

Ministry of Culture
Maistrova 10
1000 Ljubljana
Slovenia

29/1/2018

Dear Madam/Sir,

I, Andrew Morrish, write to you to express my concern regarding the current situation of the contemporary, independent art scene in Slovenia. In particular I am concerned with the lack of financial and structural support for NGO's and the lack of constructive dialogue with the decision-makers in the Ministry of Culture.

Slovenian contemporary art is a vital and relevant segment of the contemporary art globally, as well as a vital and reflective segment of Slovene society. I am aware that the great majority of contemporary art practices are realized in the independent, non-governmental and non-profit part of the scene. In particular, in this scene, I have noticed an obsession with developing new ways of working, new structures for dialogue and avoiding the destructive conflict based methods of the past. It is ironic that this scene is now threatened by drastic cuts and the impossibility of a constructive dialogue. I am fearful that this situation puts in danger the further development of this scene, and its past achievements.

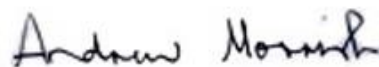
I express my deep concern regarding the current events occurring between the independent art scene and the Ministry of Culture. As a colleague and international partner of wonderful artistic associations and organizations in the independent scene from Slovenia, I am alarmed by:

- the lack of transparent procedures of funding,
- low levels of expertise of Ministry's commissions and other bodies,
- and
- the Ministry's lack of capacities to defend the position of culture and arts in its own society.

I protest over the current situation and appeal for:

- inclusion of competent professionals into the vital decision-making processes on Ministry of culture
- enlargement of the budgets for culture, particularly for the non-profit organizations
- re-structuring of the Ministry of Culture to achieve more coherent policies in relationship to the independent art scene in Slovenia
- beginning a dialogue with independent art scene in Slovenia
- an inclusive vision for development of cultural policies, with particular focus on the status of independent art.

Sincerely



Andrew Morrish
Independent Artist
morri@omeodance.com www.andrewmorrish.com