



Igor Josifov
MANUMISSION



NARODNI MUZEJ CRNE GORE
ATELJE DADO

Umjetnost u potrazi za svojim ja

Igor Josifov

Moj rad zasniva se na psihoanalizi kroz percepciju i iskustva svijeta i realnosti kulture, morala i etike. Predmet mog rada tiče se smrti, gubitka, pronalaženja sebe i društvene kritike.

U mom radu, prvi i ključni dio procesa predstavlja koncept; stoga, koristim medijum i njegovu simboličnu funkciju da podržim svoj koncept kao element. Imajući za sobom godine iskustva sa gotovo svim medijumima, došao sam do tačke gdje je najvažniji i primarni medijum moje tijelo.

Umjetnost performansa je najneposrednija forma umjetnosti koja mi kao umjetniku daje smisao u komunikaciji sa društvom. Tijelo je uobičajeni objekat koji ljudi povezuju sa idejama o sebi. Ja neprestano radim na istraživanju fizičkih i mentalnih ograničenja svog bića u potrazi za umjetničkom transformacijom.

Molim Vas da pogledate opise projekata koje sam dao kako biste dobili detaljniju sliku o tome kako je tijelo utkano u moj rad u toliko mnogo različitih medijuma.

Na galerijskoj izložbi *Suoči se (Face It)*, tijelo koristim kako bih prenio iskustva koja sam u djetinjstvu imao sa makedonskim društvom. Prepravio sam konjske naočnjake prilagodivši ih ljudskoj glavi i prekrrio ih sagorjelom ikonografijom hrišćanske i muslimanske vjere. Kada su se ove dvije slike postavile jedna naspram druge, tenzija u prostoru između dvije vjere bila je vidljiva i opipljiva.

Tokom performansa *Proces pročišćavanja (Purification process)*, iz tijela i uma izbacujem uticaje iz prošlosti, mišljenja i moralne standarde drugih ljudi kao metafora potrebe da se nađe svoje istinsko biće.

U *Prekinutoj umjetnosti (Art, Interrupted)* tijelo postoji u očima posmatrača jer je, usljed nezgode, tijelo umjetnice (Renata G) spriječeno da izvede performans. Energija prostora postala je metafora za njeno tijelo i za to kako uticaj njenog produženog umjetničkog djelovanja dovodi ljude do introspektivnog stanja u sebi.

Art In Search Of The I

Igor Josifov

My work is based on psychoanalysis through perception and experiences of the world and the reality of culture, morals, and ethics. The subject of my work deals with death, loss, finding the self, and social commentary.

In my work the concept is the first and most crucial part of the process and I use the medium and its symbolic function to support my concept as an element. Having years of experience with almost all mediums I have come to a level where the most important and primary medium is my body.

Performance art is the most direct form of art that makes sense with me as an artist in order to communicate with society. The body is a common subject for people to connect with ideas of self. I'm continuously working on exploring the physical and mental limitations of my being in the quest of artistic transformation.

Please refer to the project descriptions I have enclosed for details about how the body is a part of my work in so many different mediums.

In the gallery exhibition, "Face It," the body is used to communicate my childhood experiences with Macedonian society. I adapted horse blinders for a human head and covered them with burned iconography of Christian and Muslim religions. When these two images were installed facing each other, the tension in the space between these two religions was visible and more literal.

During the performance, "Purification process" I'm cleaning past influences, other people's opinions, and moral standards from the body and the mind as a metaphor for a person's need to find their true self.

In "Art, Interrupted," the body exists in the eyes of the viewer because the artist's (Renata G) body was interrupted from doing a performance by an accident. The energy of the space became a metaphor for her body and how the continued influence of her artwork brings people inside to an introspective state.





Manumission / Oslobođanje (video still), 2008, Courtesy of the Artist and Toomey Tourell Gallery



Indoctrination 2 / Indoktrinacija 2, burned paper / nagoreli papir

Igor Josifov was born in 1986. Kavadarci, Macedonia.

1999. - went to the School For Applied Arts
"Lazar Ličenoski" Skopje

2008. - studied in California at the Academy of
Art University San Francisco in

He now lives between San Francisco and New York.

Solo exhibitions:

2007. - "Art In Search Of The "I" Translating Space,
San Francisco

2008. - »Face it«, Toomey Tourell Fine Art, San Francisco

2009. - »Being you, uses me«, Alphonse Berber Gallery,
Berkeley

»2 dimensional« at the opening of the Modern
Wing at Art Institute, Chicago

»Mental prison« performance a the Tunnel space,
New York

»Art Interrupted«, Space Gallery, San Francisco

2010. - "Manumission"- Museum of Contemporary Arts,
Skopje (Macedonia)

"Igor Josifov – selected projects", MAI, San Francisco

Group exhibitions:

2000. - The International Museum of Art, Oslo, (Norway)

2004. - Museum of Skopje, Skopje (Macedonia)

2007. - Big Bang Art show, 79 New Montgomery Gallery,
San Francisco

On the edge of... Sutter Gallery, San Francisco

Paint Soup, San Francisco

Academy of Art University, 2007 Annual Spring
Show, San Francisco

2008. - »Missing performance installation«

at the Bridge Art Fair, Miami

Performance »Manumission«

at the Bridge Art Fair, Berlin, Germany,

»Reflection on originality« The Watermill Center,
New York

»Ten« 10th anniversary of Toomey Tourell Fine Art,

San Francisco, CA, Bridge project, Performance

»Purification Process« at the Bridge Art Fair, NYC

7th Annual Art Auction presented by Visual Aid
and Academy of Friends, SF, CA

2009. - Performance »2 dimensional« at the Art Institute,
Chicago

»A touch of violence« - National Gallery of Arts,
Tirana, Albania

»Mental prison« performance a the Tunnel space,
New York, NY

2010. - "Marina Abramovic: The Artist is present" - MoMA,
New York

"Works that disturb the moonlight" - Alphonse
Berber Gallery, Berkeley

'This House is empty' - the hunted house of light,
New York

Degeneration - regeneration, Marina Abramovic-
Institute, San Francisco

»Lost bodies« - Mala Stanica/ National Gallery of
Arts, Skopje, Macedonia

"Pour l'Amour de Goya" -, Galerie E.G.P, Paris, France

»Lost bodies« – Chic Art Fair, Paris, France

"Mise an Scene" -, Galerie E.G.P, Paris, France

Awards:

1995. - City of Skopje, exhibition award "13 Noemvri:"
Art Center, Skopje, (Macedonia)

1998. - Special diploma for "Society seen through the
eyes of children« The International Museum of
Art, Oslo, Norway. In cooperation with the
Norwegian Ministry of Education, Norwegian
council for cultural affairs

1999-2003. - Stipend from the Macedonian Ministry of
Culture for the School for
Applied Arts "Lazar Licenoski" Skopje, Macedonia.

2000. - Award for single creation "Vision of the future"
at the 14th International exhibition "The Small
Montmartre of Bitola, Macedonia

First Prize for successful creation at the State Art
Exhibition, Cultural Center

"Ilindenski Denovi" Bitola, Macedonia

2003. - 1st place, International Art Exhibition: 13 Noemvri"
City of Skopje,

2005. - 100% tuition grant, Academy of Art University
Portfolio Grant Program, San Francisco, CA

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Manumission / Oslobadjanje



Manumission, detalj / Oslobadjanje. detalj