## prof. Mgr. Michal Koleček, Ph.D.

The LUNGOMARE ART project is one of the key contributions to the program of Rijeka 2020 – European Capital of Culture, whose undeniable benefit lies in the long-term cooperation between the production team and invited artists on the one side, and representatives of the participating municipalities and local residents on the other. This cooperation will result in eleven works of art permanently placed in public space with a potential to strengthen the social and cultural identity of the participating localities and their communities in the long term.

Although the forms of contemporary art works are in many ways different from what we are used to in the art history or in centers of historical premises, it is clear that in the LUNGOMARE ART project, new "monuments" will originate in their neighborhood, in city centers, on their outskirts or even in the middle of nature, using completely current creative artistic procedures and strategies. They are based on principles of focused artistic research, they accentuate the intensive relationship the location and openness to its diverse needs, they have a sitespecific character, and use participatory approaches to communicate with specific members of the community and their involvement in the creative process.

The selected localities involved in the LUNGOMARE ART project withal create a logical belt around Kvarner Gulf, which includes very different types of communities – urban, industrial, rural, touristic, island, agricultural, fishing and more. They have however always co-existed in interconnection and co-created the naturally diverse atmosphere of the region and its inhabitants. The aim of the project is to rediscover and strengthen this unique quality, to build a pulsing organism that will become important and significant again by means of the exchanges.

The LUNGOMARE ART project already represents a broadly actively communicating and intensely cooperating community of people from different parts of Kvarner and from different parts of the world, who together aim to realize specific artworks, and to realize the project as a whole. Diversity and discovering its unlimited wealth is actually one of its basic strategies and goals. Both established and younger artists and artistic couples or collectives from Croatia, Europe, South and North Americas and Asia arrive in the towns and villages of Kvarner and meet the locals, speak each other a different language, yet so intensively.

ARTISTS

LOCATIONS

**PROJECTS** 

## Sofie Thorsen (DK/A) – Brseč

Currently the site for the installation is a small triangular park at the entrance to the village and the main road. Next to the park there are parking lots and other infrastructural elements. The village bocce court is placed here and some benches. Three elevated stone surfaces in the dimensions 150 x 260 x 40 cm are placed next to the old Bocce court in Brseč, at the entrance to the village. The surface can be used to sit, to place stuff, as a bench or a large table. In the smooth surface a pattern of abstract lines and shapes are carved, sometimes actual letters, but not a readable text. The objects are at once large sculptures and abstract drawings in stone.

## Sofie Thorsen (DK/A) – Brseč

Next to the former schoolyard in Brseč in a small alley, one wall is filled with grafitti and marks and names skratched by children and tourists through the years. Theses markings and the spots of peeling paint form a complex semi abstract drawing which will serve as the base for the drawings on the stones. Additional elements of text such as fragments from of schoolbooks from the local children and fragment of handwriting from the local Eugen Kumičić museum are included in the composition, but not necessarily recognisable. The drawings for the stones are developed from these sources, abstracted, enlarged, overworked and developed into a final design for the object.

#### **Sofie Thorsen – Strokes and Incisions**



Sofie Thorsen Strokes and Incisions



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## Sofie Thorsen Strokes and Incisions





#### **Sofie Thorsen – Strokes and Incisions**





## Davor Sanvincenti (HR) – Lovranska Draga

The concept is based on the realization of an art facility that would serve as a meeting place, a place where you can learn about the history of the locality and a space of meditation on time and space. The project is conceived as a pavilion that will be located on a famous pedestrian path in Lovranska Draga, extending from the sea shore to the top of Mount Učka.

## Davor Sanvincenti (HR) – Lovranska Draga

The pavilion will be constructed of materials that are in close proximity (chestnut, local stone, etc.) and will create their stronghold on the phenomenology of humannature relations. The building will be shaped into an abstract form that evokes the natural element. The concept of the object represents a place of rest, refreshment, a natural shelter where the introduction of passersby and locals will be taking place. The importance is contained in the reflection and exchange of social and ecological topics characteristic for the neighborhood of Lovran and Lovranska Draga.

## Davor Sanvincenti Puli Malina



## Davor Sanvincenti Puli Malina





#### **Davor Sanvincenti – Puli Malina**





#### **Davor Sanvincenti – Puli Malina**



#### Davor Sanvincenti – Puli Malina, 2020



## Jiří Kovanda (CZ) / Nika Laginja (HR) – Volosko

Volosko is a place with long and rich history that combines the influences of the surrounding natural environment and the specific character of the local community. The dialogue between nature – represented primarily by the ever-present sea – and the people living on the coast creates a metaphorical framework for the communication of two artists invited to participate in the project.

## Jiří Kovanda (CZ) / Nika Laginja (HR) – Volosko

In the center of the Volosko community – in the old harbour – Jiří Kovanda will carry out a minimalist intervention based on the local natural history. In reference to the year 1857, when Andrija Mohorovičić – well-known Croatian scientist – was born in Volosko, the author creates a small memorial next to the corner of his birthplace. Its form refers to traditional memorial realizations, which are a whole lot in Volosko. However, on a classic, historicizing iron plate mounted on an impressive stone object, text is placed that highlights dramatic changes taking place in the natural environment, reminiscent of the marine animals around Volosko widespread at the time of Mohorovičić birth and nowadays absent.

## Jiří Kovanda (CZ) / Nika Laginja (HR) – Volosko

Nika Laginja, a young author from nearby town of Opatija, focuses on the realization of an undersea art object composed of bryozoa, bivalves, sponges and other cleaning organisms. This permanent installation contributes to the restoration of biodiversity in a particular locality. Of course, the project does not aim for global change, but through continuous measurement and monitoring of the growth of the selected organisms, it can represent the opportunities of each individual's engagement faceing of responsibility to the world we inhabit.

## Jiří Kovanda 1857



## Jiří Kovanda 1857



## Jiří Kovanda – 1857

In 1857, the Jadranski bračić (Adriatic Brachic / Fucus virsoides) was an abundant species in the Kvarner Gulf. Today it exceptionally rare.



## Jiří Kovanda 1857



#### Jiří Kovanda – 1857, 2020





## Nika Laginja – Lautus



## Nika Laginja – Lautus



## Nika Laginja Lautus



## Nika Laginja – Lautus



## Pavel Mrkus (CZ) – Rijeka, Old Fish Market

Who are the fishermen, who are the masters of this play, what are they like and what did they have to do in order to make these tables so wealthy today? The imagery of the masters – local fishermen – the simple missing part of the whole ceremony. To bring these images into the center of the community would be an interesting and compiling gesture peformed in this common act. To reveal their skills, endeavor, mastership, patriotism and craftmenship would be like filling the gap between the wild sea and the safe home. It would potentially have a chance to rise the level of pride of all who participate on this celebration of local culture.

## Pavel Mrkus (CZ) – Rijeka, Old Fish Market

The artwork would be conceived from set of four video displays placed in four round windows of the upper floor. The video imagery would present fishermen at their work while fishing and other necessary activities. The sound of the activities, of the tools, of the nets, sea and wind or other elements can be displaced over the upper floor and heard from subtle speakers.

## Pavel Mrkus Masters
















# Academy of Applied Arts, University of Rijeka – Rijeka, Pećine Beach

Rijeka is a city with a rich industrial tradition and its character tends to be beyond the typical idea of a tourist resort on the shores of the blue sea. As the city grew boisterously under the influence of ever-increasing economic activity in the second half of the 19th century and during the first half of the 20th century, port and factory complexes were mixed in its structure with living areas and, naturally, also with sites dedicated to rest and fun. And so it happened that in the most unexpected places small beaches appeared, used mainly by the locals. Among them is the rocky beach of Pećine, situated on the southern outskirts of the city, in the immediate vicinity of the Viktor Lenac shipyard.

## Academy of Applied Arts, University of Rijeka – Rijeka, Pećine Beach

This location was selected for the project featuring the strategies of collective collaborative work, as the Academy of Applied Arts, part of the University of Rijeka, was invited to do so. Students will work on the project throughout the academic year 2019/2020 in a specially designed course for this occasion under the guidance of experienced local artist and associated professor loor Eškinja. The main theme of the project is the title character from the popular animated film series Professor Balthazar, which was created in the former Yugoslavia by Zagreb School of Animated Films at the Zagreb Film studio in the 1960s and 1970s, while Rijeka was the model for the city's image on which Balthazar's stories unfold.

## Academy of Applied Arts, University of Rijeka





# Numen / For Use (HR/D) – Kostrena, Svežanj Beach

The town of Kostrena has the beautiful beaches hidden in a dramatically articulated coastline. The aim of artistic intervention in this specific location has become one of the most beautiful small beaches called Svežanj. This place has a character of an archetypal Adriatic landscape of rocky sides of the cove with pebble shore at the bottom of the bay, surrounded by lush green underbush cover. Even though the bay is squeezed in between a big shipyard at the northwest and refinery at the southeast, a feeling of primeval Mediterranean tranquility dominates the space.

# Numen / For Use (HR/D) – Kostrena, Svežanj Beach

Numen / For Use's project, in addition to direct intervention in the significant environment of Svežanj Beach, which will strengthen the various functions that this space offers to its visitors, also focuses on symbolizing the importance of a commonly used public space. The time spent together at rest, but also at various community activities, can be metaphorically perceived in this project as an expression of the democratization of the social context and the various types of urban or social structures that every community creates and uses to support its development.

## Numen / For Use Bundle



#### **Numen / For Use – Bundle**



## **Numen / For Use – Bundle**



## **Numen / For Use – Bundle**



## **Numen / For Use - Bundle**



## Numen / For Use – Bundle, 2020



## Numen / For Use – Bundle, 2020



## Ilona Németh & Marián Ravasz (SVK) – Crkvenica

The context of openess and care connected with the principle of hospitality was reflected in the selection of microlocation in connection to the reconstruction of one of the oldest local accommodation facilities – Miramare hotel – and also park located in the front of this hotel. The artists appropriate the existing work by Zdenko Kolacio dedicated to Croatian poet and politician Vladimir Nazor (1973), to enhance its cultural value, to gaze again on this historical work not only their point of view but indirectly implement also the perspectives of wider interpretation that represented this work and replacing it with a context that was distinctly different and embedded in the story of local women collecting salt to protect the entire community.

## Ilona Németh & Marián Ravasz (SVK) – Crkvenica

Above all, the use of expressive strategies of processual and performative aspects forms the uniqueness of this work of art, both in the creative level and in terms of its attractiveness. Dimensional salt crystals slowly dissolving in the mass of the used concrete represent not only a dedication to the nameless heroines, but they play also the role of a forming element, transforming a seemingly solid, stable surface and the salt disappears in gentle turns gradually under the influence of natural conditions.

# Ilona Németh & Marián Ravasz – Monument to Salt Cooking Women





# Ilona Németh & Marián Ravasz – Monument to Salt Cooking Women



## Ilona Németh & Marián Ravasz – Monument to Salt Cooking Women





# Harumi Yukutake (J) – Lopar

Invited artist has decided to intervene in the little park called Kapić, near the small beach located close to the ferry terminal, which is one of the most important urban structures of Lopar. The author is inspired by local materials – especially by sand and stone. Her aim is to make references to a specific quality of the local natural environment, which influences the character of landscape but also the main social and economic development related to the touristic industry.

# Harumi Yukutake (J) – Lopar

The motif of the design derived from Argonauta argo species, a kind of cephalopod from the group of pelagic octopuses. They are also called paper nautiluses, referring to the paper-thin eggcase that females secrete. Argonauta argo is a cosmopolit, and there are also some finds in the Adriatic Sea and in the Kvarner region. One specimen was founded near Lopar, is hold in the Mollusca collection at of Rijeka Natural History Museum. The scientific name of the paper nautilus, especially the largest species, Argonauta argo, is of mythical Greek origin. The argonauts were a group of Greek heroes that travelled to gain the golden fleece.

# Harumi Yukutake Argonaut



# Harumi Yukutake Argonaut



## Harumi Yukutake – Argonaut



## Harumi Yukutake – Argonaut



# Harumi Yukutake Argonaut





# Smiljan Radić & Marcela Correa (RCH) – Baška

Directly above Baška and its enchanting Great Beach in a place called Ljubimer with a magnificent view across the sea strait towards the island of Prvić and on to the Velebit Mountain, one of the most typical stone structures in this area called mrgar is located near a small natural reservoir. It is a primitive yet sophisticated system of walls reminiscent of megalithic structures monuments which, was used to concentrate of freely moving sheep, sorting them by owners and subsequent treatments.

## Smiljan Radić & Marcela Correa (RCH) – Baška

Chilean architect of Croatian origin Smiljan Radić in cooperation with his partner Chilean sculptor Marcela Correa have decided to create a unique yet receptive and sensitive artistic realization for this charismatic place. The authors define its future character as follows: "You find sometimes anonymous pieces in strange places where nobody thinks to find something. They are naturally primitive, part of a loosed memory... as a long dry wall in Baška place. Then, the reality of the installation or construction by itself is not important, is something which include our travel to find it. We think an anonymous piece abandoned on the hill is enough, after that, the decisions are about the fragility: materials and scale."

## Smiljan Radić & Marcela Correa – Drops





# Smiljan Radić & Marcela Correa Drops





# Smiljan Radić & Marcela Correa Drops



#### Smiljan Radić & Marcela Correa – Drops, 2020





# Liam Gillick (GB/USA) – Mali Lošinj

The author's installation will complements the atmosphere of the place and its openness towards the history of the local community and its cultural development. It will communicate with the Museum of Apoxyomenos which is localized just a few tens of meters far, where is presented the famous 2,000 year old bronze statue of Greek athlete founded near Mali Lošinj below sea, as well as the navigation interpretation center located at reconstructed cargo sailing ship over a hundred years old made in Lošinj Island. Together, these three points will become the new center of community and also of tourism life.

# Liam Gillick (GB/USA) – Mali Lošinj

The project takes the form of a public art work to be located on the stone dock in Mali Lošinj. The work is a reference to what are known as A\* [A star] computer algorithms. These algorithms were developed to find optimal paths in positively rated graphs. The work recognizes the significance of Mali Lošinj as a historically important node within sea faring routes on the Adriatic Sea.

# Liam Gillick A Star Pathfinder



## Liam Gillick – A Star Pathfinder



#### Liam Gillick – A Star Pathfinder



### Liam Gillick – A Star Pathfinder

