

## APPLAUSE!

Nemana Cvijanović, 2008 / 2010

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Collective performance, multimedia installation / video, variable dimensions

The Applause project is a manifestation (demonstration) staged in a form of a film set—with extras (250 persons) paid (9€ each) to manifest (or protest) at a square. By questioning a transitional society the Applause project attempts to touch anomalies of social relations, civil rights and duties, using a method of direct communication with citizens through a media of action (manifestation).

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## DO NOT FUCK WITH SOCIAL DEMOCRACY

Nemana Cvijanović, 2011

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video installation

The white flag as a symbol of surrender is transformed into a revolutionary and ideologically coloured red one. In relation to the viewer, “Do not fuck with Social Democracy!” works as a space of ideology which is impossible to avoid, while the ideology’s deceit is so obvious that it is impossible to exit without any difficulties. It

is precisely this point of symbolic transition, the transformation of the emptied white flag into red and back, that is the main message of the work and the trap it sets for the viewer. This work draws attention to the responsibility of the individual in relation to detecting contemporary social reality, the reality of historic memory and the establishment of value systems.

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## This is not Art, this is a Protest.

Pravdoliub Ivanov, 2013

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The Mafia and Oligarchy created by communist party and its Secret Service in nineties, get enough confident and decided to form it’s own government this year with the mandate of the pro-russian Bulgarian Socialist Party (Former Communist Party) in coalition with the Party of Turkish minority in an impossible combination with a Naci-Homophobic Anti-Turkish Party “Ataka”—a poison coalition.

People are every day on the square, marching trough Sofia streets since 14 June. Already 34 days asking the mafia-government to resign.

I am on the protest every day with different slogans. On the 28th day I decided just to use the cartoon emoticons describing anger.

The protest is still going on.

Pravdoliub Ivanov, 17 July 2013

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## Black Balloons

Pravdoliub Ivanov, 2013

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Black Balloons is a video work based on a short footage during one of the everyday peaceful, anti-government demonstration in summer 2013 in Sofia. On that particular day, someone of the demonstrators brought hundreds of black balloons spreading them among the people to blow them. Later, marching by the building of the Parliament, heavily fenced and blocked by the police forces, people start throwing their balloons in the senselessly guarded

area. The footage was almost 360 degrees of panorama but the author choose only that part presenting the power and the black balloons floating freely through the forbidden area. The important part of the work is the slowdown, affecting mainly the recorded noise. No additional effects were applied to the sound, which somehow plays a major part in the work.

## 14:33 Minutes Priority

Ivan Moudov, 2000

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14:13 Minutes Priority is the name of a performance that took place at the Schiller Festival I in Weimar. The title is the duration of the performance that was stopped by the police on 14th minute after the beginning. The performance consists of seven cars moving in the roundabout that connects the downtown, suburbs and shopping mall area of Weimar. The cars involved into performance block the traffic for all those, who enter or exit the roundabout. This work is based on the “One Hour Priority” (2000) performance where the artist is driving a car in a roundabout in the centre of Sofia for one hour using his right for priority.

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## Future Idea

Kamen Stoyanov, 2013

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Air action in the sky of Sofia and light installation (Christopher Columbus Blvd), video, 104'

A flying human in flex wing with motor is pulling a banner with an arrow on it over the city of Sofia. One can also say that the arrow which represents the idea is pushing the airplane. The two hour air action realized by Kamen Stoyanov for “Near, Closer, Together—Exercises for a Common Ground” is a response to the current political climate in Bulgaria. In his work, Stoyanov criticizes the hegemonic narratives of culture manifested in the urban and the architectural. His curiosity about the transition or passage between

what is art and what not shapes the means and gestures he chooses to create in order to destabilize the associations and concepts of coherent cultural orders. The Future Idea expresses his wish for a move beyond, for an expansion of the horizon and a search for a direction. What looks like a line might appear as a circle depending on where and how long you stand, in which direction and how fast you move. According to the artist, it is a sign of hope and absurdity at the same time.

Övül Durmusoglu

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## Noise Trial

Kamen Stoyanov, 2013

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Video documenting a performance in Sofia, September 2013

The performance reflects the daily demonstrations in Sofia going on for more than three months now, and the impossibility to achieve a political change. On top of a car a monumental whistle is mounted—by driving the car from the city of Pernik to the center of Sofia on a highway, the whistle is constantly producing an unidentifiable noise. During the demonstrations people are using—amongst other noise devices—whistles in order to emphasize their discontent with the current situation and to struggle for a societal change. The performance by Kamen Stoyanov enhances this political gesture into an absurd hypertrophic statement.