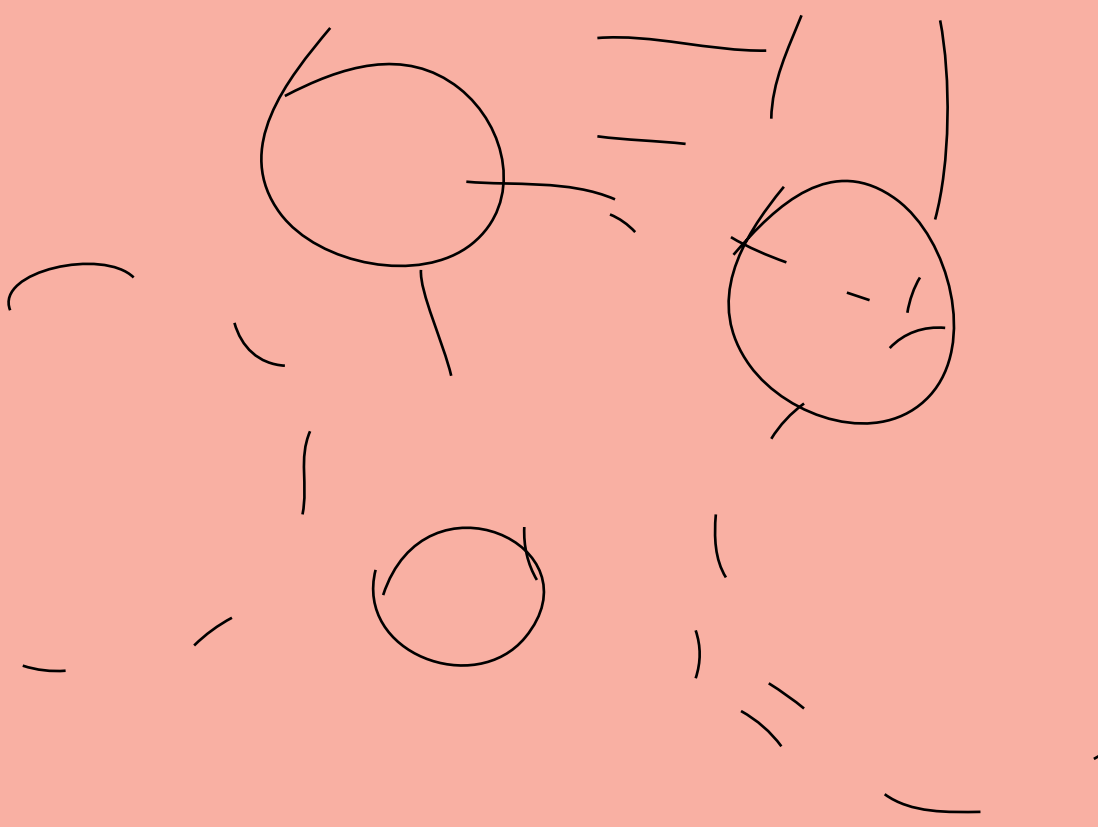


**Shared Visions / Seminar #2**  
**Ecosystems of Solidarity /**  
**Ekosistemi solidarnosti**  
Požega, jun/ June 14-17th





In the last few years, ULUS has made great efforts to research the status of artists in society and their work and living conditions. The result is that most artists need to work in other professions to live and finance the production of artworks, that the little the government has invested in the arts has been reduced further, and that the art market in Serbia and the region is fragile. ULUS's experience advocating for solutions to actual problems or campaigning for better working conditions against the government was unsuccessful.

The Visual Artists International Cooperative will be a company. its members will own – artists and cultural practitioners, democratically managed by them. As a company, it will unapologetically be able to participate in the art market as well as in other markets as well (education, tourism) however, as a cooperative, it is non-for-profit which means that all its profit is invested back into the cooperative for common needs (for instance: studios, equipment, legal services, pensions fund, etc.) decided upon by the members for its members as well as invested in the community around it.

In the first seminar, we mainly discussed the current precarious situation of artists and various self-organisation practices that artists have experimented with and implemented to secure their living and work situation. We also started discussing what could be adapted to the situation in Serbia and the region and integrated it within our plan for establishing an international cooperative. Videos of lectures and discussion of the first seminar “Precariat and Entreprenariat” are available [here](#).

In this seminar we will explore the necessary ecosystems which will enable the cooperative to be established and function in terms of financing, creating a supportive commercial environment, and generating an innovative, creative professional network. We will discuss this on a conceptual/theoretical level, and a practical one and present examples from Europe and around the world.

Our guests for this seminar are:

- Marianna Takou, Executive Director, CASCO Art Institute Utrecht
- Aline Hernández, Artistic Director, CASCO Art Institute Utrecht

*U poslednjih nekoliko godina ULUS je uložio velike napore u istraživanje položaja umetnika u društvu, kao i uslova u kojima žive i rade. Podaci do kojih se došlo govore da je veći deo umetnika i umetnica primorano da obavlja poslove u drugim delatnostima kako bi obezbedili osnovna sredstva za život i finansirali svoj umetnički rad; da je već veoma niska finansijska podrška iz javnog sektora dodatno umanjena, a da je umetničko tržište u Srbiji i regionu još uvek veoma slabo razvijeno. Iskustva ULUS-a u zagovaranju boljih uslova za umetnike kroz kampanje, zahteve, predloge za izmene zakona, kojim bi se rešili aktuelni problemi nisu bila uspešna.*

*Međunarodna kooperativa vizuelnih umetnika zamišljena je kao preduzeće u posjedstvu njenih članova – umetnika i kulturnih radnika, kojim će oni demokratski upravljati. Kao preduzeće, kooperativa će svakako moći da učestvuje na umetničkom, kao i na svim drugim tržištima (npr. obrazovanja, turizma i dr.), međutim, kao kooperativa – to preduzeće je neprofitno, što znači da se sav profit vraća u kooperativu zarad pokrivanja zajedničkih potreba (npr. radni prostori i oprema, pravne usluge, penzioni fond, itd.) po sistemu odlučivanja članovi-za-članove, a dodatno se ulaže i u zajednicu okupljenu oko kooperative.*

*Na prvom seminaru smo uglavnom razgovarali o trenutnoj nesigurnoj situaciji umetnika i raznim praksama samoorganizacije koje su umetnici isprobavali i sprovodili kako bi obezbedili svoje životne i radne uslove. Takođe smo počeli da razgovaramo o tome šta bi moglo biti prilagođeno situaciji u Srbiji i regionu i integrisano u naš plan za osnivanje međunarodne zadruga. Video zapisi predavanja i diskusija sa prvog seminaru "Precariat and Entreprenariat" dostupni su [ovde](#).*

*Na ovom seminaru ćemo istražiti neophodne ekosisteme koji će omogućiti da zadruga bude osnovana i da funkcioniše u smislu finansiranja, stvaranja potpornog tržišnog okruženja i generisanja inovativne, kreativne profesionalne mreže. Diskutovaćemo o tome na konceptualnom/teorijskom nivou, kao i na praktičnom i predstaviti primere iz Evrope i sveta.*

Gosti seminara su:


- *Marianna Takou, izvršna direktorka, CASCO Art Institute, Utreht*
- *Aline Hernández, umetnička direktorka, CASCO Art Institute Utreht*

Friday, June 14th

18:00 Introduction to the project and socialising in [Primary school “Emilija Ostojić”](#)

Petak, 14. jun

18:00 Uvod u projekat i druženje u [Osnovnoj školi “Emilija Ostojić”](#)




Saturday, June 15th

**10:00 - 13:00**      **Opening remarks by Marianna Takou and Aline Hernández**


We will start our first session with an introduction and a brief recounting of the history of the Arts Collaboratory network. We'll explore its relationship to other network formation attempts, predecessors, and future directions. While AC can be understood in different ways, the core focus is economic experimentation (i.e., funding paradigm shift and alternative economies of solidarity). Economic experimentation cannot be understood in a vacuum; it is made possible by self-organising and self-governance structures and mechanisms formed over time, as well as an opportune moment in funding and policy trends situated in the Netherlands (and the broader Western/EU context). The sustainability of the network over the past decade is rooted in collective tools, shared responsibility, and ethical principles that hold members accountable. This collaborative approach enables sustained cooperation across the network.

Arts Collaboratory exemplifies a network built gradually, adapting to the evolving needs of its member organizations and ecosystems. This deliberate pace is necessary for coordinating over 20 organizations across various regions, time zones, and languages. Despite the challenges of cultural diversity and structural differences, this diversity enriches the network, fostering solidarity and countering isolation. We strive to approach our collective



resource building from a perspective of abundance rather than scarcity to build another art world together. We'll also discuss the decision-making mechanisms we have built, as well as the role of assembly, banga, and working groups as tools for organizational care, knowledge exchange, and tooling.

**15:00 - 19:00**      **Guided tour - visit to the Kadinjača memorial complex, the Užice Museum, the Potpeć Cave and the pottery workshop in Zlakusa**



Subota, 15. jun

10:00 - 13:00

**Uvodna reč Mariane Takou i Alin  
Hernandes**

Prvu sesiju ćemo započeti uvodom i kratkim pregledom istorije mreže Arts Collaboratory. Istražićemo njen odnos sa drugim pokušajima formiranja mreža, onim što je prethodilo i budućim smernicama. Iako se AC može razumeti na različite načine, njen centralni fokus stavljen je na ekonomsko eksperimentiranje (tj. promenu paradigmi finansiranja i alternativne ekonomije solidarnosti). Ekonomsko eksperimentisanje se ne može razumeti u vakumu; to se omogućava strukturama i mehanizmima samoorganizovanja i samouprave koji su se formirali tokom vremena, kao i pravovremenim okolnostima finansiranja i političkim trendovima u Holandiji (i širem zapadnom/ EU kontekstu). Održivost mreže tokom protekle dekade ukorenjena je u kolektivnim alatima, zajedničkoj odgovornosti i etičkim načelima koja članove drže u odgovornosti. Ovaj kolaborativni pristup omogućava održivu saradnju u čitavoj mreži.

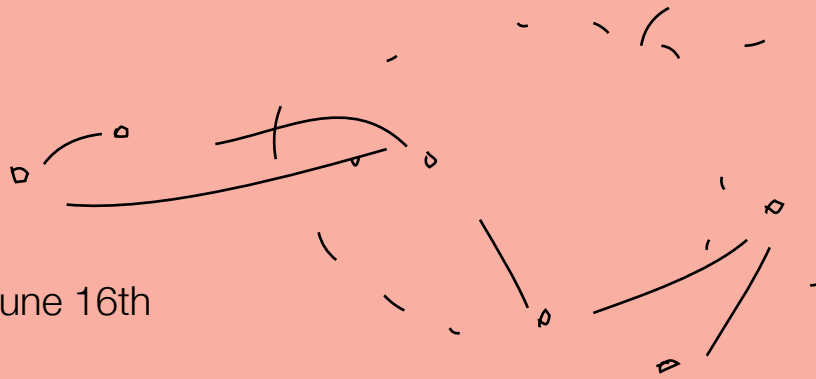
Arts Collaboratory je primer mreže koja je građena postepeno, prilagođavajući se rastućim potrebama svojih organizacija članica i ekosistema. Ovaj promišljeni tempo neophodan je za koordinaciju preko 20 organizacija u različitim regionima, vremenskim zonama i jezicima. Uprkos izazovima kulturne raznolikosti i strukturalnim razlikama, ova raznolikost obogaćuje mrežu, podstiče solidarnost

i suprotstavlja se izolaciji. Našoj zajedničkoj izgradnji resursa pristupamo iz perspektive obilja, a ne oskudice, sa idejom da zajedno izgradimo drugi svet umjetnosti. Takođe, ovom prilikom razgovaraćemo i o mehanizmima za donošenje odluka koje smo izgradili, kao i o ulozi skupštine, bange i radnih grupa kao alatki za organizacijsku brigu, razmenu znanja i alatki.

15:00 - 19:00

**Vođenje po lokalu - poseta spomen  
kompleksu Kadinjača, Muzeju Užica,  
Potpečkoj pećini i grnčarskoj radionici u  
Zlakusi**

Sunday, June 16th



10:00 - 13:00

**Opening remarks by Marianna Takou and Aline Hernández**

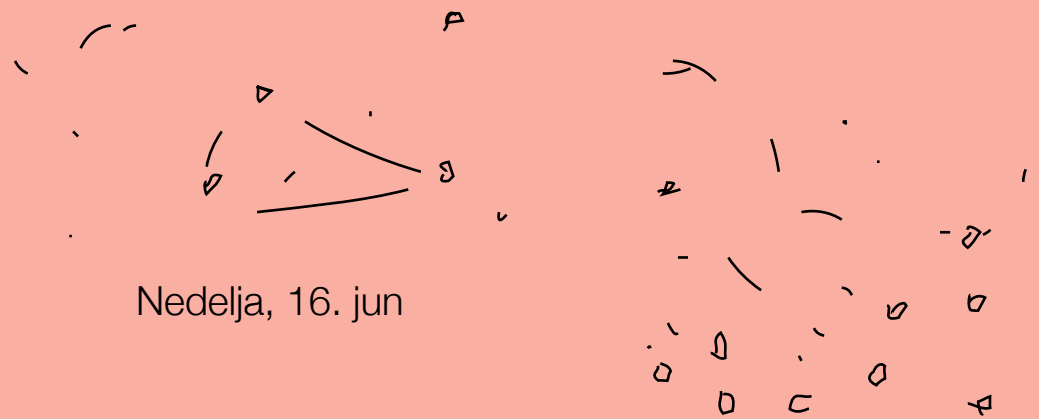
In our second session, we will closely examine the network's tool-making process over the past decade, focusing on the Collective Pot, the guidelines and ethical principles we follow, and our governance mechanisms. The Collective Pot is a shared resource pool where all members contribute and withdraw based on predetermined guidelines. We will also discuss the critical role of radical imagination and the importance of narrativizing our stories through common agenda setting within Arts Collaboratory (and beyond), exploring its usefulness for other ecosystems. We will highlight our collaboration structures and shared work, histories of institutional transformation, and experiments that have been undertaken, including lumbung (as a process of becoming public). Considering our tools and experiences from a practical perspective, we will encourage participants to think about how these can benefit their own processes.

15:00 - 18:00

**Film screening**



Nedelja, 16. jun



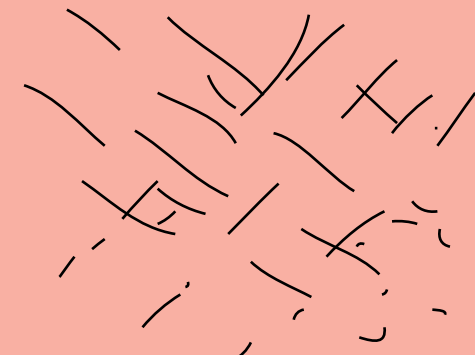
10:00 - 13:00

**Uvodna reč Mariane Takou i Alin Hernandes**

U drugoj sesiji ćemo temeljnije ispitati proces izrade umrežavavajućih alatki koje smo koristili tokom protekle dekade, fokusirajući se na "Kolektivni lonac" (Collective Pot), smernice i etička načela koja sledimo, kao i mehanizme upravljanja. Collective Pot čini skup zajedničkih resursa kome svi članovi doprinose i odakle potražuju po principu unapred određenih smernica. Takođe ćemo raspravljati o kritičnoj ulozi radikalne imaginacije i važnosti narativizacije naših priča kroz zajedničko utvrđivanje agende unutar Arts Collaboratory (i šire), istražujući njenu korisnost za druge ekosisteme. Naglasićemo naše strukture saradnje i zajednički rad, istoriju institucionalne transformacije i eksperimente koji su preduzeti, uključujući lumbung (kao proces postajanja javnosti). Uzimajući u obzir naše alatke i iskustva iz praktične perspektive, podstaći ćemo učesnike da razmisle o tome kako oni mogu biti od koristi u njihovim procesima.

15:00 - 18:00

**Film**





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