

Ministry of Culture
Maistrova 10
1000 Ljubljana
Slovenia

Dear Madam/Sir,

I am very concerned about the current situation of the contemporary art scene in Slovenia. My colleagues and I have been informed about the lack of financial and structural support and the lack of constructive dialogue with the decision-makers on the side of Ministry of Culture.

Slovenian contemporary art is one of the most vital segments of the contemporary art scene globally as well as one of the most vital and reflective segments of Slovene society. I am aware that the great majority of contemporary art practices are realized in the independent, non-governmental and non-profit parts of the scene. The work of these organizations and individual artists is of immense value and meaning for the global art scene, and a sign of a developed, democratic society. Drastic cuts and the lack of a constructive dialogue with the players from the art scene around their common interests, puts in danger not only the further development of these scenes, but also its past achievements. If the Ministry of Culture strips the cultural scene as proposed this will be a destructive act that is almost impossible to cure in future times.

I hereby express my deep concern and disbelief related to the current events between the independent art scene and the Ministry of Culture. As a colleague and a long-term partner of the artistic associations and organizations in the independent scene, I am alarmed in the first place by the lack of procedures for funding, the expertise of Ministry's juries and other bodies, and the Ministry's lack of capacities to stand for the position of culture and arts in its own society.

I protest the current situation and appeal for:

- enlargement of the budgets for culture
- inclusion of the competent professionals into the vital decision-making processes
- re-structuring of the positions in the Ministry of Culture

With commitment and support to the art scene in Slovenia, I send my best regards,



Adrian Heathfield
Professor of Performance and Visual Culture,
University of Roehampton, London.