

Subject: Slovenian Culture

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Dear Sirs,

We heard about the alarming situation in which all NGOs and free-lance artists in the field of Contemporary Culture and the Arts in Slovenia have been pushed into.

The reduction in funding by the state cultural authorities already harmed many producers and free-lance artists. Furthermore, we hear that there is a tendency in the Municipality of Ljubljana, not to subsidize the so-called "independent production" sector, 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 the funding for artistic projects of free-lance artists, there will definitely be a big void in the public offer of the vivid urban culture and contemporary arts 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 in Slovenia to take all necessary acts in their power to prevent such a disaster to happen and provide the necessary conditions for contemporary arts to develop and flourish, in Ljubljana, the City of Culture and in Slovenia.

Kevin Gillese, Rapid Fire Theatre, Canada