

Petra Matic +385923547471 pm@petramatic.com

Education

University of Applied Arts Algebra

→ **Cert. EU Funded Project Management** — 2022

University of Zagreb

→ **MA Museology and Heritage Management** — 2020

University of Zagreb

→ **BA Phonetics and Swedish Language** — 2013

Grants and residencies

→ **Delfina Foundation**

Central and East European Curator in Residence | 2024

Curator in residence in London, UK, supported by the Kunsthalle Praha.

→ **Pact Zollverein**

We Are The Nearby Faraway | 2023

Rethinking regionalism and solidarity with Alfonse Chiu, Arijit Bhattacharyya, and Hendra Gusti.

→ **Gwärtler Foundation**

Non-Aligned Zagreb | 2022

Researching the history of Global Majority student exchange to Yugoslavia during the Non-Aligned Movement.

→ **International Summer Academy of Fine Arts Salzburg**

becoming 'lumbung' | 2021

Full scholarship for participation in ruangrupa's course.

→ **European Cultural Foundation**

Momentum: New Conversations with (Un)Common Allies | 2020

Grant for the development of an intersectional art and social exchange network.

Creative Work

→ **Nesvrstani Zagreb**

Galerija VN, Zagreb | 2023

Research and exhibition on the history of Global South students in Zagreb, including the short documentary film "Grad koji ima mir".

→ **Zajedno**

Croatia | 2023

Researching Kurdish Student Union Zagreb's history with the artist Bahzad Sulaiman.

→ **Crno-bijelo**

Zagreb | 2023 - Current

Decolonial and anti-racist book club.

→ **Pazar znanja/Pasar ilmu**

Croatia | 2021 – Current

Knowledge exchange workshop for LGBT Centar Split, Culture Hub Croatia, and MMSU Rijeka.

→ **Practices of Belonging**

Jeleni Gallery, Prague | 2022

an office collective installation for Fotograf Festival.

→ **Dead Dove: Do Not Eat**

RuRuHaus, Kassel | 2022

an office collective exhibition for documenta fifteen.

→ **Hope Dies Last, They Say...**

Nova BAZA, Zagreb | 2022

Co-curated and produced Silvia Amancei and Bogdan Armanu's exhibition.

→ **Museums: Places of Dialogue and Encounter**

Technical Museum Nikola Tesla, Zagreb | 2019

Co-developed a programme for Technical Museum, Ethnographic Museum, and Typhlological Museum.

→ **Delo Lab**

Museum of Architecture and Design, Ljubljana | 2019

Co-designed an open collaborative research platform for Ljubljana Design Biennial.

→ **Nikola Tesla Migrant**

Technical Museum Nikola Tesla, Zagreb | 2019

Co-developed a program on museums and migration.

Lectures and Panels

→ **Racialization and the contested cultural politics of non-alignment**

Institute of Economics Zagreb, Croatia | 2023

Presenter alongside dr. Catherine Baker, dr. Ana Sladojević, and Christian Guerematchi.

→ **The Welcoming Museum**

Croatia | 2021 – Current

Workshop on museums and migration for MMSU Rijeka, Centre for Peace Studies, and Typhlological Museum.

→ **Teaching Migration(s) Globally**

University of Glasgow | 2022

Presenter alongside dr. Gerardo Mazzaferro, dr. Valentina Carbonara, dr. Joanna Wojdon, and Mirela Dumić.

Selected Work

→ **Curator**

Museum of Contemporary Art Zagreb | 2023 – Current

→ **President of the Managing Board**

Peščenica Cultural Centre | 2021 – Current

→ **Director**

Cultural Organization Jutro | 2021 – Current

→ **Researcher**

Trešnjevska Neighbourhood Museum | 2022 – 2023

RESEARCH, ARCHIVE, FILM

NESVRSTANI ZAGREB



Nesvrstani Zagreb (Non-Aligned Zagreb) is a research project I started in 2019. It deals with the histories of students from the Global South who relocated to Zagreb between the 1960s and 1980s as part of Yugoslavia's involvement in the Non-Aligned Movement solidarity. My research efforts have yielded published texts for the Booksa literary portal, a short film titled *Grad koji ima mir* (The City That Has Peace), and an exhibition at Galerija VN in Zagreb.



Digital color film

16:9, 8:41 min



Grad koji ima mir (The City That Has Peace) is a documentary film following the rise and fall of Zagreb's International Student Club. Exploring topics of solidarity, war, and community, Sam Bushara and Mohamed Al Younis lead us through the largely forgotten history of Non-Aligned Zagreb. Looking back on their journeys, they reflect on the tenderness and unity they encountered in Zagreb but which are no longer there.

COLLABORATION, CURATION, PRODUCTION

ZAJEDNO (U POKRETU)



The artistic project *Zajedno: tragovima Udruženja kurdskih studenata* (Together: following the traces of the Kurdish Student Union) examines the history of the Kurdish Student Union which was active in Zagreb from 1966 to 1990. Together with the interdisciplinary Kurdish Syrian artist Bahzad Sulaiman, we use artistic research to get to know the local history of Kurdish students and the present of contemporary Croatian citizens of Middle Eastern origin.

The project in May and June 2023 involves a residency in Zagreb including meetings and workshops with the local artists, anthropologists, communities, and former international students, as well as Kurdish folklore dance workshops in Zagreb, Split, and Šidski Banovci village at the Croatian-Serbian border, recalling the traditions of the Zagreb Kurdish Student Union whose work involved activities promoting Kurdish history and culture.

COMMUNITY, CURATION, PRODUCTION

CRNO-BIJELO



Crno-bijelo (Black-white) is a book club focusing on the problems of (post)colonialism, racism, borders, and migration.

Crno-bijelo is a space of knowledge exchange, learning and unlearning, space of discussion and free will for all interested in the topics of decolonization and the anti-colonial, race and racialization, border regimes, and forced migration.



Crno-bijelo is imagined as a laboratory where we develop anti-colonial strategies together and create togetherness.

Our first meeting in May 2023 featured Dr Sunnie Rucker-Chang, Associate Professor at the Ohio State University in the Department of Slavic and East European Languages and Cultures and the Department of African American and African Studies.

COLLABORATION, INSTALLATION, PERFORMANCE

AN OFFICE



Group site-specific installation and performance with *an office* collective.

Through subverting the institution of the office, we inquired into togetherness, belonging, and inhabiting in dialogue with passers-by. My contribution focused on *The Welcoming Department*, trying out ways to welcome people to new spaces.



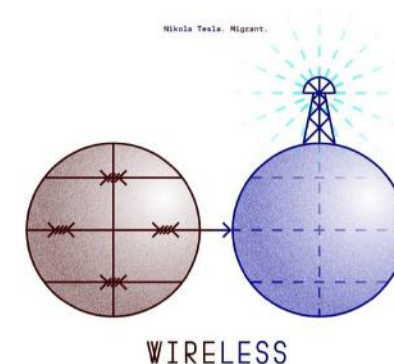
an office appeared in two editions.

One was *Dead Dove: Do Not Eat* for documenta fifteen in ruruHaus, Kassel, August 2022, and the second was *Practices of Belonging* for Fotograf Festival in Jeleni Gallery, Prague in September 2022.

documenta fifteen: 3-day happening

Fotograf Festival: 1-day happening

THE WELCOMING MUSEUM



The Welcoming Museum workshop focuses on European museums' work with forced migrants.

The workshop is based on my collaboration with the Technical Museum Nikola Tesla, Ethnographic Museum, and Typhlological Museum from 2018 to 2020.

It involves mapping local resources and practices and researches contemporary museological practices connected to forced migration and *integration*.

In 2022, it was conducted for Typhlological Museum, Centre for Peace Studies, and Museum for Modern and Contemporary Art Rijeka.

COMMUNITY, WORKSHOP

PAZAR ZNANJA



Pazar znanja/Placa znanja (knowledge market) is a participatory knowledge exchange workshop, collaborative exhibition and guided tour using *ruangrupa/Serrum pasar ilmu* methodology, enabling all the participants to act as both the teacher and the student.

In 2022, it was conducted for LGBT Centre Split, Culture Hub Croatia, and the Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art Rijeka.

DESIGN, ARCHIVE, COLLABORATION

DELO LAB



dimensions: platform 4150x2200mm, 2000 x260 mm; flags 841x1189mm, trolley 3060x2800x2070mm
materials: wood, archive boxes, mineral wool, aluminum, hang maps, microphone holders, radio equipment, polyester, paper



Delo Lab is an open collaborative research platform produced for BIO26|Common Knowledge - Ljubljana Design Biennial, commissioned by MAO - Museum of Architecture and Design Ljubljana in 2019.

Members of the design group are Maxime Benvenuto, Petra Matic, Mateja Mlinaric, José Tomás Pérez Valle, and Zuzanna Zgierska, under the mentorship of Bureau d'Études and Ali Žerdin.

Delo Lab rebuilds the collective memory to create new narratives, discover common history, and heal the community. In the time of information crisis, community and archives remain sources of knowledge we can rely on.

In *Delo Lab* the newspaper archive opens towards the community and uses the feedback to add previously unpublished stories and information into its collections. The readership gets an opportunity to tell their stories, which are then placed into a broader common narrative.