

**Gaia
Radić**

**Babilonski
viseći "vrtovi"**

NMG@PRAKTIKA
KLUB KOCKA
DOM MLADIH,
SPLIT

22. — 30.
9. 2022.



OTVORENJE:
četvrtak, 22. rujna 2022. u 20h

Izložba je otvorena do 30. rujna,
pon-čet od 18 do 20 sati.

Galerija kluba Kocka,
Dom mladih Split,
Ulica slobode 28

Biblijka priča o obnovi Babilona nakon Velikog potopa (o kojem su pripovijedali u staroj Indiji, Južnoj Africi, Južnoj Americi...) uza sebe veže i priču o izgradnji kule na vodi, koja bi ljudima omogućila uspon do Boga. Dosezanje bestjelesnog božanstva bio je pokušaj materijalizacije nematerijalnog, a Bog je tada ljudima zauzvrat donio kaos, čime se kula raspada i tako se ono materijalno posve dematerijaliziralo – ironični i tužni rezultat jalovog pokušaja za dosezanjem božanskog.

Slične napore ljudi nastavljaju i u suvremeno doba: koriste gotovo magične transhumanističke koncepte *metaversea*, krionike¹ te virtualne i augmentirane stvarnosti kako bi produljili i proširili naše postojanje u dimenzije izvan naših tijela. Takvim naporima ljudi ponovno grade (metaforičku) kulu, u čemu će nas nešto (vjerovalno) jednom zaustaviti.

Kao što je slučaj s tom poslovičnom kulom, čak i postojanje Semiramidinih visećih vrtova je nedokazano te oni već stoljećima postoje isključivo kao ideja, plod spekulativne imaginacije, zbog čega Vrtoči dobivaju karakteristike jednog virtualnog i mističnog ambijenta.

Gaia Radić ovom izložbom predstavlja *site-specific* prostornu instalaciju u kojoj se kroz bajkovite animacije bavi pojmovima simuliranog krajolika, kao i ulogom organske prirode u kontekstu suvremene "ekranske" svakodnevice.

Raznobojni kablovi u prostoru imitiraju korijenje te se protežu po zidovima i podu te također vise sa stropa, pritom podsjećajući na lijane. Kako autorica navodi, svaka njena hiperrealistična animacija prezentira po jedan simulakrum, a svaki "simulakrum" dolazi s podnaslovima - odgovarajućim biblijskim citatima o Babilonu kao gradu, ali i kao duhu/Animi². Citati Gillesa Deleuzea pridruženi su biblijskim kako bi pojasnili što je to "virtualno", ali i da razluče (ili povežu) stvarnost i simulaciju stvarnosti. U tom magičnom odnosu, čovjek postaje nejasno (i nebitno) gdje stvarnost završava, a simulacija počinje. Tada shvaćamo: tehnologija je najbliže što će čovjek ikad doći magiji.

— Katarina Duplančić

OPENING:
Thursday, September 22nd, 8pm

VIEWINGS: Mon-Thu, 6-8pm
(until September 30th)

Klub Kocka Gallery,
Youth Center Split,
Ulica slobode 28

- 1 praksa čuvanja tijela osoba na ekstremno niskim temperaturama u nadi da će njihovo oživljavanje biti moguće u budućnosti
- 2 Anima je izraz koji se koristi za definiranje daha, duše, duha, životne snage. Jung koristi ovaj izraz 1920-ih kako bi opisao "ženske" aspekte svake osobe.

Gaia Radić (Pula, 2001.) mlada je novomedijska umjetnica koja primarno djeluje u području računalne grafike i 3D modeliranja. Trenutno paralelno studira kiparstvo na Akademiji primijenjenih umjetnosti u Rijeci te arhitekturu na Arhitektonskom fakultetu u Ljubljani. Na Arhitektonskom fakultetu u Ljubljani također djeluje kao demonstratorica pri predmetu 'Digitalne metode prezentacije'. Do sada je imala priliku sudjelovati na više od dvadeset skupnih izložbi u Hrvatskoj i Sloveniji, a ističu se suradnje sa Centrom za inovativne medije (CIM APURI), riječkom Galerijom Kortil, UR Institutom iz Dubrovnika te Udrugom Metamedij iz Pule. Prvu samostalnu izložbu pod nazivom 'Svetotvori' održala je u siječnju 2021. godine u riječkoj Galeriji SKC, te je projekt bio sufinanciran od strane Studentskog kulturnog centra Sveučilišta u Rijeci. Najmlađa je članica Hrvatske udruge likovnih umjetnika Istre, te je također održala nekoliko edukativnih predavanja i radio-nica o 3D modeliranju, novomedijskoj umjetnosti i virtualnom prostoru. Dobitnica je druge Erste nagrade 36. Salona mladih i finalistica Nagrade za mlade umjetnike Zlatna lubenica 6.0.

The NMG — New media gallery is an international curatorial platform focused on research projects related to the issues of active participation in a contemporary society which result in new curatorial concepts, inter-media events, international new media collaborations and the creation of new media projects. NMG@PRAKTIKA is an event program within the platform. A cycle of exhibits by independent young artists from Croatia and abroad are regularly organized in the Klub Kocka Gallery located at the Youth Center in Split. The tenth such cycle is currently underway and has so far seen the successful execution of more than eighty solo and group exhibitions by young artists. Through new media and the practice of experimentation with different forms of artistic expression, the exhibitions discuss current issues of contemporary society. This exhibition cycle, therefore, not only provides insight into recent art practices, but also actively participates, by virtue of the artist selection process, in the positioning of contemporary art as a critical factor in tension with social reality.

NMG@PRAKTIKA

22. – 30. 9. 2022.

Gaia Radić: Babilonski viseći "vrtovi" / Hanging "Gardens" of Babylon

The biblical story of the rebuilding of Babylon after the Great Flood (a story told in ancient India, South Africa, South America...) also includes the story of building a tower on water, one which would allow people to ascend to God. Reaching the disembodied divinity was a human attempt to materialize the immaterial, and wrathful God then brought chaos to the people, causing the tower to crumble and the material was completely dematerialized - an ironic and sad result of a futile attempt to reach the divine.

Humans continue similar efforts in modern times: they use almost magical transhumanist concepts of the metaverse, cryonics, and virtual and augmented reality to extend and expand our existence into dimensions beyond our bodies. People today are building a (metaphorical) tower - an effort that will (most likely) be stopped by some entity.

As is the case with that proverbial tower, even the existence of Semiramis' Hanging Gardens is unproven and they have existed for centuries exclusively as an idea, a fruit of speculative imagination, which is why the Gardens acquired the characteristics of a virtual and mystical environment.

With this exhibition, Gaia Radić presents a site-specific spatial installation in which, through fairy-tale animations, she deals with the concepts of a simulated landscape, as well as the role of organic nature in the context of contemporary "screen" everyday life. Multicolored cables in the space imitate roots, stretching along the walls and floor and hanging from the ceiling, reminiscent of lianas.

As the artist states, each of her hyperrealistic animations presents a simulacrum, and each "simulacrum" comes with subtitles - appropriate biblical quotes about Babylon as a city, but also as a spirit/Anima¹. Gilles Deleuze's quotes are joined with the biblical quotes as a sort of a tool for explaining what "virtuality" is, as well as divide (or join) reality and simulation of reality. In that magical relationship, it becomes unclear (and irrelevant) where reality ends and simulation begins. Then we realize that technology is the closest man will ever come to magic.

— Katarina Duplančić

- 1 Anima is a term used to describe ideas such as breath, soul, spirit or vital force. Jung began using the term in the early 1920s to describe the "feminine" side of men.

Gaia Radić (Pula, 2001) is a young new media artist primarily working in the field of computer graphics and 3D modeling. She is simultaneously studying sculpture at the Academy of Applied Arts in Rijeka and architecture at the Faculty of Architecture in Ljubljana. At the Faculty of Architecture in Ljubljana, she also works as a student assistant in the course 'Digital methods of presentation'. So far, she has had the opportunity to participate in more than twenty group exhibitions in Croatia and Slovenia, most notable collaborations being with the Center for Innovative Media (CIM APURI), Kortil Gallery from Rijeka, UR Institute from Dubrovnik and Metamedia Association from Pula. She held her first solo exhibition entitled 'Worlds' in January 2021 at the SKC Gallery in Rijeka, which was co-financed by the Student Cultural Center of the University of Rijeka. She is the youngest member of the Croatian Association of Visual Artists of Istria and has also held multiple educational lectures and workshops on 3D modeling, new media art and virtual space. She is the winner of the second Erste Award of the 36th Youth Salon and a finalist of the Golden Watermelon 6.0 Award for Young Artists.

KUSTOSICA / CURATOR:
Katarina Duplančić

KUSTOSI
PROGRAMA NMG /
NMG CURATORIAL TEAM:
Katarina Duplančić,
Natasha Kadri,
Vedran Perkov

PRIJEVOD / TRANSLATION:
Katarina Duplančić

DOKUMENTACIJA /
DOCUMENTATION:
Glorija Lizde

POSTAV / SETUP:
Katarina Duplančić,
Tomislav Margan,
Franjo Sardelić Kolinc

DONATORI / DONORS:
Ministarstvo kulture i
medija RH, Grad Split

MAVENA PODRŽAVA /
MAVENA SUPPORTED BY:
Zaklada Kultura nova

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KUM, MKC, PDM, Studentski
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u Rijeci

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Nikola Križanac

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Grad
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PLATFORMA
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