

Manifestations of Modern Sculpture in Croatia: Sculpture on the Crossroads Between Socio-political Pragmatism, Economic Possibilities and Aesthetical Contemplation (IP-2016-06-2112, Croatian Science Foundation)

Coordinating institution: Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences in Split

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Project timeframe: 2017. - 2020.

Project goals: The basic description of the project task is the temporal, spatial and terminological definition of modern sculpture in Croatia and its stylistic changes. In doing so, the broader contextual framework of sculptural creation in the period that begins at the very end of the 19th century and concludes in the mid-1970s will be taken into consideration. In doing so, the social, political and economic formats within which such sculptural production was articulated will be clearly presented. Such an approach would also generate a list of important sculpture exhibitions and a critical examination of the public reception of sculpture that is present within the Croatian territorial borders, but also in other environments. The proposed temporal boundaries are unstable and will certainly shift during research and possible redefinitions of the basic characteristics of modern sculpture. In preparing the project proposal, the fact that a large part of sculptural production in Croatia was created extraterritorially and attracted European and global attention was also considered. Therefore, the research questions the extent to which and in what ways Croatian sculptors have disseminated new approaches to engagement in sculpture, who these specific protagonists are, and how and whether a framework for discourse on the deprovincialization of the Croatian cultural space can be established through their work. The expected results of this research project are the publication of the scientific monograph *Modern Sculpture in Croatia: Protagonists, Works, Contexts*, as well as the associated *Glossary of Modern Sculpture*. In 2017, a one-day seminar on Ivan Meštrović was organized in co-organization with the International Cultural Center in Krakow, and two international scientific conferences were organized (*Modern Sculpture and Culture: Historiographic Approaches and Critical Analyses*, 2017 and *Sculpture at the Intersection of Socio-Political Pragmatism, Economic Opportunities and Aesthetic Contemplation*, 2018). In Split, at the end of 2018 and the beginning of 2019, the workshop *Thinking about Sculpture* was organized and realized, intended for critical reflection on sculpture in public space. Members of the project team have participated in numerous international scientific meetings and conferences, and have realized field research in numerous European cities.

Members of the project team: Darija Alujević, Senior Associate, Fine Arts Archive, Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts, Zagreb; Dr. Sc. Sanja Horvatinčić, Postdoctoral Fellow, Institute of Art History, Zagreb; Prof. Dr. Sc. Aleksandar Jakir, Full Professor, Department of History, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Split; Dr. Sc. Ljiljana Kolešnik, Scientific Advisor, Institute of Art History, Zagreb; Dr. Sc. Ivana Mance, Scientific Associate, Institute of Art History, Zagreb; Dr. Sc. Dalibor Prančević, Assistant Professor, Department of Art History, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Split; Barbara Vujanović, Senior Curator, Ivan Meštrović Museums – Meštrović Atelier, Zagreb; M.

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