

Ministry of Culture  
Maistrova 10  
1000 Ljubljana  
Slovenia

Dear Madam/Sir,

I, the undersigned, Ramsay Burt, Professor of Dance History, De Montfort University, am informed about the current situation on the contemporary art scene in Slovenia. My colleagues and me 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 globally as well as one of the most vital and reflective segments of Slovene society. We are aware that the great majority of contemporary art practices are realized in the independent, non-governmental and non-profit part of the scene. The work of these organizations and individual artists are of immense value and meaning for the global art scene, and a sign of a developed, democratically framed society. Any drastic cuts, impossibility of a constructive dialogue and disconnection of the players from the scene into the processes of common interest put in danger not only further development of these scenes, but also its past achievements, creating discontinuity and drains that are almost impossible to cure.

We hereby express concern and disbelief related to the current events between the independent art scene and the Ministry of Culture. As colleagues and long-term partners of the artistic associations and organizations in the independent scene, we are alarmed in the first place by the lack of procedures of funding, 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 own society.

We protest over 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, we send our best regards,



Professor Ramsay Burt, Faculty of Art, Design and Humanities, De Montfort University, The Gateway, Leicester LE1 9BH, UK