

## 57. VENECIJANSKI BIJENALE BIENNALE ARTE 2017

V i v a  
A R T E  
V I V A

Text: Renata Poljak Photos: La Biennale di Venezia

Najveća međunarodna izložba vizualnih umjetnosti, Venecijanski bijenale, ove godine slavi svoje 57. izdanje te je svojom pozicijom i lokacijom dostupna i mnogobrojnim posjetiteljima Jadrana koji svoje trenutke provode na moru. U neposrednoj blizini istarskih marina, samo nekoliko sati udaljeno od srednjeg Jadrana, Bijenale čini idealnu dopunu vaše ljetne plovidbe i odlična je ideja za zanimljiv vikend na moru, uz opuštajuću atmosferu.

The largest international visual arts exhibition, the Venice Biennale, is celebrating its 57th edition this year and its position and location make it easily reachable to numerous visitors who spend their time sailing across the Adriatic Sea. Located near the Istrian marinas, just a few hours away from the central Adriatic, the Biennale is an ideal addition to your summer sailing holidays and its relaxing atmosphere makes it an excellent idea for an interesting weekend at sea.

Na što pomislite kada čujete riječ Venecija? Romantičari vjerojatno pomisle na jedan od najljepših gradova na svijetu koji se ogleda u svom odrazu, grad o kojem je Predrag Matvejević napisao jednu od svojih najdirljivijih knjiga, na mjesto vjenčanja poznatih i slavni. Drugi pomisle na karneval ili, pak, na Trg sv. Marka s kavanom u koju barem jednom u životu morate sjesti kako biste postali dio povijesti na petnaestak minuta. Za umjetnike, Venecija predstavlja Venecijanski bijenale, najvažniju smotru suvremene vizualne umjetnosti u Europi. Venecija je bila prva, a potom su uslijedile velike izložbe kao što su Documenta, Skulptur Projekte Münster te manja, ali ipak bitna, Manifesta (Europski bijenale suvremene umjetnosti). Ova 2017. je godina i Venecije, Documente i Skulptur Projekta. Venecija ostaje prva u tom nizu i za svakog umjetnika i kustosa označava krunu njegove karijere ili trenutak koji će njegovu karijeru podignuti na veću razinu. Venecijanski bijenale, kako mu samo ime kaže, održava se svake dvije godine, a ovogodišnja edicija, otvorena za publiku od 13. svibnja do 26. studenog

What is the first thing that comes to your mind when you hear the word 'Venice'? Romantics probably imagine one of the most beautiful cities in the world, reflected in its canals, the city that Predrag Matvejević wrote one of his most touching novels about, the location of celebrity weddings. Others imagine the Carnival or Piazza San Marco with its coffee shop where you have to sit at least once in your lifetime in order to become part of history, even if it is for fifteen minutes. For artists, Venice is represented by the Venice Biennale, the most important festival of contemporary visual arts in Europe. Venice was the first in row, followed by large exhibitions such as Documenta, Skulptur Projekte Münster, as well as smaller, but equally important Manifesta (European Biennale of Contemporary Art). 2017 is the year of Venice, Documenta and Skulptur Projekt. Venice remains the first in this series and indicates the crown event for every artist and curator's career or a turning point to take their careers to a higher level. The Venice Biennale, as its name suggests, takes place every two years, and this year's edition, open to the public from

Tina Gverović  
 Bodies and Things Lost and Found  
 2016  
 Gouache and acrylic on canvas, 190 x 280 cm  
 Photo: Ben Cain

Umjetnička direktorica Christine Macel nazvala je ovogodišnji Bijenale izložbom nadahnutom humanizmom

Biennale Arte 2017 is curated by Christine Macel who has called it an exhibition inspired by humanism



Neto Ernesto



Paolo Baratta and Christine Macel



Eliasson Olafur



Arsenal

pod nazivom Viva Arte Viva, predstaviti će 87 nacionalnih sudionika. Kustoski ju je osmislila Christine Macel koja je ujedno u organizaciji La Biennale di Venezia na čelu s Paolom Barattom. O ideji izložbe i temi Bijenala umjetnička je direktorica kazala: 'Danas, u svijetu punom sukoba i šokova, umjetnost je ono što svjedoči o najvrjednijem dijelu naše ljudskosti. Ona je temelj na kojem počiva mišljenje, individualno izražavanje, sloboda, kao i postavljanje fundamentalnih pitanja. Umjetnost je posljednji bastion, vrt koji treba obrađivati izvan trendova i osobnih interesa. Ona stoji kao nedvosmislena alternativa individualizmu i ravnodušnosti.' Kako bi se naglasilo da je umjetnost

13 May until 26 November, is titled Viva Arte Viva and it will present works by 87 national participants. The curator is Christine Macel, responsible for the organisation of La Biennale di Venezia headed by Paolo Baratta. The Biennale's artistic director commented on the idea behind the exhibition and the Biennale's topic: 'Today, in a world full of conflicts and shocks, art bears witness to the most precious part of what makes us human. Art is the ultimate ground for reflection, individual expression, freedom, and for fundamental questions. Art is the last bastion, a garden to cultivate above and beyond trends and personal interests. It stands as an unequivocal alternative to individualism and indifference.' In order to emphasize that art



ujedno i poziv na dijalog, za vrijeme cijelog trajanja Bijenala organizira se 'Tavola Aperta' gdje će, u opuštenoj atmosferi zajedničkog ručka, umjetnik imati priliku predstaviti svoj rad. Uz to je osmišljen i 'Artist Practice Project' u okviru kojeg će se na velikom LED ekranu prikazivati videoradovi u kojima umjetnici govore o svojoj umjetničkoj praksi. Formalni dio Bijenala održava se u parku Giardini di Castello s tridesetak stalnih nacionalnih paviljona (broj im se svake godine mijenja) te u prostoru Arsenala, koji je nastao kao dodatak Giardinima s fokusom na mlade umjetnike i umjetnike u sponu. Ta dva prostora su centar Venecijanskog bijenala, dok se niz crkvi, palača i trgova diljem cijele Venecije prekrivaju i pune umjetničkim intervencijama suvremenih autora. Nema tako podatnog grada kao što je Venecija za spoj staroga i novoga, za istraživanje i lutanje po ulicama i mostovima tražeći pritom prostore s radovima suvremenih umjetnika i otkrivajući nevjerojatne interijere i eksterijere. Na centralnoj izložbi u Giardinima, koja jedina ne funkcioniše po sistemu nacionalnog paviljona,

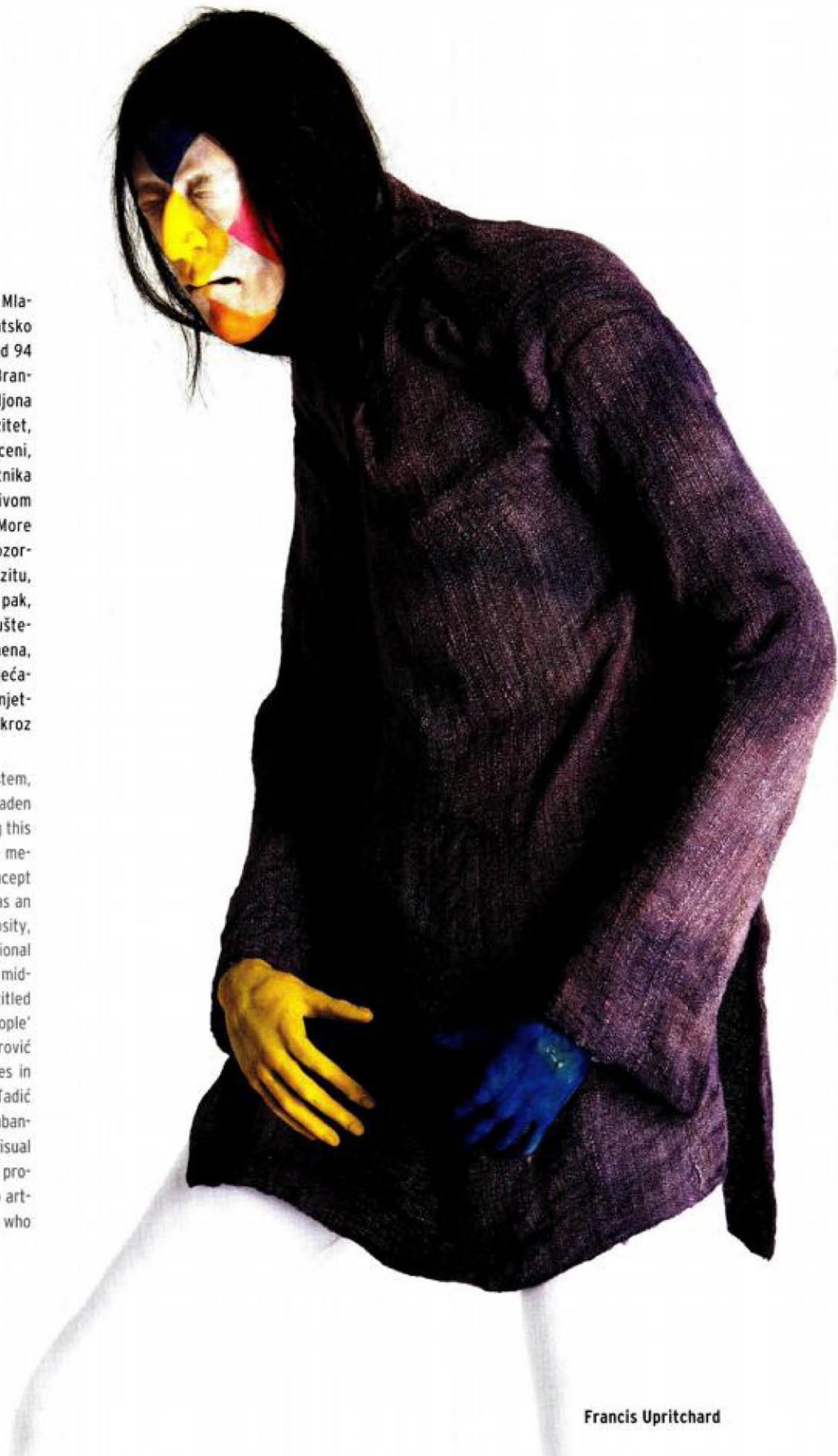


is also a call for dialogue, 'Tavola Aperta' will be organized during the Biennale, where artists will have the opportunity to present their work in the relaxed atmosphere of a joint lunch. Another interesting project is the 'Artist Practice Project', consisting of videos in which artists talk about their art practice, which will be shown on large LED screens. The formal part of the Biennale is held at the Giardini di Castello Park, where there are thirty permanent national pavilions (the number changes every year), and in the Arsenale, which was created as an addition to the Giardini, focusing on young artists and artists on the rise. These two areas are the centre of the Venice Biennale, and a series of churches, palaces and squares throughout Venice are covered and filled with artistic interventions by contemporary artists. There is no city as fit as Venice for linking the old and the new, for exploring and roaming the streets and bridges while seeking premises with the works of contemporary artists and discovering the incredible interiors and exteriors. The central exhibition at the Giardini, the

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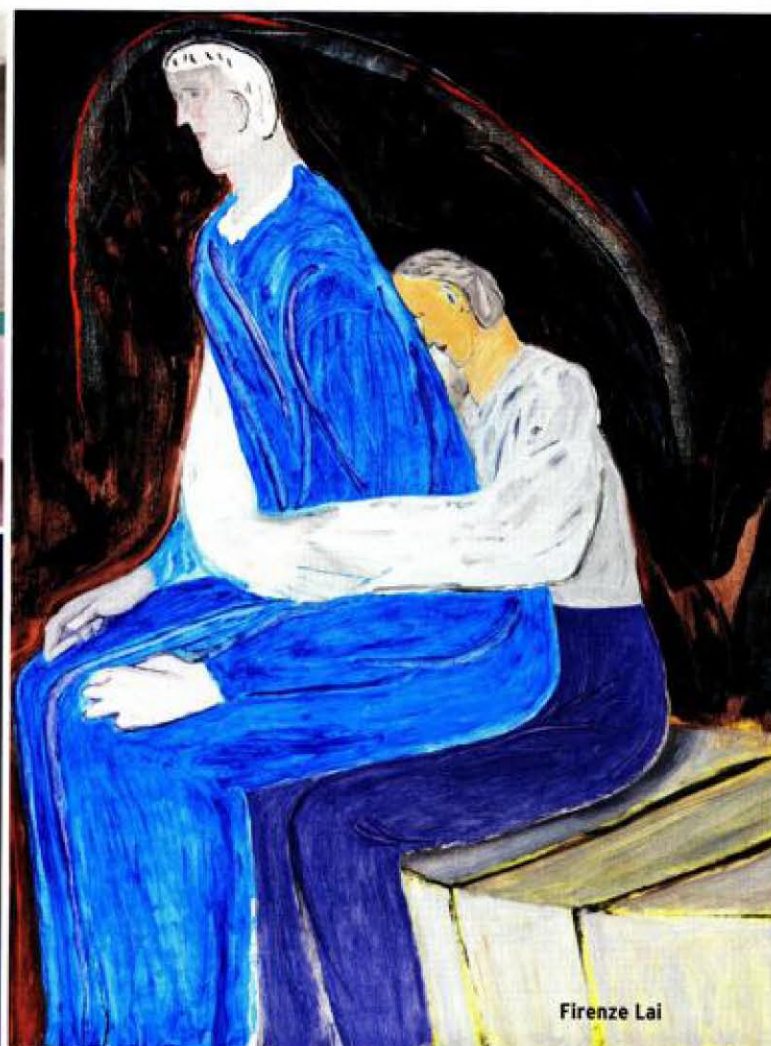
izlagat će 120 internacionalnih umjetnika, među kojima i Mladen Stilinović, nedavno preminuli hrvatski umjetnik. Hrvatsko Ministarstvo kulture, od ove godine, zakupljuje prostor od 94 kvadrata u prostorima Arsenala za kustosku koncepciju Branke Benčić, koja je izabrana za selektoricu hrvatskog paviljona kao nezavisna kulturna djelatnica. Branku odlikuju kuriozitet, stručnost i ustrajnost na hrvatskoj i internacionalnoj sceni, a odabrala je Tinu Gverović i Marko Tadića, dvoje umjetnika svoje, srednje generacije za zajedničku izložbu pod nazivom 'Horizont očekivanja'. U instalaciji 'Fantomaska trgovina: More ljudi', koja se sastoji od slika i predmeta, Tina Gverović pozornost usmjerava na povijest i materijalnost, tijela u tranzitu, kao pokretne mase ili geopolitičke subjekte. Marko Tadić, pak, razvija narativ labavo povezanih prizora uokvirujući napuštene ili zaboravljene lokacije, kao ostatke zamrznutog vremena, vizualnu panoramu koja lebdi negdje između povijesti, sjećanja i projekcija budućnosti. Kustoski izložba spaja dvoje umjetnika sličnih senzibiliteta, ali različitog polazišta koji se kroz

only one that does not function as a national pavilion system, will present works by 120 international artists including Mladen Stilinović, Croatian artist who passed away recently. Starting this year, the Croatian Ministry of Culture, will rent a 94-square metre space in the space of the Arsenale for the curatorial concept of Branka Benčić, chosen as the Croatian pavilion selector as an independent cultural worker. Branka is known for her curiosity, expertise and perseverance on the Croatian and international scene, and she chose Tina Gverović and Marko Tadić, two middle generation artists and her peers for a joint exhibition titled 'Horizon of Expectations'. In 'Phantom Trades: Sea of People' installation, involving paintings, video and objects, Tina Gverović explores different processes, history and materiality, bodies in transit, as moving masses or geopolitical entities. Marko Tadić develops a narrative of loosely connected scenes framing abandoned or forgotten locations, remnants of frozen time, a visual panorama suspended between history, memory and future projections. Curatorially speaking, the exhibition combines two artists with similar aesthetics, but with different starting points who



## Viva Arte Viva je izložba osmišljena s umjetnicima i radi umjetnika

Viva Arte Viva is an exhibition designed with artists, by artists and for artists



izlaganje u zajedničkom prostoru nadopunjuju na asocijativnoj i intelektualnoj osnovi. Baveći se temama neizvjesnosti, tenzija ili urušavanja, oni konstituiraju prostor koji propituje strukture izlaganja i percepciju promatrača. Od samog osnutka davne 1895., ideja Bijenala jest promicanje avangardne, nove umjetnosti, a jedan od glavnih ciljeva je uspostava novog tržišta za suvremenu umjetnost. Za to je nekoć postojao ured koji je posjedovao samo Bijenale, a danas se Bijenale poklapa s najvećim komercijalnim sajmom suvremene i moderne umjetnosti Art Basel u Švicarskoj. Naravno, nije samo novac u pitanju, u Veneciji se prvenstveno radi o velikom slavljenju umjetnosti te o demonstraciji njene moći. Ili, kako kaže Christine Macel: 'Viva Arte Viva je usklik, strastveni protest za umjetnost i za umjetnike.'

complement each other on the associative and intellectual bases in their joint exhibition. Dealing with issues of uncertainty, tension or collapse, they constitute a space that re-examines exhibition structures and observers' perception. Ever since it was founded in 1895, the main idea behind the Biennale has been promoting an avant-garde, new art form, and one of the main objectives is establishing a new market for contemporary art. An office owned exclusively by Biennale used to serve this purpose, but nowadays Biennale coincides with the largest commercial contemporary and modern art fair, Art Basel in Switzerland. Of course, it is not just about the money; in Venice, the focus is primarily on a great celebration of art and the demonstration of its power. Or as Christine Macel says: 'Viva Arte Viva is an exclamation, a passionate outcry for art and the state of the artist.'