

**Cheers to Women! 25 Years of Film and Video 24.9.–7.10.2019**  
**25. Mednarodni festival sodobnih umetnosti – Mesto žensk**

Curated by: Ana Čigon, Vesna Bukovec

Artists: Zemirā Alajbegović & Neven Korda,\* Nika Autor,\* Vesna Bukovec,\* Jasmina Čibic,\* Ana Cigon,\* Andreja Džakušič, Ana Grobler, Marina Gržinić & Aina Smid, Đejmi Hadrović, Maja Hodošek, Sanela Jahić, Neža Knez, Polonca Lovšin,\* Aprilija Lužar, Nika Oblak & Primož Novak, Ana Pečar & Oliver Ressler, Nataša Prošenc Stearns, Marija Mojca Pungerčar, Pila Rusjan, Duba Sambolec, Zvonka T Simčič, Nataša Skušek, Metka Zupanič, Valerie Wolf Gang.

\*Screened only at the marathon in Slovenian Cinematheque on 3rd October 2019.

Ob praznovanju 25. obletnice festivala Mesto žensk se s ponosom oziramo na petindvajset  
Celebrating the 25th edition of the City of Women Festival, we are proud to look at the 25 years of creative endeavours by female video artists in Slovenian space. Due to space and production limits, we have decided to symbolically select twenty-five female authors, although there are, of course, infinitely more. The selected works are examples of diverse exhibition forms enabled by the video medium. Most of the works are presented in gallery space using various video formats and forms of display (single-channel, multi-channel, installation). Some of the works will be shown on the big screen as part of the marathon of Slovenian female film- and video artists at Kinoteka on 3 October between noon and midnight. By screening their films in the regular programme, also the national broadcaster RTV Slovenia is to pay tribute to Slovenian female directors.

We were looking for feminist and/or socially critical works as we wanted to know how society, culture and politics directly influence the lives of women and people in general. In their works, the female authors tackle the topics of social, welfare and political situation of women, issues of gender and reproductive rights, women's bodies, pain and violence against women. They debate the position of female and male workers in capitalism and the position of female and male artists in precarious working conditions. They point out the problematics of media representation of discriminated social groups and the reduced or twisted media image of the world. They introduce the themes of discriminated social groups, such as refugees and migrants or ethnic and gender minorities. They tackle memory and the forsaken pasts, ecological and war themes, digital identity and the catastrophic effects of neoliberalism on the poor, indebted and disenfranchised individuals, regardless of their gender. They approach those topics with utmost seriousness, although the works feature several humorous and absurd moments.

We have prepared a subjective selection of works from the vast video production of numerous authors. We have started off by researching the video archive DIVA Station at SCCA-Ljubljana and the former editions of the City of Women Festival. We have exposed the works awakening and calling for debate, reflection and action.

Cheers to Women!

Vesna Bukovec in Ana Čigon

The exhibition will be opened by a new performance by **Ana Čigon Cheers to Women! A Performative Appetizer to Video Art**, dedicated to video art created between 1995 and 2015 by Slovenian female videasts. Through the eclectic merging of written, spoken and performative quotes, the artist is forming a performative tale, encouraging viewers to an in-depth viewing of the exhibited works. In that sense, the performance is formed as an experimental historical overview, otherwise different from the classical critical texts, but nevertheless awakening the video archives, contemporizing it and thereby encouraging a re-thinking of the meaning and position of artwork by Slovenian female video artists within the canon of art history.

The public programme includes guided tours of the exhibition and a lecture by **Ana Grobler**. The lecturer will present the key video artworks with feminist content, which were created in Slovenia from mid-1970s onwards.

**Public programme:**

**26. 9., 18.00: Lecture by Ana Grobler at the Project Room SCCA in Slovenian**

**26. 9., 19.30: Guided tour in Slovenian**

**5. 10., 19.00: Reprise of Ana Cigon's performance in English**

**5. 10., 19.30: Guided tour in English**

Production: KUD Mreža, Mesto žensk, SCCA-Ljubljana  
Image design for COW 2019: Vesna Bukovec



Mestna občina  
Ljubljana



REPUBLIKA SLOVENIJA  
MINISTRSTVO ZA KULTURO

**Opening hours of the Alkatraz Gallery: Moday – Thursday: 11.00 – 19.00, Friday 15.00 – 23.00; Saturdays, 28. 9. & 5. 10. 2019: 15.00 – 23.00, Sundays 29. 9. & 6. 10. 2019: 15.00 – 23.00**

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