* by one of the most successful Serbian artists, Vladimir Lalć, is intended for open spaces. Within Lalć’s installation, the first Serbian laureate of the Prix Paul Louis Weiller Award of the French Academy of Fine Arts, upon the recommendation of the famous painter Vladimir Veličković, visitors enter a dark space of art that they illuminate with the light of mobile phones or flashlights. In shining light on the drawings, visitors will at the same time project them, opening a game of light and proportion (size). Within the installation, as a space of introspection and interaction, it is also possible to improvise on musical instruments.

Multimedia centre ‘Led Art’ and their performance *Art Sale* play an important role of space in visual arts. The performance includes two activities: the first is ‘New Spaces’, which problematizes the lack of existence of adequate gallery spaces and spaces where young artists can work; the second is ‘Art Hucksters’, which includes trading works of art and objects. Everything is allowed – bargaining, bartering, etc. It’s a continuation of the traditional ‘Total Art Sale’, a performative act that thematizes the (non)existence of a market for fine arts.
A kind of open-air gallery in the area of Great Liman is also establishing a new art space. The beginning of the 21st century is a period of the culmination of liberal capitalism, a period in which the ruthless use of people prevails because big capital seeks to subordinate complete human potentials to its own philosophy of profit. In such conditions, art and artists search for adequate answers. Those answers will be the theme of the Quo Vadis Mundi? exhibition, organised by the ‘Bel Art’ Gallery in cooperation with the ‘Novi Sad – European Capital of Culture’ and the City Administration for Construction Land and Investments of the City of Novi Sad.

At yet another unconventional and highly frequented Novi Sad location near the Creative District, audiences will be treated to the International Biennial Of Student Photography – The Best Of 2022, organized by the Academy of Arts in Novi Sad. The exhibition presents the best works shown in past Biennials, from 2007 to 2020. The programme will be complemented by a visiting international artist, who will present their work and hold a workshop with photography students at the Academy of Arts in Novi Sad. On this occasion, Reiji Yamada, a Japanese artist, will visit Novi Sad and the Kaleidoscope of Culture. She will present her work that has been awarded multiple times and will also conduct a workshop titled The Found Photograph with photography students of Novi Sad’s Academy of Arts. In the world of artistic photography, Yamada is known for presenting herself as a subject, because she believes it’s the best way to get to know herself and others and face her own problems. That’s why the artist uses masks, costumes and scenography so as to identify with people she talks to and experience their stories as her own. The international biennial will also feature a unique pavilion which will add to the very installation and the concept of viewing author photography.

In the context of brilliant young artists, it is necessary to mention cooperation with young representatives of contemporary art practices and European institutions. With this in mind, one of the most prestigious institutions in the field of development and experiment of transmedia art within new art media – Ars Electronica. For the second year in a row, within the Kaleidoscope of Culture, in cooperation with Ars Electronica and the Center for the Promotion of Science, a call is being launched at the national level for young and emerging artists working in the field of contemporary art practices. The winning work by the students of the Academy of Arts in Novi Sad, was exhibited at the opening of the Kaleidoscope of Culture. In addition to Ars Electronica, the cooperation with the Secretariat for Culture of Lower Austria on the exchange programmes of students and young professionals in the broad field of art and networking of institutions of the independent cultural scene of these two cities is also emphasized.
ALTERNATIVE STRIDES OF THEATRES AND YOUNG CREATORS OF FILM HERITAGE
The strength, weight and courage of theatre and film art are already outlined in the days of the opening of the Kaleidoscope of Culture, through alternative forms, i.e., young creators who look at film heritage in a completely new way. Within Kaleidoscope of Culture, theatre as a combination of performing and visual arts communicates with audiences at new and unusual locations for theatre, which gives a whole new perspective to social issues it deals with.

Renowned European and regional theatres have been visiting Novi Sad for two years now, in cooperation with the International Festival of Alternative and New Theatre – INFANT*, while in the title year, the Burgtheater, the most eminent Austrian theatre, will give our city a European dimension.

An art process that began within the Fortress of Peace we now find in the Kaleidoscope of Culture – Kiosk Of Memories**, a project inspired by the kiosk K67, created by Slovenian designer Saša Janez Mehtig, who served as a symbol of modernisation, progressive design and technological changes in the former Yugoslavia. After the performances, dramaturge Maša Seničić will choose the best of the collected stories (recorded in audio and/or video format), which will be reworked into an experimental documentary drama to be directed by the project’s author, Milana Nikić. The final event, a play/performance, that asks questions of the role of the collective in creating individual memories, the bearer of which is K67 itself, will take place within the opening week of the Kaleidoscope of Culture, at the site of Great Liman.

As theatre within the Kaleidoscope of Culture opens new horizons of this art form, young filmmakers from Novi Sad connect with their colleagues from the region and Europe and their cinematography practice within the film festival Obnova of the ‘Filmium’ association. This young film festival, that fosters the heritage of the seventh art, builds the capacity of young filmmakers in Novi Sad and develops audiences with their selections, emerged within the Kaleidoscope of Culture. Fostering the seventh art and its capacity building started within this festival in 2020. At the site of Great Liman, this large, open-air film festival brings diverse, quality films that have been shown in European film festivals, and creates a new space for Novi Sad’s film workers, artists and the broadest possible audience. Special emphasis is placed on European film, despite the cultural hegemony of Hollywood. The festival has multiple sections: Restoration (three restored films from the territory of the former Yugoslavia); Winners (six films that received prizes at the previous year’s European festivals), Documentaries, and Debuts.
ARCHITECTURE WEEK. CREATIVE DISTRICT.
After the Kaleidoscope of Culture’s opening week in Great Liman, the first week is dedicated to architecture through exhibitions, panel discussions, workshops and other content. The importance of architecture can be seen during all five weeks since one of the chief ideas of the programme implementation is for it to be spread across the city, at cult locations and renovated spaces. An example of activating and developing new spaces is a call titled ‘New Places’, which for four years now have been improving small urban units intended for local communities, with the goal of further bringing cultural content to all parts of the city through Kaleidoscope of Culture. This whole idea is of great importance for the architecture week and is done in corporation with both citizens and experts, i.e., the Association of Novi Sad Architects. Through ‘New Places’ project, the European Capital of Culture promotes the culture of togetherness through new spaces dedicated to cultural content across the city.

The central event in Architecture Week is Biennial Of Stage Design, that will connect European, regional and local young professionals and students through continuous work with the already established experts and professionals from these fields. The festival gains particular prestige thanks to our international partners, including the ‘Prague Quadrennial’. ‘Biennial Of Stage Design’ is a platform that promotes, advances, stimulates, develops and refines creative and professional work in all areas of design, technique and technology, production, realization and promotion of theatrical projects and stage events in general – particularly those behind-the-scenes skills and trades without which stage events would be impossible. All this is done on a location that preserves and fosters a hundred-year-old industrial heritage that gained new value through design and architecture. In addition to theatre, this exceptional biennial of stage design will include various formats of nontheatrical and artistic practices in stage design. The central event will be three major exhibitions from the spheres of theatrical, nontheatrical and artistic practices in stage design.
10/9 – 16/9/2022

PERFORMING ARTS WEEK. KORZO.
At the beginning of each week, the kaleidoscope of culture introduces the city-stage to a new form of art and gives a completely new purpose to cult places in the city, while also reviving their history. Therefore, after the creative district, we come to the city centre and another cult Novi Sad place which matches European metropolises – a former pedestrian walkway, today the biggest city thoroughfare that will be stopped for one night.

For the purposes of culture, Korzo\(^n\), as a great concert of classical music under the open sky, stops traffic for one night at one of the city’s busiest boulevards and pushes the boundaries of performing classical music in the Mihajla Pupina Boulevard. Besides world famous local musicians, special stage and repertoire including very well-known pieces of classical music, Korzo also revives past times and becomes a new tradition of Novi Sad and one of the legacies that should continue to exist even after the title year, as a rarity which distinguishes Serbian Athens from the whole region and beyond. In previous years, the people of Novi Sad were blown away by the Vojvodina Symphony Orchestra, Robert Lakatoš, Rita Kinka and others. However, even in the time of the global pandemic, the online format of Korzo managed to bring joy to a broad auditorium with an online performance by the LP duo at the Petrovaradin Fortress. In 2021, Korzo returned to the Mihajla Pupina Boulevard, with world virtuoso Stefan Milenković, who became artistic director of the first City Concert Hall in the city upon returning to Novi Sad, and the celebrated Vojvodina Symphony Orchestra, under the baton of conductor Aleksandar Nikolić, reminding the audience why it is one of the most attractive cultural events in Novi Sad. Julian Rachlin, one of the most popular world violinists and violists will
join them on stage. This musician from Lithuania has an over three-decade-long career, during which he travelled the world as a violinist, violist and conductor, lecturer and artistic director. He performed with big orchestras across the world, while the audience and critics saw him as an emotional and energetic soloist, a leading one in his generation. Numerous awards testify to this, as well as the fact that Rachlin plays quite rare instruments – a 1704 Stradivarius ex Liebig violin and a 1785 Lorenzo Storioni viola. He is known for his cooperation with artists such as Vangelis. People in Serbia fell in love with Rachlin as one of the rare artists who visited Serbia during the 90s, and today, as a European Capital of Culture, we connect him with the greatest musicians of the past, present and future.

After Koryo, one of the best world piano duos, LP duo, visits Kaleidoscope of Culture within the performing arts week and multimedia concert Quantum Music and Beyond, organised by the Institute of Musicology SASA, taking place in Great Liman. The elegance of classic music, freedom of jazz and strength of rock and roll are synonyms for the music of Sonja Lončar and Andrija Pavlović – LP duo who will, together with artists, physicists, engineers and musicologists, prepare a multimedia concert of new singer-songwriter music for two hybrid pianos and quantum synthesizers, inspired by quantum phenomena and exploring fundamental questions of our existence.

New approaches and practices of performing arts continue to happen at different locations in the city and its surroundings, from Sremski Karlovci, Irig to Liman Cultural Station, where the Festival Of Chamber Music is going to take place. After great classics that dominate Korzo’s repertoire, this festival, organised by the Novi Sad Wind Quintet, turns to cooperation with contemporary composers, whose piece of music will be played for the first time within the festival. What’s particularly interesting and completely new to the local scene is cooperation with the Novi Sad DJ Aleksandar Korom, presenting classical music in a different light.

The combination of contemporary creativity with the preservation and promotion of national musical heritage is the project Pearls Of Serbian Solo Songs which presents the collected works of vocal lyrics by Serbian composers from the 19th, 20th and 21st centuries, to be performed by Serbian artist Tanja Andrijić, the professional vocal quartet Kraljica Marija Choir, young guitar artist Tijana Sojić, and pianist Miliyoje Veljić in Synagogue. In addition to the idea of preserving tradition through contemporary expression, the festival emphasizes education of young people, giving them opportunity to create and present their works to the audience. Speaking about national heritage, we come to the Night Of Novi Sad Bohemians. During this project, improvised taverns will crop up across the city, where actors sitting at the tables will narrate, through scripted dialogues and monologues, stories from the old days of Novi Sad, the Serbian Athens. The goal of this one-day event, organised by ‘Zeleni front’, is to draw attention to important figures that have left their mark in Novi Sad during the 19th and 20th centuries (Jovan Jovanović Zmaj, Laza Kostić, Miroslav Antić). Audiences will get a sense of atmosphere and ambience of a tavern, which at those times was a place where poems were written, political meetings were held, important business transactions took place – they were the main gathering place for prominent figures of the time.

The 2022 Gitarijada Of Vojvodina, which will not be held in the expected urban locations, but brings rock and roll sound to the football stadium in Kisač, relies on the obvious importance of space in creating and presenting art, as indicated by the entire Kaleidoscope of Culture, through setting new traditions and initiating new processes. The festival, which has two forms of stage performance: a competition and a revue section, aims to promote rock ‘n’ roll of both local and foreign scene. The competition is open to young, Emerging bands, while the revue brings some of the biggest names in the regional music scene. It is important to mention that the festival, implemented by the ‘Integra 21’ Centre for Preservation of Tradition, Advancing a Multicultural Society and Women’s Creativity in Novi Sad, goes beyond local and national frameworks, achieving cooperation with festivals from the region, including ‘HvehtiaFest’ in Košice and ‘Kapela Ružova’ in Bratislava, ‘Bedem Fest’ from Montenegro and two festivals in Hungary.

Within the week of performing arts, an interesting theatrical performance Birth of Christ awaits us. The performance is based on the works of the world-famous author Yukio Mishima. It is interesting that Japanese and Hungarian artists are participating in the performance, and that they will meet in Novi Sad, with the great support of the EU-Japan Fest Japan Committee partner. The performance talks about mutual understanding of different cultures in an unusual way, through music and body movement as universal languages, but also with an emphasis on the authenticities of three different cultures – Novi Sad, Japanese and Hungarian, and sends us the message of unity that today’s world desperately needs.
LITERATURE WEEK.
SUBURBIUM.

The two-day literary festival Booktown25 presents local and European, young and renowned authors, in a completely new way by opening debates and discussions and performing the written word outside the two covers. This two-day literary event brings together writers, critics, publishers, librarians and readers, as well as creators of other types of content inspired by or intertwined with literature. During the weekend, the streets below the fortress are abuzz with books, music and visual arts; most importantly, people spend time in live interaction with their favourite authors and performers, all in the spectacular setting of this restored baroque jewel. The Suburbium, as a weekend city of books, is divided into zones in which visitors can purchase books, records, souvenirs, refreshments, etc., and a stage area for appearances by musicians and winners of literary prizes, poetry and prose readings in different languages, discussions, children and youth programmes and film screenings. The need for such an event is made clear by the fact that Serbia has not a single literary festival known throughout Europe. In the title year, in the Booktown, we will also see the Macbeth, one of Shakespeare’s most famous works, which we are implementing in cooperation with the Serbian National Theatre. The event itself will be a real attraction considering the authentic locality of the Suburbium.
Following this positioning of the local literary scene in the European context and connecting with European authors who present themselves to the Novi Sad audience, the *Literature Night* was held for the first time in Serbia, as an event implemented in large European cities under the auspices of EUNIC (cluster of cultural centres of the European Union). The first year, it was implemented online due to the pandemic, and during 2021 it was located in the Suburbium of Petrovaradin Fortress. This literary event was started upon the initiative of the Novi Sad branch of the Institut Français in Serbia, part of a cluster of cultural institutions within the European Union – EUNIC Serbia, and the 'Novi Sad – European Capital of Culture’ Foundation. The heart of the event is a presentation of works of literature by writers from participating countries, which in the previous four years have been published and distributed in Serbia, in the Serbian language. The festival allows foreign cultural centres to ‘occupy’ the Suburbium over the course of the weekend, and in unconventional spots to present the latest literary achievements in their country through sessions of 10-minute readings and 30-minute conversations with the author (four times in the evening, between 6 p.m. and 10 p.m.). After reading excerpts from their works, the selected authors then speak with moderators, Novi Sad writers and critics, and the audience, in the intimate atmosphere of the Suburbium’s hidden corners (cafés, shops, public institutions, hostels, etc.), while the audience changes every hour. Along with the authors, actors from the Academy of Arts in Novi Sad will also read excerpts from works. The audience will move from place to place (with the help of a map of the quarter), choosing which reading and time slot they’ll attend.

The idea of setting up new practices is also in the focus of the *Literature Machine* project, which strives to interrupt the existing division of roles and positions, and to establish a new space of visibility and credibility for the contemporary literature of authors from the next generation, in collaboration with European artists and art networks. A bundle of offbeat literary events (literary parties, poetry reading ‘duets’, public discussions on the position will be dedicated to the newest voices in the local and international literary scene. The 'Mračna Komora' Association of Young Novi Sad Writers, in partnership with the Novi Sad – European Capital of Culture Foundation, founded the festival so as to link up with ‘VERSOPOLIS’, a large European network of poetry festivals, and thereby confirm Novi Sad’s place on the European literary map.

Creating new connections between the author and the audience is emphasized by 'Prosefest' – *An International Festival Of Prose*, implemented by the Cultural Centre of Novi Sad, will host the biggest names in world literature. The programme format features two writers each evening of the festival, in sections of 60 minutes, during which they read their prose and converse with the audience. Afternoon sessions will take place in Novi Sad’s secondary schools, while the evening sessions will be held at the Cultural Centre. The festival also awards the Milovan Vidaković Prize (named for a Serbian writer who, among other things, lived in Novi Sad); past recipients include Mario Vargas Llosa, Orhan Pamuk, Alberto Manguel and Peter Handke.

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BUY POETRY AT THE MARKET

Is poetry merchandise? That question is triggered by the outdoor performance Jukebox Poetry By The Kilo, implemented by the Šmiranti Actors Association in Novi Sad, envisaged as an outdoor performance in which poems will be read at a market stall at the request of the ‘buyer’. Three actors and one musician (playing accordion) will create a performance in which one of them plays the poetry seller, while the other two will recite a poem selected by the customer-pass-by-viewer from a list of a few dozen on offer. When the buyer selects the poem, they need to put a symbolic ‘payment’ into a box/hat/etc. so that the jukebox-actor will start the recitation. The goal of the project is to bring art (acting and poetry) to the most frequented places in the city – the farmers’ markets – so that people can experience it without going to a cultural institution. Likewise, art is presented as something valuable that has its own price, just like produce and other goods, thus challenging the illusory idealization and ‘romanticization’ of contemporary art.

In that spirit, why would only markets be a place for literature, when it could be the City Line. It is a multi-day, decentralized pop-up event that includes book promotions, a concert and an exhibition in various city locations, i.e., in different cultural stations. The idea comes from Novi Sad’s literary guidebook, an anthology of prose and poetry by 50 authors of different generations about Novi Sad’s streets, quarters, and urban areas. The book is a kind of homage to the city, a European Capital of Culture. Live promotion events of the guidebook are planned during Literature Week, in a diverse array of locations, including streets and cultural stations open to all. As a nod to Novi Sad’s thriving music scene, the programme will also promote local bands.

The Anthology of Poetry in Novi Sad, from the 17th century to the present day, edited by poet Jovan Zivlak and published by the Literary Association of Vojvodina, covers dozens of poets who work(ed) in the territory of Novi Sad. Parts of the anthology will be translated into English, German, Russian, French and other languages. In a similar vein, the Novi Sad – Poetry Capital includes 80 poets who have made Novi Sad a city of poetry. The New Story of Novi Sad from the Novi Sad Writers’ Society is an English translation of an anthology of contemporary Novi Sad prose displaying all the wealth of mature literature. Two other contest winners embody the spirit of decentralizing cultural content: A Breviary of the Streets of Novo Naselje, published by ‘Novo Kulturno Naselje’, and an integrated edition of the comic book Caesar’s Spy by renowned local comic artist Saša Jovanović, published by Bunker Creative Workshop. Both editions will be promoted, along with interesting discussion sessions, during Literature Week.

THE PROMOTION OF DIVERSE, QUALITY LITERARY EDITIONS by Novi Sad authors of different generations published with support from Novi Sad – European Capital of Culture 2022 (through an open call for financial support for projects in culture that make a positive contribution to Novi Sad’s contemporary scene in the areas of publishing and translation) will also enrich the Literature Week programme, while also promoting Novi Sad as a European Capital of Culture. The public will have a chance to talk with the authors and to discover the English translations of the novels Noćna projekcija (Night Projection) by Oto Horvat (Akademska knjiga) and Stalna postavka (Permanent Collection) by Miodrag Kajtez, and the poetry collection Osjetljeno je slabo (The Lighting is Weak) by Jovan Zivlak (Adresa) in English. Furthermore, an anthology on the history and cultural life of Novi Sad called Novi Sad, Zemlji raj (Novi Sad, Earth Paradise), implemented by museum advisor Lidija Mustedanagić and professor at the Faculty of Philosophy in Novi Sad Sava Đamjanov, will be presented.
VISUAL ARTS WEEK.
GALLERY SQUARE.

24/9 – 29/9/2022
IN THE PREVIOUS TWO YEARS, THE GALLERY SQUARE HAS POSITIONED ITSELF AS ANOTHER ICONIC LOCATION IN NOVI SAD, AS A CENTRE OF VISUAL ART, WHICH IN THE FUTURE WILL BE TURNED INTO A SPACE FOR NURTURING EXISTING AND CREATING NEW VALUES.
The central event of Visual Arts Week is Sava Šumanović And European Realism Between Two World Wars* exhibition. Šumanović’s works between the two world wars will be presented in Novi Sad for the first time, with a focus on his work in France. This exhibition will not only present a Serbian painter whose work has reached European frameworks and who can justifiably be said to have brought the artistic language of European cubism to Serbia, but also the cooperation of key cultural and educational institutions and organizations – the Pavle Beljanski Memorial Collection, Sava Šumanović Painting Gallery in Šid, Rajko Mamuzić Memorial Collection Gallery of Fine Arts, Institut Français in Serbia, Collection Gallery of Fine Arts, Institut Français in Montparnasse, where he studied under André Lhote and befriended Rastko Petrović, Modigliani, Max Jacob and other artists. The influence of Cubism is apparent in this and later phases of his oeuvre. Although public and critical reception of his work is tepid at first, his influence is enormous – it can be said that Šumanović brought the language of European Cubism to Serbia. His rich work, which only showed some of the possibilities of the great artist, was interrupted by his suffering during the Second World War, and today his paintings are for many a synonym for modern painting. The Sava Šumanović and European Realism Between Two World Wars' project consists of two parts: an attractive exhibition and an international scientific congress. The exhibition will be shown simultaneously across four museums, while the two-day scientific congress will take place at the Pavle Beljanski Memorial Collection and the Sava Šumanović Painting Gallery in Šid.

Bring Life To Parks And Music is a side programme complementing the exhibition and featuring a concert in front of the Gallery of Matica Srpska that will bring together the arts of film and music, including a presentation of silent films from the period between the two world wars.

At once a kind of counterpart, in terms of free and bold artistic expression and reaching the European framework of our artists, is the Exhibition of works by Dragoliži Raša Todosijević*, one of the most significant living Serbian artists of performance and video art installation. The exhibition is implemented by yet another of the city’s major institutions, the Museum of Contemporary Art of Vojvodina. Raša Todosijević is one of the main protagonists of the Belgrade conceptual art group that included Marina Abramović, Erë Millavjević, Neša Paripović, Zoran Popović and Gergjel Uzkom. In the early 1970s, at a time of empty and uncritical modernism, this group began using new media, video, performance and art actions in order to question the structure and functionality of existing practices, as well as society as a whole. Later their work would crystallize under the name New Art Practice. Todosijević represented Serbia at the 54th Vienna Biennale of contemporary art with the exhibit 'The Light and Dark of Symbols', for which he won the international UniCredit Venice Award, the first and only award received by the Serbian pavilion at this renowned event. His first solo exhibition at the Museum of Contemporary Art of Vojvodina will feature politically and socially critical works that challenge traditional artistic tendencies and society as a whole, with a focus on researching various media and techniques – from performance, interventions, video art, installations and ambient settings, to the problematization of the medium of painting and painting technique as such. Pieces for the exhibition come from the collections at the Museum of Contemporary Art of Vojvodina, as well as those belonging to the artist himself.

The world dimension, in terms of connecting and networking artists, in the week of visual arts is seen in the cooperation of Novi Sad artist Dejan Iljić and Japanese artist Shu Kobayashi in the project Metroplex 2022 – 2122* at the future cultural centre in Novo Naselje. The project includes shaping and spreading the cultural and artistic consciousness of the citizens of Novi Sad. Through the evolution of a futuristic image of work at the future Cultural Centre in Novo Naselje, as well as life in and around it, virtual models will open the doors of Japanese culture and art to the local community (and vice versa). The artists and their vision are in agreement that, in the century to come, Japanese technology will become dominant for all of civilization. The project’s goal is to demonstrate, through a technical-technological symbiosis between the Serbian and Japanese cultures, the practicable potential for an intercultural dialogue of exchange. By applying AR (augmented reality) technology at the planned site for the Cultural Centre, residents and guests alike will have the opportunity to experience a completely different approach to cultural-artistic content during the Visual Arts Week, where artwork opens up the possibilities for new performance ideas that further the decentralization of culture and art, thus greatly contributing to the creation of new audiences.
One of the key partners of the Kaleidoscope of Culture in the week of visual arts, especially from the aspect of the work of young artists, is the Association of Fine Artists of Vojvodina and cooperation with the Academy of Arts in Novi Sad in the project *Move In Code*. The project, implemented for the first time in the Gallery Square within the Kaleidoscope of Culture in 2021, is based on the research of digital media pictures containing different images based on pixels or vector graphics, with the goal of popularizing new media art practices. In the technological sense, the topic is code, whose content emits a kind of process, movement or action that borders on the visible, intuitive, experienced. The functionality of a moving image is determined by certain codes, programmed inscriptions, sensors, etc. The exhibition will be held in an urban space, and take the form of simultaneous working stations for visualization. The displayed models of these visual dynamic tools, which allow for further control and directing, have emerged as part of a team effort by young artists and programmers (with expert collaborators Bojan Novaković, Ana Vrtačnik and Vukašin Šoć).
APPLIED ARTS WEEK. SPENS.
During the Applied Arts Week, the Spens Building – Novi Sad’s landmark monument to daring design and the urban prosperity of the 1980s – becomes a centre of applied arts and brings together the design community of Serbia and the region, with numerous examples of European design practice.

Design Week Novi Sad will include group and solo exhibitions, spatial installations, workshops for artists, interested residents and children, and lectures by the biggest names in world design, and other content. This kind of design pavilion started in 2019 within the Kaleidoscope of Culture at another unexpected location – the Railway Station. Afterwards, it was moved to SPENS, where for two years now it has been a zone of education and inspiration for young generations of designers and other visual artists as their “window to the world”, giving them a chance to show their work to the professional public and the general public and to connect with colleagues from abroad.

Design and the creative industry are fields of constant change. That’s why, in addition to formal education, it is important to create a system that offers informal transfer of knowledge and direct distribution of information. This is precisely what the Design Week project initiates, firmly based on the extensive experience of the project founders, as well as the network of participating organizations and individuals working in the field. In selecting the venue of SPENS, which is not intended primarily for exhibitions, we erase the distinction between viewer and participant, the nonaudience and the audience. The viewer becomes a participant, and the non-audience becomes the audience. The result is a democratization of design and an increased awareness of its meaning in shaping everyday life, which is one of the goals of the project.

Design Week Novi Sad, implemented by the ‘INK Fest’ Association from Novi Sad, comprises over 10 programme that will take place at SPENS, the Railway Station, and Egység and Svilara cultural stations. Some of the most significant programmes are: the PDP Conference of Creative Media, which for 13 years has brought together designers, illustrators, architects and visual artists, and whose 14th year will take place as part of Design Week Novi Sad; ‘Balkancase’, an interdisciplinary exhibition that promotes the most important designer creations from the past five years in the Balkans; the ‘Graphic Art Pavilion’, which exhibits 70 works by renowned graphic artists from at least 25 European countries under the title of ‘Allstars’, and at least 10 works by young, emerging artists chosen by an expert commission through an open competition, shown in the ‘Supernovae; Better Together’ Selection, a programme unit focusing on connection and exchange with European design festivals; and the ‘Kidsroom’ children’s area, which engages the youngest audiences.

While ‘Design Week Novi Sad’ strives for modern design tendencies and the latest trends, the Biserna Grana (The Pearled Branch) festival deals with traditional design in the best sense of the term: national dress, jewellery and headdresses. This unique event, implemented by the ‘Mladost’ Institute for Culture and Education Cultural Centre in Futog, includes concerts, a national dress revue, a procession of festival participants, a five-day workshop, exhibitions and publication of a photography monograph in digital form.
SLET – ALTERNATIVE HISTORY OF EUROPE

ORGANISER: Youth Theatre
PARTNERS: Viva Dance Academy, Odin Theatre (Holstebro, Denmark), ZID Theatre (Amsterdam, Netherlands), Fundus Theatre (Hamburg, Germany), A Oficina (Portugal)

ECOUTE/EXPANSION

PARTNERS: Théâtre de Rungis, La Briqueterie CDCN in Val-de-Marne, Hexagone National Theatre in Meylan, CDA in Enghien-les-Bains, Académie Fratellini in Saint-Denis, Université Paris Lumière (UPL), MSH Paris Nord and Université Paris 8 (CICM Musidanse) The preliminary research laboratories benefited from Circus Research Aid from the French Culture Ministry (DGCA), The Val-de-Marne Department in France, French Institute in Novi Sad

CARMEN

4 SEPT 2022 / GREAT LIMAN AREA
ORGANISER: Serbian National Theatre

DAYS OF UTOPIA

2 – 3 SEPT 2022 / CREATIVE DISTRICT, PETROVARADIN FORTRESS – TUNEL’ CLUB
ORGANISER: CMOK Civic Association
PARTNER: ‘Voice of Youth – Go Radio’ Civic Association

DRAGON’S FUEL

2 SEPT 2022 / CREATIVE DISTRICT
ORGANISER: ‘Horz’ Civic Association

TIME CAPSULE

1 – 4 SEPT 2022 / EGYSÉG CULTURAL STATION, SVILARA CULTURAL STATION, ‘LAZA KOSTIC’ GRAMMAR SCHOOL
ORGANISER: New Entertainment
PARTNERS: Viva Dance Academy

TANZ PLATZ

1 – 4 SEPT 2022 / CREATIVE DISTRICT
ORGANISER: Student Cultural Centre of Novi Sad
PARTNER: Aerowaves dance platform

AUTOKOREKT

1 – 4 SEPT 2022 / CREATIVE DISTRICT
ORGANISER: Karkatag Association

DARK ROOM

2 – 9 SEPT 2022 / CREATIVE DISTRICT
PARTNER: ‘Studentski Grad’ Cultural Centre (Belgrade)

ART SALE

1 – 4 SEPT 2022 / CREATIVE DISTRICT, ‘ŠOK ZADRUGA’ (SHOCK COOPERATIVE) GALLERY
ORGANISER: MULTIMEDIA CENTRE LED ART
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14 SEPT 2022 / VARIOUS LOCATIONS
ORGANISER: Zeleni Front
PARTNERS: BAG Theatre, Union of Student Organizations at the University of Novi Sad, Divadelně šváb

2022 GITARIJADA OF VOJVODINA
15 – 16 SEPT 2022 / FC TATRA STADIUM (KISAČ)
ORGANISER: ‘Integra 21’ Centre for Preservation of Tradition, Advancing a Multicultural Society and Women’s Creativity in Novi Sad

YUKIO MISHIMA: BIRTH OF CHRIST
12 SEPT 2022
ORGANISER: Novi Sad Theatre – Újvidéki Színház
PARTNERS: Serbian National Theatre, Youth Theatre, EU-Japan Fest Japan Committee

BOOKTOWN
17 – 18 SEPT 2022 / SUBURBIUM
ORGANISER: ‘Novi Sad – European Capital of Culture’ Foundation
PARTNER: EUNIC cluster

LITERATURE MACHINE
18, 19, 20, 22 AND 23 SEPT 2022 / SUBURBIUM
ORGANISER: ‘Mačna Komora’ Association
PARTNER: Beletrina Academic Press

‘PROSEFEST’ – AN INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF PROSE
19 – 23 SEPT 2022 / CULTURAL CENTRE OF NOVI SAD, NOVI SAD GRAMMAR SCHOOLS
ORGANISER: Cultural Centre of Novi Sad

JUKEBOX POETRY BY THE KILO
19 – 23 SEPT 2022 / MARKETS IN NOVI SAD AND ZONE 021
ORGANISER: ‘Šmiranti’ Association in Novi Sad
PARTNER: ‘Tržnica’ public entreprise

LITERATURE NIGHT
17 SEPT 2022 / SUBURBIUM
ORGANISER: ‘Novi Sad – European Capital of Culture’ Foundation
PARTNERS: French Institute in Serbia, EUNIC cluster

CITY LINE
17 – 23 SEPT 2022 / BULEVAR BOOKS
ORGANISER: Bulevar Books
PARTNERS: Bulevar PC and IN VIVO NS Agency

NOVI SAD’S LITERARY GUIDEBOOK
23 SEPT 2022
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OTHER?
EUROPE
EUROPEAN IDENTITY WITH ITS COMPLEXITY AND RICHNESS REPRESENTS A CHALLENGE FOR STUDY AND INEXHAUSTIBLE CREATIVE POTENTIAL. THAT IS WHY WE RE-EXAMINE THE DOMINANT VALUES OF EUROPEAN CULTURE AND ART AND DISCOVER OTHER EUROPE. IT IS A EUROPE OF ALTERNATIVE, MARGINALIZED, MINORITY, SUBCULTURAL, REBELLIOUS EXPRESSIONS, IT IS THE EUROPE THAT MAY NOT BE THE SECOND, BUT THE FIRST, FUNDAMENTAL, THE ONE THAT CREATES THE BASIS FOR ACTIVISM OF ALL ITS CITIZENS, AND WHICH IS BEST EXPRESSED BY A DIFFERENT CULTURE.

For centuries, a plurality of peoples, languages, ideas and values have competed, but also intertwined, on our old continent. The modern age has, on the one hand, led to an ever-greater increase in cultural plurality, while at the same time giving rise to new ideological strengths that have, in different ways, attempted to suppress, conceal or even destroy that plurality. We’re aware, therefore, that underneath the dominant expressions, there is a hidden, invisible, underground, secret, anti-elitist, rebellious, marginalized, minority, countercultural, alternative Europe of different values. This is the Europe that even today is underrepresented in maps, textbooks, small screens, official tourist guides, and which should become visible. Isn’t he different from you, your best teacher?

Other? Europe is part of the programme in Novi Sad, a multicultural city of punk, comics and the rebellious neo-avant-garde movement. Alongside the developed institutional and national culture, in the 1960s Novi Sad took its cue from certain elements of cultural life prior to the Second World War and became a recognized actor on the international scene in the areas of avant-garde, alternative, noninstitutional artistic, intercultural and media practices of the exchange and interpenetration of new ideas. At that time, for example, body-art performances – the most visible expression of opposition between the individual and the collective, the concealment and the exhibition of privacy – were more common than they are today. To this day, different locations in the city bear monuments to the passionate activism of the 1980s, led by young artists of the counterculture, culminating in an era of punk and new wave, with Pekinška patka (Peking Duck) and other iconic Novi Sad bands. 'Other? Europe' contains three programme units, through which we explore the art and cultural scene with aesthetic, ethnic, religious, sexual, political, racial, and value identities and beliefs that differ from the socially dominant.
THE ‘SUPERPOWERFUL’ PROGRAMME, THROUGH INCLUSION AND ACCESSIBILITY, ENCOURAGES EQUALITY IN THE CREATION OF CULTURAL CONTENT. IT PROVIDES A COMPLETELY NEW EXPERIENCE OF ART AND SHOWS THE CREATIVE SYNERGY OF MARGINALIZED GROUPS AND ARTISTS ACROSS EUROPE. THROUGH VARIOUS PROGRAMMES, WE SENSITIZE THE COMMUNITY TO ACT TOWARDS AN EQUAL SOCIETY FOR ALL.
ALL THE SENSES OF ART

ARE ACTIVATED WITHIN THE SUPERPOWERFUL AND SHOW THAT THERE ARE NO LIMITS IN CULTURE AND CREATIVITY. MORE THAN 10% OF THE TOTAL POPULATION IN SERBIA ARE PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES. THAT IS EVERY TENTH INHABITANT, AND AS THE POPULATION AGES, THAT NUMBER WILL BE EVEN HIGHER IN THE FUTURE. WE CAN ALL, IN FACT, GET INTO A STATE OF DISABILITY AS WE AGE. WITH THE DESIRE TO PRESENT PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES AS EQUAL AND ACTIVE MEMBERS OF SOCIETY, AS THE EUROPEAN CAPITAL OF CULTURE, WE HAVE FOCUSED ON INCLUSIVE PROGRAMMES THAT WILL SHOW THAT EACH OF US HAS SUPERPOWERS.

In Novi Sad, in 2003, a unique festival in this area, **Seize the Film** was created, which deals with changing the perspective on disability and people with disabilities. As part of the Capital of Culture programme, the Creative Affirmative Organization ‘Parnas’ will welcome guests from the country and abroad for the 20th time, and show short films from all over the world chosen by an expert jury with the participation of artists with and without disabilities and a rich accompanying programme. With a similar approach, a seven-day dance festival of the Per.Art Association will be implemented as part of a large four-year project of the British Council **Europe Beyond Access**

The central idea is to put artists with physical, sensory and intellectual disabilities in the spotlight, rather than on the periphery of cultural, artistic and social events. The re-examination of disability and inclusiveness in art is the founding idea of the Getting Familiar with **Cultural Heritage Using All Senses** exhibition of a selection of accessible artworks (sculptures, objects, installations, photographs, videos, digital animation, sound installations) from the collection at the Milan Petrović Primary and Secondary School’s dormitory, which includes elements that explore disability and inclusivity in art. The exhibition will be equipped with technological elements that adapt to the needs of people with sensory disabilities, thus making it accessible for people with and without disabilities, in the spirit of its slogan, ‘with all the senses’. The accompanying programme includes projections of video art, as well as the use of a mobile gallery placed in the city centre, where experimental workshops with the new Tilt Brush technology will be held. Also planned is an expert panel discussion, ‘Accessible Art – the Art of Accessibility’, guided tours of the exhibition, and music played using assistive musical devices. In addition to the quality of exhibited works, the project takes on a broader European dimension thanks to the involvement of a guest artist from the Czech Republic, Alžběta Bačíková, whose video art will be translated into the Serbian language and feature audio description.

The musical part of the concept of synergy of the ‘superpowerful’ will be complemented by the inclusive musical performance of the Good People orchestra, which consists of people with disabilities, together with famous musicians from Novi Sad and guests from abroad. The orchestra was created within the **Soundbeam** project whose goal was for people with disabilities to play with the use of special music devices based on sensor and laser technology supported by the IPA Fund. The idea was to acquire, or to advance special Soundbeam equipment that uses sensors to serve as a musical instrument for people with disabilities. The project also included performances, exchange programmes between children with disabilities from Serbia and Hungary, and train teachers from ‘Milan Petrović’ School and United Way Foundation from the city of Baja in Hungary for further creative use of this device.
‘Teach the World to Listen’ is the mission of the renowned British musician Evelyn Glennie, who perfectly embodies the idea behind the Superpowerful programme unit. Metaphorically speaking, this highlight programme of the ‘Novi Sad – European Capital of Culture’ Foundation in the spirit of ‘Others? Europe’ is an interesting combination: a supreme artist from a country that is recently outside the European Union, and an artist who is a representative of the minority community in Serbia, Mezei Szilárd. Evelyn Glennie’s lost her hearing at the age of 12 and performs barefoot so as to feel the music with her whole body. Today, she is one of the world’s leading percussionists, a five-time Grammy nominee and double winner (1988 for the best chamber performance and 2014 for the best classical instrumental solo). In 2015 she won the prestigious Polar Music Prize. Her work includes recording a duet with Björk, playing with numerous famous musicians such as Bobby McFerrin and Mark Knopfler, and performing at the Opening Ceremony of the Olympic Games in London in 2012. Contemporary composers create work especially for her; in Novi Sad she’ll perform Irish composer James Keane’s ‘Piece for Dance’. Evelyn Glennie will perform with Mezei Szilárd, a musician and composer from Senta who performs and composes contemporary improvisational music. In 2018, Glennie and Mezei recorded an album of improvised music called The Core-tet Project with two other excellent improvisers, Jon Hammersam and Michael Jefry Stevens. This will be their first joint performance within the Creative Embassies and Ambassadors project, whose goal is to connect great world stars with artists from Serbia. Prior to the concert at the Serbian National Theatre, Evelyn Glennie will hold a percussion workshop for a wide range of audiences from dancers and musicians, special educators, to music therapists. It is a type of workshop that Evelyn normally holds all over the world, with the aim of showing the wider audience how it is really possible to feel the sound with the whole body and thus provide a different perspective on the music experience.
THE THIRD DIMENSION OF ART

OF ONE OF THE GREATEST SERBIAN AND EUROPEAN PAINTERS OF REALISM, UROŠ PREDIĆ, WILL BE PRESENTED AT A LARGE EXHIBITION AND IN A SOMEWHAT DIFFERENT, ACCESSIBLE WAY, THROUGH 3D TACTILE MODELS OF HIS PAINTINGS, VISITORS WILL GET ACQUAINTED WITH THE MASTERPIECES. THE EXHIBITION ITSELF IS UNIQUE SINCE ONE OF PREDIĆ’S PAINTINGS, HITHERTO UNKNOWN TO FANS OF HIS WORK, WILL BE SHOWN TO THE LOCAL AND EUROPEAN AUDIENCE.

Examples of good practice are key to developing a truly inclusive society equal for all. The European Capital of Culture has brought a number of partnerships with European cultural institutions and operators, providing support in the development of inclusive art and culture of primarily younger audiences, for the concept of ‘art for all’. Using this inclusive approach, the Gallery of Matica Srpska will implement a unique exhibition *Uroš Predić for Everyone*. The goal of this large exhibition is to, for the first time, provide full access to all interested citizens with the works of art of one of the most significant national artists, Uroš Predić.

Reference institutions such as the Typhlological Museum in Zagreb, one of the few museums in Europe that systematically deals with the topic of accessibility, as well as the famous Viennese Museum of Art History (Kunsthistorisches Museum Vienna) and local stakeholders will share their knowledge and experience in the development of accessibility.

In Serbia, Predić is one of the perennial favourites, always drawing a number of visitors to museums and galleries. As we considered the idea of art for all, Predić seemed the ideal choice – partly because of his strong European dimension, and partly because of our work on audience development, as well as our goal to make an institutional gallery space totally accessible. In addition to the exhibited items, the exhibition’s value lies in the transmission of best European practices and the highest museological standards: professionals and all those interested will learn about the specifics of inclusive work with people types of disability, as well as ways of working with different age categories; adaptation of the space, materials and side programmes for children, youth and senior citizens. The exhibition will feature five tactile 3D models of Uroš Predić’s paintings, and will showcase the painting ‘Queen Natalija Obrenović’ (1890), which belongs to a private collection in Canada – the reason it has remained unknown to the Serbian public. As the central event of the 175th anniversary of the founding of the Gallery of Matica Srpska, *Uroš Predić for Everyone* will also become a template for the future creation of inclusive programmes and activities for all visitors.
THE MARGIN ART


Contemporary Art Brut art will be presented through an exhibition of local and foreign artists from the margins and a series of accompanying programmes in various urban spaces. This strong connection of different stakeholders aims at destigmatizing and empowering people who encounter difficulties in psychosocial functioning through art. The JAZAS Youth Novi Sad prepares the Art Brut project, where works for the exhibition will be created through nine preparatory workshops for members of marginalized groups, organized by Art Brut Serbia. The workshops will be led by artists from Serbia and abroad such as Aleksandar Denić, Dragana Nikoletić, Goran Stošićević, Katie Woznicki, Darko Brajković (Croatia), Samaneh Atef Derekshan (France) and many others. The framework of the project is the arrival of artist Tambet Tamm from Kondas Centre in Estonia, with personal assistance, and in cooperation with Tartu, European Capital of Culture 2024.

For the exhibition’s opening, an open workshop/performance of deep drawing is planned outside the Archives of Vojvodina. The location itself is symbolic: up until 25 years ago, this building in the centre of the city housed the Novi Sad prison. After the opening, the informal group Pleme F20 will hold its own workshop/performance, led by members of marginalized groups. Afterwards the programme will take the form of a party, in which bags with prints from the Art Brut workshops will be created, all accompanied by music and gastronomic treats.

In the wake of contemporary Art Brut within the Other? Europe programme, we will introduce you to the unusual painter Emerik Feješ (Osijek, 1904 – Novi Sad, 1969). Emerik Feješ becomes one of its most important representatives, living and working in Novi Sad, making and selling buttons. This artist, born in Croatia to Hungarian and Serbian parents, is the expression of Novi Sad’s multiculturality. This region’s most prominent artists would often paint cities in which they lived: Sava Sumanović, Bogdan Šuput and Milan Konjović travelled to and painted Paris, Münich, Prague… However, no other artist besides Emerik Feješ painted so many different European cities that he had never visited. After having left his trade due to illness, from 1954 onwards Feješ began to paint exclusively urban scenes. Poverty made it impossible for him to travel, so he viewed the world through postcards and photographs; he hoped that selling his paintings would earn him enough money to see in person the scenes from his imagination. Feješ painted with a toothpick, because he could not afford brushes, and instead of oil paints he used colours for buttons on leftover pieces of paper from a typewriter shoppe. And yet, in his painting there is a sense of the critical: he coloured his pictures as he thought they should be, sometimes enhancing famous European buildings with a tower or sculptural façade, so as to make them more “beautiful”. The art brut exhibition Europe According to Feješ, organized by the Struktura Centre for Sustainable Urban Development in partnership with the Museum of Naïve and Marginal Art in Jagodina will present 30 of his paintings from private and public collections. During the exhibition there will also be organized panel discussions on Serbia’s marginal art in a European context.

ERIK FEJEŠ, LJUBLJANA, GOUACHE ON PAPER, 1962-1965
The Art Brut family will be joined by children without parental care, including protégés of the Novi Sad SOS ‘Children’s Village’, who will present their work through inclusive art workshops and an exhibition called *Children of Bread* implemented by the Cultural Centre of Novi Sad. The exhibition will include works by a special guest Miloš Nenadović, a renowned artist with autism. Miloš started sculpting as a boy, using the middle of the bread. Symbolically, bread represents the equal need of all people for both food and creativity.

The creativity of the homeless as one of the most marginalized groups today will be shown through the project *Life* implemented by the ‘Snaga Porodice’ Association. Using the effective visual language of photography, the goal of this project is to enable greater social visibility and inclusion of the homeless in the local community. Through a series of psycho-social, health and creative workshops, as well as large actions of collecting cameras, led by experienced photographer Nikola Radić Lucati, Novi Sad homeless people will have a chance to present their creativity to the general public. The Belgrade photographer Nikola Lucati explores the intersections between history, human rights and culture through the lens of photography, text and sculpture.

In addition to a large number of people with disabilities, the poor and the homeless, one has the impression that in the media and public sphere senior citizens make up yet another marginalized social group. Through the creation of a theatre for seniors, the ‘Seniori’ Retiree Association, hopes to change our views and stereotypes of older people. The *Vintage Theatre* project actively includes older participants in its work; mostly they were born in the 1950s, but some in the 30s, 40s, and 60s. The founding idea of this enterprise is to engage the older population in artistic life through creative work and workshops in applied drama and theatre, culminating in a final performance. At the same time, through the artistic process, they will examine the rites of passage into old age, from both an anthropological-artistic perspective and that of contemporary society and culture. The final production will include a costume-fashion element, featuring costumes and fashion items designed specifically to examine and recontextualize the vintage fashion of older generations. Interactive parts of the performance will draw focus to themes of aging, loneliness, the position of the elderly in society, media propaganda and stereotypes of old age and the elderly.

The highlight of solidarity will be an inclusive festival of creativity *Play Day* that will bring together numerous organizations and institutions, including the ‘Ana and Vlade Divac’ Foundation, which deals with people on the margins of society, volunteerism and culture. Through a systematic programme including sport, social games, activation, art workshops and food preparation, it fosters an atmosphere of equality, solidarity and humaneness. Guided by the belief that play is the perfect instrument for cooperation between people from different social categories, *Play Day* demonstrates how central play is to people’s lives, while at the same time breaking down barriers and building community by involving various organizations in the field of social protection, art associations and the business sector.
We follow the chronology of a narration that speaks without many words. The development of the ninth art dates back to the time of the old, visual narration by which people left their mark in time, to modern comics that are clever commentators of society.

Today, a large number of Serbian cartoonists draw for large publishing houses such as ‘DC Comics’, therefore the character of Batman of this publishing house is created by local authors.

The exhibition attempts to show that the Serbian social and artistic elite have often had connections with comics, i.e. narration through pictures, as an effective means of expression, conveying information, creation and education. Also represented are major schools of comics, celebrated authors, comic strip centres, magazines, as well as processes of developing styles for which the Serbian school of comics will become known as a region of innovation, new ideas and avantgarde tendencies, and research into the ninth art. Creators of the exhibition take into consideration the culturological specificity of Serbian comics along with the universal aspects, as well as the aesthetic and poetic levels of creation. Rich in interactive elements and animation, the exhibition of two centuries of Serbian comics will, in addition to its informative character, entertain and engage audiences through diverse additional content, such as guided visits led by different comic authors, artists from other spheres, and public figures who are comics fans.

Comic book festivals are the undisputed guardians of comics, and that is why the ‘Novi Sad Comics Weekend’ is an unavoidable part of the Comic Book City programme. In its 16th edition, this festival of the Student Cultural Centre in Novi Sad will present the exciting world of various comic book authors through workshops, exhibitions, comic book exchanges and the accompanying music programme that will revive the city in its own way. However, a special part of this festival will be an exhibition dedicated to comic artist Saša Jovanović Fafner, known for guiding readers to virtual worlds under the pseudonym Max Von Fafner. The exhibition will be opened in the Museum of Contemporary Art of Vojvodina, which will bring the comic book to the local space of contemporary art for the second time, after the exhibition ‘Antibody’ by Zoran Janjetov in 2021. In addition to the large exhibition, Saša Jovanović’s latest comic ‘Caesar’s Spy’ will be included in the editions of the ‘Novi Sad – European Capital of Culture’ Foundation.

We will revive the Comic Book City with the gathering of contemporary world comics artists and comics experts (art historians, sociologists, historians) through the international ‘Remix Comix’ project. Although comics are considered a form of entertainment, careful observers know that they have always been a perfect medium for reflecting on various social tensions. From Spiegelman’s ‘Maus’ to ‘Alan Ford’, there is a whole range of comic books that have spurred readers to consider certain social issues. By bringing artists from festivals such as Tinta in Ljubljana, Nova Festival in Pančevo, Nextcomics in Linz and Lustr in Prague, we’ll present European trends and gather artists that are part of socially engaged, original comics worthy of the broad public attention. In addition to renowned authors, the ‘Comics, Heritage and Contemporary Art’ conference will give answer to, a key question: how can urban comics present, correct or even renew contemporary European cities and lead us to more socially just and sustainable goals? Part of the conference includes lectures, workshops and mural drawing presenting urban comics authors inspired by topics of the invisible cultural heritage of comic artists from different European cities.
WE GET A NEW DIMENSION AND REALIZE THAT COMICS CAN HAVE A SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT FORM. WE WILL TRANSFER THE BLACK INK ON ROUGH PAPER TO THE STAGE, BUT ALSO TO THE TAPESTRIES AS PROTECTORS OF CULTURAL HERITAGE THAT KEEP PACE WITH MODERN TRENDS. WE MOVE POPULAR IMAGES AND DIALOGUES FROM THE PANEL IN ORDER TO BRING THEM CLOSER TO THE YOUNGEST.

One exceptional example of such interpenetration between art forms and brilliant artists from different disciplines is Cat Claw\(^7\), a digitally designed theatrical adaptation of the first Serbian comic heroine, the creation of Novi Sad's Bane Kerac, one of the most influential contemporary comic book artists whose career has grown to global proportions (in collaboration with dramatist Svetozar Obradović). Cat Claw, aka Caroline Connor, is a comic book character created in the 1980s as a female version of the superhero; over time, as Kerac began to write his own text, he endowed her with elements of parody. The comic book was published to tremendous acclaim in the USA, France, The Netherlands, Norway, Turkey and other countries. The production will be directed by Michael Helmerhorst from the Netherlands, while the script is written by award-winning dramatist and novelist Uglješa Šajtinac. This innovative adaptation of the first female superhero draws attention to hidden and overlooked social problems and themes that emphasize gender equality, sexual exploitation and the powerlessness of systems. Using new technologies, a mixture of theatre and film, this play will bring comics closer to the youngest generations and develop a new audience interested in comics.

The exhibition Everyday Heroes\(^8\) represents yet another product of the synergy between different arts: a joining of the traditional visual art of tapestry weaving and the contemporary visual narration of comics. In this manner, it explores not only the possibilities of transposing comics as the ninth art, but also shows how through themes, singular poetics, use of new materials and weaving techniques, and the decomposition of tapestries, a visual experience is created – thus making this an independent artistic discipline, rather than any kind of subcategory of applied art. The result is a major exhibition of tapestries, implemented by Novi Sad’s famous centre for tapestry art, Atelje 61, the only professional and complex centre for tapestry weaving in the Balkans, and one of the rare institutions in Europe that fosters, systematically preserves, studies and popularizes tapestries. In addition to the exhibited tapestries, the artistic process itself will be on display through the application of modern technologies in the conceptual-creative process of creating a tapestry – from sketch to cardboard and loom, to the finished product. The exhibition will also include looms on which visitors can create one part/piece of a tapestry, thus gaining an awareness and appreciation for the specificities of tapestry weaving as an art structured by thread. Besides demonstrations on approaches to tapestry weaving through use of new, diverse materials, the programme also includes interactive workshops and lectures by Serbian and foreign artists, guided exhibition tours, video collages and a mobile application.

The Comic Book City will open its doors especially to children, and in addition to numerous workshops, the comics will be presented through the revival of the famous hero from the folk tale Baš Čelik\(^9\) in the opera for children! The fairy tale Baš Čelik was turned into a comic by the famous pioneer of Yugoslav comics, Đođe Lobačev, who managed to popularize it with his visual narration and make it an unforgettable part of growing up in Serbia. Opera will be performed by the ‘Visoko C’ Association from Novi Sad. Through eight paintings, the youngest audience members will have the opportunity to identify with the main characters, who with their love and commitment to true values will defeat Baš Čelik and the giants, and thus find happiness.
ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE MAINSTREAM

There are different cultural flows. The art of the underground develops beyond the view of the general public and therefore intrigues us. We will look at comics as a creation that can easily cross the boundaries of art and end up on the movie screen, but we will also pay attention to music inspired by comic aesthetics.

Comics are the inspiration for a music and film programme dedicated to common comic book themes, such as horror films or underground music. The Film Front international short film festival, implemented by the Kino Club of Novi Sad together with other partners, features a range of interactive content. The festival’s goal is to affirm young filmmakers and short narrative films, with special emphasis on those from Serbia and the region. The thematic portion of the festival programme, ‘Back to the Roots’, focuses on underground filmmaking. The slogan refers to the essential character of Film Front, which indeed has its roots in the underground milieu and maintains strong ties with independent music and comics scenes. The festival includes a programme of compelling films, workshops, performances and live music. A special segment, ‘Filmski frontić’ (Little Film Front), will treat children to the best short animated films inspired by comics.

An exciting music programme that will complete the Comic Book City is the Serbian Underground Festival, implemented by the Student Cultural Centre in Novi Sad. The festival promotes regional and local underground culture through music, fanzines and vinyl exchanges. In 2022, the marginalization of the ninth art has prompted the festival to entirely dedicate itself to a comics aesthetic. The festival guest is celebrated Macedonian composer and multi-instrumentalist Goran Trajkoski, whose work has left an indelible mark in the region, particularly with his bands ‘Mizar’ and ‘Anastasia’. In the 1980s, together with the band ‘Padot na Vizantija’, he introduced a new genre into rock music, combining gothic sound with vocals based on Orthodox singing – an original regional contribution to world music. With ‘Anastasia’, he reached global audiences, owing in part to compositions for Mileva Mančevski’s film ‘Before the Rain’ (Golden Lion at the Venice Film Festival, 1994).
WITHIN THE ‘SIDE B’ PROGRAMME UNIT, WE PRESENT A WEALTH OF DIFFERENT AVANT-GARDE AND ALTERNATIVE EXPRESSIONS, AS WELL AS EXPRESSIONS OF CULTURAL AND IDENTITY DIFFERENCES OR MINORITY POSITION. DEALING WITH ISSUES OF ALTERNATIVE THROUGH DIFFERENT GENRES AND LANGUAGES, WE WILL QUESTION SOCIAL VALUES THROUGH THE PRISM OF DIFFERENT CULTURES AND SUBCULTURES THAT ARE INSUFFICIENTLY VISIBLE. THROUGH NUMEROUS PROVOCATIVE PROGRAMMES, WE WISH TO RE-EXAMINE MULTICULTURALISM AND ENCOURAGE GREATER INTERACTION BETWEEN DIFFERENT CULTURES, WHICH ARE OFTEN MARKED BY MUTUAL CONFLICTS. WE POINT OUT THE REAL NEEDS OF VARIOUS MARGINALIZED COMMUNITIES, QUESTIONING CERTAIN ETHNOCENTRIC, BUT ALSO EUROCENTRIC CONCEPTS AND PERSPECTIVES ON THE WORLD.
Tell European culture in minority languages

Not only means symbolically fulfilling one of the basic cultural and political values of the European Union ‘united in diversity’ and built on the principles of multiculturalism and multilingualism, but also means actively creating the world as we have defined it as humans through the principles of tolerance and solidarity. In other words, it means constantly working to create a world that, despite the accelerated globalization and cultural hegemony of several dominant languages and cultures, would be a balanced, pervasive and tolerant community of cultures and identities, not a uniformed global culture shaped by the dominant one.

Created in the Habsburg Monarchy, which historians often call the prototype of the European Union due to its ethnic, confessional and linguistic diversity, Novi Sad is marked by the coexistence of different ethnic, linguistic and confessional communities, and in that sense it represents Europe itself. Just like in the history of some large European cities, the change of dominant cultures and languages has been a historical constant in the history of Novi Sad. In this respect, the dominance of one language or one culture is further relativized and impossible without its otherness, without the principle of tolerance in which all these languages mutually confirm and define each other. This multilingual and multiethnic element was especially developed in the period of socialist Yugoslavia, when national identity concepts as we know them today were overcome within the framework of a supranational state, in which the confessional moment did not play an important role. Although based on completely different ideological views and identity policies, the Habsburg and Yugoslav periods of Novi Sad largely defined its multicultural, multiethnic and multi-confessional character.

The Synergy Festival²², produced by the Novi Sad Theatre, should show how minority cultures can communicate through theatrical art, both with each other and with the dominant cultures. This international festival of ethnic and linguistic minorities was created in 2017 during the process of preparation of Novi Sad for the title of European Capital of Culture, with the goal of remaining a legacy project even after the title year. By gathering numerous minority theatres from Europe, the festival primarily focuses on the position of minority culture found in the identity patterns and cultural dynamics of dominant cultures and their languages. Although focused on issues of minority status, the festival shows that universal issues of human existence – love, social, linguistic or political speak through the minority culture or through the issue of otherness. The aim of the festival is to connect Novi Sad, as a multiethnic and multi-confessional environment, with other multicultural cities in Europe and thus enable long-term cultural cooperation. When it comes to reflecting on home, it’s important to examine without prejudice the horizon that makes up the community in which we live. For that reason, Cultural Centre ‘Mladost’ from Futog launches Vox City²³, a unique festival that gathers theatre artists who work with their local communities on various socio-political topics of significance to the community itself. The goal of the project is to publicly articulate, through the use of applied theatre, the real needs and interests of citizens and work for change in public politics. The audience in Futog will have a chance to attend six theatre productions and six public debates that follow them, as well as workshops by foreign artists for the local community and a concert by Polish musicians. Since understanding the minority cultures that surround us is impossible without understanding our own culture, it is necessary to constantly re-examine, explore and transform ways of preserving our own. Within the 6th ethno-summit TradicijaNova²⁴, implemented by the ‘Kolo’ Folk Dance and Song Ensemble of Serbia, the phenomenon of stage representation of folk dance will be explored, while professional ensembles from the region and Europe will introduce themselves. The programme will include workshops, roundtables and performances whose goal is to push the boundaries of performing arts and open up space for analysing roles of cultural heritage in the modern age.
The principle of coexistence, tolerant adaptation and openness to influence are present – perhaps more than in any dominant European culture – in Roma culture. Roma culture – centuries-old and mostly oral, nomadically elusive and open to the adoption of various cultural influences – is the culture of a population that, in its collective experience and imagination, on its traveling wheels and in its gypsy anthems, has entangled the whole of Europe and the world, defying in its own way the eternal marginalization. Due to systemic political and economic marginalization on the one hand, and due to cultural stereotypes and prejudices, i.e. ignorance of the Roma population and their culture on the other hand, it is necessary to influence such a situation politically, but also artistically – to get acquainted with the unknown, to communicate, to give, and not to take away the voice. That is why, through various programmes in the title year, we wish to present Roma culture as one of the integral elements of our cultural sphere. The most important Roma artists of today, under the curatorial guidance of Vladan Jeremić, will be invited to present their work through a multimedia exhibition that aims to stimulate discussion and reconsider the established views on this community. The exhibition is part of a wider project Šangaj Monodrome, implemented by the Intercultural Theatre III/40, which seeks to present the position of Roma in society through various artistic expressions and show that Roma men and women are a real bridge connecting Europe in a transnational way and that their culture is an example of connecting different influence, despite marginalization and isolation. Therefore, one of the works in this exhibition will be inspired by the bombing of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in 1999, when Šangaj, a part of Novi Sad that is predominantly settled by Roma, and which is located near an oil refinery, was particularly affected. The video work of the Roma artist Zoran Tairović will present authentic stories of the inhabitants of Šangaj about the act of bombing and the post-traumatic life of the inhabitants of that local community. In an artistic way, more precisely through the applied theatre, the position of the Roma community from Šangaj will be seen by drama pedagogues from the Centre for Theatre Research in Novi Sad through the project Cultural Capital for All. The project seeks to empower the Roma population and encourage them to ask questions about their social position through interactive and theatrical activities. One of the programmes that strengthens the Roma community, striving to engage and encourage the younger part of the community to take action, is the musical My Voice Travels by the ‘Grove’ Association from Novi Sad. Through hip-hop music, the project strives to give them the opportunity to create a contemporary musical through workshops and perform it in different locations, especially in smaller communities. Participants will have a chance to master the elements of music production, rap, writing lyrics, singing, stage movement and dance under the mentorship of hip-hopper Milan Sisojević Kendi and director Serge Denoncourt from Canada. Contemporary Roma art production presented through this programme will have an emancipatory character and will represent a current platform for self-education of the Roma community.
ON THE MAP OF NEW WORLD COORDINATES AND PERSPECTIVES

In the title year, perhaps for the first time ever, Novi Sad will become an important cultural nexus where relatively new scientific discourses and new culturological approaches and opinions on today’s world will cross paths through artistic expressions and public debates. Thus, within the ‘Side B’ programme unit, the question of minority politics will be put into context of a broader identity and theoretical issue of otherness, the eurocentric (colonial) perspective will be faced with postcolonial ideas, while the sole presence of artists and programmes from non-European countries will automatically begin to question the distant other.

Thus, the typical (intra)European multiculturalism of Novi Sad and its minority groups will be put into context of multiculturalism on a global level, which has been for centuries strongly influenced by (post)colonial processes, migration politics, geopolitical crisis of global proportions, as well as technocratic and digital revolutions. Having in mind that multiculturalism of our world is not a historical question but a historical fact, we should think of a framework within which we could ‘live multiculturalism’ in the most equal and solidary ways, covering all domains of life and creativity, instead of denying it. Since world’s multiculturalism is not a state, but a cultural-historical process, and an interactional one at that, it’s necessary to always think about cultural influences that have existed and still exist and go in two directions; not only about those that came from Europe, but about the ones that came from other continents, shaping Europe. It’s only through this two-way process that true egalitarian multiculturalism is achieved. On the heels of these questions and themes, a renowned Belgrade festival of engaged film ‘Slobodna zona’ (Free Zone) will deal with the phenomenon of European colonialism through a prism of cultural-political, economic and technological questions. The Free Zone Compass will combine films and debates, with screenings of a diverse range of films that broaden horizons, encourage intercultural understanding and contribute to the promotion and better understanding of personal and minority rights, as well as add to thinking about the concept of a race, nation and class. On the heels of such reflections, the programme of the festival raises more specific questions on the role of technological progress in colonial undertakings, the existence of certain forms of digital colonialism within cyberspace, culture as a means and excuse of colonial practices and discourses, as well as problematics of cultural-political and economic sovereignty of former colonies. The debate programme will be held in cinemas after the end of the screenings, where the audience will be joined by numerous philosophers, culturologists and social analysts from the country and region, in order to discuss together relevant questions and issues of colonialism.

Going from one cultural context to another, familiarizing ourselves with the culture of the other and overcoming mutual stereotypes, our goal is not only to get to know better the other and the different, but ourselves too. Contribution to one such search is the Japanese-Serbian Film Festival, founded on cultural exchange between Japan and Serbia through a specific model of programme presentation, learning and practice. In the title year, the festival will be organised in Novi Sad, with guest Japanese actors/actresses and directors. There will be four thematically divided groups of activities: sound (multimedia exhibition), sight (film programme), body (performance), mind (panel discussion, workshop, lecture). The festival will also gather representatives of eminent European organisations with a similar agenda, such as Nippon Connection Festival (Frankfurt, Germany) and casting platform Duart (USA). Three visual artists from Novi Sad, Timişoara and Eleusis (European Capitals of Culture) will give us another interesting perspective of the other and the different through the prism of Asia. In the Svilara Cultural Station, they will present their point of view of Japan within the European Eyes on Japan project.
Moving from the domain of film to the domain of music, but remaining on the same intercultural task, the programme of the European Capital of Culture will bring the world music festival *Pocket Globe*, implemented by the Belgrade association ‘Ring Ring’, to the Serbian National Theatre in the title year. Performance of the Turkish musician Erzincan and Iranian-Kurdish musician Kayhan Kalhor, who has won two Grammy awards so far and who has performed with the greatest world musicians such as cellist Jo-Jo Ma, will be a great opportunity to not only hear music, but experience the near and far orient that we are, paradoxically, both near and far away culturally and historically speaking. Thus, within the programme of the European Capital of Culture, the Serbian National Theatre, founded in the 19th century with the central idea of preserving national identity, will become the theatre of interculturality, a place where cultures from across the world meet and interact. In addition to the Turkish and Iranian-Kurdish performers, the audience will have the chance to see other interesting performers such as Damir Imamović (Bosnia and Herzegovina) and Bab L’Bluz (Morocco, France), as well as lectures and workshops on the theme of understanding cultural differences. From world music, we continue our journey to North America, the cradle of jazz that has gone from marginal to popular musical expression – and back. Europe gladly accepted jazz, perhaps because it represents a fusion and intertwining of cultures, connecting different styles, polyrhythmia and improvisation. The well-known *Novi Sad Jazz Festival* by the Cultural Centre of Novi Sad will gather jazz performers, orchestras and big bands of different influences and sensibility in the title year, including musicians from Dudelange, Luxembourg (Jérôme Klein and Boris Schmidt), Kaunas, Lithuania (Veronika Chi-Chi and Kestutis Vaiginis) and Novi Sad (Lav Kovač and Marko Đurčić), who will present their music project that emerged through artistic residencies in all three cities. The rich accompanying programme of the festival includes presentations, exhibitions and jam sessions.
If there is one person on the art scene of Novi Sad that has, through their work, connected a relatively distant culture with our local, Novi Sad context, it’s Mitar Subotić Suba (1961–1999), one of the pioneers of electronic music who gained world fame by changing the sound of traditional Bossa Nova in Brazil. Today, when Latin American sounds have begun to dominate the current European and world scenes, it becomes clear that his journey of connecting Brazilian music tradition with (then) new European tendencies is of great importance.

Suba’s visionary spirit will be felt in Creative District through an interactive exhibition, as well as a concert held by Brazilian artist CéU who, just like Suba, experiments with electronic music and traditional Brazilian music. Suba’s plateau will be enriched with a contemporary sculpture dedicated to his cosmopolitan spirit. Suba, as perhaps the most interesting musician born and educated in Novi Sad, brought the new sound into modern music of Yugoslavia as a producer and composer, but into the Brazilian tradition of Bossa Nova too. That’s why the project Suba: Novi Sad, organised by the Association for the Promotion of Contemporary Art Music ‘New Ears’, will present the work of Mitar Subotić in all music genres and types of engagements he worked on, from music to theatre, from electronic music to Bossa Nova. Suba’s music and opus will be presented through several forms: listening to music he produced, watching video clips and documentaries about Suba and book promotions that deal with his life and work.

The project encompasses three programme units: the ‘Suba Room’ – an interactive installation and multimedia exhibition that will familiarize visitors with Suba’s works prior to his departure for Brazil in 1990, as well as artefacts connected to his life and work; ‘Wiring Open Spaces’ – the space of Creative District and Mitar Subotić Suba Plateau will for an entire day be wired with the cult composition The Dreambird (1986) which he created together with Goran Vjevoda and which received a UNESCO prize for its contribution to culture; and the last segment is titled ‘Production’ – introducing the CD ‘Suba Before Suba’ and themed posters. The music of Mitar Subotić Suba is not labelled by a single sound or genre, nor does it belong to one cultural space. In this period, Suba’s Novi Sad will echo with cosmopolitan rhythms.

By nurturing the tradition of the avant-garde, ‘Novi Sad – European Capital of Culture’ starts the title year with the play Zeniteum :: 2022, whereas the closing of the year will be dedicated to European and Novi Sad avant-garde. The famous artistic expressions and content that will be recreated in the space of Creative District include the ones that belong to the project Invisible Art: Intoxicating Youth of Modernism by the ‘Family of Clear Streams’ association. The idea of the ‘invisible art’ connects trivia, everyday life and intimacy, with an esoteric perspective from which we can observe all of this. This kind of approach to art is related to the idea of democratization of art, which should not be a matter of privileged elite, but a living and accessible practice. The programme will include presentation of the life-long project ‘Family of Clear Streams’ by neo-avantgardist Božidar Mandić through a play ‘Intima’, screenings of films ‘Lestvica’ and ‘Umetnost šume’, participatory performance ‘Komunikativni kanap’ and a series of other programmes. This project also encompasses an exhibition of works by Slobodan Tišma in the period from 1972 to 1977, analogue photography exhibitions of Vladimir Červenka and Nebojša Milijašević, ‘Invisible Art/36 x blue’ a work of video art by Čedomir Deša, accompanied by Philip Glass’ Glassworks and performed by Branka Parlić. Introducing Novi Sad neo-avantgardists through this project will start with the concert of one of the most famous bands from Novi Sad – ‘Obojeni program’. By partially relying on the tradition of the neo-avantgarde, the international multimedia exhibition of the Museum of Contemporary Art of...
Vojvodina titled Milky-Way⁴, selected by curator Sanja Kojčić-Mladenov, introduces the work of avant-gardists, conceptual artists and engaged artists who dared and were able to look at this world from a different perspective. Conceived as a large international exhibition of contemporary visual art, this exhibition will include works by artists and artistic groups from Novi Sad, Serbia, the region and the international art scene, throughout history, while also including relevant contemporary art practices. The exhibition’s open format involves the integration of various research into media, process and interdisciplinarity, performance and collective action, interventions in physical and digital space in several locations, as well as discussions with critical ponderings.

In order to further problematize and fill in our understanding of contemporary art, Milky Way will also exhibit works by celebrated contemporary artists Bill Viola, Ulay and others. American Bill Viola is one of the leading contemporary artists who since the early 1970s has been exploring potential new media and the emergence of video as a mass means for creation. He has had shows at nearly all of the world’s prestigious museums and galleries, including MOMA, the Tate and the Whitney. His creative expression has developed in close context with experimental film, Fluxus movement, avantgarde music, performance art and postmodern dance. The work of conceptual artist Ulay, Irritation – There is a Criminal Touch to Art (1976), will be shown in cooperation with the Ulay Foundation from Ljubljana. The German artist Frank Uwe Laysiepen (1943-2020) is one of the pioneers of performance, body art and Polaroid photography. His work is known for his long working and personal relationship with Marina Abramović, with whom he created, between 1975 and 1988, an influential artistic opus in the area of performance.

In his films, he has refused to obey political and cultural patterns and taboos for decades, drawing inspiration from current social issues and people from the margins. Thus, the central role in his award-winning film ‘Marble Ass’ was played by Vjeran Miladinović Merlinka (1958-2003), the first publicly declared transgender person in Yugoslavia. The Merlinka – Festival of LGBT Films and Culture⁵ was named after Merlinka, protesting the position of LGBT people through engaged film, theatre and exhibitions. The festival will take place within the ‘Side B’ programme unit. The main idea of the festival is to contribute to removing taboos of the LGBT community and to improve their position in society, primarily in terms of increasing their media and social visibility. In the title year, Novi Sad audiences can view screenings of 20 short live-action and documentary films from different countries, all featuring LGBT themes, made during the past two years, and shown at festivals in Cannes, Berlin and Venice. Other parts of the festival include an exhibition of LGBT works by European photographers, performance of the plays ‘Strah od leptira’ and ‘Femkanje: šta se desilo sa pokondirenom tikvom’, as well as promotion of LGBT books available in Serbia. The event contributes to the promotion of different and alternative artistic expressions, practices and culture, as well as promotion of the LGBT community through art. The programme of the European Capital of Culture was inspired by another film by Želimir Žilnik, More specifically, artists from the ‘Aps Art’ Centre for Theatre Research were inspired to do a brave art experiment – to make a documentary theatre with women on the margins, inspired by the cult ‘Black Film’ by Želimir Žilnik. New Black Film⁶ set itself an equally experimental, provocative but also solidary task, such as Žilnik’s bringing of a homeless person into his home in ‘Black Film’, in order to find a solution to his problem. By involving and directly connecting students of the Academy of Arts and citizens with women on the margins, the project seeks to remove, at least in an artistic sense, the borders, obstacles and walls that make them socially marginalized. Isn’t this act of artistic solidarity even more necessary today, in the period of neoliberalism and dehumanized principles of the market hiding behind patriarchal power structures, than it was in the period of socialist Yugoslavia? This

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**DISCOVERING THE BLACK WAVE FILM POETICS OF ŽELIMIR ŽILNIK**


**PHOTO: J. REIFS**
drama art experiment will be transformed into documentary video material and screened in Creative District and unconventional spaces. Inspired by a portion of native film heritage, artists of the ‘Mafin’ association started a festival of experimental film in 2016, titled *Experimental superstars*[^1], which will introduce works from this field of art during the title year. The genre focus of the festival is on short, abstract film forms that explore the possibilities of film language and communication by visual means. Additionally, a music video that uses film language and offers innovative connection of music and visual forms is going to be promoted too. Promotion of experiments in video art will happen through screenings of films chosen in a call for video works, workshops and lectures.

[^1]: Experimental superstars
In the Creative District, audiences will have the chance to view a dramatized version of her life and work through the play *Katalin*, implemented by the National Theatre in Belgrade, with the wish to give power to female voices in contemporary theatre creation, thematizing the position of women from different perspectives. On the other hand, Art Body Art project will allow us to see the extent to which the contemporary art scene relies and builds on the work of Katalin Ladik, that is, what is the impact of her work today. The Art Body Art exhibition, organized by the Association of Fine Artists of Vojvodina, answers this question and presents the phenomenon of the body through different attractive and provocative multimedia art forms by artists from Europe, Japan and Serbia. Audiences will be presented with the situation regarding new media art practices through works by Tanja Vujinović from Slovenia, which deals with avatars, protomachines and the synthetic Other, installations by Japanese artist Mariko Hori, Norwegian Stahl Stenslie’s explorations of ordinary ways of perceiving, and electronic art by Zane Cerpiņa from Latvia. Various exhibition events will also present several artists from Serbia (Nenad Glišić, Vuk Ćuk, Sanja Andelković, Isidora Todorović and others), curated by Jelena Guga, a theorist of new media and art from Belgrade. Works within this exhibition will present an artistic experiment that uses body as its medium, new materials and technologies, spatial and ambient representation. In the wake of pioneering artistic research of the body as an artistic medium and modern new media thematization of the body, one of the projects of this programme unit deals with what is in a sense an inseparable part of the body in our civilization – clothing, i.e., fashion. Alternative fashion is a form of self-expression that calls into question what is considered appropriate and socially acceptable. In order to get acquainted with fashion as a visual expression that opposes social norms in a specific way, in the windows of the Creative District as well as across the city, the audience will be able to see how subculture, especially subculture in Novi Sad, responded to socio-political circumstances in which it appeared. The *Alternative in the Shop Window* project by Tijana Popović-Pješčić and Mila Popović (‘Reka’ Association), award-winning designers, known for their alternative approach to creating clothes, will present in ten windows stylized clothing combinations complemented by accessories or pieces of clothing from private collections of citizens and collections of cultural institutions, in order to show the development of alternative movements in Novi Sad that make up local cultural heritage. The exhibition is going to be accompanied by debates with expert guests who will speak about subculture movements as part of cultural heritage.

That’s why the famous To be Punk festival is going to be part of the European Capital of Culture programme, introducing the punk scene of the region (Slovenia, Croatia, Northern Macedonia, Montenegro) and beyond (Italy, Northern Ireland, the United States, Canada and Japan). Thus, the punk scene will become part of a large cultural programme, while retaining the festival framework and elements of its original rebellion, whose fundamental characteristic is existing despite or alongside the dominant cultural trends while questioning their values. Within the title year programme, punk will also be present in a different cultural and literary meaning – as cyberpunk, a subgenre of science fiction in a dystopian futuristic setting combined with elements of high-tech society. Controversial Brazilian musician Edgar builds his poetics and performing aesthetics on moments like these. By combining science-fiction with journalism and poetry, Edgar deconstructs our clichés into a surreal and fictional verbal mosaic, throwing raw reality in the listener’s face. Edgar comes from the favela and addresses issues such as interpersonal relations in society, the environment, technology and consumption of goods, and uses recycled materials to make clothes he wears during his performances. As a musician-nomad, he travelled the whole Brazil, and in the title year, he is coming to Novi Sad.
In a similar experimental setting, an Ensemble for New Experimental Music within the 2K+45 project of the ‘Miloš Crnjanski’ Cultural Centre of Vojvodina will introduce themselves. Through public performance, this ensemble will present a concert of compositions with audio scores, which are one of the achievements of contemporary music production and a step towards expanding performance possibilities. This method, which contains elements of composing and improvisation, and is impossible without electronics, belongs to electroacoustic music. The audio score itself implies a sound, instead of a written source (sound body), enabling the ensemble to perform the composition. Austrian composer Elisabeth Schimana will be the project guest. Together with the Ensemble for New Experimental Music, she will perform her piece or a version of a piece from the ‘Virus’ cycle and give a lecture on this new approach to composing and performing music.

Since this programme unit is conceived as a reactualization of alternative or marginalized artistic heritage, i.e., the connection between contemporary art production and that heritage, the literary part of the programme will be dedicated to the promotion of that part of the literary scene that could become heritage in the future, even though it might not be talked about enough today. With the goal of promoting relevant literary scene, both Novi Sad and regional, the ‘Novi Sad – European Capital of Culture’ Foundation has supported a large number of literary works that’ll be promoted within the programme.

Among these are two books by the ‘Mračna komora’ association that give an international dimension to local and domestic poetry. Thus, the poetry of eight best poets born after the year 1978 will be published in English translation within the ‘Escape Routes: Anthology of Poetic and Visual Culture of 21st century Novi Sad’ publication, while younger authors will find themselves in the ‘TraNSporters: Poetry in Languages’ publication of poetry. The young poet and critic Branislav Živanović, member of the Prelom Civic Association, will present the anthology of poetry from Novi Sad’s newer generation, which includes authors who published their work in printed media and who have influenced the relevant dynamics of Novi Sad’s literary scene, whether in terms of form, content or engagement in a social context. In addition, the young literary critic Dragan Babić will present a panorama of prose writers from Novi Sad’s so-called Generation Y (born in the 1980s), entitled ‘The Last Atari Generation’, published by Zenit Books. Audiences will also have the chance to attend a presentation of ‘Iz izvora blikših strasti’ (‘From Sources Close to Passion’), published by Kulturanova Association, ‘From Behind the Barricades’ edition. It’s a collection of poems by Slavko Matić – founder, singer and songwriter for the punk-tamburitza group Zbogom Bruce Lee. In order to bring closer and help the mapping of new art practices, the ‘Novi Sad – European Capital of Culture’ Foundation supported the publication of ‘How to Understand New Art Practice’, a Serbian-English illustrated guide to new art practices in Novi Sad for young people, published by the Art Box creative-education centre. This is a unique dual-language map for moving through Novi Sad’s art practices – an illustrated conceptual puzzle, whose content emphasizes the most important conceptions, ideas, concepts and authors, and draws attention to alternative artistic expressions, such as performance, artistic action, exhibiting and interventions in non-gallery spaces. This publication will be presented within an interdisciplinary exhibition and performance #Meaning of Home_2022 re-examines the meaning and symbols of home by asking whether social networks have become a kind of home to us, whether the meaning of home had lost its ethnic
specificity in the context of globalization, what is the perception of migrants and homeless persons in today’s societies? Supporting the young and alternative contemporary literary scene through the publication of multilingual anthologies, does not mean that the literary dynamics is encompassed in its entirety. One of the more alternative literary disciplines that marked the Novi Sad scene in the past couple of years are slam poetry nights – a relatively new genre of poetry that’s been attracting more attention in Serbia and the region lately. Slam is a form of oral literature which is an inseparable part of reciting and improvisation on stage. It is poetry whose textual form has been replaced by the color, power and distinctiveness of voice, noise and everything we hear while emotions and ideas travel to their linguistic expression. Having primacy over the written version, the recited slam version of a poem turns conventionality, possible censorship conformism and caution of ‘written’ poetry to directness, vulgarity, brutality and removing taboos. All this serves as a basis for a truly alternative, unconventional and critical poetry, which exists in Novi Sad thanks to the poetry organization ‘Poetarijum’. At Poetarijum’s slam poetry evenings, the audience greatly influences the very performance, since slam stage doesn’t have its conventional fourth wall – instead, the audience applauds, interrupts the performance with laughter, intrusions or whistling. Thus, poetry becomes a performative thing created under the uncontrolled and unconventional influence of both the audience and the poet. The Slam Championship of Serbia, as well as a roundtable discussion on Novi Sad’s neo-avantgarde in a European context will take place within the Literary Machine project by the ‘Mračna komora’ association. As part of the European Capital of Culture, this network of alternative literary associations connected with the great European network of poetry festivals ‘Versopolis’, in order to secure Novi Sad’s position on the European literary map.

BY CONNECTING ‘SIDE B’ AND ‘SIDE A’

as well as European and local cultural histories, European and our own, native customs and ideas, we create a somewhat complete image of ourselves, of Europe, and above all – of us as a part of Europe. Thus, Novi Sad as a European Capital of Culture, within the ‘Side B’ programme unit and also with its entire programme, will not only reaffirm (the forgotten) local and European heritage, but also encourage contemporary scene and its actors, its new streams, strength and inspiration. In other words, by merging the past with the future in the present moment, by connecting alternative and dominant movements, Novi Sad as a European Capital of Culture will give artists and audience, i.e., culture, an opportunity to define and explain itself, its past and what its wishes and goals for the future. This book is going to be a trace of that one-year ‘moment’ in time, when everything that we were meets, inspires and encourages everything we wish to become.
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ORGANISER: ‘Novi Sad – European Capital of Culture’ FOUNDATION,
PARTNER: EU-Japan Fest Japan Committee
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