

**LISTENING TO THE AUDIENCE / ДА СЕ СЛУША ПУБЛИКАТА**

**INVITATION**

It is our great honor to invite you to the presentation of Listening to the Audience- a collaborative, research and art project. The presentation will take place on Friday (09.11) at the Gallery P74 in Ljubljana and will start at 8 pm.

**FACULTY FOR THINGS THAT CAN'T BE LEARNED  
AKTO 7 FESTIVAL FOR CONTEMPORARY ARTS – BITOLA**

**PROJECT: LISTENING TO THE AUDIENCE, 01.03-01.11.2012**

Participants: Suzana Milevska, Filip Jovanovski, Dragana Zarevska, Darko Aleksovski, Simona Mančeva, Katerina Sokolova, Ivana Spiroska

Guests: Tadej Pogačar and Uroš Legen (Slovenia) and the Škart Collective (Serbia).

In the wake of need for new models and strategies of institutional critique that could help in deconstruction of the vicious circle of modernism and of the imbalanced hierarchical three partite relation between the artist, the institution and the audience, there is an urgency for a deconstruction of audience's passivity and subalternity. Thus the audience becomes the pivotal concept around which new strategies and models of interaction between artists and audiences are centered and developed. Art and cultural organisations produce contents, events and programmes, but often the audience is not involved and is isolated due to a long-term lack of proper approach in art education and cultural policies.

The main aim of the collaborative and participatory project Listening to the Audience is to explore and produce various models for overcoming the passive role of the art audience already predetermined by the linguistic root of the term audience (from Lat. audire = English. to hear). Listening to the Audience also addresses the issue of deficiency of informed audience and the need for an equal dialogue between the artists and the audience in the field of contemporary arts. In order to create a more direct and productive relation between the AKTO Festival, its artists, partners and its local audiences Listening to the Audience is imagined as a project that would continue in future the collaboration with its volunteers and general public through different activities to be organised between two editions of the AKTO Festival, such are seminars, workshops, guest lectures, research polls, etc.

Listening to the Audience is a collaborative and participative project initiated by the Faculty of Things that Can't be Learned, Filip Jovanovski, Suzana Milevska, Simona Manceva, Katerina Sokolova, Ivana Spiroska, Darko Aleksovski, Dragana Zarevska, and realized together with the volunteers of the AKTO Festival of Contemporary Arts-Bitola, Macedonia (Atanas Acevski, Stefani Adziovska, Sonja Angeovska, Denis Arslanovski, Elena Delovska, Emilija Desanovska, Bujar Drala, Mateja Georgiev, Bojan Georgievski, Ana Cvetanovska, Biljana T. Dimko, Mario Filevski, Emilija Janakievska, Miron Kokaljari, Oliver Koljackov, Antonija Lazarevska, Martina Lazarevska, Niko Naka, Tomislav Naka, Aleksandar Petrovski, Sara Pupalevska, Stefan Rajcevski, Sofija Razmovska, Monika Stojcevska, Zorica Stojcevska, Matej Šundovski, Marija Todorovska, and Dejan Talevski). In addition guest speakers such as Tadej Pogačar and the Škart Collective were invited to shed more light on different art and cultural formats of interaction with audience such are the art games, toys, artist books, etc. The project consisted of series of research and production workshops with the AKTO Festival volunteers and the one-day case study seminar Managing and Nurturing the Audience.

The project Listening to the Audience is a result of last year's collaborative project In the Mind's I - collaboration between Warren Neidich, d-r Suzana Milevska and the students from the Faculty of Fine Arts in Skopje. The project was presented at last year's edition of the AKTO Festival and received the "Dragisa Nanevski" award for interdisciplinarity.

The project received the support of European Cultural Foundation and the Open Society Foundation Macedonia.

Project's partners are: P.A.R.A.S.I.T.E. Institute (Ljubljana), NI Center for Culture (Bitola), Škart Collective (Belgrade), Stacion Center for Contemporary Art (Prishtina).

Supported by:

