

Wake up on Mars

Interdisciplinary seminar dedicated to the cultural scene of the Western Balkans

On June 30 and July 1, 2023, an interdisciplinary seminar will be held at the Gaîté Lyrique (Paris). It is the initiative of four institutions based in France and in the Western Balkans: the École Nationale Supérieure d'Arts de Paris-Cergy (ENSAPC), Art Explora—Paris, the Museum of Contemporary Art of Skopje (MoCA) and Oral History Initiative (OHI)—Pristina. This seminar is the first chapter of the European program Culture.EUBalkans (2022—2024) whose aim is to encourage the circulation of artists, researchers and cultural actors between the Western Balkans and the European Union and to promote the dissemination of their practices and their researches. It receives the support of The Creative Europe program.

The **École nationale supérieure d'arts de Paris-Cergy (ENSAPC)** is a public institution of higher artistic education under the supervision of the Ministry of Culture which trains artists and creators who are active on the international scene. ENSAPC's resolutely cross-disciplinary offerings span a wide range of disciplines, linking the visual arts, writing, live performance, sound, film, and theory. It is a locus of lively contention and fruitful exchange, a space in which ideas, knowledge, and experience collide and coalesce in complementary ways.

Founded by Frédéric Jousset in 2019, **Art Explora** is an international foundation that renews the dialogue between the arts and audiences at all scales. The aim is to contribute to democratizing access to culture, and to reaffirming the central place of artists in the face of the great challenges and changes of our time. This aspect is illustrated more particularly through the residency programs for artists and scholars, and in particular "Art Explora - Cité internationale des arts" program launched in Paris in 2021 at the Cité internationale des arts de Montmartre.

Founded in 1964 after the Skopje earthquake and as a result of numerous donations of artworks to the City of Skopje from artists and institutions around the world, the **Museum of Contemporary Art (MoCA)**'s mission is to nurture and disseminate the values of modern and contemporary art that define the living culture and society of our time. Its building is an example of late modernism architecture with a total surface of 5000 square meters.

Oral History Initiative (OHI) is a non-profit organization based in Kosovo, composed of a collective of researchers from different generations, ethnicities and backgrounds. A pioneer in new media formats, OHI's practice is in the field of digital humanities, cultural heritage and memory studies. The Initiative engages with Kosovo's history in a non-formulaic way, trying to recover the interplay of individual and collective memories, beyond constructed group narratives – whether ethnic or national.

La Gaîté Lyrique – Factory of our times is a City of Paris cultural center that seeks to address pressing cultural, social democratic and climate issues. Its Factory of our times project combines creation and social engagement to put ideas into practice and bring stories to life, to foster artistic creation and the spread of ideas, empower people, break down barriers, move in new directions and build fresh impetus. La Gaîté Lyrique is designed as a toolbox for artists and changemakers to improve their ability to create and take collective action, to join together for a concert, talk, drink, performance or workshop. Welcome to our times!

La Gaîté Lyrique UP 30.6 1.7 2023

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ÉCOLE
NATIONALE
SUPÉRIEURE
D'ARTS DE PARIS
CERGY



Oral
History
Kosovo



