

Improcon – 5th Congress of Free Improvised Music, Arts & Thoughts

12-16 August 2019, Spomen Dom, Kumrovec, Croatia and Bistrica ob Sotli, Slovenia

Organized by GOKUL – Građanska organizacija za kulturu (Zabok, Croatia), Klub Metulj – Mladinsko Društvo Bistrica ob Sotli (Bistrica ob Sotli, Slovenia), and KUD Mreža (Ljubljana), Slovenia partnered by Schaumbad – Freies Atelierhaus Graz.

Project holder:

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Description of the project

This year, Improcon – Congress of Free Improvised Music, Arts & Thoughts took place on 12-16 August at Bistrica ob Sotli – Slovenia and Spomen Dom Kumrovec – Croatia with the participation of 58 artists from 13 countries. The majority of the festival participants arrived from the neighboring countries such as Austria, Italy, Slovenia, Croatia and Serbia.

The workshop festival participants – musicians, performers, dancers, poets etc. – executed their international collaborative sessions on 10 different in- and outdoor locations in and around Veliki Tabor Castle for four days, every day from 10 am until 2 am. Participants had a morning and an early evening meeting to plan the daily schedule of the day, we kept the self-organizing nature of Improcon, all the collaborative sessions were set up and on the spot with the help of daily “session sheets” where participants could choose their collaborators and desired location of the session.

Beside sessions our New Zealand-based Croatian interdisciplinary artist, percussionist, composer and improviser Ivan Mršić's made performance Noise Without Borders, Noise Walk on Croatian/Slovenian border with around 50 participants.

Tomaž Grom from Ljubljana present his interactive audio-video instalation iMštrument (Imstrument).

During Improcon musician had opportunity to use record studio, so we will have very good quality documentation of music collaboration.

Conclusion

Again, Improcon – Congress of Free Improvised Music, Arts & Thoughts successfully fulfilled its mission by becoming an initiative and a highly active and creative community, and a meeting point for artists (musicians, performers, dancers, poets, film-makers and photographers), producers (event organizers, radio presenters, sound technicians, volunteers), and audience.

This year, audience visited the evening programs from nearby Desinić and Miljana, and from the surrounding areas from both sides of the Croatian-Slovenian border. Again, we had festival visitors also from Zagreb (65 km) and Ljubljana (150 km).

Zabok, 4.9.2019.

*Nenad Borovčak*