



View of **Ironworks ABC**. Intervention with transparents at the main square of the Ironworks district Željezara, Sisak 2015.

Ironworks ABC

Ironworks ABC (*Abeceda Željezare*) proceeds from the form, spatial points, and status of existing sculptures that were produced in the Ironworks Sisak art colony from 1971-1990. A former giant that employed 14,000 workers, Ironworks Sisak was practically destroyed by war and privatization. The sculptures were created in the colony as the result of a collective process of production between artists and workers, and they continue to stand as witnesses to the era of self-management and creation in the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. The majority of the sculptures have survived in a park in the Caprag neighborhood, despite the fact they would normally be destroyed. Such is the attitude toward the heritage of socialist monuments in the Republic of Croatia.

The work consists of:

- Installation of **transparents with slogans**
- **Ironworks ABC newspaper** (in Croatia-Serbian):
http://issuu.com/vladanrena/docs/abeceda_zeljezare_press

Produced by Miroslav Kraljević Gallery Zagreb for Festival Željezara, June 2015.



Distribution of the newspaper in *Željezara*, the Ironworks district of Sisak.



Ironworks ABC. Transparents at the central square of the Ironworks district Željezara.

Ironworks ABC deals with the language of social transformation, which references the recent past of collective work between workers and artists. It is conceived as a kind of alphabet for thinking work as liberated practice and struggle for creation. *Ironworks ABC* is composed of banners in the public space, intended for the neighborhood of Caprag, and text-based graphics pages in the form of newspapers, in which matter itself appeals to us: iron ore, pipes, sheets, steel, and sculptures.

Because the artistic work lies in the creative collaboration of artists and workers and not in the extant form of the sculptures, this project is interested in the history of production, presenting transformative speech through language and symbols. It is not a question of affirming the sculptures as objects which are in need of protection from deterioration, but rather the revalorization of the relations at the core of the creative process. *Ironworks ABC* aims to speak about those relations as art, locating the symbols and language with which this is possible.



Ironworks ABC. Transparents at the city park of the Ironworks district.



Ironworks ABC. Transparents at the central square of the Željezara district of Sisak.



Rena Rádle & Vladan Jeremić

Abeceda Željezare



Rena Rádle & Vladan Jeremić

Abeceda Željezare



Abeceda Željezare X

Us ,
displaced atoms,
through the heat,
push dreams forward,
in the refreshing cold reality.
If you are realistic,
we can progress
from theory to practice.
Speculation about
bankruptcy
is not realistic.

We demand
the cancellation of debt!

