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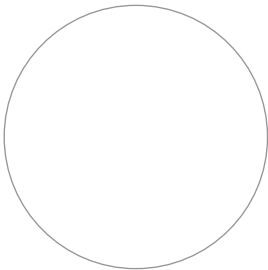


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Prologue:

This booklet shall give the reader an overview of the project “Show Europe – Show Belarus” which focused on cultural exchange between Belarus and Europe – a relationship that might be described as problematic, but also as attractive at the same time.

Where a hidden interest meets borders and restrictions it is time to build bridges to link art, artists and people from both sides by cultural exchange.

This exchange meant to first “show Belarus” in Europe and then to “show Europe” in Belarus. Crucial for this exchange were artists as pioneers of free expression and exchange.

In each country groups of artists were built in order to interact among each other on an equally artistic level.

In the end, artists from five different nations took part in this project. This project not only linked the involved countries to Belarus, but also led to an exchange between Estonia and Portugal

as well as Lithuania and Germany. “Show Europe – Show Belarus” was a cultural exchange on an European level with a special focus on one country: Belarus.

After two years of “Show Europe – Show Belarus” which had 55 artists participating in our activities, after hundreds of kilometers of travelling, after thousands of visiting guests, after virtually millions of emails being sent between the organizers - and thanks to fantastic artists, engaged cultural actors, motivated supporters, enthusiastic visitors and outstanding support from various donors, we can say this project campaign included an impressive serial of exchange interactions aimed at one main goal: Freedom of the expression of art and artists worldwide, in Belarus and in the whole of Europe!

Enthused artists and grateful visitors proved that our activities have touched emotions and raised the hopes of the people. It became obvious that cultural exchange with Belarus is needed more than ever! Nevertheless “Show Europe –

Show Belarus” can only be seen as a first step on a long journey. It is right to say: After the action is before the action.



About the overall project “Show Europe – Show Belarus”

“Show Europe – Show Belarus” focuses on an exchange of art and artists in order to create a network of cultural co-operation between Belarus and Europe.

Partner countries involved have been Estonia, Lithuania, Portugal and Germany. “Show Europe – Show Belarus” gives an impetus to have better perspectives for a partnership with Europe’s Eastern neighbors. This is an important general development - and Belarus today needs such an impetus more than ever!

Our approach includes four elements:

- a) Artist group capacity building in order to establish artist partnerships that sustain longer than for just one project
- b) A cross-section approach including photography, action art, installations, performance and music with the potential to be open to other forms of art
- c) Media involvement with internet, social media for networking and PR in

Belarus as well as filming in order to document the project

d) Close partnership of all partners engaged in planning and realising the activities as well as documenting and reporting on the project.

At the beginning an open call for participation had been launched simultaneously in all five project countries for two months. In late March 2011 the most innovative and creative artists had been chosen by a jury of experts for music, photography and action art/installations/performance in every country.

These artist groups which ranged from seven to nine participants, varied from each other. All of the groups included a music band, one or more photographers as well as artists performing action art, installations and performances.

The first half of the project’s activities focused on the presentation of Belarusian arts and artists in Europe. One artist group had travelled to Portugal in June,

the second group to Lithuania in July, the third to Estonia in September and the fourth to Germany in October. Together with their artist colleagues from these countries they have performed, presented and exhibited in front of many hundreds of visitors and guests.

The second stage of exchange tours brought the European artists to Belarus in September 2012. Under the name “European cultural days in Belarus” they visited Brest, Vitebsk and Minsk to present their art and artworks to an open-minded Belarusian audience. Photo exhibitions, music and DJ shows, performances and installations accompanied by workshops and lectures presented a wide variety of contemporary art forms. Coming back from the journey the European artists exhibited their experiences in Estonia, Germany and Portugal.

“Show Europe – Show Belarus” was only possible, because an international team of organizers had worked together. In order to ensure effective cooperation

the team met four times, in Vilnius (LT) in December 2010, in Berlin (DE) in December 2011, in May 2012 in Warsaw (PL) and in Tallinn (EE) in July 2012. A close cooperation of the organizational team was crucial in the successful realization of this international project.





2011/06/03 – 05 Presentation of Belarusian and Portuguese artists at Sociedade Harmonia Eborence, Évora, exhibition seminars, workshops and concerts, side programme in Portugal for Belarusian artists | 2011/05/23 – 06/19 Exhibition “Divine Female” by Yelena Tylkina, Évora Museum, Évora.

Activities in Portugal

The activities in Portugal took place between 3rd and 5th of June 2011 at Sociedade Harmonia Eborence, in Alentejo city of Évora.

It's a city of about 60 000 inhabitants, known for its historical heritage, which was classified as “World Heritage City” by UNESCO.

Polyphonic singing is probably the most known cultural trait of the region and this was a deciding factor for choosing the participating Belarusian musicians. On the other hand, the University has a fine arts' department which is very much focused on contemporary art and contributes a lot to artistic events in the city. These factors were taken into account when organizing the Show Europe – Show Belarus event.

The site chosen to host the event was Sociedade Harmonia Eborence. This is a century-old organization that organizes cultural events every week and gathers different generations of artists. Choosing this space was based on several fac-

tors. It is a very central building - in the central square of the city - and its audience, besides being very participative, it is very interested in all forms of art.

The activity programme started on June 3rd with the opening of the exhibition and a concert by Akana (BY) together with local music guests. On 4th of June Pedro Lobo held a seminar about “Architecture of Survival – The eye of a photographer in the slums of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil” followed by a concert of a trio with jazz musicians Luis Desirat, Miguel Mira and José Parrinha. On the 5th of June a joint seminar with Yelena Tylkina, Yura Matsiyun and Konstantin Selikhanov took place.

The participants discussed the Belarusian cultural scene as well as contemporary art and artists and some important social aspects. The event concluded with a polyphonic singing workshop by Akana on the same day. As well as the public presentations (exhibitions, concerts, seminars and workshops), was a programme for the Belarus artists par-

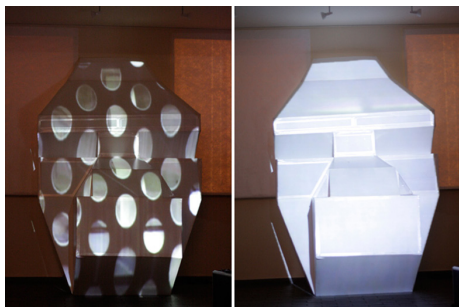
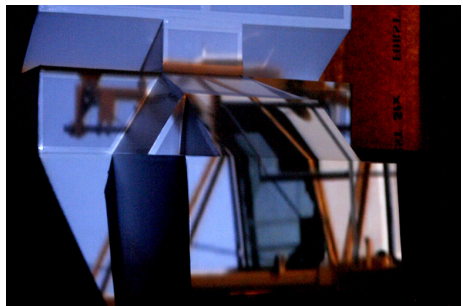
ticipating in the project who wished to get to an overview of local cultural events as well as local historical monuments and heritage.

This included the Évora Museum, the University of Évora, the art gallery of Fundação Eugénio de Almeida, the Bi-annual international Muppet Festival, the Evoramonte castle and the rural areas surrounding the city which are very much related to local life.

A one day visit to Lisbon was organized for the Belarusian participants to get a broader sense of Portuguese culture. The historical parts of Lisbon were visited, as well as Centro Cultural de Belém, the largest cultural centre in the country.

Since it was a short project, it was decided that a larger project should be organized in order to increase the local impact of the project and to exhibit its results. A co-operative was developed with the Ministry of Culture, through the Évora Museum, to hold a project's exhibition in the Museum. Belarus-American artist Yelena Tylkina

was chosen to organize the exhibition which ran from 23rd of May till 19th of June. The exhibition in the Évora Museum was composed of black and white paintings and the title was “Divine Female”. The opening of the exhibition, a week before the events with all artists from Belarus, was used for promotion and dissemination of the project. For this purpose, leaflets were produced and made available to visitors of the museum.



Activities in Lithuania

"Belarusian Space" is the part of the project "Show Europe – Show Belarus" that was implemented in Lithuania during the most popular summer holiday event - the Sea Festival in Klaipeda. It took place in the centre of Klaipeda's old town, near the central concert stage during the course of the Sea Festival.

This stage became a public ground for the presentation of the joint Lithuanian and Belarusian music show. The musical performance was developed during public workshops of young Lithuanian jazz musicians and involved musicians from Belarus under the guidance of the experienced jazz musician from the "Klaipeda Jazz Festival" Laimonas Urbrikas. As the performance took place in the centre of the old town on a big city stage, it attracted many listeners despite other events around the city.

The "Belarusian Space" was made by young Belarusian artists and musicians that presented their vision and perception of transformation processes

in the contemporary cultural and social world. The central plastic element of the "Belarusian Space" was an audiovisual installation by Yana Ivanova and Katsiarina Drobysh, shaped like a Gorilla head as a symbol of fear of the uncontrollable, undisciplined and unpredictable "natural forces" that come from the unknown 'un-europeanized' cultures and traditions. In order to articulate and later to overcome this problem, artists decided to transform the Gorilla by using audiovisual techniques of mapping and VJing by DJs Andrey Garan and Pavel Kirpikau, thus showing that everyone has such a Gorilla of its own.

With the help of cultural and social interaction individuals can create and develop communities and establish new links and networks. The photos exhibited in the Belarusian artistic space were made by the two photographers Pavel Nyahaeu and Alina Krushinskaya. The works of the photographers became part of the project's promo materials band and

were turned into postcards that were distributed among visitors and guests of the 'Belarusian Space'. During the days of the exhibition an audiovisual presentation of the Belarusian creative communities and a public music workshop with Lithuanian jazz musicians were organized.

Furthermore works of young Belarusian filmmakers were screened. The project became a platform of integration and intercultural dialogue between Belarusian and Lithuanian art professionals. It showed how cultural events and activities can be used as a great tool for achieving integration and cohesion.

During the implementation process of the project a co-operation agreement was established with the Klaipeda city municipality and "Klaipeda Jazz Festival" for informational support of the project. As the joint live performance of the Belarusian and Lithuanian musicians was included in the Sea Festival program and took place at the central

stage, a wide audience and the local mass media could be reached. Besides this the project was strongly supported by the Belarusian creative communities, in particular by the 'Foundamental Network' which represents and promotes contemporary music and art from Belarus. Furthermore the Belarusian youth socio-cultural multimedia project "34 Multimedia Magazine" gave informational support to the project.

Due to this cooperation the "Belarusian Space" became not only a unique event for the Belarusian audience, but also drew their attention to the necessity of cultural network-building between artists from Europe and Belarus.



2011/09/14 Presentation of Belarusian and Estonian artists at Korter Tallinn, concert and food-art exhibition | 2011/09/15 Opening event of the exhibition „Discover Europe-Discover Belarus“ at Hellemann Galerii, Tallinn | 2011/09/15-28 Exhibition „Discover Europe-Discover Belarus“ at Hellemann Galerii, Tallinn

Activities in Estonia

The activities in Estonia took place between 13th and 16th of September 2011 in the capital of Estonia, Tallinn. The activity programme started on 13th of September with an excursion of Belarusian artists to Tallinn.

They visited the places where the exhibition and the concert were to be held and met the Estonian artists at an evening reception for exchange of questions and answers.

Some myths about Belarus were clarified. The next day, before the evening concert, a master class of Estonian and Belarusian musicians was organized.

Although Belarusian culture was almost unknown to young Estonians, we discovered that Estonians were keen to attend. The Belarusian bands „Silicon“ and „Al Narrator Orchestra“ as well as the Estonian bands „MID“ and „Sybil Vane“ took part in the concert.

It was mix of different styles: Estonian „MID“ presented electronic pop, „Al Na-

rator Orchestra“ is a blues-oriented band, Sybil Vane plays rock and „Silicon“ favours Western surf music.

On the 15th of September photographers and painters prepared their exhibition and held an open master class at Hellemann Galerii. In the afternoon they presented their works at the gallery.

There were six participants altogether, working with different techniques and styles - art, photo documentation and illustration. The exhibition included polaroid pictures by Alyaksei Shynkarenka (BY), paintings by Katsiaryna Mikhnyuk (BY), Margarita Vul (BY) and Ihor Tee (EE) as well as photos by Olev Mikkeltaa (EE) and Oleg Koltun (EE). The exhibition at Hellemann Galerii was running until 28th of September.

On the same day Estonian and Belarusian musicians visited Estonian producers in order to find possibilities for further cooperation. Belarusian musicians also visited Tallinn clubs to get a closer look at Estonian music life.

On 16th of September all participants and organizers discussed further possibilities and discovered some interesting ideas for common work. A final excursion through Tallinn was organized as well.



2011/10/20 – 11/04 Exhibition “Human rights and civil society in Belarus”, at the museum Gedenkstätte Bautzen | 2011/10/28 Presentation of Belarusian and German artists at Steinhaus Bautzen, exhibition and concert | 2011/10/29 Presentation of Belarusian and German artists at Scheune Dresden, exhibition and concert, additional public street performance | 2011/12/16 “Belarusian Evening”, Galerie Neuer Osten, Dresden, lecture, music performance and film screening | 2011/12/17 – 2012/03/16 Exhibition, private – public, Galerie Neuer Osten, Dresden

Activities in Germany

“Show Europe – Show Belarus” in Germany presented artists from both countries in the cities of Bautzen and Dresden. In Bautzen the concerts and exhibition took place at the socio-cultural centre Steinhaus on October 28th 2011.

A side event was the exhibition ‘Human rights and civil society in Belarus’ which was co-organized by Kultur Aktiv at the museum Gedenkstätte Bautzen, the infamous former Stasi prison. The following day the artists presented the exhibition and concerts at the popular music club Scheune in Dresden.

A trunk of a tree, a chainsaw, a video screen and a live sound system was the basis of the conceptual live-art performance of music group Sandow, where the audience in Dresden could witness the creation of a piece of art in over 70 minutes.

The guitarist and chainsaw artist Chris Hinze created a 3D sculpture from wood and the musicians Kai-Uwe Kohl-schmidt and Tilman Fürstenau provi-

ded an electro-acoustic soundtrack with exciting beats that accompanied the birth of a creature. The duo Gurzuf from Belarus fascinated the audience with its highly emotional mix from folk, classic, rock, punk and hip hop. One has to see to believe how Egor Zabelov on accordion and Artiom Zalessky of the band Gurzuf develop a hurricane of feelings out of two instruments.

The project „Kanec slovaŭ” (End of Words) was presented by an artist group from Minsk, including Igor Savchenko, Sergey Pukst, Maksim Žbankov and Daria Sitnikova. It showed a very interesting cross-over installation of black-and-white photos, a video installation and live guitar sounds. With this topic, they touched upon the difficult situation of writers living in Belarus.

The work of German photographer Matthias Schumann, called ‘Greetings from Drensk’, morphed photos of Dresden and Minsk in one postcard format. In this work he deals with the question of how much inflection the East has from the

West and vice versa. Schumann created a new town in the heart of Europe combining features of eastern and western architectural history in it.

Johanna and Michael Dobbelt’s project was called ‘I am voting for...’ and worked as an interactive installation in the form of a message. Anyone could write and draw on the posters what they wanted to vote for. This could be understood politically or privately, ironically or idealistically.

A street performance by Mikhail Gulin brought contemporary art from Belarus directly into the historical centre of the city. With the slogan ‘Applaus’ he could animate people to clap enthusiastically before they had started to ask what they were applauding to. Later Mikhail Gulin and Sergey Pukst created a movie called ‘Dokolye’ and published it at www.artaktivist.org. This showed the Belarusian artists in shops and in the streets of Dresden, provocatively asking: ‘What have our fathers spilled their blood for?!’

Some of the results were also presented at Galerie neue Osten in Dresden as part of the exhibition “private-public”, showing a small version of Savchenko’s ‘Kanec slovaŭ’, together with works of art from the famous Belarusian photographers Andrei Liankevich and Artur Klinau as well as a new photo montage serial from Matthias Schumann.

The opening event ‘Belarusian evening’ took place on 16th December 2011 and included a lecture about Belarus, life music presentation and the screening of a movie from the shows in Bautzen and Dresden.



2011/03/03 Official opening of the project and of the call for artists at Hotel Europa, Minsk | 2012/09/24-26 Presentation of German artists at Contemporary Art Center, Vitebsk with exhibition, concert at Zebra club, Vitebsk | 2012/09/25-26 Presentation of Portuguese artists at Hermitage Hotel, Brest, exhibition, concert, workshop | 2012/09/27 Presentation of Portuguese photographer Pedro Lobo at Fisher's House, Minsk, exhibition, official opening of the activity in Minsk, press-conference at IBB, concert | 2012/09/28-29 Presentation of German artists at Gallery Y, Minsk, exhibition, master-classes, panel-discussion, concert in T.N.T. club, DJ-show at Graffiti club Minsk | 2012/11/24 Presentation of results in Tallinn (EE), exhibition, film screening | 2012/11/30 Presentation of results in Dresden (DE), exhibition, film screening, concert | 2013/01/20 Presentation of results in Evora (PT), exhibition, film screening, concert

Activities in Belarus

During the last two years the main focus of the project relied on the exchange of art and artists between Belarus and European countries. After the official opening of the project with a well-recognized press conference at Hotel Europa in 2011/03/03 the call for artists was open for almost two months. Four artist groups were put together and sent to Portugal, Lithuania, Estonia and Germany in 2011. The artists could not only present their arts abroad but also got now inspiration and contacts which they took with them back to Belarus.

“Show Europe – Show Belarus” returned to Belarus at the end of the project with the final concluding main activities. The last week of September 2012 was full of cultural events, which took place in such cities as Vitebsk, Brest and Minsk.

About 20 musicians, photographers and artists from Germany and Portugal visited the Belarusian cities at the final stage of “Show Europe – Show Belarus”. Contemporary arts and culture of these countries were presented during

the campaign. Each of the programme days were different. From morning until the late evening meetings with foreign artists as well as presentations, master classes and concerts took place in different parts of Vitebsk, Brest and Minsk.

The Portuguese team arrived in Brest in the afternoon of the 25th of September. On arrival, the exhibition by photographer Pedro Lobo was installed at the Hermitage Hotel lounge to be inaugurated later in the day. In the evening, the exhibition was opened to the public, followed by a concert by Portuguese band “No mazurka”. On the 26th the exhibition continued to be open to the public and late in the morning there was a workshop with Pedro Lobo. The workshop was attended by photography students and local photographers. It was a very informal and open exchange of ideas and perspectives on artistic photography. Later that day, the Portuguese team left for Minsk. At the same time the German group visited Vitebsk with their presentations. The group consisted of music band Sandow, DJ and music pro-

ducer Armin Siebert (DJ Pixie), painter Michael Dobbelt, photo journalist Johanna Dobbelt and the 2 photographers Matthias Schumann and Jan Oelker. The exhibition by the photographers and the painter took place at the Center of Contemporary Art from September 24th till 26th. The music band Sandow played at club Zebra on 26th September.

Later the Portuguese and German groups met in Minsk to continue their actions together. Master classes from German musicians were held at gallery Y in Minsk on September 28th. The first one was held by Kai-Uwe Kohlschmidt, singer of the band Sandow. The topic was ‘Music in three systems: GDR, Unified Germany and Europe’. In easy conversation Kai-Uwe Kohlschmidt was telling about conditions, under which German musical culture developed, about the difficulties a young band was facing in the GDR, and up to the online ruled markets faced in the current Europe. Kai-Uwe also answered questions from the audience. The second master-class was held by DJ, journalist and music expert Armin

Siebert (Eastblok Music). He talked about the ways of promoting Belarusian music in the European Union. He also shared with the audience the secrets of the music business in Germany, providing the audience with a few parallels between the situation in the Belarusian and the German “world of sounds”.

The next day, September 29th, was also full of events. A new master class with the intriguing name “potato action” was offered to the Belarusian audience. Michael and Johanna Dobbelt, both photographers and artists, offered a creative interactive game to all the visitors: They had to assemble words out of the word eternity, which had been laid out with potatoes. The potatoes had been artistically designed by the guests themselves. As Michael and Johanna explained, eternity surrounds us and it can be interpreted in various ways: As stagnation in politics or as cultural degradation. But in an optimistic way a strong desire or something else is necessary to break this eternity, to go to the next step. This something should then be visual-



ized using the potatoes again. The master class turned out to be interesting, unusual, in places even ridiculous, but at the same time the idea of eternity forced people to think about matters far more difficult than a simple potato.

At eight o'clock in the evening a big concert with Sandow and the Belarusian band The blue veins as warm up act took place at the T.N.T. club. The three young and vigorous guys of the support band sang in blues rock and garage rock style. The good sound of the band warmed up the audience and created a good atmosphere.

Right after them German music band Sandow started to play. Vivid sign language as well as facial expression showed how much the performers enjoy their creative work. They were completely devoted to the pronouncing of each word, each note. Sandow inspired everyone at T.N.T. club. A spontaneous prolonging of the musical presentation could be realized when DJ Pixie performed a show at Minsk's most exiting

underground club Grafitti. The audience kept dancing on the tables till the early hours of the next day.

After their return home the artists were motivated and inspired to present their experiences again in European countries. In Tallinn (EE), Dresden (DE) and Evora (PT) exhibitions were opened including screening of films from the events in Belarus. In Dresden two members of Sandow joined the opening event with a musical performance at Galerie neue Osten. In Portugal the film screening was linked again to an exhibition of Belarusian American artist Yelena Tylkina at Castelo de Vide.



2011/06/01 – 05 Project presentation and exhibition “Human rights and civil society in Belarus”, Kirchentag, Dresden (DE) | 2011/07/22-24 Project presentation at Basowiszczka Festival, Grodek (PL)
2011/09/15-17 Project presentation at international conference, Stockholm (SE) | 2012/05/19 Project presentation and warm-up party with Belarusian DJ, Dresden (DE) | 2012/11/11-12 Project presentation at international conference, Vilnius (LT)

Side activities in European countries

As well as the main activities with artists from Belarus and the European project countries, we began a campaign to spread the idea and results of “Show Europe – Show Belarus” in a larger context. We have used internet with an own project website (www.showbelarus.eu) and different social media to reach many thousands of visitors on the web.

Additionally we have initiated side activities in different European countries. We started in Germany with a presentation at the “Kirchentag” (EN: Church Day) meeting – a meeting of some hundred thousand people from Germany and all over the world from 1st till 5th of June 2011.

One part of the meeting was called “marketplace of opportunities” (In German: Markt der Möglichkeiten) where we had a stand from which we presented the exhibition “Human rights and civil society in Belarus” which was co-organized by Kultur Aktiv and linked to “Show Europe – Show Belarus”. During the five days, we came in contact

with hundreds of visitors with whom we spoke about the project and – in a broader sense – about the situation in Belarus.

A second event was the participation of German and Belarusian project organizers in Basowiszczka festival. The festival is the most successful Belarusian music festival outside of the country. It takes place in Eastern Poland, not far from the Belarusian border. Every year many young fans from Belarus and Poland come to celebrate the best underground bands from Belarus together with a few international acts. What is not possible inside the country – it happens here! Our team, Elena Pagel, Olga Polityko and Marcus Oertel, used this opportunity to meet Belarusians and distribute promotion material about “Show Europe – Show Belarus”.

Experts and key persons of the Belarusian civil society who are active in culture, youth work, environment, social and other issues as well as the project managers Pavel Morosau, Marcus Oer-

tel and Mirko Sennewald took part and presented the project with its ideas and results at two international conferences.

The conferences took place from 15th till 17th of September 2011 in Stockholm (SE) and from 11th till 12th of November 2012 in Vilnius.

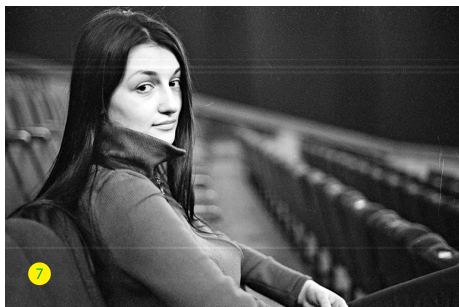
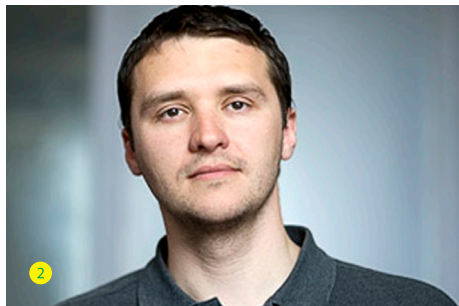
To round off the picture the German project partner Kultur Aktiv organized a warm-up party for the final events in Belarus called “Subsonic Night” on 19th of May 2012 in Dresden (DE).

We invited the Belarusian DJ Andrey Garan who had already performed previously, during the project activities in Lithuania.

Special guest was DJ Pixie who also worked as the music expert of the project in Germany and later joined the final activities in Belarus.



ARTISTS



Artists from Belarus

AKANA (1) is an ethnic vocal trio that fuses different styles. Founded in 2006 with Irena Katvitskaya (arrang, voc), Russia (voc) and Nadya Chugunova (voc), Akana has played in Europe (Germany, Switzerland, Norway, Poland) and participated in different festivals in Belarus and abroad. In 2008 Akana released their first album "700" which received a special prize from www.experty.by (the key online community of music critics and journalists). In 2009 together with Swiss jazz band "Albin Brun Alpin Ensemble" they created a gorgeous ethno-jazz project – "Kazalpin" which released the album "Kazalpin" one year later.

Alyaksei Shynkarenko (2) is a professional photographer from Belarus and director of the "center of photography" and "school of photography". Since 2006 he had personal and group art exhibitions in Belarus, Poland, Lithuania and other countries.

AL NARRATOR ORCHESTRA (5) is a blues band from Gomel (BY) that was founded in 1994. They already have

participated in several festivals inside and outside of Belarus, for example in the "Aberdeen Alternative Music Festival" in 1996, "Блюз живе ў Мінску" (En: Blues lives in Minsk) in 1996 and again in 2006 and 2007, "Zaduszki bluesowe" (En: Blues All Soul's Day) in Białystok in Poland and "Noc Bluesowa" (En: Blues night), in Poland in 2005. At "Noc Bluesowa" the band was awarded with first place.

Daria Sitnikova (7) is a cultural scientist and journalist for cultural analysis. She is the co-author and coordinator of the projects "Kanec slovaŭ" and "Kanec slovaŭ home collection".

GURZUF (3) was accordionist Egor Zabelov and drummer Artem Zalesky from Minsk, Belarus. They are difficult to assign to a specific genre. Their music is a mix of hard rock riffs with classical folk music sounds: a wild mix of punk, hard rock, hip-hop, classical and folk. Egor Zabelov, a musician from the third generation of a music family, is an honored accordionist of Belarus,

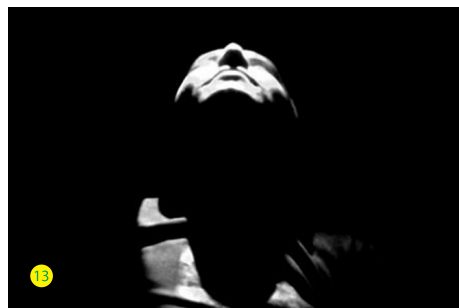
who has completed his studies at the Academy of Music. Artem Zalesky, at the age of 32, is already a living legend who has been playing drums and creating alternative music in Belarus for already 15 years. Before they split up in 2012, Gurzuf had given concerts in England, France, Germany, Poland, Russia and Belarus.

Igor Savchenko (6) is one of Belarus' most famous art photographers. He has studied Technical and Control Engineering at the Minsk University of Radio-Engineering. He started doing photography in 1989. In 1997 he declared his withdrawal from photography again. In 2006 he came back to photography again. He is the author of more than 400 published photographs and numerous texts, audio and video projects.

Katsiaryna Mikhnyuk was born in Breza (BY) in 1986 and lives and works in Minsk as a professional abstract artist. She draws her inspirations from childhood memories and impressions, as

well as from culture and nature of her native country of Belarus. Katsiaryna thrives to perfect her skills and experiments with different techniques. In 2011 she was the winner of the Diploma of 1st degree at the first open East Europe competition of choreographic, theatrical, musical and fine arts «the Romantic expression» in Ostrovez, BY. Her works are presented in private collections in Belarus, Estonia, Germany, Russia and the USA.

Konstantin Selikhanov (4) was born in Minsk in 1967. In 1993 he graduated from Belarusian Art Academy, sculpture department. The artist was able to present his work in many exhibitions in Belarus, Europe and all over the world. Many of his sculptures are decorating the city area of Minsk, capital of Belarus. In 2012 Selikhanov created a statue for Japan, which is devoted to the tragedy of Hiroshima.



Maksim Žbankov (11) is a cultural scientist, film critic, journalist, and irreplaceable moderator of the “cinema club” at Minsk cinema “Pobeda”. He is the author of numerous publications on issues of contemporary culture at the newspapers “Belarusskaja Gazeta”, “Belarusskaja Delovaja Gazeta,” the journals “Fragmenty,” “partisan” and “Naše mnenie” (<http://nmnby.eu>). He is also columnist for the Internet portal naviny.by.

Mikhail Gulin (10) was born in 1977 in Gomel, Belarus. He studied at the Belarusian Academy of Arts from 1998 to 2004. Since 2005, Mikhail has been a member of the Belarusian Union of Artists. Since 2002, Gulin has been involved in national and international exhibitions. Numerous group exhibitions took place in Belarus, Germany, Poland and other countries. The performer Mikhail Gulin became famous for his street performances with controversial topics such as homosexuality, terrorism, guerrilla tradition and xenophobia.

Pavel Niakhayeu, (13) born in 1978, is an electronic musician working with the Fundamental Network music/art community and running the net-label Force Carriers. He teaches contemporary music culture at EHU in Vilnius (LT).

Sergey Pukst (9) is a musician, music critic, and the band leader of Pukst-Band. Before he played in the punk bands “Korol ‘pčiol” [tKing Bees] and “OPPA”. He developed a personal style and according to some critics it is full of “surreal power.” In the late 90s, he crafted his own sound which he called ‘nihilistic jazz’. He also plays acoustic and rock music. Pukst says about Pukst: “There are two hypostases of Pukst: one is crazy avant-garde, expressive - “oppa”-shaped, and the second one is lyrical, exalted, half meditative and tender.

THE SILICON (12) is a musical trio from Minsk (Belarus), which plays surf music & instrumental rock influenced by the 1960’s. The band was set up in November 2008 with Dmitry Poplasky on

guitar, Mr. Moto on bass guitar and Ihar Sukharukau on drums.

Volha Salakheyeva was born in 1984. He is a visual artist / VJ from Minsk, Belarus working with the Fundamental Network community and techno label Force Carriers. He is a media and communication specialist.

Yana Ivanova was born in 1988 in Polotsk, Belarus. She studied interior design and later graphic design in Czech Republic. She works with graphic design and visual installations.

Yelena Tylkina (8) was born in 1965, in the town of Orsha in the Vitebsk Province in Belarus but for many years now she has been living in the United States. Her art work has won several awards and honors for her contribution to the art world both nationally and internationally. Her work is included in many private and corporate collections all over the globe. To date, she has had no less than eight solo, ten museum and over fifty group exhibitions and her

work has been the subject of focus in over twenty art magazine and newspaper articles in the US and Europe.

Yura Matsiyun was born in Belarus in 1980. Sociologist by education (Belarusian state university) he has been engaged in photography since 2005. The main themes of his photography are documentary, street-photo and art-photo. He has worked for European Radio for Belarus (www.euroradio.fm) and cultural project BUDZMA (www.budzma.org). He also makes stage photos for ethno-trio “Akana”. As photographer and anthropologist he participated in ethnographical expeditions (Akana, Budzma and Saint-Petersburg conservatorium). He is also the author of articles and photos at photo web-almanac Photoscope (www.photoscope.by). About ten of his works are part of the collection of the State University of Culture and Arts (Belarus).



Artists from Germany

Armin Siebert (1) was born in 1973 and holds a diploma in translation/interpretation German/English/Russian as well as a bachelor in journalism. From 1999 to 2004 he worked for EMI Music in Germany as well as internationally as Event and Trend Promotion Manager and later as East European co-ordinator. After leaving EMI he became co-founder of his own record label Eastblok Music releasing and promoting music from Eastern Europe in the Western hemisphere. He also works as radio moderator, journalist, consultant, translator, and became famous as DJ Pixie in Berlin, Germany and abroad.

Elena Pagel (3) is an interdisciplinary-working contemporary artist originally from Barnaul, Siberia (RU), using painting, ceramics, photography, film and other styles. Since 1999 she has been living and working as artist and curator in Germany and has been engaged in several exhibitions and international projects, like Transkaukazja.

Johanna and Michael Dobbelt (2) were

born in 1959 and 1960, respectively, in St. Petersburg, Russia. Johanna graduated from St. Petersburg State University in 1983 and received her diploma as a journalist. Since 1983 she has been working as freelance journalist and photographer. Since 2009 she has been a member of the New Saxon Art Association. Michael Dobbelt has studied theatre design at the State University of Theatre, Music and Cinema in St. Petersburg. At the class of Professor D. Afanasiev, he started as a graduate designer and freelance artist in 1990. Since 2002 he has been a member of the Saxon Association of Artists and a member of the New Saxon Art Association since 2009. They both live and work in Dresden.

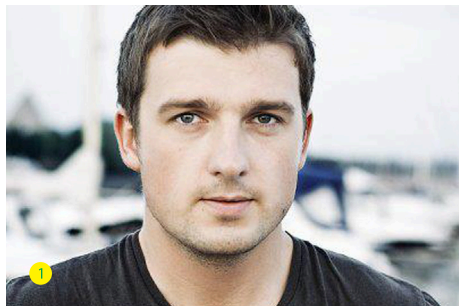
Jan Oelker (6) was born in 1960 in Dresden (DE) and works as a photographer for several journals and industrial companies with a special interest in stories that reflect relationships between people and nature. Currently he is interested in alternative wind energy. In the 1980-ies Oelker was one of the few people from the GDR to discover the Sovi-

et Union on individual adventure trips about which he has published a book in 2010 called "Transit".

Matthias Schumann (4) lives and works in Dresden (DE) and in Cambridge (UK). For over 10 years now, Eastern Europe has been central to his work, both as an artist and as a photojournalist. He particularly focuses on the social transformation processes within the former Soviet Union. His artistic interest in people and their culture during those transition processes can be explained both by his personal history of growing up in the GDR as well as by his interest in changing traditions in Eastern Europe. In his work he consciously plays with Western clichés about Eastern Europe.

Sandow (5) was founded in the East German city Cottbus in 1982. They were named after one of the districts of this city. Sandow became famous after their participation in the rock documentary «Flüstern & SCHREIEN» on underground and punk music from the GDR. The alternative and experimental music of

the band was quite unique within the youth subculture of the GDR. In particular, their song "Born in the GDR" became a hymn for the critical young generation. In the 1990-ies Sandow released several CDs and played countless live concerts in Germany and abroad. The band became a prototype for such bands as Rammstein, which actually started their career supporting Sandow on tour in 1994. Sandow broke up in late 1999. In 2005 Kai-Uwe Kohlschmidt, Tilman Fürstenau, Chris Hinze and Lars Neugebauer re-founded the band, after which, two years later they released the album "Kiong - Companions of Love"



Artists from Estonia

Igor Tee (1) is a young photographer and painter with good prospects.

Margarita Vul (3) is a painter. She has learned to draw at a number of schools and courses. She focused on the realism techniques of Russian classical realism style. Later on she participated in international projects where art was used to make communities follow human values in their daily activities. The motto of Margarita's work is that art should help people.

MID - Masters In Distance (5) is an alternative pop band from Estonia. The two musicians, Markus and Mihkel Robam, started the band in 2010 and is now one of the most promising newcomers of Tallinn's alternative music scene.

Oleg Koltun (4) is an Estonian photographer.

Olev Mihkelmaa (6) is another Estonian photographer. He became involved with photography in the year 2000.

In 2004 he graduated from the Communication School of Tallinn where he studied photography. Olev is constantly looking to improve his artistic output.

SIBYL VANE (2) is a music trio named after Oscar Wilde's tragic hero of the same name. The group started its journey in spring 2010. Sibyl Vane was created by local alternative rock guitarists Heiko Leesment and singer Helena Randlaht. It's one of the most notable newcomers in the Baltics in recent years. After winning the Estonian Youth band contest they were signed to Latvian record label 'I Love You Records'. It is not surprising that the Finnish music industry blog NRGM voted Sibyl Vane as the Estonian band with the highest potential for breaking through internationally.

Igor Tee and Oleg Koltun were born in Belarus, but now live in Estonia.

Artists from Lithuania

Alina Krushynskaya was born in Minsk in 1987. Student of MA program “Gender studies” at European Humanities University. He has been doing photography since 2005, exhibiting photos about feminist and glitch awareness.

Andrey Garan (1) was born in 1986 in Minsk, Belarus. Today he lives in Vilnius and works as DJ, music producer and filmmaker.

Katsiaryna Drobysh was born in 1988. She studies visual design at European Humanities University in Vilnius and works on graphic design and visual installations.

Karolis Kincius was born in Klaipėda in 1992. He is one of Lithuania’s young and talented percussion and drum players. He studies at the University of York, UK.

Laimonas Urbikas was born in 1977. Laimonas is a famous Lithuanian saxophonist from Klaipėda. He is one of the organizers of the annual “Klaipėda Jazz Festival” and other Jazz events in Lithuania.

Marija Kamarauskaite (2) was born in 1993. She is a young singer who has won different musical contests in Lithuania. Her voice is called “silk voice” (lith. šilkinis balsas). Despite her age, Marija is already perfect in Jazz improvisation style.

Paval Kirpikau was born in Baranovič, Belarus, in 1990. In 2012 he graduated from the European Humanities University with specialization in “Visual and Cultural Studies.” Now Paval is student of the MA programme “Critical Urban Studies” at EHU. The field of his academic interest includes urban studies and urban activism. Paval has created several audiovisual projects on self-identity in the urban space. He is also actively involved in the Lithuanian and Belarusian electronic music scene, where he is known as DJ Stereobeaver.

Alina, Andrey, Katsiaryna and Pavel are artists born in Belarus and with Belarusian origins but now all live in Lithuania. They moved there between 2005 and 2007.

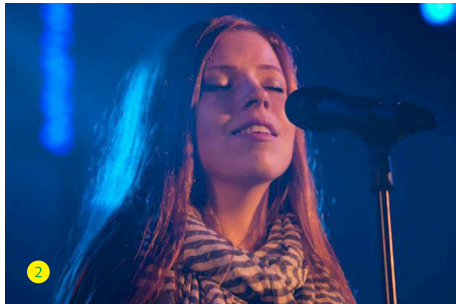
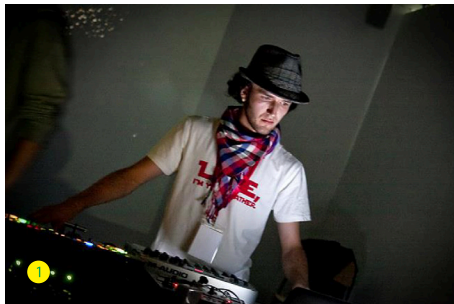
Artists from Portugal

Antonio Monteiro Paint (4), born in Setúbal in 1988, is a young Portuguese artist, student at the fine art department of Évora university. Considered very talented by his professors and peers, he is at the start of a promising career. Monteiro Paint has participated in some group exhibits in Évora and Setúbal and has won some design awards and some in international contests.

No Mazurka Band (3) plays traditional instruments and in its art tries to preserve the tradition of the Portuguese ball dance. Starting with Viras (Minho) and Corridinhos (Algarve), passing through Valses (west of Trás-os-Montes), Jotas, Repasseados, Passo Dobles or Rumbas, and ending in fresh original compositions, they arrange their music with melodic instruments, creating amazing harmonies each time the dance step begins. No Mazurka Band marks the return of the Portuguese Sheppard’s flute with its associated drum. With the Sheppard’s flute dominating, their music also integrates the characteristic intransigence of MRPP

(Movimento Radical Pastoril Português - Radical Portuguese Sheppard Movement). No Mazurka Band is Paulo Pereira (flutes, voc), Diogo Leal (bag pipes, flutes) António Bexiga (viola, guitar, voc) and Ricardo Falcão (percussions, voc).

Pedro Lobo (5), born in 1956, is a Brazilian photographer, living in Évora. He studied at the School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston and at the International Center of Photography, NYC, with a Fulbright Scholarship. His work is primarily dedicated to projects that combine personal expression and social content. Lobo’s photos of Favelas (slums) in Rio de Janeiro in Brazil have been shown, published and awarded many times in America, Europe and Asia.





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Artists and contacts

Donors and Sponsors

This project has been funded with support of the European Commission and financed further by the European Cultural Foundation, the German Marshall Fund of the United States of America, the foundation „Kulturstiftung des Freistaates Sachsen“ and „West-Östliche Begegnungen“ and the program „Wir für Sachsen“. We thank them for the great support, without whom the project could not have been realized!



Team and Partners

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With the team of Valgevene Uus Tee from Estonia

With the following team & partners from Belarus: Liberal Club (Aliaksandr Apeikin, Tatsiana Kozlova, Tatsiana Kukcharchuk), Madestar agency

With the following team & partners from Germany: Kultur Aktiv (Marcus Oertel, Mirko Sennewald, Olga Polityko, Artsiom Masiura, Tatsiana Kukcharchuk, Jacqueline Zelinka, Patrick Puri, Gabriele Weser), Amnesty International Germany, Eastblok Music Berlin, Gedenkstätte Bautzen, Libereco, Medientraktor, Steinhaus Bautzen, Scheune Dresden.

With the team of Elza Ferreiro Neto and Associação Oficina da Courela from Portugal

With the team of Belarus Watch from Lithuania

Further thanks goes to: Andrei Liankevich, Artur Klinau, Ingo Petz, Robert Zeissig, Vital Brouka, Stefan Richter and many others!

Legal notice

Texts: Elza Ferreira Neto, Marcus Oertel, Mariana Iljina, Tatsiana Kukharchuk

Lectorate: Armin Siebert, Marcus Oertel

Setting and layout: Ralph-Stephan Kunig, Artfabrik Dresden, Matthias Schumann (photo collages)

Photographs: Matthias Schumann (p. 8, 18, 20, 30), Jan Oelker (p. 18, 20, 30), Johanna Dobbelt (p. 16), Elena Pagel (p. 16, 22, 24), Jürgen Duhnke (p. 16, 22), Michael Dobbelt (p. 30), Marcus Oertel (p. 22) et al.

Pictures page 4, 6, 36, 37 are part of series “Greetings from Drensk”, Matthias Schumann, 2011.

Published by Kultur Aktiv e.V., Louisenstr. 29, 01099 Dresden, www.kulturaktiv.org



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