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T. S. Elliot has written on TV: "Television is a medium of entertainment which permits millions of people to listen to the same joke at the same time, and yet remain lonesome."

As much truthful this statement by T. S. Elliot is as much artistic. Everybody has sensed Its reality/truthfulness at least once. Communication with millions of people and aimed to an individual at the same time is the dual power of the television medium. Television is the platform on which the experiment of the hybridization of the art and media is summed up through the project Disappearance of Public Space: Inquiry into Reality.

TV show as the final product of this project operates with the notion of debate as a public platform for opposite opinions. Reversed logic in the procedure is achieved by a latter procedure – individual interviewees are shown as debaters with video editing. They speak of the phenomenon of public space questioning the notion of public sphere and its transformation through media and the role of art and possibilities of communication between public and private.

The project Disappearance of Public Space: Inquiry into Reality is questioning this reversed logic – through overlapping between artistic/private and media/public a new artistic-media reality of public is explored. A hybrid of media and art as a new means of "penetrating" reality questions the real role of media in our lives. Art is becoming a new communication tool in media depicting reality. The word "terminating" in the title means restriction and vanishing of the public space, and further associations lead to its moving from physical to media/virtual sphere of reality, which, again in some reversed logic, has deeply penetrated into the physical world of individual identities.

This artistic interdisciplinary research within and outside the constructs of public spaces, in fact asks what is the reality of public spaces and how does one terminate public space, especially having in mind geo-political location of the area of its operation.

The same, reversed logic, can be seen in media questioning their relationship with identity in the former socialist transitional countries – from the total control by the state to highly nationalised cultures and cultures flooded with global media practices. SCCA realises that the issue of public space is one of its priorities. During the ten years of existence the Centre has introduced a new model of organising and acting in culture. SCCA does not have its gallery. It functions as a mobile art centre, complementary and alternatively to programmes of other art institutions. Most of the projects, like annual exhibitions, have been realised in public spaces. Changing the environment – moving from an art space (gallery) to a non-art space (street), changes the way artist thinks and behaves, their selection of tools and contents of communication with the audience. A new art scene has been created, which has not only changed the notion of art, but also understanding the function of art and culture. Such a concept has proven fruitful, and it has expanded the notion of art and become something which corrects local artistic and public life.

Asja Hafner



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TV DEBATES...

TUESDAY, APRIL 04, 2006

TV Debates

2007

in the collaboration with Sarajevo Centre for Contemporary Art, Bosnia and Herzegovina/Pro.ba

Concept: Asja Hafner and Goran Petrovic

Moderator: Asja Hafner

Participants: Yane Calovski (MK), Alfredo Cramerotti (IT), Aida Kalender (BIH), Faruk Loncarevic (BIH), Snjezana Milivojevic

(RS), Mileta Prodanovic (RS), Khaled Ramadan (DK)

The result of the inquiry into public sphere, a public space and a media culture, depends on the cultural, social and political themes that the media-based artworks will provoke in TV Debates. Thereby, TV Debates function as a result of the artistic inquiry into reality and the exhibition.

The concept of TV Debates has been developed under the concept of the famous TV show "Kino oko" that has been broadcasted on TV Belgrade in the former Yugoslavia. The show consists of two episodes that last 3 hours, and is segmented in two parts; a) the first part will present film Comrade Alfredo Neri from 2006 (22') by Chamber of Public Secret association from Denmark and b) the second part that will start discussion initiated by the film. Other art works that the project includes, will also be presented and discussed in TV Debates: Open Studio of New Belgrade Chronicle, Anthem, Sylvia Kristel-Paris etc.

TV Debates will gathered experts from the field of art, art history, media, film and sociology, and start the debate about different topics the project is dealing with: media role and media power, media services as a public services, manipulation and political aims

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achieving, responsibility, media ethics, as well as possibilities to promote tolerance, peace and love as characteristics of modern societies.

TV Debates will be broadcasted in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Republic of Serbia and Republic of Macedonia.

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