will be taken over by artificial intelligence. The financial-political gangs have calculated that 500 million people would be enough to satisfy their needs; all the rest of the 8.3 billion people living on Earth today would be redundant – 7.8 billion people.

"The selection of works at the exhibition Gestures of Activation includes some of Grubić's pivotal works, such as the iconic Black Peristyle (1998) or the action Book and Society 22 %, directed against VAT on books, with which he mobilized many of his fellow artists the same year in a unique event with a specific goal. In addition to Book and Society, with his actions Call for the Removal of the Student Center Management (2000) and No-ki-teka (1997/1998) Grubić lobbied for the changes of cultural policies in the nineties, and the photo-performance Breathless from 1999, presented for the first time, is a comment on back then inexistent institutional support to independent culture. The two-channel video installation East Side Story, included in the collection of Tate Modern in London, uses dance choreography to unmask the violence of ultra-right-wing nationalist groups in Zagreb and Belgrade, and the monumental photo series 366 Rituals of Liberation (2008) consists of micropolitical actions the artist performed daily over the course of a year. The exhibition includes the works conducted outside the usual post-transitional Easter European context, in which Grubić expands the view of the neuralgic points on the global horizon with interventions like The Missing Architecture (2021), as well as the latest series Another Green World (2021), a series of political-poetic statements and quotes, textual interventions on classical historicist sculptures in the city park of Villa Comunale in Naples."

– Peter Tomaž Dobrila
– MMSU (citation parts)

BIOGRAPHY

Spletna stran

Igor Grubić (Zagreb, 1969) has been active as a multimedia artist since the early 1990s. His work includes site-specific interventions in public space, photography and film. He represented Croatia at the 58th Venice Biennale (2019). Grubić's public space interventions, as well as films, explore political situations in both the past and the present. Grubić's critical, socio-politically engaged practice is characterized by long-term involvement and commitment to the issues he decides to address. From profound research on the fate of historical monuments and the collapse of industry, to examining the difficulties of minority communities, his projects are implemented over the course of several years of research and establishing special relationships.

The exhibition was created in collaboration with the Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art Rijeka, Croatia.

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Igor Grubić
GESTURES OF ACTIVATION – WORKS IN PUBLIC SPACE
4. 9.–3. 10. 2026

MMC KIBLA/KiBela, Ulica kneza Koclja 9, Maribor, Slovenia
Opening hours: Monday to Friday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

KIBELA

Igor Grubić

GESTURES OF ACTIVATION – WORKS IN PUBLIC SPACE

4. 9.–3. 10. 2026
MMC KIBLA/KiBela

Penetration towards the East

"Renowned Croatian artist Igor Grubić, under the title *Gestures of Activation – Works in Public Space*, presents a retrospective overview of the artist's multimedia creativity spanning the period from the late 1990s until today. It includes around twenty works of a broad range of formats, from minimal gestures such as text, photography or performance, to projects aiming at goals beyond art.

Public engagement is one of the fundamental stimuli of Grubić's work, as underlined in the title of his first retrospective solo exhibition in the *Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art Rijeka*, Croatia, then the *Museum of Contemporary Art Skopje*, Macedonia and now the *Multimedia Center KIBLA* in Maribor, Slovenia. He is preoccupied with the subject of social turmoil in the nineties of the 20th century, paying special attention to the processes of transition and privatization, the burden of wartime destruction, and the responsibility of individuals in active social change-making. His critically directed considerations are thus closely related to empowering civil disobedience, the implementation of different activist strategies of agitation and infiltration into the public space.

Penetrating the soft tissue of pacifist yet unnerving critique, Grubić represents a peculiar example of artistic activism relying on the spirit of guerrilla-anarchist actions, in the wake of the legacies of historical avant-gardes and conceptual practices from the sixties and seventies of the 20th century, which stepped out into the streets to express institutional critique and desire for direct communication with the public."

When Igor Grubić appeared on the art scene in the 1990s, the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (SFRY) was collapsing. Wars were breaking out across the region, spreading from Slovenia to other republics; a civil war over territory and money was unfolding before our very eyes. The political clique of the time decided to break up the country and tear it apart, destroying not only the physical, civil infrastructure and the metaphysical, interpersonal fabric, but also human lives: in the wars of the SFRY between 1991 and 2000, according to estimates by international organizations and independent research centers, between 130,000 and 140,000 people were killed. This was not just "empty" rhetoric about "continuing politics by other means", but society was also forced to find other means, as actors from abroad (the International Monetary Fund (IMF), foreign agents, spies, soldiers, Western secret services, the American CIA, the British MI6, the German BND, the Austrian BVT, the Italian AISE, the Israeli Mossad and, of course, the NATO military alliance) set out to break up the country. According to them, with the end of the Cold War, it had lost its historical role as a key buffer between the West and the East. After 1989, the Western superpowers no longer needed a neutral intermediary, and with the dissolution of the Warsaw Pact and the end of the bloc division, the Non-Aligned Movement lost its original influence, although it continues to this day and is currently celebrating its 65th anniversary.*

**The Non-Aligned Movement was officially founded at its first summit in Belgrade, Yugoslavia, held from September 1 to 6, 1961, with September 2 as the key day for inaugural speeches and discussions by world leaders.*

Warren Zimmermann, the last ambassador of the United States of America (USA) to the SFRY, explained clearly in his analyses and memoirs that after the end of the Cold War and the collapse of the Soviet Union (SU), the USA lost its strategic reason to support the existence and unity of the SFRY. During the Cold War, the country served as a key buffer zone between East and West, but with the collapse of communism in Europe, this geopolitical role disappeared overnight. After that, only one pact remained in Europe – NATO, which directly participated in several interventions during this brutal collapse and, without the consent of the United Nations Security Council, bombed the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (FRY), formed by Serbia and Montenegro, for 78 days from March 24 to June 10, 1999, including with depleted uranium, in order to divide us completely and rule. Divide and rule. "Divide et impera" is an ancient political and military principle, most closely associated with the Roman Empire, used by the ruling class to dominate people. We can see that humanity, the people, in more than 2,000 years, has still not managed to understand this, become aware of it, and throw it back in the faces of the authorities.

Nothing was left to chance in the dismantling of the SFRY. When Lord Peter Carrington and Portuguese Ambassador José Cutileiro drafted the Lisbon Agreement, it was signed on March 18, 1992, in Lisbon by all three warring parties in Bosnia and Herzegovina: Alija Izetbegović for the Bosniaks, Radovan Karadžić for the Serbs, and Mate Boban for the Croats. Shortly afterwards, US Ambassador Zimmermann flew to Sarajevo and persuaded Izetbegović to withdraw his signature from the agreement on March 28, 1992. Because of external interference from the United States, Carrington and Cutileiro withdrew from the peace process, and the war in Bosnia and Herzegovina flared up. The last major conflict in the wars of Yugoslav succession ended on June 9 and 10, 1999, with the Kumanovo Agreement and the adoption of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244, which ended NATO's bombing of the FRY and led to the deployment of international peacekeeping forces. UN Security Council Resolution 1244 is still in force today and formally affirms the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the FRY, treating Kosovo as part of Serbia. However, Slovenian politics and the mainstream media ignore this resolution, as Slovenia recognized Kosovo as a state a few weeks after Kosovo declared independence in 2008, a clear violation of international law – unfortunately, not for the first time, and not for the last.

When the US military entered Kosovo on June 12, 1999, as part of the peacekeeping operation Joint Guardian, they set up their headquarters at Camp Bondsteel, then the largest and easternmost military base in Europe, which served NATO's further penetration to the East (Drang nach Osten)* and still occupies the territory of the Republic of Serbia today. From there, they immediately extended their tentacles further, beginning when the Czech Republic, Hungary, and Poland joined NATO on March 12, 1999, followed by seven countries in 2004, including Slovenia. In 2009, Croatia and Albania joined, in 2017 Montenegro, and in 2020 (renamed) North Macedonia.

**The term was coined in the 19th century during the era of German nationalism, but also referred to medieval German colonization and campaigns (e.g., the activities of the Teutonic Knights), and denotes German political, military, and economic expansion at the expense of Slavic territories in Eastern and Central Europe. In the 20th century, the idea of an eastward advance was taken up in a radical and destructive form by the Nazi regime (as part of the concept of Lebensraum or living space).*

The war in the SFRY continued until 2001, with clashes involving ethnic Albanian separatists in southern Serbia and Macedonia. On February 4, 2003, the FRY was renamed the State Union of Serbia and Montenegro; Montenegro later chose independence in a referendum on May 21, 2006, and, after declaring independence on June 3, 2006, the union split into two entities. Interestingly, a very similar intervention took place in 2022, 30 years later, almost at the same time, when on March 29, 2022, the Russian Federation (RF) and Ukraine reached and initialed a peace agreement in Istanbul. Ukraine expected a ceasefire to be declared, but instead received an ultimatum. Boris Johnson, then Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, flew to Kyiv/Kiev on April 9, 2022, at the behest of US President Joe Biden, and secured Ukraine's withdrawal from the agreement, allowing the war to continue. Today, this day is called "the day Johnson blew up the peace in Kyiv/Kiev".

When geopolitics is distorted by politicians and the mainstream media, and we receive the same, one-sided, skewed information from all of them – as has been happening since the 1980s, when they unanimously sounded the alarm over the collapse of the SFRY, continued throughout the 1990s, and have been manipulating people ever since – it becomes difficult for many to find other viewpoints. These viewpoints are censored and banned, and the carriers of alternative information are persecuted in the mainstream media: their bank accounts are closed so they cannot access their money, they are fired from their jobs because they do not conform to the mainstream narrative, they are banned from traveling, their work equipment (phones, laptops, desktop computers) is seized to copy and examine stored data, they are prosecuted, and they are imprisoned. In fact, we now find ourselves under the totalitarianism of capital, in a neoliberal fascism and neoconservative Nazism that bans, persecutes, and imprisons people for a "verbal offense", a different opinion they dared to express. Among them are primarily academics, leading experts, and (former) high-ranking officials who know much and have much to say, but this does not suit the kleptomaniac sociopaths in power, who resort to the entire repressive state apparatus, including "public lynching", to silence them.

The military-pharmaceutical-digital-political-media complex has decided to take us to war. In the European Union, in accordance with the dictates of the NATO pact, we are sending weapons to the front so that conflicts not only continue, but also grow and become more dangerous for everyone, renewing compulsory military service, announcing mobilization, and planning an attack on the Russian Federation by 2029 or 2030. This follows almost the same Western "peace process interventions" and timeline as in the SFRY, in order to have as many citizens as possible slaughtered and as much land and infrastructure as possible destroyed. This means that by then, in line with the demands of the masters, we must arm ourselves, buy their weapons, introduce compulsory military service if necessary or otherwise build the largest possible army – and allocate a large part of the budget to the militarization of Europe. This will leave no funds for education, culture, social services, health care, agriculture, the environment, or the economy (except for war, which is already happening), and the intentions of the globalist financial-political conspiracy will be realized as they vampire-like suck the last drop from people who will soon not even have money for basic necessities.

The "robbery of the century" is taking place before our eyes, making the financial crisis of 2008 look like a "walk in the park". Back then, we were rescuing banks and socializing their losses, with taxpayers covering capitalists' profits from state budgets at the expense of other departments, according to the principle of "privatization of profits, socialization of losses", and we saw that socialism was indeed possible. But only for capitalists, who were able to speculate peacefully in this way, while also economically destroying Greece and threatening Slovenia with "TROIKA intervention", which in the end was not necessary, since we sold off everything we could to keep the "country afloat", especially to Germany and the USA. Back then, the capitalist-political mafias left us something, but today they have decided to take everything. Slovenia has committed to giving 5% of its gross domestic product (GDP) to NATO – not the budget! – annually, and in 2025 this would amount to 3.558 billion euros out of a total sum of 71.171 billion euros, while the state budget of the Republic of Slovenia set 15.2 billion euros in revenues and 17.1 billion euros in expenses, representing a deficit of approximately 1.9 billion euros, with the same planned for this year. If we subtract 3.558 billion euros from any revenue or expenditure figure, we can calculate how much will remain and what we will have to give up.

Increasing the profits of the US military-industrial digital complex and Silicon Valley will lead to the impoverishment of the masses and the disappearance of the so-called middle class, which is educated, cultured, and (sometimes) capable of thinking. Only the richest capitalists and the poor will remain as we transfer our money to them for weapons of destruction and murder, killing each other and thus reducing the population, which is what they are planning:. Fewer people, fewer problems, less money spent on them, reduced consumption, simpler management, easier control, and, above all tighter control of society under the totalitarianism of capital in a Nazi-fascist coalition. Schools and culture will be deemed unnecessary, social welfare will be abolished, we will pay for healthcare as much as we can afford – and otherwise receive nothing – and we will lie down to "rest". Agriculture will be taken over by multinationals using genetically modified food, robots will work, and research and development