



"bridge:ing"

The "Czernowitz Austria" - symbols and identities in a new Europe An international art and culture project

What means "to belong" and "identity"? Can identity be decreed by symbol? How is identity constructed? Which symbols do have a future?

These questions - highly charged in light of the debates surrounding "European identity" - are the core concern of the international art and cultural project.

Thesis: without identity there is no common Europe

The replica of the in 2003 rediscovered "Czernowitz Austria" sculpture is the basis and starting point for an artistically and scientific examination about political symbols and European identities. The project started in January 2005 and runs with international exhibitions and events (including extensive side program) till 2008 in major cities in the five actively engaged countries (AT, PL, HU, LSL, SI, CZ, UA): Vienna, Bratislava, Budapest, Krakow, Lviv, Chernivtsi, Kiev,...

Using the actual example of the "Czernowitz Austria" the history and effective power of old and new European cultural icons and symbols are being investigated in this international project. 10 internationally reputed artists from Austria, Poland, the Slovak Republic, Hungary and the Ukraine interpret one replica of the sculpture - the project is being curated by Boris Ondrejicka, Jiri Sevcik, Lucas Gehrman and Anna Maria Potocka.

The works deliver interpretations concerning the attitudes towards, as well as the handling of political symbols and identities in Europe. The new works of art will be given to the Republic of Ukraine during the project concluding event as a symbolic gesture.

The side program to the events and exhibitions will all be issuing the core theme - they will be country-specific and arranged with inclusion of local partners: performance, literature reading, panel discussions, lectures, concerts, clubbings,...

In scientific works as well as in the final international symposium titled "About the handling of political symbols and their relevance for the present and future of Europe" the core questions shall be considered. Scientists and artists from all over Europe will concern themselves with these questions in Czernowitz in the May 2007 and to what extent these are relevant for the present and future of the new Europe.

All this will result not only in an extensive special installation - The entire project is being documented in video and still photography and 2 book publications including a DVD of the project and special documentary will be dealing with the core issues in detail. Up to date info materials and progress reports are being made available on a special project web site.

The original statue could be restored and will be made visible in the city museum of Chernivtsi in autumn 2006.





The art project

the artists:

Ilona Nemeth – Objectart / Installations – *Slovak Republic*
Gruppe XYZ – Objectart / Installations / Glass – *Slovak Republic*
Róza El-Hasan – Objectart / Installations / Metall – *Hungary*
Janos Sugar – Objectart / Installations / New Media Art – *Hungary*
Katarina Kowalska – Photography / Objectart – *Poland*
Janek Simon – Sculptures / Objectart – *Poland*
Anna Sidorenko – Performance / Object Art / Installations – *Ukraine*
Bronislav Tutelmann – Photography / Object Art / Installations – *Ukraine*
Bernadette Huber – Object Art / Installations - *Austria*
Abbé Libansky – Object Art / Installations / Photography - *Austria*

as well as a countryspecific and venture related performance project of Hilde Fuchs - Austria

The curators:

The selection of 10 artists from the 5 actively engaged countries (*Austria, Hungary, Poland, the Slovak Republic and the Ukraine*) is being performed by the internationally acclaimed curators **Boris Ondrejicka, Jiri Sevcik, Lucas Gehrmann und Anna Maria Potocka** this will guarantee the satisfaction of the high artistic demands and general quality of the project.

International exhibitions:

Lviv - Gallery Dzyga / April 2006
Krakow - Gallery Bunkier Sztuki / May - July 2006
Budapest - int. Art and Culture Center Tüszraktar / August - September 2006
Bratislava - Dvorana / National Gallery / September - October 2006
Vienna - Museum of Folk Art / Februar- April 2007
Czernowitz - City Gallery / May - June 2007

June 2007: Final presentation in Kiev including a ceremonious hand over of the new pieces of art to the Republic of Ukraine as a symbolic gesture





The scientific project

Due to the collapse and the rebuilding of national states as well as through the further development for a common Europe there arise the loss of identity and the necessity to recreate identity and its symbols.

The project "bridge:ing" deals with these arising questions on an international level and leads a discourse about the further development and future trends of the common European thought

International symposium:

16 - 19 of May 2007 at the university of Chernivtsi / Ukraine:

"About the handling of political symbols and their relevance for new identities in Europe"

among other with Jiri Grusa, Erhard Busek, Yuri Andruchowitsch, Jacek Purchla, Austrian Academy of Science, Comenius University Bratislava, Karls University Prague, Museum of Modern Art Warschawa, and many more as well as cultural side program from the participating countries

Publications:

for the intensive handling and editing of this core theme there will be a 2 part publication including a DVD:

part 1: documentation and editing of the art project including interviews with curators, artists, theoreticians as well as project related works of students from partner universities,... final material and extensive picture material

part 2: essays and interviews of scientists, politicians as well as representatives of minorities, theorists, philosophers, historians, ...

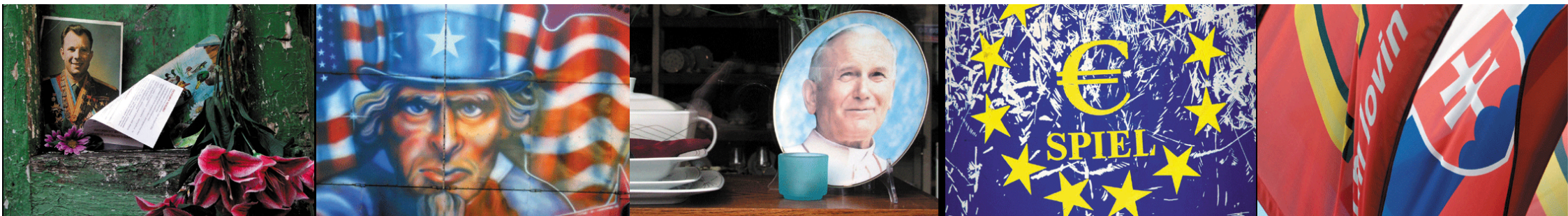
The film material shot during interviews, exhibitions and presentations will be arranged to a documentary about "European Identity" as well as a DVD accompanying the 2 part publication. Great attention is put on the objective approach, to put light on this complex theme through different angles and to make it accessible to a broader public.

Till mid summer 2008 there will be national and international presentation of the final material

- . Presentation of the two publications
- . Presentations of the documentation and photographic exhibitions
- . Film premieres

Project related website:

The entire project is being documented in detail - background and additional information will be made accessible on the project related website



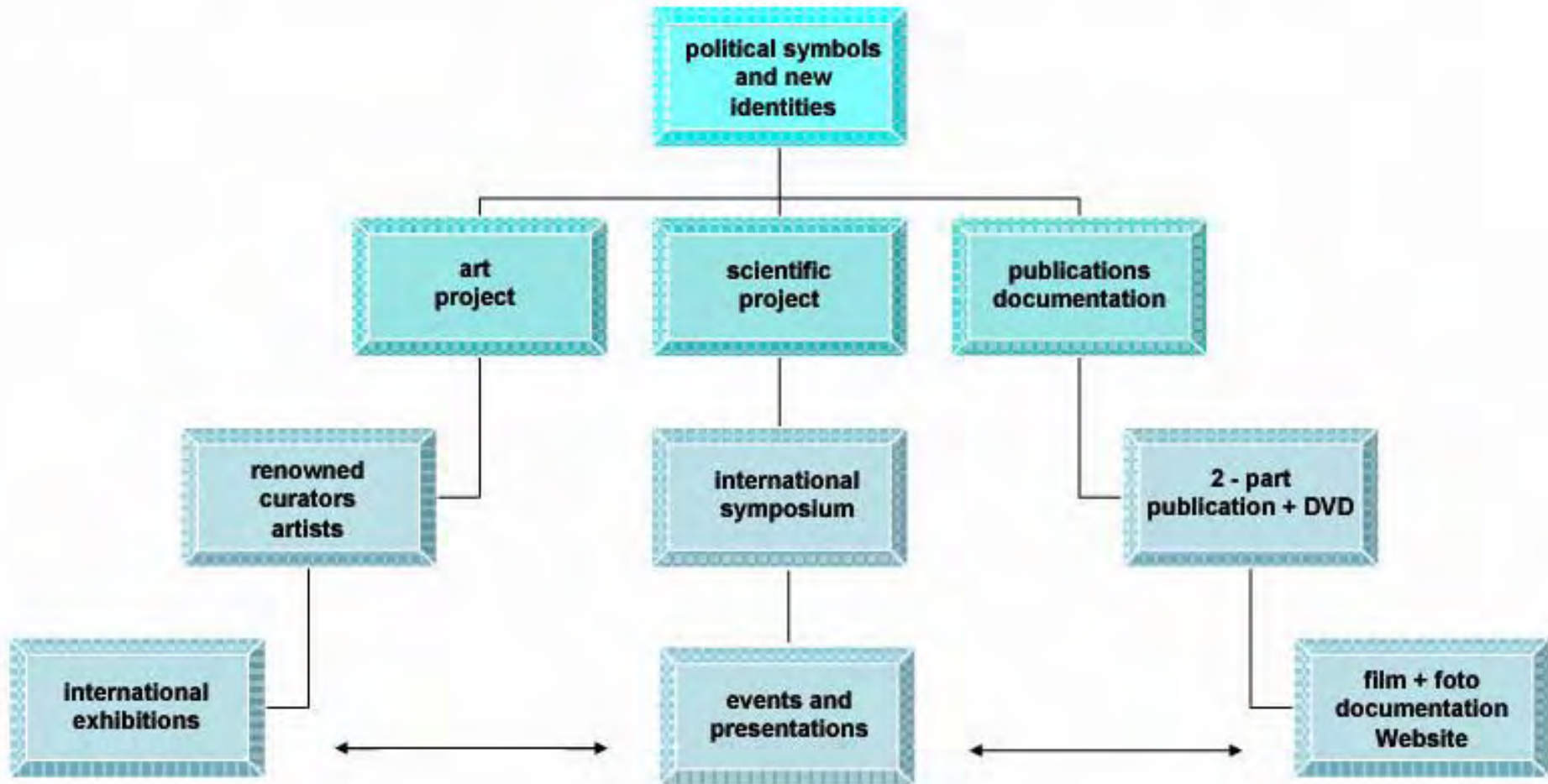
(extract) of project partners and institutions:

- Austria Ministry for foreign affairs
- Austria Federal Chancellery - State Secretariat for the Arts and Media
- Ministries for foreign Affairs of Poland, the Slovak Republic, der Hungary and the Republik of the Ukraine as well as their respective embassies
- Ministries of Culture of of Poland, the Slovak Republic, der Hungary and the Republik of the Ukraine as well as their respective culture institutes
- Internationaler Visegrad Fund
- IDM - Institute of the danube region and Central Europe
- Culture Contact Austria
- Austrian Academy of Science
- FESSL - GfK, Institute for market research
- Austria Cooperation
- ÖIIP - Austrian Institute for international Policy
- Austrian Institute for east and southeast studies
- province of Carinthia in the context of the regional cooperation Klagenfurth - Czernowitz
- Gallery for Modern Art Krakow - Bunkier Sztuki, Gallery Dzyga – Lemberg, Gallery Dvorana Bratislava, Gallery for modern art Bratislava - Studena 12, International Art Center Tüszraktar Budapest
- International Culture Center Krakow
- Viennies - Kakowian Culture Society
- WRO - Foundation Center for Media Art
- Comenius University - Slk, Department of Philosophy / Faculty of Arts
- Karls University - Cz, Department of Philosophy / Faculty of Arts
- Intermedia Department / Fakulty of Fine Arts Budapest
- Universityt Ivaniv Frankowsk / Chernivtsi + International Art Akademy Lviv
- Regional Governement Bukowina / Ukraine
- Ukrainian Institute for monument conservation and protection Kiew
- Bukowina Institute Chernowitz
- Internat. Institute Arthistory Prag
- Internationales Art Film Festival/ Trenchancke Teplice
- Prazsky Filosoficky Institute - Petr Rezek
- City of Vienna, City of Lviv, City of Chernitsi
- Telluride Institut, USA
- Erste Bank, Kühne und Nagel GmbH, Austrian Airlines, Atelier R Bratislava



BRIDGE:ING

political symbols and new identities in Europe



Bridge:ing - the exhibition tour



project presentations

Vienna / Gallery ArtPoint

06-28.01.2006

Lviv / Gallery Dzyga

14-30.04.2006

int. exhibitions

Krakow / Bunkier Sztuki

15.05-02.07.2006

Budapest / Artcenter Tüzzraktar

17.08-15.09.2006

Bratislava / Dvorana - Nat. Gallery

25.09-20.10.2006

Vienna / Museum of folk art

22.02-22.04.2007

Chernivtsi / City Gallery

16.05-Juni 2007

Final presentation

Kiew: June 2007

Book and film presentations

till summer 2008 in the participating countries AT, PL, HU, SK, SI, CZ, UA, RU

“political symbols and new identities and their relevance for present and future of Europe”



international symposium
from 16-19.05.2007
at the Universität of
Chernivtsi
with partners from 8 countries:
Austria
Poland
Hungary
Slovak Republic
Czech Republic
Slovenia
Rumania
Ukraine

+ cultural side program:
f.e. with Sergij Zadan + Peter Zilhany,
Altenberg Trio, Ensemble Damian etc...



The Institute for culture resistant goods:

The "Institute for culture-resistant Goods" concerns itself with the scientific investigation of cultural phenomena specifically in the sphere of every day / trivial culture and its artistic/creative reflections. New interpretive approaches shall open fresh perspectives for the understanding of art and culture in everyday life. The institute contributes with its activities to the positioning of art and culture within a social context.

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