

//// ARTIST TALK AT LUNCHTIME

with the artist Irena Lagator Pejović
and curator Karolina Majewska-Güde
Welcome: Monika Leisch-Kiesl
Tuesday, November 19, 2019, 12:00, KU Linz, Foyer

//// ARTIST TALK

Irena Lagator Pejović – Un-Limited Responsibility
Monday, January 20, 2020, 7:30 p.m., Kepler Salon

Supported by



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Plastic Water, 2017

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IM VORBEIGEHEN II/17

WINTER SEMESTER 2019/20

//// IRENA LAGATOR PEJOVIĆ
FOR THE COMMON GOOD



KATHOLISCHE
PRIVATUNIVERSITÄT LINZ

//// Biography

Irena Lagator Pejović (1976 Yugoslavia) holds a PhD in visual art from Center for Interdisciplinary Studies at the University of Arts in Belgrade. She works as an assistant professor at the University of Donja Gorica and is an active member of the Institute for Contemporary Art in Montenegro.

As visual artist and art theorist, she dedicated her research to contemporary society and culture through artistic and theoretical analysis of the relationship between capital, political practices and contemporary art. Starting from the concepts of “contemporary art” and “contemporary capitalism” Irena explores the notion and occurrence of institutional and biopolitical conditions of contemporary art and action in relation to globalism, corporation systems and societal transition. (Miško Šuvaković)

Solo exhibitions (selection)

Irena Lagator Pejović represented Montenegro with a solo show *Image Think* at the 55th International Art Exhibition – La Biennale di Venezia in 2013. Other important solo shows: *Limited Responsibility Society (L.L.C.)*, Villa Pacchiani, Santa Croce sull’Arno (2012) and Salon of the Museum of Contemporary Art, Belgrade (2012), *What We Call Real*, National Museum of Montenegro, Cetinje (2008), *Is it Still Winter Outside?*, Museum of Contemporary Art, Banja Luka (2007).



Temporary Dumping Place. Rotations in Given Space, 2004

Group exhibitions (selection)

100 Years of the Bauhaus: Contextualizations and Re-Contextualizations of the Bauhaus in the Yugoslav Art Space, Faculty of Architecture & Goethe Institute, Belgrade (2019); *Perceptions: Why Have There Been No Great (Wo)Men Artists?*, National Museum of Montenegro, Cetinje in collaboration with British Council (2018); *From One Mediterranean to the other*, FRAC. Provence – Alpes – Côte d’Azur, Marseille (2017); *Normalities*, Austrian Cultural Forum, New York (2016); *Fiery Greetings*, Museum of Yugoslav History, Belgrade / Lothringer13 – Städtische Kunsthalle München (2015); *The Sea is My Land – Artists from the Mediterranean*, MAXXI, Rome / Triennale di Milano Design Museum (2013, 2014); *Spring Exhibition*, Kunsthall Charlottenborg, Copenhagen (2013); *Disappearances*, National Gallery of Reykjavík (2013); *Untitled (History)*, 12th Istanbul International Biennial of Contemporary Art (2011).

//// Series Curators
Monika Leisch-Kiesl
Julia Allerstorfer

Guest Curator
Karolina Majewska-Güde

During the winter semester daily
Mo–Fr 8.00 a.m. – 17.00 p.m.

Admission free!

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Knowledge of the Limited Responsibility Society, 2012

The title of the exhibition derives from an archival documentary film about the construction of the biggest European dam at the Danube River in Serbia 1969, which comprises a part of Lagator’s installation *Forward Play Reverse*, created especially for the exhibition at KU Linz. This quotation, taken from a narrative focused on the future of a country that ceased to exist (Yugoslavia), functions as a reminder of the dystopian consequences of all modernising projects.

The presentation *For the Common Good* emphasizes an environmental dimension of Lagator’s artistic practice, which has to be understood not in the narrow tradition of art that is involved merely with ecological investigations but “environmental” in a broader sense, related to the origin of the word “environment,” which indicates the world that we constitute around us by undertaking certain decisions. In that context Lagator works often with photosensitive fiscal receipts, using them as both indexical traces of consumerist activities and as signs of a culture of limited responsibility. In her book installation *The Knowledge of the Limited Responsibility Society*, which consists of a cityscape created by volumes of fiscal receipts bound together, the artist comments directly on the condition of the lack of responsibility for the common world by exploring the idea of vanishing content.

The artist engages with ecology in a sense that can be captured by referring to Félix Guattari’s concept of “existential territories” and three registers of ecology: environmental, social and mental. In her works presented within “Im Vorbeigehen,” Lagator encapsulates all three domains of ecology, exploring them by focusing primarily on the issue of water.

Reflection on the relationship between the human world and water, according to Astrida Neimanis, allows a new understanding of the community. It also generates possibilities of a new language that enables transformation of an agreement between the human and non-human world. In the same way, in her hydro-works, Lagator explores visual possibilities of speaking about human responsibility in relation with and through water and its histories.