



Trešnjevka motifs, installation in public space, park Stara Trešnjevka, Zagreb, 2018. Five objects with drawings, 300x300x240cm. Photo: Srđan Kovačević

Trešnjevka Motifs

Installation at Stara Trešnjevka park Zagreb, April 26 - July 16 2018

In his series 'Podravski motivi' (Motifs of Podravina), published in the form of a book in 1933, Krsto Hegedušić lay bare social reality as a relationship between classes. First in the village – as a relationship between field labourers and landowners, merchants and peasants; and then in the city, where the peasantry of Podravina went looking for jobs and got acquainted with new figures: bosses, construction site supervisors, gentry, benevolent ladies with necks wrapped in furs. The artist's stance was revealed in the selection of scenes and details: the drawing was preceded by careful observation, and his keen eye saw the buckle on the dandy's shoe, the rural architecture of planks and tarpaulin cobbled together, and a patch on the sleeve of the boy accused of skulduggery.

In their series 'Trešnjevački motivi' (Motifs of Trešnjevka) Rena and Vladan's eyes are guided by the same principles. The painstaking exploration of the dense and varied urban structure of Trešnjevka serves as the basis for five triptychs of drawings and verses, with the motifs of an old house, public kitchen, casino, eviction and an outlet store. In a number of recognizable details, they are typical of Trešnjevka, but when viewed as a whole they reveal themselves as universal to many peripheries of post-socialist cities. In the words of Rena and Vladan, "Trešnjevka is an example of a neighbourhood

where the cycle of land and housing speculation, which began with the industrialization and migration of people to the city in search of work and accommodation, has not yet been completed. The abolishment of socialism marked the beginning of a new cycle of capital accumulation that forced the owners of small houses to exchange their lots for apartments built by investors. The housing question in Trešnjevka today and 100 years ago is, for many, related to land ownership. With this relationship as the starting point, we employ five images to demonstrate how the ruling ideologies conceal the actual losers in these processes and the instruments which the economic and legal system uses to reconcile the inherent contradictions."

It is for this reason that they do not choose gallery space to exhibit their motifs. The space of mediation is Trešnjevka itself, more precisely Park Stara Trešnjevka, one of the few spaces that can be called public. In the quarter whose residents continuously warn of the lack of green areas, private property is protected by visible and invisible fences, and the Park is perhaps the only large and accessible city-owned property. The pyramidal constructions on which Rena and Vladan position their triptychs are also temporary urban mobiliaries and sign posts of a place for socialization and discussion. Returned to the vibrant tissue of the quarter from which they emerged, the motifs on the pyramids blend in with the postmodern chaos of Trešnjevka, only to show the true face of this chaos in realistic and satirical drawings and verses.

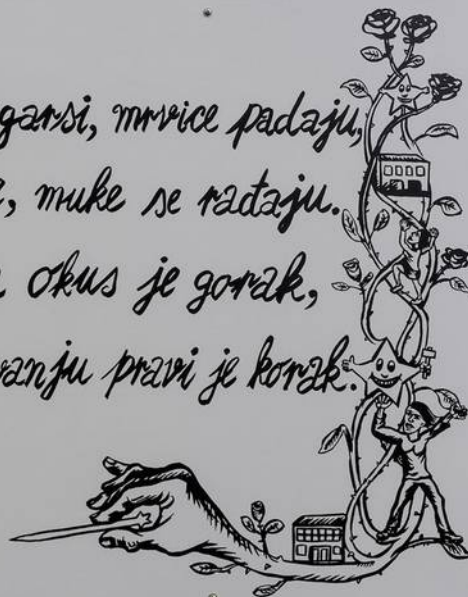
Curatorial text by Ivana Hanaček, Ana Kutleša, Vesna Vuković [BLOK]

The installation was produced by the curatorial collective BLOK as part of the program „Umjetnici za kvart“, which is supported by the Ministry of culture of the republic of Croatia, the City of Zagreb and the Kultura Nova foundation.

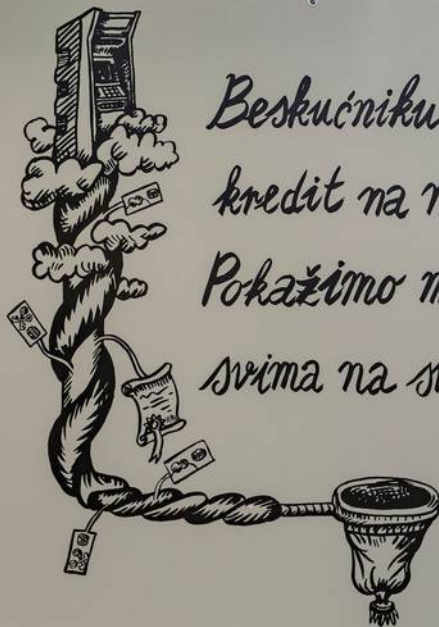
Photo: Rena Rädle



Gdje gozbuju oligarsi, mrvice padaju,
mjehur kad pukne, muke se rađaju.
Slobodnog tržišta okus je gorak,
jednakost u stanovanju pravi je korak.



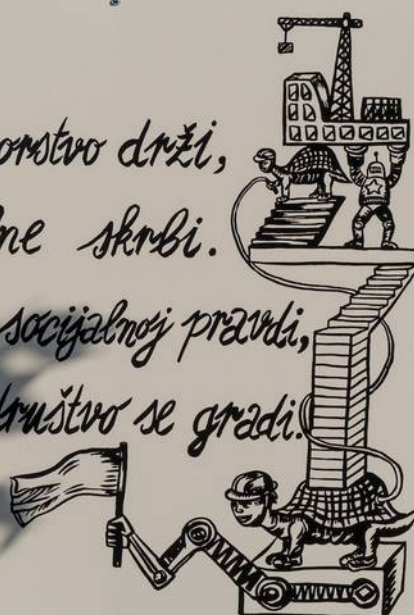
Prodaj plac dok valja cijena,
doći će uskoro gora vremena.
Uloži dobit u mirovinu i stan,
obitelj će imati mirniji san.



Beskućniku dadni, grah nije skup,
kredit na nebu poništiti će dug.
Pokažimo milosrđa, malo dobre volje,
svima na svijetu bit će puno bolje.



Dosadašnje stanje dobrotvornost drži,
uprkos rezanju socijalne skrbi.
Zajedničkom akcijom ka socijalnoj pravdi,
uporištem ravnopravnosti društvo se gradi.

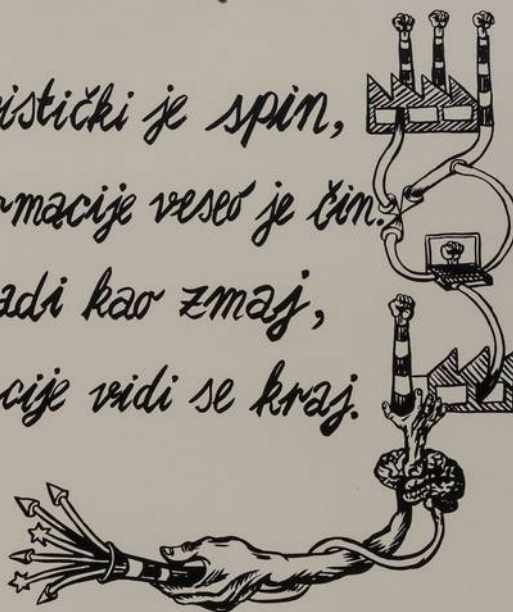




Smjelost i žudnja novac oplode,
tvornica pusta, džoker pobijedi.
Obrni dobit, dvorac ceš steći,
imetak leži u genetskoj sreći.



Fetiš novca atavistički je spin,
okidanje transformacije veseo je čin.
Tvornica otpora radi kao zmaj,
ruletu privatizacije vidi se kraj.

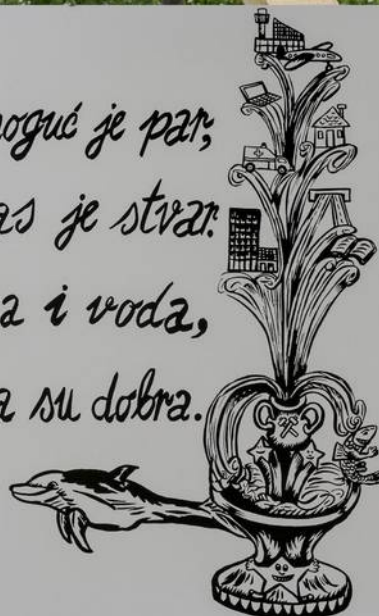




*Eko, održivo, etičko i etno,
socijalno odgovorno vrlo je efektivno.
Dostojanstveno kupi, zaboravi muke,
za dobrobit svih su parkovi i klupe.*



*Socijalno poduzetništvo nemoguće je par,
društveno pitanje sviju nas je stvar.
Krov nad glavom, i hrana i voda,
zdravstvo i znanje zajednička su dobra.*





Slobodno teče protok kredita,
Zastitu ima cijenjena elita.
Naručite pravdu po vašoj mjeri,
rizike otklanjaju izvršitelji.



Profiter gazi život mu tudi,
država štiti tečaj na burzi.
Podruštvljavanje vlasništva njezin je krah.
gdje stamuje solidarnost umire strah.

