

Prof. Dr. Gerald Raunig
European Institute for Progressive Cultural Policies
Zurich University of the Arts

With commitment and support to the art scene in Slovenia, we send our best regards,

I protest against 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

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.

Slovenian contemporary art is one of the most vital segments of the contemporary art in Europe 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 the further development of these scenes, but also its past achievements, creating discontinuity and drains that are almost impossible to cure.

For more than thirty years I am following closely the developments of the Slovenian cultural scene: from the rough climate of the 1980s to the multiple openings in the 1990s and 2000s that paved the ground for a flourishing scene in the 2000s well into the 2010s more and more coded by precarization. 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.

Dear Madam/Sir,

Zürich, 3 Feb 2018

Zürcher Hochschule der Künste
Department Kunst und Medien
Prof. Dr. Gerald Raunig
Telefon +41 43 446 00 00
gerald.raunig@zhdk.ch
www.zhdk.ch

Ministry of Culture
Maistrova 10
1000 Ljubljana
Slovenia