

FT2012

FOTONIČNITRENUTKI2012
PHOTONICMOMENTS2012
MESECFOTOGRAFIJE
MONTHOFFPHOTOGRAPHY

JUNIJ JUNIJA JUNIJ IN JUNE

Izbor fotografij
iz Mednarodne likovne
zbirke Junij

Selection of Photographs
from 'Junij' International
Art Collection

5. junij-8. julij, 2012
5 June-8 July, 2012



MUZEJ ZA ARHITEKTURO
IN OBLIKOVANJE



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Photography in Junij International Art Collection

PRIMOŽ LAMPIČ

Grupa Junij /The June Group/ was founded by a group of artists who completed their studies at the Ljubljana Academy of Fine Art around 1970. These artists shared common views of society, art, and creativity, and their intention was to facilitate a breakthrough on the Slovenian art scene. After 1976 the group became international and the individual artists, who were more than pleased by the group's activities, willingly donated their work, thus laying the foundations for the emergence of the 'Junij' International Art Collection (JIAC). It was officially founded in 1980. In 1996 the 'Junij' Society bequeathed the collection to the Ljubljana Museum of Architecture and Design, where it has been kept ever since.

The collection consists of 1,300 works by more than 140 artists from 30 countries (30 artists are from Slovenia). It features photographs, mixed media, graphic prints, drawings, caricatures, and even a few paintings and sculptures. The collection was set up mostly by the members of 'Grupa Junij' (Enver Kaljanac, Tone Demšar, Ratimir Pušelja), particularly Stane Jagodič. However, some of the artists were proposed by colleagues from abroad: Lorenzo Merlo, Myricae Merlo, Joan Fontcuberta, Floris M. Neusüss, Sue Davies, Alberto Piovani, and several others.

The JIAC is the result of efforts by dedicated individuals in an exceptional period of time when the solidarity among artists was strong and international, and when the art market was still slightly dazed by conceptual actions. Today such a project would be much more difficult or even impossible to implement.

Citat from the text in catalogue Junij in June, Selection of Photographs from Junij International Art Collection, 2012

Grupa Junij: Principles of artistic self-affirmation

MIHA COLNER

‘Grupa Junij’ adopted principles that follow the example of the successors of historical avant-gardes and created a constructive synthesis of different styles and trends. The main idea embraced by the group was the autonomy of art as such, freed of any political, academic, and aesthetic demands for pure styles and genres. During the period, in which modernist painting and sculpture prevailed, the members of ‘Grupa Junij’ resorted to reproducible media, particularly the innovative use of photography, although there was a broad range of different forms of expression and media. Because of their diversity, the creative practices of the group cannot be generalised, however the common characteristic of a broad range of different artists gathered in ‘Grupa Junij’ is connected with figuralism, narrative art, and a direct expression of a message. The group was highly sensitive to the socio-political events of that time, which it translated into a highly original artistic language without any reservations. Their works were steeped in the spirit of the 1970s and early 1980s, as well as topics such as ecology, global demography and the related side effects of accelerated urbanisation, alienation, militancy, repression by state institutions, and growing consumerism. These topics are still relevant today both in civil society and art. Instead of explicit content, what characterised the work of artists belonging to ‘Grupa Junij’ was metaphor and poetry expressed in different forms particularly connected with photography as an autonomous medium or a tool for recording ephemeral actions. The exhibition therefore focuses on the use of photography, which is probably the most distinguishing segment of the group’s legacy.

Citat from the text in catalogue Junij in June, Selection of Photographs from Junij International Art Collection, 2012



MUZEJ ZA ARHITEKTURO
IN OBLIKOVANJE
MUSEUM OF
ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN

POT NA FUŽINE 2
1000 LJUBLJANA
SLOVENIA, EUROPE

JUNIJ IN JUNE

Selection of Photographs from Junij International Art Collection

MUSEUM FOR ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN, LJUBLJANA
5. June - 8. July 2012

Opening of the exhibition

Tuesday, 5 June 2012, 7 p.m.

Opening performance: Offering-altar

Stane Jagodič, Andraž Magajna

Group Junij manifesto

Niko Goršič

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INTERNATIONAL ART GROUP JUNIJ



Stane Jagodič: Symbol of Group June, photography 1973

Junij Group 1970 - 1985

Stane Jagodič was the initiator and head of Junij Group / Grupa Junij (the founding members were all born in June) for many years. At the beginning the Group advocated the expressionism, later, they openly supported their attitude to committed satirical drawing – caricature and creative photography with science-fictional and surrealistic touch. They equally emphasized the aspects of constructivism in the direction of ideal synthesis between organic and inorganic forms, which Jagodič concisely described in a short manifesto Junij.

The cofounders of the Junij Group were:

Harald Draušbaher, Viktor Gojkovič, Stane Jagodič, Enver Kaljanac, later on, the Group was joined by permanent members: Jure Cihlar, Tone Demšar, Božidar Grabnar, Milomir Jevtić, Kazuo Kitajima (Japan), Mirko Lovrič, Ratimir Pušelja, Boštjan Putrih, Alan Sundberg (USA), Peter Vernik, Vlasta Záborský (former Czechoslovakia). From 1977 until 1985 the exhibitions organized by Junij Group hosted numerous conceptually and technically progressive and internationally recognized artists as guests.

The most important professional co-operators: art critics, gallery-curators, artists, designers, photographers, translators and publicists of Junij Group in Slovenia:

Greta Jagodič, Drago Medved, Dr Janez Mesesnel, Božena Plevnik, Dr Stane Bernik, Dr Peter Krečič, Alenka Rems, Dr Lev Menaše, Dr Ivan Sedej, Dr Zoran Kržišnik, Dr. Cene Avguštin, Franc Zalar, Marlen Premšak, Meta Gabršek-Prosenc, Aleksander Bassin, Iztok Premrov, Jovo Grobovšek, Matjaž Vipotnik, Jože Spacal, Marijan Zlobec, Igor Gedrih, Franc Šetinc, Franci Šali, Mitja Rotovnik, Marijan Pal, Dolores Kocjančič, Metka Traven, Vladka Pance, Miro Stopar and Josip Škunca (Zagreb), Anton Pauletič (Rovinj), Antun Karaman (Dubrovnik), Fuad Hadžihalilović, Muhamed Karamehmedović, Nihad Agić (Sarajevo), Gordana Djordžević, Mirjana Živković, Zoran Gavrić, Goran Malić, Milan Damjanović (Beograd), Sonja Abadžieva-Dimitrova (Skopje), Ljiljana Bjelica (Novi Sad), Igor Šaranović, Olga Perović (Titograd) etc.

Professional co-operators from the foreign country:

Lorenzo Merlo, Myricae Merlo (Amsterdam), Alberto Piovani (Milano), Christo and Jeanne Claude, Steve Heller (USA), Roman Cieslewicz, Petar Živadinović (Paris), Joan Fontcuberta (Barcelona), Floris M. Neuss (Kassel), Udo-Nils (Chiemsee), Sue Davies (London), Daisy Peccinini (Sao Paulo), Doris Schmidt (Munich), Božena Stoklosa (Warszawa), Ban Andras (Budapest), Jorge Galaz (Sezanne), Edi

Vižintin, Mario Furlan (Ronchi dei Legionari), Ernest Hildebrand (Klagenfurt), Ban Andras (Budapest), Mehmed Guleryuz (Istanbul) etc..

Around 200 artists from approximately 30 countries worldwide

Among them were the following very known multimedia artists:

Helena Almeida, Rodoljub Anastasov, Gabor Attalai, Berko, Susumo Endo, Luis Camnitzer, Christo and Jeanne Claude, Roman Cieslewicz, Srečo Dragan, Valie Export, Tibor Gayor, Anna Bella Geiger, Jochen Gerz, Mehmet Güleriyüz, Dževad Hozo, Olja Ivanjicki, Katalin Ladik, Thomas Lenk, Richard Long, Mari Mahr, Mahirwan Mamtani, Henk J. Meijer, Wanda Mihuleac, Dragan Mojović, Jill Mustchin, Vernita Nemeč, Udo-Nils, Lev Nusberg, Tetsu Okuhara, Ratko Petrić, Marina Piatti, Fabrizio Plessi, Vjenceslav Richter, Artur Rosa, Janez Lenassi, Meina Schellander, Kjartan Slettemark, Jože Spacal, Annegret Soltau, Predrag Šidjanin, Endre Tot, Jerzy Trelinski, Franco Vaccari, Emilio Vedova, Matjaž Vipotnik, Tommy Wiberg, Igor Zacharov, Edvard Zajec etc.

Photographers:

Milan Aleksić, Željko Borčić, Heribert Burkert, Vitaly Butyrin, Tony Catany, Pierre Cordier, Petar Dabac, Božidar Dolenc, Joan Fontcuberta, Franco Fontana, Luigi Ghirri, Marko Gosar, Paolo Giordano, Martin Hruška, Lado Jakša, Zmago Jeraj, Peter Kocjančič, Branko Lenart, Serge Lutens, Goran Malić, Ange Manganelli, Henk J. Meyer, Lorenzo Merlo, Max Migliori, Marko Modic, Ugo Mulas, Rafael Navarro, Floris M. Neusüss, Paul de Nooyer, Annegret Soltau, Virgilijus Šonta, Arthur Tress, Christian Vogt, Tibor S. Varga, Metka Vergnion, Manfred Willman, Eliza C. Wong, Petr Zhor, Giovanni Ziliani etc.

Cartoonists:

Miroslav Bartak, Aleksander Blatnik, Adolf Born, Constantin Ciosu, Branko Conić, Jenő Dallos, Milko Dikov, Ferruh Dogan, Randal Enos, Fiko Fikov, Josette Jansens, Ivan Haramija, Raimo Kanerva, Darko Marković, Ljubomir Mihajlov, Mojimir Mihatov, Mileta Miloradović, Priit Parn, Dušan Petričić, Julius Puchalski, Mostafa Ramezani, Giuliano Rossetti, Jiri Sliva, Jiri Šalamoun, Ane Vasilevski, Jugoslav Vlahović etc.

The most important exhibitions Junij

1977 The memory to Man Ray, Town Gallery, Ljubljana

Presented also in Novi Sad, Dubrovnik, Rovinj, Maribor, Kranj

1978 The memory to Marcel Duchamp, Modern Gallery, Ljubljana

Presented also in Beograd, Sarajevo

1980 The memory to Giorgio de Chirico, 'Presence of Metaphysics', Jakopič Gallery, Ljubljana

1980 Junij International Art Collection, Jakopič Gallery, Ljubljana

1988 'Mois de la Photo a Paris' 88, 'Aspect of Creative European Photography' 1968 -1988 Yugoslav Cultural Center, Paris
Selection of the collection also presented in Lezennes and Beograd

International Junij Art Collection 1985

The International Junij Art Collection, which was founded on the basis of the works of art, donated by many co-operators and exhibitors of the Junij Group, was Jagodič's idea. He himself collected all the works and founded the Collection in 1985. It comprises about 1000 works of art with emphasis on photographic medium, photomontage, collage, graphic art, caricature, painting and sculpture donated by approx. 140 authors. It was first presented in the Jakopič Gallery in Ljubljana, in 1985. Among the donators there were worldly known visual artists. In 1988, the professional co-operator of Junij Group and art critic Dr Lev Menaše made a selection of photographs out of the photographic stock in the Collection. And this selection was exhibited in the Yugoslav Cultural Center in Paris on the initiative of the photographer Mirko Lovrić from Belgrade. This exhibition was set up in the framework of the international biennial 'Mois de la photo a Paris' (1988). It took part in the competition entitled '**Aspects of Creative European Photography' 1968-1988**, and was awarded the first prize. There were 34 Paris museums and galleries competing to win the first prize.

The commission of selection of art works were: Agnes de Gouvion Saint-Cyr, Alain Dister, Jean-Claude Lemagny, Guy Mandery and Jean-Luc Monterosso (commissioner of the 'Mois de la photo a Paris' 1988). The president of the jury was a film actress Charlotte Rampling and members: Maria Morris Hambourg (USA), Jean-Christophe Averty, Claude Bedat and Francois Boisrond (France). This award confirmed once again the committed and research-based multimedia activity of the Junij Group in the field of the worldwide creative photography. In 1996, the Collection was donated to the **Museum of Architecture and Design in Ljubljana** directed by the art historian Dr Peter Krečič. Its guard and curator is the art historian Dr Primož Lampič, employed in that institution.

Words from the visual art critic, theorist Dr Aaron Scharf

“The too early maturity of the Junij Group amazes me again and again. It is unique! In the totality of its activities I discern imagination liberated by this wonderful union of artists, culturally so different, but united by humour, irony, playful exuberance. The Junij Group as an international comrades association appears to me as a creative body in which the whole is considerably bigger than the sum of individual parts. Is there a group like that anywhere? The singular use of photography in the group showed itself so impetuously and differently as never before, perhaps with the exception of Surrealists. The group deserves to be internationally better known than it is, and (poetically speaking) I applaud this sea of stars lighting the horizon of aesthetics”.

From interview with Dr Aaron Scharf on the 'Occasion of 150 Years of Photography' by Drago Medved in the newspaper Delo, Ljubljana, December 8th 1989