

Fresh, unexpected and poetic ways of reading Bratislava

(press release)

*Kunsthalle LAB launches the busy upcoming autumn season with an international project of curator Belinda Grace Gardner entitled **Psychogeographic Junction**. The exhibition presents four contemporary German artists who interact in a dialogue with Bratislava and its citizens. The opening of the exhibition will be held on Thursday, 17 September 2015 from 6 pm to 8 pm. The exhibition will run until 25 October 2015.*

The exhibition is inspired by certain “psychogeographic” methods of exploring urban space, firstly practiced by the Situationists in the 1950s in Paris. The project *Psychogeographic Junction* was created specifically for Kunsthalle LAB, the convenient downtown position of which makes it a junction of different reflections, perceptions and readings of the city. In addition, Kunsthalle LAB is a window gallery with a large transparent facade that blurs the boundaries between the interior and exterior/everyday life and contemporary art. The works of **Hinrich Gross**, **Jan Köchermann**, **Almut Linde**, and **Youssef Tabti** are process-based, interactive and reflexive of the diverse urban texture of Slovakia’s capital. All participating artists hail from Hamburg, Germany. Together, they cover a wide range of media including soundscape, video, photography, light installations, and spatial ensembles as well as outdoor architectural sculptures and performances.

Born in Munich, artist and architect **Hinrich Gross** creates light installations that reflect, conceal, multiply, blur or deepen the existing structures through the ephemeral medium of illumination. In Kunsthalle LAB, the artist uses light to redefine space by overcoming the border between the surface and the core.

Jan Köchermann will collaborate with local bands that will play concerts prior to the opening of the exhibition. The artist will then incorporate the recordings of the shows in a model construction referring to urban sites found by the artist on his walks through the city.

The work of conceptual artist **Almut Linde** stems from her own term Dirty Minimal, which the artist coined to name her own aesthetic approach of conjoining everyday materials, found objects and real life phenomena in a reduced, visually rich formal language. Kunsthalle LAB will exhibit a video projection and a sculpture installation relating to the Volkswagen plant in Bratislava.

French conceptual artist of Algerian origin **Youssef Tabti** lives and works in Hamburg since 1994. His project created in collaboration with the locals comprises soundscape, visual mapping, and photo documentation of the “psychogeographic” routes of the participants of the artist's upcoming event in Petržalka – the largest and most diverse city borough – along with the artist's own observations in this area.

The site-specific projects of the exhibited authors promise fresh, unexpected, and even poetic ways to read our capital. Don't miss out a unique opportunity to see Bratislava through the eyes of the contemporary German artists.

Psychogeographic Junction

Curator: Belinda Grace Gardner

Artists: Hinrich Gross, Jan Köchermann, Almut Linde, Youssef Tabti

18 September – 25 October 2015

Kunsthalle LAB, Bratislava

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