

ORANGERIES DE BIERBAIS

Our Collective Support for ULUS and the art Pavilion “Cvijeta Zuzorić”

To whom it may concern,

This letter aims to support the ULUS, in solidarity with its demands concerning the art pavilion “Cvijeta Zuzorić”.

Les Orangeries de Bierbais, art and research residency program, is a place at the intersection of art, research, solidarity, permaculture and experimentation, where collectivity is practiced as a way to promote emancipation and equality. These words fittingly also describe the values and objectives of the ULUS and its artistic programs. These similarities brought to the collaboration between the ULUS and three cultural practitioners active at Les Orangeries de Bierbais who became the international curatorial team of the 86th Autumn Exhibition *The Secret (of) Knowledge. Film ↔ Photography ↔ Painting* held by ULUS, and to advocate their cause.

The uniqueness of the site of Les Orangeries de Bierbais, its historical density, and the monumental significance of both the park and the buildings (1828, transformed actually in the third space) are the fulcrum of its activities. To the same extent, we believe that the art pavilion “Cvijeta Zuzorić” found in the heart of Kalemegdan Park plays a central role in the life of the ULUS and its program.

As in our own case, we can assert that the relationship between the site and the association is symbiotic and necessary; erected in 1928, hundred years after one of the forts Winter Tropical Heated Gardens was built in Bierbais, Belgium to be today exposed to the process of radical peace and decolonisation, the art pavilion “Cvijeta Zuzorić” has, incredibly with just one interruption during the Second World War, continuously been home to major artistic developments, now more than ever relevant thanks to the formidable work of the ULUS.

Les Orangeries de Bierbais urgently demands the Ministry of Culture and the Government of the Republic of Serbia to extend its support to ULUS for the renovation of the “Cvijeta Zuzorić” Art Pavilion. Words cannot sufficiently stress how the maintenance and quality of the pavilion will directly affect the value of present and future endeavors. More than ever now is the moment to act and take a position in the name of culture, art, peace, and freedom.

Kind regards,

Collective Orangeries de Bierbais