**VIS-À-VIS**

**Maribor Art Gallery collection** **and 49 Nord 6 Est – Frac Lorraine collection
UGM | Maribor Art Gallery, Strossmayerjeva 6, Maribor
21 April - 20 August 2017**

**opening: Friday, 21 April 2017, at 19:00**

Maribor Art Gallery, the second largest institution of modern and contemporary art in Slovenia, keeps a collection of artworks by significant Slovenian visual artists ranging from painting, sculpture, drawing, graphic art, photography, illustration, and video. The collection includes artists’ books and various space installations. It is composed of over 5,000 works of art in total.

As the collection is kept in depots and is not on permanent display due to a shortage of space, it is shown to the public only occasionally. Thus it is frequently reinterpreted and each time presented in a new light and a different context. Even though these various perspectives do not always provide the spectator with an in-depth view of the development of 20th - and 21st - century visual art in Slovenia, they offer something else: always a fresh, different, and original perspective. Desiring a specific artistic angle, over the past years the gallery has invited two external curators for collaboration: Dr Tomaž Brejc for the exhibition Summer in 2009 and, on the occasion of the sixtieth anniversary of Maribor Art Gallery, Dr Nadja Gnamuš for the exhibition 60! Panorama in 2014. On this occasion however, the present exhibition is once more entrusted to an “in-house" curator.

The exhibition entitled **VIS-À-VIS** establishes a relationship between works of art from the **Maribor Art Gallery** collection and the international contemporary art collection **49 Nord 6 Est – Frac Lorraine**. The latter is a collection particularly focusing on the works of female artists as well as on non-classical, non-material aspects of contemporary art. With the exhibition VIS-À-VIS, Maribor and Metz ally through artistic dialogues in different languages and in tackling different topics. The diverse artistic approaches generated from various time periods and geographical areas converge in many ways. Instead of answering questions, the exhibition broadens the integration of artworks, opens a space for new experience, and offers opportunities for deliberation and immersion. By pursuing universal aspects of the artistic message, it erases the apparent boundaries of language, space, and time.

PRELIMINARY INHALING … MOON … TOUCH OF EARTH … PRESENCE …

David Lamelas (ARG/FRA) and Marko Pogačnik (SLO) invite visitors to connect with their inner presence and provide a different view on the roles of the artist and of contemporary art in general ...

ME … OTHERS … IN TIME AND SPACE …

Through their own disappearing images, Roman Opalka (POL/FRA) and Ludvik Pandur (SLO) address the question of time, transience, metamorphosis, and surpassing of the physical ..., while in the photographs of Patrick Faigenbaum (FRA) and Stojan Kebler (SLO) Italian aristocracy and the people of Haloze engage in an intense personal dialogue ...

TURN … SOMEWHERE … ON A DAY IN APRIL ...

Zora Plešnar (SLO) and Fiona Tan (IDN/NLD) open doors to a different and unexpected experience of the real through a reverse perspective ...

BORDERS … OF LANDSCAPE … BORDERS … OF EXISTENCE …

By using landscape and an impermanent cloud form respectively, Nika Autor (SLO) and Marco Godinho (PRT) refer to the transience of the present existence, to boundaries and refugee issues …

LIGHT … SHADOW … REFLECTION … TRACE … LIGHT …

Sandi Červek (SLO), Jingfang Hao & Lingjie Wang (CHN/FRA), Oto Rimele (SLO), and Karin Sander (DEU) introduce a subtle and intriguing note by ushering light into the creative process and making the invisible visible ...

SILENCE … OF SIDE STREETS … SOUNDS OF METROPOLIS …

In finding their personal space of silence in the retreat of side streets or in the middle of a city jungle, Petra Kapš (SLO) and Mira Sanders (BEL) unassumingly invite the spectator to a different kind of perception ...

PLACE OF WORDS … WORDS … IN PLACE …

Claire Morel (FRA), Alen Ožbolt (SLO), and Sašo Vrabič (SLO) use, draw, write, cut, and preserve – words, creating a link between the visual and the literary …

WHERE I AM NOT … I TOUCH … WHAT I AM …

The works of Ivan Dvoršak (SLO), Zdenko Huzjan (SLO), and Marie-Ange Guilleminot (FRA) address themes of proximity, touch, solitude, abandonment, and the universal experience of being human, arousing diverse ambivalent emotions and reactions ...

BETWEEN PLAY AND CONCEPT … SPACE OF THE ARTWORK …

The creative work of Marco Godinho (PRT), Polona Maher (SLO), Alen Ožbolt (SLO), and Ian Wilson (USA) takes place between conceptual reflection and play, as well as paying attention to researching the space of the artwork ...

CONCEPT … ATTENDANCE … PART … ENTIRETY …

Álvaro Barrios (COL) and Simona Šuc (SLO) use a basic element (paper sheet or circle), which they multiply, compose, and string together into a whole, whether it is a conceptual model or a painting vision ...

The exhibition does not come to a conclusion at any point; one could rather say that with every theme it rounds up into a new whole. It is interesting to observe how, within each of the various themes, unintended connections become established and how at various points some kind of spaces of transition emerge, enabling a shift in experiencing and sensing. The dialogues among the artworks extend the range of individual works, creating new contexts and new ways of understanding, whereas the dialogues with the spectator provide an opportunity for a direct experience with various realities, poetics, and messages. The artwork thus opens paths towards a world, which indeed is always close to us, but, because of our narrow focus, we cannot perceive its existence. So art not only inspires but also provides an experience, which we would not otherwise enjoy. The exhibition wishes viewers to take some of their experience with them and deliver it − to the streets, to home, into being.

**Participating artists:** Nika Autor (SLO), Álvaro Barrios (COL), Sandi Červek (SLO), Ivan Dvoršak (SLO), Patrick Faigenbaum (FRA), Marco Godinho (PRT), Marie-Ange Guilleminot (FRA), Zdenko Huzjan (SLO), Hao Jingfang & Wang Lingjie (CHN/FRA), Petra Kapš (SLO), Stojan Kerbler (SLO), David Lamelas (ARG/FRA), Polona Maher (SLO), Claire Morel (FRA), Roman Opalka (POL/FRA), Alen Ožbolt (SLO), Ludvik Pandur (SLO), Zora Plešnar (SLO), Marko Pogačnik (SLO), Oto Rimele (SLO), Karin Sander (DEU), Mira Sanders (BEL), Simona Šuc (SLO), Fiona Tan (IDN/NLD), Sašo Vrabič (SLO), Ian Wilson (USA)

The exhibition includes some Slovenian artists whose works, presented here, are not yet a part of the Maribor Art Gallery collection, but ought to be included and are outlined in the future acquisition programme: Nika Autor, Polona Maher, Ludvik Pandur, Zora Plešnar, and Simona Šuc.

Argentinian artist David Lamelas is included in the 49 Nord 6 Est – Frac Lorraine collection but displays a work in the present exhibition that is not a part of the French collection. We sincerely thank him for lending us his work Do It.

**Kustosinja razstave:**Andreja Borin
**Postavitev razstave:**Andreja Borin in Simona Šuc **Oblikovanje:**Matej Koren Studio **Prevod:**Ksenija Vidic **Več o zbirki 49 Nord 6 Est – Frac Lorraine:**[www.fraclorraine.org](http://www.fraclorraine.org/) **Podobe za objavo v visoki resoluciji:**[Álvaro Barrios, El Mar Caribe, 1971 - 2004, prostorska instalacija, zbirka 49 Nord 6 Est – Frac Lorraine](http://www.ugm.si/fileadmin/dokumenti/Razstave/Srecanja_-_Rencontres/Alvaro_Barrios__El_Mar_Caribe__1971_-_2004__prostorska_instalacija__zbirka_FRAC_Lorraine.jpg)
[Fiona Tan, Dawnside Up, 2002, zvočni čb video, zbirka 49 Nord 6 Est – Frac Lorraine](http://www.ugm.si/fileadmin/dokumenti/Razstave/Srecanja_-_Rencontres/Fiona_Tan__Dawnside_Up__2002__zvocni_cb_video__zbirka_FRAC_Lorraine__2_.jpg)
[Mira Sanders, Silent China, 2007, zvočni video, zbirka 49 Nord 6 Est – Frac Lorraine](http://www.ugm.si/fileadmin/dokumenti/Razstave/Srecanja_-_Rencontres/Mira_Sanders__Silent_China__2007__zvocni_video__zbirka_Frac_Lorraine.jpg)
[Patrick Faigenbaum, Družina Sforza-Cesarini, 1986, čb fotografija na papirju, zbirka 49 Nord 6 Est – Frac Lorraine](http://www.ugm.si/fileadmin/dokumenti/Razstave/Srecanja_-_Rencontres/patrick_Faigenbaum__Druzina_Sforza-Cezarini__1986__cb_fotografija_na_papirju__zbirka_FRAC_Lorraine__2_.jpg)
[Roman Opalka, ROMAN OPALKA 1965 - , čb fotografija, zbirka 49 Nord 6 Est – Frac Lorraine](http://www.ugm.si/fileadmin/dokumenti/Razstave/Srecanja_-_Rencontres/Roman_Opalka__ROMAN_OPALKA_1965_-___cb_fotografija__2_.jpg)
[Sašo Vrabič, Pričakovati Karin, 2008, oglje na papirju, zbirka Umetnostne galerije Maribor](http://www.ugm.si/fileadmin/dokumenti/Razstave/Srecanja_-_Rencontres/Saso_Vrabic__Pricakovati_Karin__2008__oglje_na_papirju__217_x_101_cm__stalna_zbirka_UGM_Umetnostna_galerija__Maribor__2_.jpg)
[Stojan Kerbler, Deklica, 1976, čb fotografija na papirju](http://www.ugm.si/fileadmin/dokumenti/Razstave/Srecanja_-_Rencontres/Stojan_Kerbler__Deklica__1976__cb_fotografija_na_papirju.jpg)
[Zora Plešnar, Odsev 2, 1971, čb fotografija na papirju, last umetnice](http://www.ugm.si/fileadmin/dokumenti/Razstave/Srecanja_-_Rencontres/Zora_Plesnar__Odsev_2__1971__cb_fotografija_na_papirju.jpg)