



2022

ANNUAL REPORT

KUMA INTERNATIONAL SARAJEVO

WHO WE ARE

Kuma International is an NGO founded in Sarajevo in 2018 with the unique mission of teaching the next generations how the arts can deal with difficult pasts and pursue transformation.

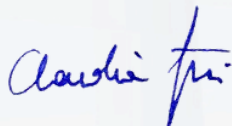
This mission is rooted in the belief that the arts, in conjunction with education, play a vital role in the community, helping to build a more inclusive and compassionate society by engaging and inspiring individuals and providing a platform for creativity, self-expression and emotional connection.

Thanks to our extensive network, locally and internationally, and long-standing experience, various programs and initiatives have been developed in several cities in Bosnia and Herzegovina as well as through online platforms during the pandemic, connecting with partners in Palestine. These include summer schools, workshops, field trips, exhibitions, documentary films, publications, and other events that use the arts to explore and address human rights and justice issues, civil society engagement, and democratic participation.

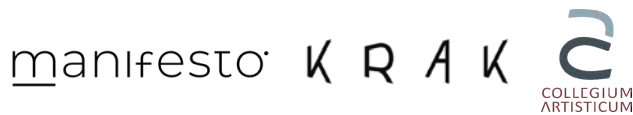
In the past four years we have been working with hundreds of young people of different cultures and backgrounds from more than twenty countries with the aim to promote understanding and mutual respect, break down stereotypes and prejudices, and create a more inclusive and harmonious society.

Dr Claudia Zini

Founder & CEO



DONORS AND PARTNERS



Ministarstvo kulture i sporta
Kantona Sarajevo

ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2022



27

**PARTNERSHIPS
AND
COLLABORATIONS**



800+

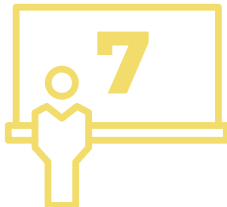
**PEOPLE
ENGAGED**



EXHIBITIONS



PUBLICATIONS



**WORKSHOPS &
LECTURES**

1



FIELD TRIP



SUMMER SCHOOL

EXHIBITIONS



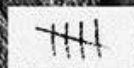
REMEMORY 1992-2022

30 years of remembrance through art in Bosnia and Herzegovina

Exhibition opening
at Galerija Brodac
March 4, 2022 at 19h

Irma Bajramović, Velibor Božović, Enrico Dagnino, Anela
Dumonjić, Ziyah Gafić, Mak Hubjer, Nora Köhler, Smirna
Kulenović, Michael Pribich, Bedrija Šahbaz, Aida Šehović

Funded by the International Relief Fund for Organisations in Culture and Education 2021 of the German Federal Foreign Office, the Goethe-Institut and other partners: www.goethe.de/relieffund



The exhibition "Rememory 1992-2022" explored the role of art, memory and contemporary forms of memorialization **30** years after the beginning of the Bosnian war and it came as a result of series of **6** workshops that we organized in Sarajevo in the fall of 2021. Local artists as well as artists from the Bosnian diaspora (Ziyah Gafić, Smirna Kulenović, Enrico Dagnino, Mak Hubjer, Velibor Božović and Aida Šehović) along with art students from

- Bosnia Herzegovina
- Canada
- Germany
- United States
- France
- Italy

explored several questions about the nature and varieties of memory, such as

- how do we remember the past and what is the role of art and photography in that process?
- how can art and photography be used as powerful tools to address reconciliation?



The initiative was organized as part of the project “Rememory 1992-2022: 30 years of remembrance through art in Bosnia and Herzegovina” that we implemented with Brodac Gallery and the generous support of the International Relief Fund for Organisations in Culture and Education 2021 of the German Federal Foreign Office, the Goethe-Institut and other partners.



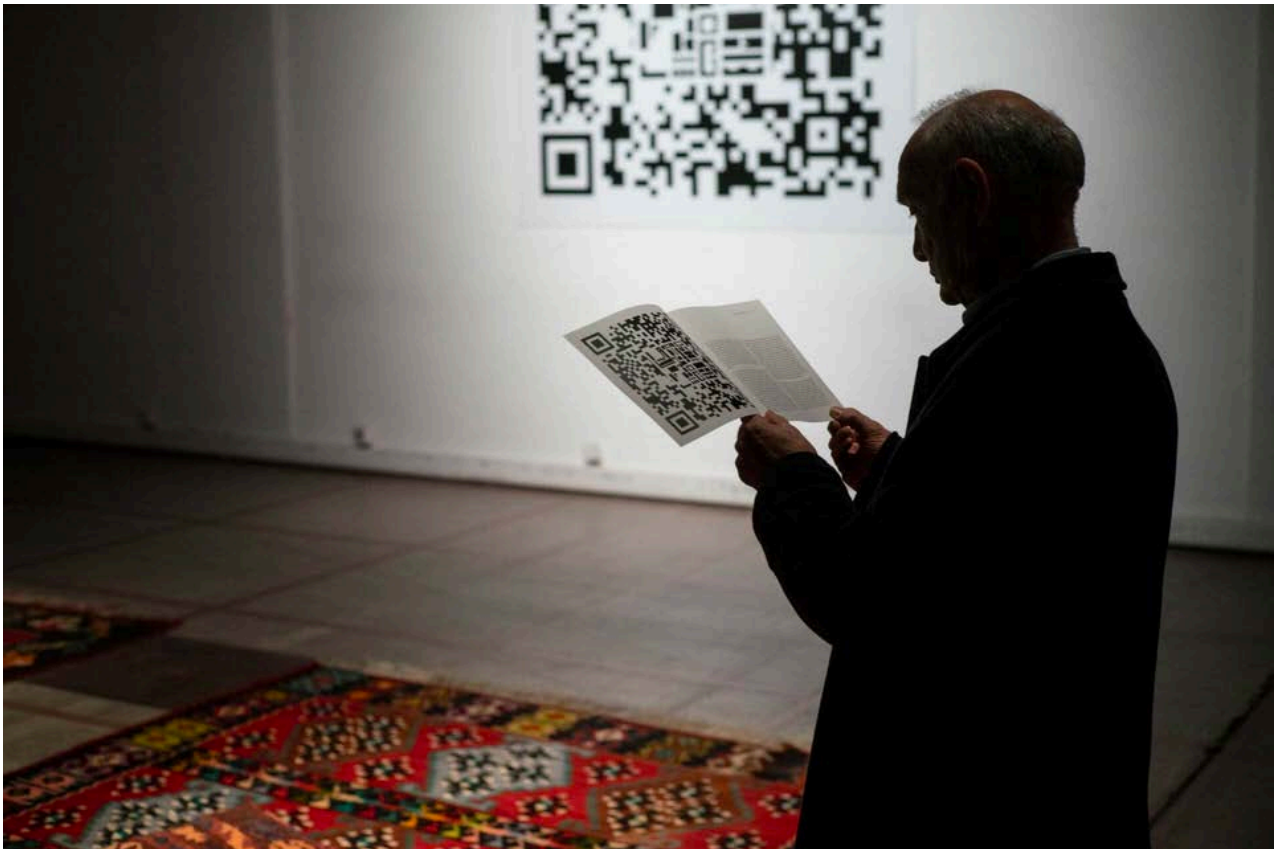
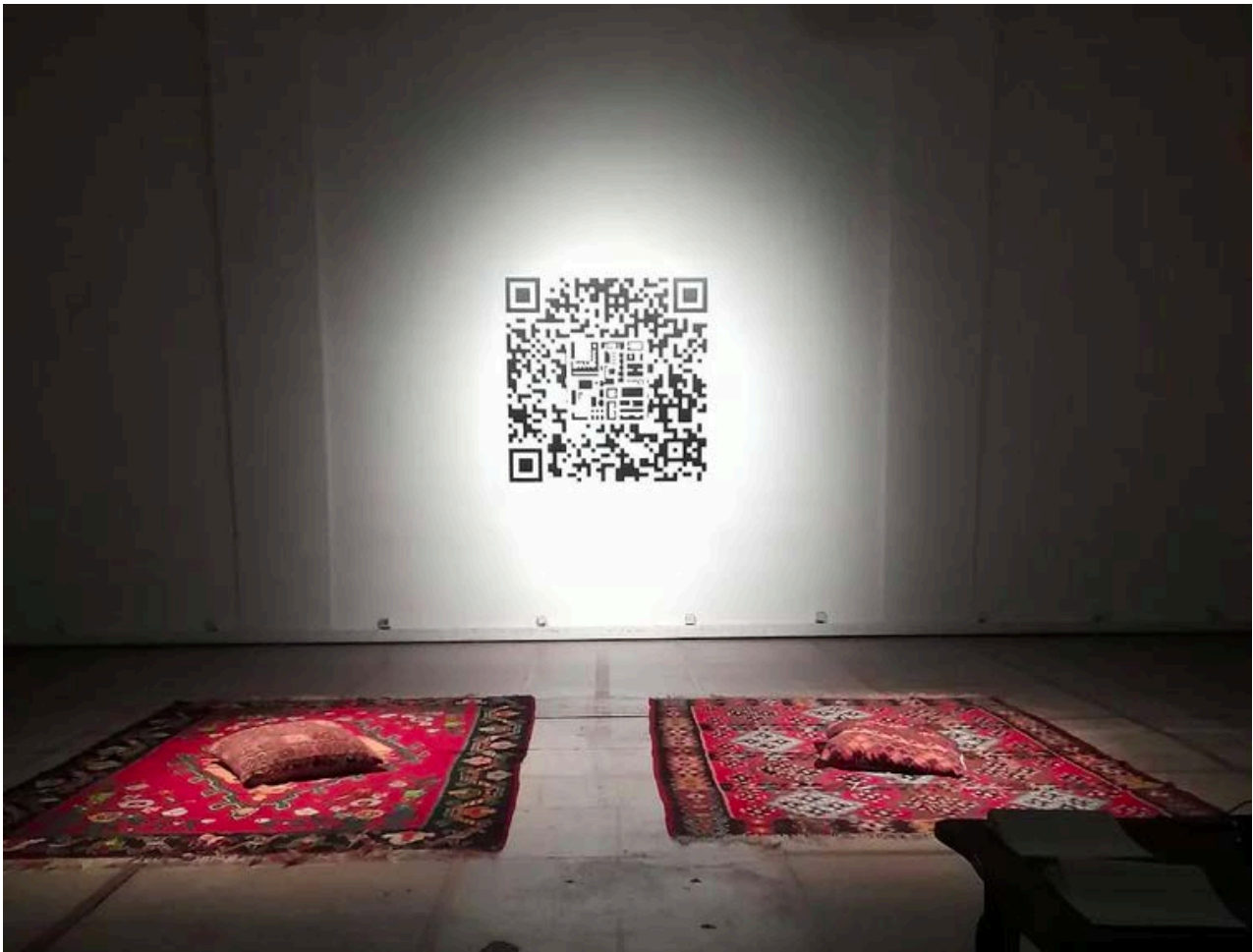
The exhibition “Backup – A0H1L9IMB4” is part of an ongoing project of oral history related to the non-Croat residents of the city of Stolac in Bosnia Herzegovina who were detained in the camps of Kostana Bolnica, Gabela, Dretelj and Heliodrom between 1993 and 1994.

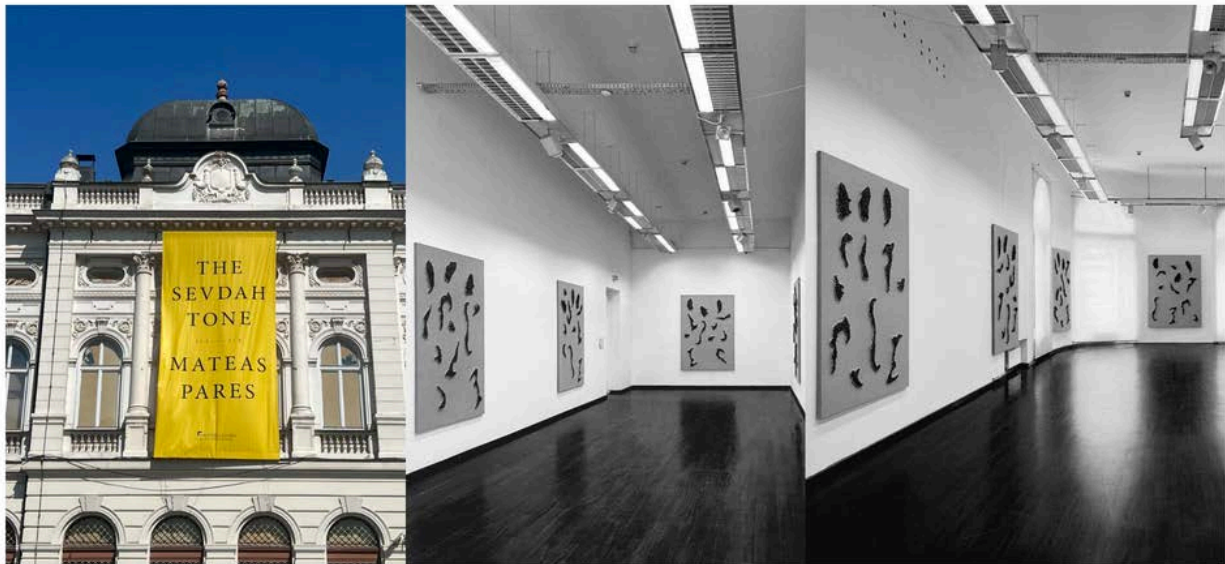
Researcher Nermina Trbonja has been collecting personal stories and memories through interviews that were recorded, transcribed, organized and catalogued for the exhibition purposes.

The goal of the project is to

- capture personal experiences and perspectives that are not available in official records
- offer a glimpse into the experiences of those who were detained and serves as a reminder of the need to prevent such atrocities from happening again
- understand the impact of war on individuals and communities
- remind of the importance of working towards peace and reconciliation in areas affected by conflict
- provides a way for individuals and communities to preserve their history and share their stories with future generations

The exhibition was hosted by the Historical Museum Sarajevo in April 2022.





We were happy to partner together with the Swedish embassy in Sarajevo for the "Sevdah Tone" exhibition by Kuma former student and artist Mateas Pares from Sweden.

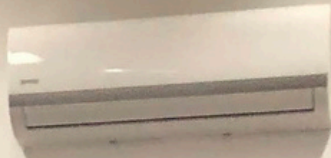
The exhibition was held at the National Gallery of Bosnia and Herzegovina in May 2022.

"The Sevdah Tone is the result of the failed attempt to go to Sarajevo for a week in the late summer of 2020 and gain enough knowledge of the war in former Yugoslavia in the first half of the 1990's, in order to understand what effects a conflict can have on identity – on an individual level as well as on a societal level – after it has been overcome.

The aim was ultimately to create an art project of it. For the project I used the definition of conflict from works of narrative, such as books and films, where conflict means the challenge the protagonist needs to solve in order to achieve his or her goal, and move forward.

Since conflicts seem to be interwoven with our history, I was curious to understand if, why, and how, we too, seem to need the conflict in order to move forward. Before departing to Sarajevo I listed a number of questions that were going to serve as tools for gathering the information that I needed: what had happened; why had it happen; how was it overcome; how do people relate to it today; how had it changed their identity; what are the negative as well as the positive effects; and so forth. As many years had passed since its ending and it had therefore been well studied, at the same time as it was still fresh in the mind of the majority of the citizens, it seemed to be the perfect soil for this subject; a perfect case study to build my project on".

Mateas Pares



THE
SEVDAH
TONE
17.8 — 17.6
MATEAS
PARES

CONTEMPORARY GALLERY
FINE ARTS DISTRICT



unsafe goražde

UNSAFE GORAŽDE is a photo exhibition documenting the story of the city of Goražde and its inhabitants who survived the Bosnian war defending their homes against all odds, while the other cities along the Drina river fell to the enemy.

It was organized at the Gradska Galerija Goražde in May 2022, marking **30** years since the beginning of the war and later on in Sarajevo in August 2022 at the VII Academy.

It is part of the UNSAFE GORAŽDE multimedia project initiated by Kuma International together with Enrico Dagnino, Claudia Zini, Fuad Fule Bavčić and Quentin Fagart with the aim to

- documenting and preserving the experiences of war survivors to create a historical record of the war and the experiences of those who lived through it
- help to ensure that their experiences are not forgotten and that future generations can learn from their bravery and resilience
- raising awareness and understanding about the war and the impact it had on individuals and communities
- promoting healing and reconciliation by highlighting examples of forgiveness, compassion, and resilience







WOMAN *to* WOMAN

Inge Morath
Gerti Deutsch

21.10-04.11

COLLEGIUM ARTISTICUM

EXHIBITION OPENING: 21.10 at 19:00h
LECTURE BY KURT KAINDL: 22.10 at 16:00h

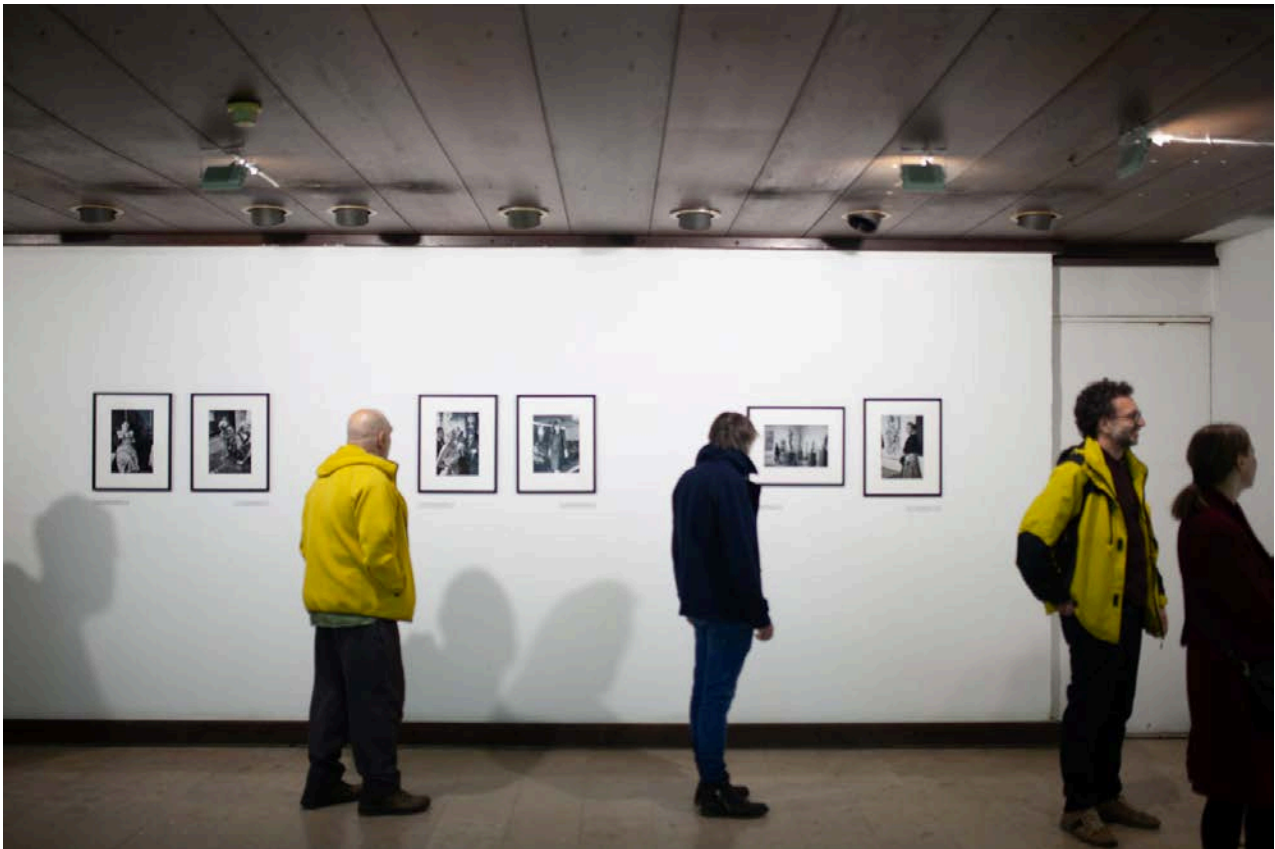
FOTOHOF  austrijski kulturni forum 

Kuma International collaborated for the first time with Austrian Cultural Forum Sarajevo for the exhibition “Woman to Woman” displaying the work of Inge Morath and Gerti Deutsch.

The two Austrian photographers worked ahead of their time in a predominantly male-dominated industry for some of the most important photo magazines and agencies of the time: Picture Post and Magnum Photos Agency.

The exhibition wished to

- highlight the significant contributions that these women made to the field of photography, despite facing barriers and discrimination
- acknowledge the role of female photographers in shaping the industry
- provide an opportunity to examine the historical context in which these women worked and the challenges they faced and shed light on the gender biases and stereotypes that prevailed at the time and how these influenced the opportunities available to female photographers
- inspire and empower future generations of female photographers, demonstrating that it is possible to break down gender barriers and succeed in a male-dominated industry
- promote cultural exchange and dialogue between the two countries (Bosnia Herzegovina and Austria) and fosters mutual understanding and appreciation



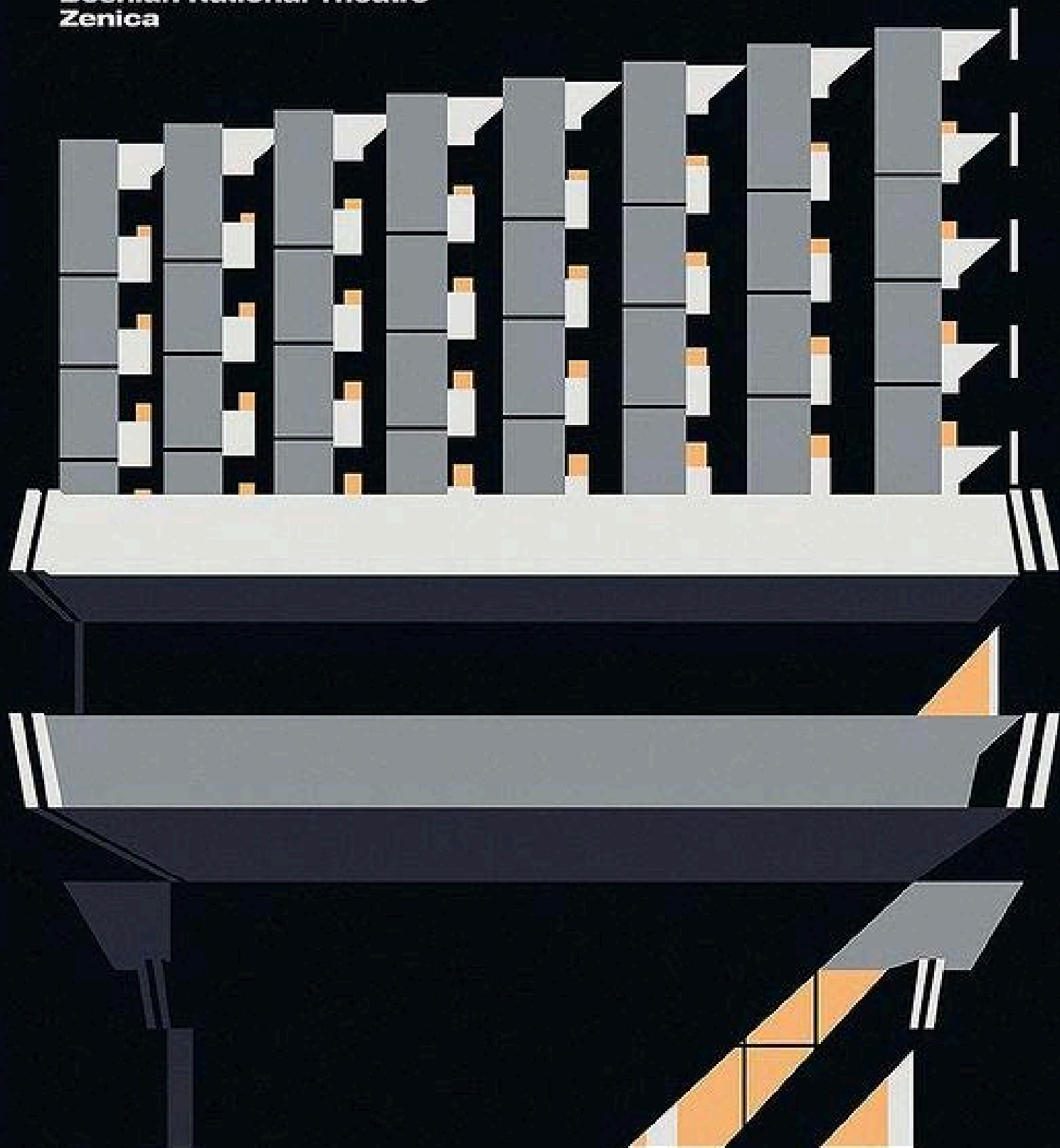
Kuma International presents:

MODERNIST UTOPIA

Architectural heritage of Zenica

EXHIBITION OPENING:

**October 29, 2022 at 18:00h
Bosnian National Theatre
Zenica**



The exhibition “Modernist Utopia. Architectural Heritage of Zenica” opened at the Bosnian National Theatre BNP in October 2022.

It was dedicated to the modernist architecture movement in the city of Zenica, once a symbol of Yugoslav industrialization and progress.

The exhibition aimed to

- explore Yugoslavian modernist architecture through photographs, texts, 3d models and other documentation
- highlight ten modernist buildings to illustrate the key aspects of Zenica's modernist heritage
- highlight the importance of preserving the city's heritage since many of these buildings have suffered damage during the last war and neglect in the years that followed. Even more remorsefully, the revitalization of some of them has seriously damaged their architectural character and modernist identity
- raise awareness about the significance of Zenica's modernist heritage which will, hopefully, also mark a positive change in its preservation in the future.

The project “Modernist Utopia” was initiated by architects Selver Učanbarlić and Dino Jozić in 2020 and implemented by Kuma International in collaboration with Lejla Odobašić Novo and partnership with Bosnian National Theatre Zenica, Gallery of contemporary arts Manifesto, Docomomo BH, Association of Architects in BiH, Azimuth and Ideologija.







Beside the exhibition, we also organized a **2** hour free walking tour of Zenica led by architect Selver Učanbarlić and tour guide Afan Abazović.

Over **60** people joined the tour which explored Zenica's modernist architectural heritage, looking at some of the most important buildings designed by famous Yugoslav architects such as Juraj Neidhardt, Edvard Ravnikar, Jahiel Finci, Zlatko Ugljen, Slobodan Jovandić and Karlo Kužatko.



HERBARIUM

ISMAR ČIRKINAGIĆ

Ismar Ćirkinagić's "Herbarium" exhibition opened in November 2022 at the National Museum of Bosnia and Herzegovina, **30** years since the beginning of the Bosnian War and the artist's forced departure from Prijedor as refugee in 1992.

In the beginning, he would photograph landscapes around Prijedor that could be mass graves connected with ethnic cleansing and mass executions. Later he started thinking of the flora and its role in that specific situation. At that point, very few people had been found out of the more than **3,000** that were reported as missing.

The exhibition goal was to

- offer an original account and a powerful reminder of the atrocities committed in the artist's hometown of Prijedor during the ethnic cleansing campaigns of the Bosnian War
- show how the arts can be used to process war trauma
- serves as an educational tool for future generations, helping to preserve the memory of the past and the lessons that can be learned from it





The exhibition was promoted was by VII Academy in collaboration with Kuma International, Zemaljski muzej Bosne i Hercegovine, Festival MESS, Ars Aevi Museum of Contemporary Art and Danish Arts Council.

As the artist would tell, “Thirty years is not a little time. We are still living in the war in many ways. There are still traces of the war around us; we are still looking for bodies of people missing, discussing certain topics. There is, again, a new cycle of nationalism. We obviously didn't leave those demons from the past behind”.

SUMMER SCHOOL



**KUMA
INTERNATIONAL
SUMMER
SCHOOL**
5th edition

SCHOOL PROGRAM

Sarajevo, August 8-20 2022



manifesto



This year's summer school marked **30** years since the beginning of the Bosnian war. It was an opportunity for artists and scholars to come together to reflect on the legacy of the war and its impact on Bosnia and Herzegovina's contemporary art scene.

Through a series of

- lectures
- presentations
- round tables
- workshops
- guided tours

15 participants from

- Bosnia Herzegovina
- Italy
- Turkey
- United States
- Germany
- UK

engaged in critical discussions and creative workshops focused on the themes of memory, trauma, and identity. Through these discussions and workshops, attendees gained a deeper understanding of how the war has shaped Bosnia and Herzegovina's cultural landscape, and how artists are using their work to address the lasting effects of the conflict.



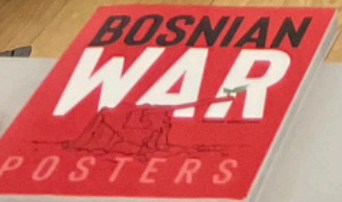
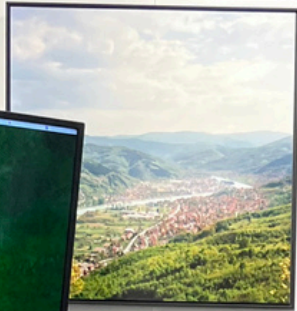
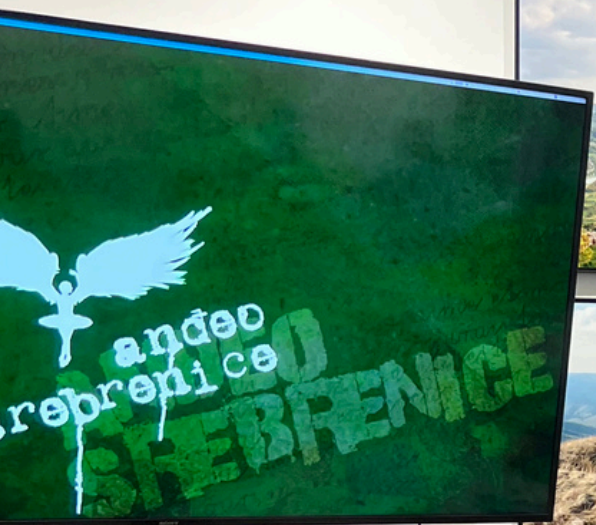
Kuma International Summer School is a unique educational program that focuses on contemporary art practices produced in conflict and trauma. It is the first program of its kind, dedicated solely to this topic, and aims to provide a platform for artists and scholars to explore and reflect on the role of art in times of crisis.

More than **90** students from **20** different countries have participated in the program over the past **5** editions (2018-2022).

The program is held annually in Sarajevo, the capital of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Sarajevo is a city that has experienced significant conflict and trauma in recent history, and has become a symbol of resilience and hope. The city provides a rich backdrop for the summer school, offering students the opportunity to engage with local artists and communities, and to learn about the complex cultural and political landscape of the region.

The summer school is open to students and professionals from a variety of disciplines, including art, history, sociology, and political science. The program is designed to be interdisciplinary, with a focus on collaborative and participatory approaches to learning. Participants engage in a variety of activities, including lectures, workshops, field trips, and studio visits, all aimed at exploring the intersection of art and conflict.

The curriculum is structured around a series of thematic modules, each of which explores a different aspect of contemporary art practices in conflict and trauma. Some of the topics covered include: the role of art in conflict resolution, the relationship between art and memory, the ethics of representation in times of crisis, and the potential for art to foster social change.



FIELD TRIP

In August 2022 we visited the Srebrenica Memorial Center together with **15** students from our summer school program.

Srebrenica is a town in Bosnia and Herzegovina that is tragically known for the genocide that took place there in 1995, during the Bosnian War. The Memorial Center was established to commemorate the victims of the genocide and to educate visitors about the events that took place. It houses a number of exhibitions and displays, including photographs, artifacts, and personal belongings of the victims.

During the field trip, students had the opportunity to visit the Memorial Center and learn about the history of the Bosnian War and the events that led to the genocide in Srebrenica. They could see firsthand the impact of the war on the local community, hear personal stories from survivors and family members of the victims and learn about the daily life of the people who were affected by the genocide.

In addition to the Memorial Center and the surrounding area, we visited the Potocari Memorial Cemetery, where the victims have been laid to rest.

Overall, the trip was a deeply moving and educational experience for students. It helped them understand the impact of war and genocide on individuals and communities, and develop empathy and compassion for those who have suffered as a result of conflict.

It also helped to promote a culture of remembrance and to ensure that the lessons of the past are not forgotten.



PUBLICATIONS

POLIGON ZA KULTURNA I DRUŠTVENA PITANJA

The publication "Poligon za kulturna i društvena pitanja" (February 2022) is dedicated to cultural memory and critical examinations of how socio-political conditions determine our memory.

It is the result of **2** workshops that we organized in December 2021 on the topic of creative writing in culture led by poet and professor Adisa Bašić and coordinated by artist and curator Adna Muslija.

One of the primary goals of the workshop was to encourage participants to explore their own cultural identities and to find their own unique voices.

7 young writers wrote a series of critical texts about specific cultural phenomena, issues, and/or practices they recognized as necessary for Bosnian society.

Ministry of Culture and Sports of Canton Sarajevo supported the project.





"The effort of young people in Bosnia and Herzegovina to move away from the traumatic past that they have not experienced is nothing else than a defence mechanism.

The younger generations are left with the legacy of dealing with the past, deconstructing relational frameworks and (re)establishing the objective. Living with such a legacy seems like a challenging task. This is why a limbo is created.

In this limbo, one does not talk about the trauma of the second generation, the present is lived from day to day, and the future is either not thought about at all or is thought about from the promised land of Europe.

Seven young authors wrote about the phenomena and problems of cultural memory/ies in the country. Dealing with topics ranging from video games to cemeteries in urban areas, they sought to push the frames of memories and make those frames more visible. Above all, they have faced their defence mechanisms. They accepted the (unwanted) inheritance and stepped out of the limbo."

Excerpt from the introduction by Adna Muslija, editor-in-chief of Kaleidoskop.

MAHALA

magazine

Mahala Magazine is an editorial project dedicated to documentary photography born in Sarajevo in February 2021 as a result of a **2** week workshop on photojournalism led by Italian photojournalist Enrico Dagnino, one of the leading photographers at the French magazine “Paris Match.

A team of **15** dedicated emerging professionals and photography students from

- Bosnia Herzegovina
- France
- United States

wrote **7** articles about Sarajevo with photographs taken with disposable analogue cameras.

Mahala aims to nurture a warm and welcoming publication filled with great stories about the people living in Bosnia and Herzegovina and beyond. The magazine wants to be a mirror of all of the values that Kuma International supports such as

- interethnic dialogue
- civil society engagement
- democratic participation

while at the same time promoting a positive image of the country.

“We live in an era of confusion and fake news in a digital universe. It is more important than ever to remain honest and impartial. Mahala Magazine is our answer to the actual confusion. Our commitment is to portray life as we see it without staging or manipulating anything, to understand and change our society for the better.”

Enrico Dagnino, editor in chief

The third issue of Mahala Magazine was launched in January 2022.

All of Mahala Magazine’s editions are available online as a free download.

MAHALA

magazine

HOT SPOTS
FROM LUSAKA
DISASTERS
SEDRA
JOURNALS
DISASTERS

WHEN THE PAST IS NEGLECTED

issue 2021/3 December



UNSAFE GORAŽDE

UNSAFE GORAŽDE is a book dedicated to those people who lost their lives in wars and those still affected by war.

It is part of the UNSAFE GORAŽDE multimedia project initiated by Kuma International together with Enrico Dagnino, Claudia Zini, Fuad Fule Bavčić and Quentin Fagart with the aim to

- documenting and preserving the experiences of war survivors to create a historical record of the war in Bosnia and the experiences of those who lived through it
- help to ensure that their experiences are not forgotten and that future generations can learn from their bravery and resilience
- raising awareness and understanding about the war in Bosnia and the impact it had on individuals and communities
- promoting healing and reconciliation by highlighting examples of forgiveness, compassion, and resilience

Published by: Kuma International Center for Visual Arts from Post-Conflict Societies

Editors: Claudia Zini, Enrico Dagnino

Photographs: Enrico Dagnino, Quentin Fagart

Graphic design: Ideologija, Sarajevo

Pages: 144

Printed by: Grafotisak, Grude

Print run: 1000 copies

Place and year of publishing: Sarajevo, 2022





"UNSAFE GORAŽDE illustrates the story of the city of Goražde and its inhabitants who survived the Bosnian war defending their homes against all odds, while the other cities along the Drina river fell to the enemy.

The people of Goražde you will meet in the book, portrayed by photographers Enrico Dagnino and Quentin Fagart, tell a story of heroes and heroic times when they found strength they didn't know they had to defend their closest ones, their homes.

They don't perceive themselves as victims. They stand proud in front of their houses and talk every day to their children about what happened during the war so that it may never happen again.

On February 24, 2022 Russia fully invaded Ukraine. Once again, we see civilians in tears leaving their burning homes, men joining the army, women and children fleeing the war to foreign countries. While I write this text, the war is still ongoing. More than 4 million refugees have since left Ukraine.

Will we ever learn from the past?"

Claudia Zini, editor



On the occasion of Ismar Ćirkinagić's "Herbarium" exhibition that opened in November 2022 at the National Museum of Bosnia and Herzegovina, 30 years since the beginning of the Bosnian War and the artist's forced departure from Prijedor as refugee, we produced **1000** copies of a catalogue with a long interview between the artist and Kuma International's director Dr. Claudia Zini.



HERBARIUM

ISMAR ÇIRKINAGI

WORKSHOPS AND LECTURES



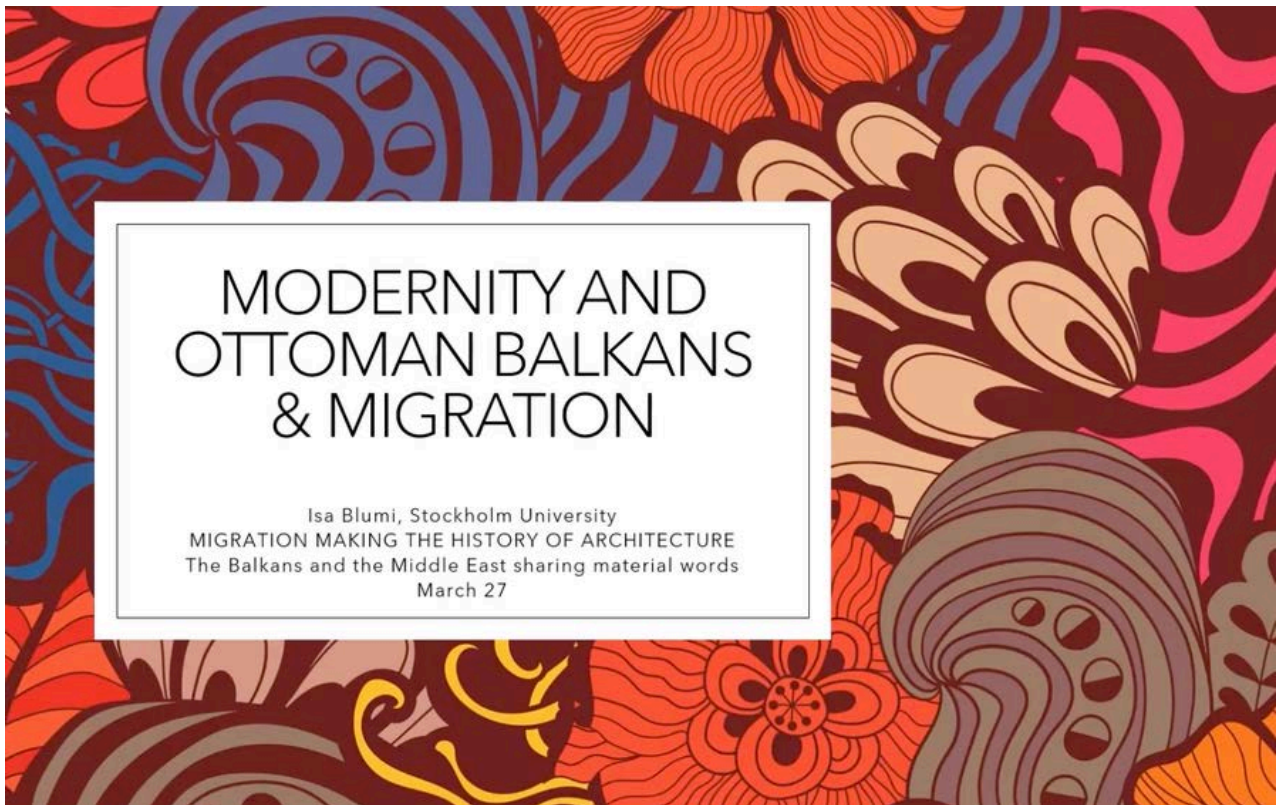
Willing to respond to the endemic spreading of xenophobic and nationalist discourses, Kuma International and Yalla Project launched a **3 WEEK ONLINE WORKSHOP** aimed at exploring the exchanges between the former Ottoman provinces in the Balkans and Caucasus and Palestine during the late 19th century through migrations.

16 PARTICIPANTS joined the workshop from:

- Bosnia Herzegovina
- Palestine
- Turkey
- Portugal
- Germany
- Italy
- UK
- Jordan

The workshop was accompanied by **4 LECTURES** by professors from:

- Oxford University
- Stockholm University
- Birzeit University
- Sarajevo University



The workshop exploring the exchanges between the former Ottoman provinces in the Balkans and Caucasus and Palestine during the late 19th century through migrations was a unique opportunity for scholars and students to

- delve into an often-overlooked aspect of the history of the Middle East and Eastern Europe
- explore the complex connections between these regions, highlighting the ways in which migrations played a crucial role in shaping their cultural, economic, and political landscapes.

The workshop was structured around a series of thematic modules, each of which focuses on a different aspect of the exchanges between the former Ottoman provinces in the Balkans and Caucasus and Palestine.

Some of the topics covered in the workshop included

- the reasons behind the migrations
- the cultural and linguistic exchanges that took place
- the impact of these migrations on the economies of these regions
- the political implications of these movements of people



ZENICA
10.12.2022

WORKSHOP

ON PHOTOJOURNALISM

with
Enrico Dagnino



In collaboration with RadiYo Active Zenica we organized a workshop on photojournalism with Italian reporter Enrico Dagnino.

10 participants joined us for this informative and practical workshop that focused on the role of photography in journalism, as well as the techniques and skills required to take compelling and impactful photos for journalistic purposes.

The workshop was a great opportunity for aspiring journalists to

- learn the skills necessary to capture and tell powerful stories through images
- gain practical experience in the field, receive feedback on their work, and learn about the ethical considerations involved in photojournalism
- gain deeper understanding of how to use photography as a tool for storytelling and documentation
- learn about the importance of fighting fake news in the era of digital media and provide accurate and trustworthy information to the public
- contribute to the fight against misinformation and promote responsible journalism practices



During the 5th edition of our summer school in August 2022, **15** participants joined artist Aida Šehović for a workshop on the role art can play in the memorialization of the Srebrenica genocide.

The workshop was a powerful and thought-provoking experience. It explored the different ways in which art can contribute to the process of remembrance, commemoration, and reconciliation, and how artists can use their work to engage with the legacy of the genocide in Srebrenica.

During the workshop, participants were engaged in critical discussions and creative workshops focused on the themes of memory, trauma, and identity.

Participants explored different art forms and learnt how these forms can be used to express the complexity of the genocide and its aftermath. They also examined how art can be used to document the experiences of survivors and the wider community affected by the genocide and explore how it can serve as a platform for social and political change.

It provided a platform for participants to engage with complex social and political issues and use their creative skills to promote a culture of remembrance, healing, and reconciliation.







A 2 hour workshop with **30** participants followed the exhibition "Woman to Woman" that we organized together with Austrian Cultural Forum in October 2022.

It was led by curator Kurt Kainld from Fotohof Salzburg who discuss the work of the two Austrian photographers and their photography practice, a great chance for all photography lovers to learn more about these two incredible women working ahead of their time in a predominantly male-dominated industry.



**DOCUMENTARY
FILM**

UNSAFE GORAŽDE is a documentary film directed by Enrico Dagnino on the Bosnian city of Goražde and its inhabitants who survived the war defending their homes against all odds, while the other cities along the Drina river fell to the enemy.

2 movie screenings:

- Gorazde, May 9 2022
- Sarajevo, July 3 2022

More than **100** people joined the screenings.

UNSAFE GORAŽDE follows Fuad Bavčić, a retired economist and war veteran who spent the war years in the besieged city before joining his family in Sarajevo in 1996, who meets some of also journalists, cultural operators and musicians. In these conversations with fellow citizens, three epochs are intertwined: pre-war, war and post-war. What emerges is a collective story of courage that ultimately speaks of love for family, city, and country.

The film's very title hides an inevitable allusion to the blindness of Europe which culminated in the Srebrenica genocide. People in Goražde escaped a similar fate with incredible courage and determination. Through their poignant testimonies, this film reveals how they succeeded and eventually survived.



Kuma International presents

unsafe goražde

a project by
Enrico Dagnino, Claudia Zini
Fuad Bavčić, Quentin Fagart

Film premiere:

May 9, 2022 at 20:00

Centar za kulturu Goražde

Exhibition opening:

May 10, 2022 at 18:00

Gradska Galerija Goražde

The project was realized in partnership with Brodac Gallery and funded by the International Relief Fund for Organisations in Culture and Education 2021 of the German Federal Foreign Office, the Goethe-Institut and other partners.



IDEOLOGIJA