



JURY REPORT ON SELECTION OF PROPOSALS FOR THE ARTIST IN RESIDENCY PROGRAM IN STUDENT CAMPUSES WITHIN THE PROJECT “THEY: LIVE, STUDENT LIVES REVEALED THROUGH CONTEXT BASED ART PRACTICES”

The jury of They: Live Project’s AIR Program gathered on July 26, 2021, to have a discussion and exchange opinions after examination of the proposals received from artists and curators from Serbia, Montenegro, Croatia, and Spain. After reading and debating about the interesting and inspiring project proposals, the jury had a very tough task to choose four of them - one from each partner country – which will be carried out during the Artist in Residency programs in campuses in Belgrade, Podgorica, Rijeka and Madrid in 2022. The jury’s decision is as follows:

The proposal by Marina Tkalčić and Nika Rukavina / Rijeka

This proposal has the most powerful social element out of all the proposals we have received. It is grounded in social struggles and student history, interlinking it with activist ways of self-organization and commons, which seems to fit very well into Rijeka’s context.

The participatory element is closely related to the students’ role in socio-political changes, enhancing the power of students’ voices throughout history and the present day. The residency goal is clear and agile: to motivate students to change their mindsets about their role in the society, present activism as the meeting point and a broader solidarity practice. In that way, this proposal fits very well into They: Live’s goals.

In an open-ended proposal such as this, relying on the process itself, trust and participation, the artworks will be developed in a close collaboration with students during the residency. This aspect adds an element of surprise and experiment to the overall proposal.

The proposal by Maíra Villela & Ana Paes / Madrid

The proposal is ambitious and interesting, offering a variety of participatory activities carried out with the student population. The participatory element is well-researched and in line with the contemporary trends in theory and artistic practice.

Its methodology and key words (diversity of spaces, identity, intimate self-expression gestures from the everyday context, raising awareness, new paradigms based in love and respect) can be easily interlinked with They: Live Project's goals and research topics. The artistic team aims to work in the local context, offering a poetic output, which gives this proposal a unique perspective that sets it apart from all the others we have received.

The residency will contribute to the Project's archive (such as photographs of plants that grow in the vicinity of student dormitories), extending the archive's scope and creating more opportunities for student participation.

The proposal by Uroš Krčadinac and Dušan Savić / Belgrade

The proposal has a developed approach that explores the identities of students in the Students' City by using a generative media tool in the contemporary digital and AI landscape. Moreover, it is interesting research that dives into entanglements of actual and virtual social spaces, making fruitful insights by means of connecting lives of students throughout history to the present days, while both using the project archive and making contributions to it.

The project proposal is well-grounded in ideological, political, economic and technological research, as well as in media art practices. It is conceived in a way that makes it open for further participatory activities *in situ* with newly acquired material and in accordance with actual student needs. The proposed activities will be communicated in a language and through channels that are most familiar to contemporary generations of students and are planned to be realized both online and through direct workshops and collaboration with the Students' City residents.

The additional dimension of the project is reflected in the possibility of using the AI generator created during the residency as a model for similar participatory activities with different communities.

The proposal by Milena Vukoslavović and Sonja Dragović / Podgorica

The proposal focuses on a very important, but usually neglected theme of temporary spaces, shaped by the micro-level socio-economic entanglements and the way they have changed in reaction to the changing social, economic and political realities, presented through the history of a student dorm in Podgorica/Titograd. In that way all the topics, highlighted as the leading themes of They: Live Project, become visible and analyzed from the perspective that students recognize and use on a daily basis.

The additional value is reflected in experiences of both artists and curators who lived in the student campus in Podgorica more than ten years ago. With regard to the methodology, the proposal includes workshops and exhibitions that will give students of different geographic,

socio-economic, and disciplinary backgrounds an opportunity to participate in a cross-disciplinary collaboration, which the local higher-education system is still badly lacking.

They: Live Project's archive will be enriched through contributions made by this proposal and it could initiate similar research and exhibitions in other project partners' campuses.

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The jury of the AIR program of They: Live project is composed of the following members: Srđan Tunić (art historian and curator, archivist of They: Live Project), Natalija Vujošević (visual artist, local coordinator of They: Live Project in Montenegro), Maida Gruden (art historian and curator, coordinator of They: Live Project), Ana Ivanović (art historian, member of Advisory Board of They: Live Project), Andrija Stojanović (project manager, assistant on international projects for the Students' City Cultural Center, Belgrade).