Internationales Kultur Centrum ufaFabrik Berlin e.V. Viktoriastrasse 10 - 18, 12 105 Berlin +49 30 755 03 116 / fax -117 www.ufafabrik.de

Dear Mr. Zoran Jankovic Mayor of Ljubljana,

Almost since 28 years the private association **International Culture Centre ufaFabrik Berlin** promotes young contemporary artists in our city. It has been hard work with a lot of idealism and a small but regular support from the City Parliament of Berlin.

The outcome of or work is fantastic. Hundreds of artists got a chance to develop their career; millions of people were involved in processes in a peaceful and creative way. Our work brought together people from different cultural backgrounds and generations. Our work enlarged the financial security and income of hundreds of young urban citizens.

The benefit and income for the City of Berlin through the activities of the independent art scene (and as an attraction for tourists) is more than remarkable. This all has been a long term process.

The ufaFabrik is active member of different European cultural networks and we heard about the alarming situation in which all NGOs and free-lance artists in the field of Contemporary Arts in Slovenia have been pushed into.

We hear that there is a tendency in the Municipality of Ljubljana, not to subsidize the so-called "independent production" sector at all, which consequently means the decline in the development of contemporary arts in Slovenia, for some branches even the cessation of existence.

As the majority of cultural NGOs are based in the capital, without subsidies to NGOs and funding for artistic projects of free-lance artist, there will definitely be a lack of the vivid urban culture in Ljubljana, for which the capital of Slovenia is known in Europe and worldwide and an exquisite attraction not to be missed.

Our appeal goes to the highest national and local cultural authorities of Slovenia to take all necessary acts in their power not to allow and to prevent such a disaster to happen and provide the necessary conditions for contemporary arts to develop and flourish, in Ljubljana and in Slovenia.

Berlin, 1st of February 2007

Sigrid Niemer Director Internationales Kultur Centrum ufaFabrik Berlin e.V. Viktoriastrasse 10 - 18, 12 105 Berlin +49 30 755 03 116 / fax -117 www.ufafabrik.de

Dear Mr. Vasko Simoniti Ministry for Culture of Republic Slovenia,

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