

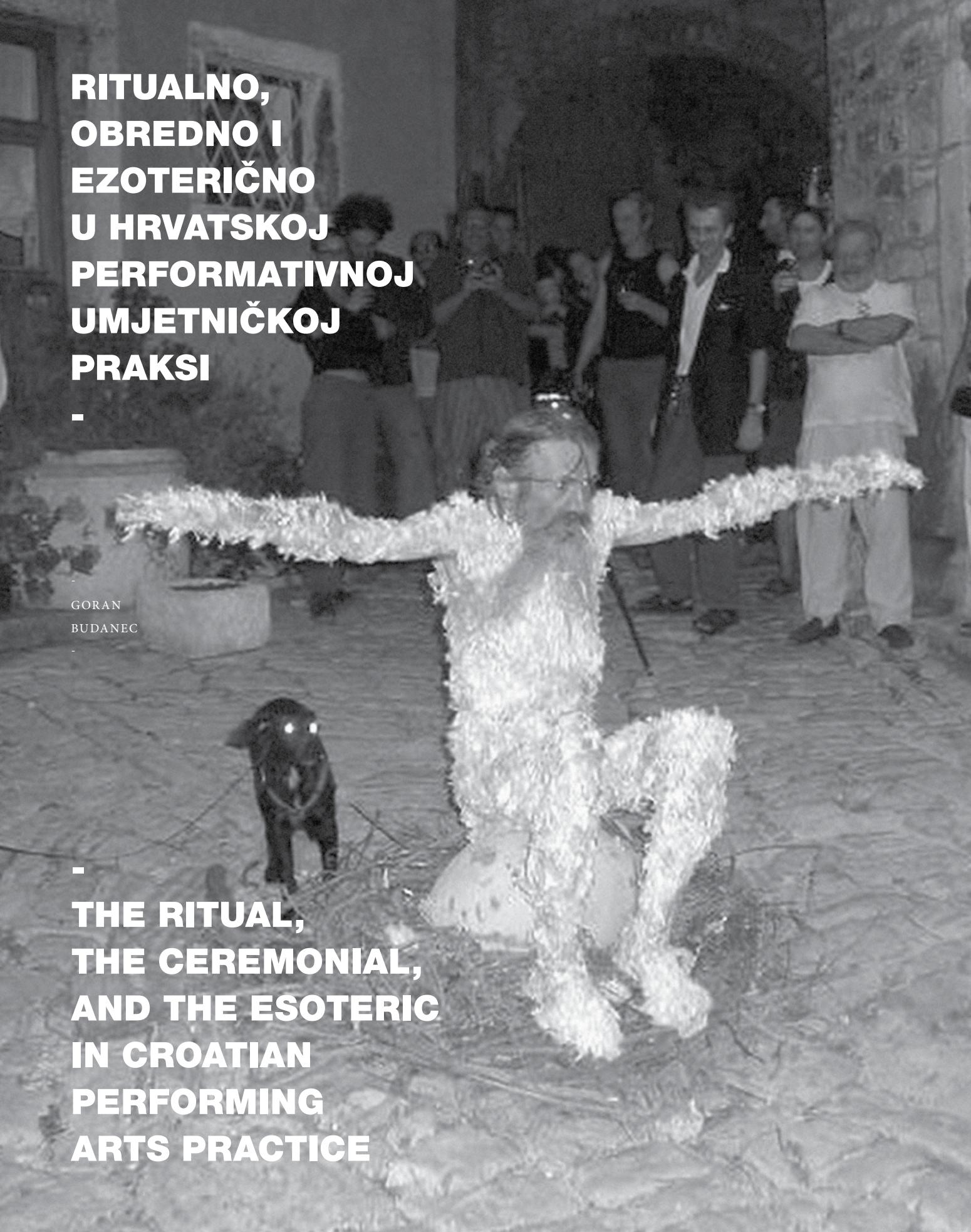
**RITUALNO,  
OBREDNO I  
EZOTERIČNO  
U HRVATSKOJ  
PERFORMATIVNOJ  
UMJETNIČKOJ  
PRAKSI**

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GORAN  
BUDANEC

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**THE RITUAL,  
THE CEREMONIAL,  
AND THE ESOTERIC  
IN CROATIAN  
PERFORMING  
ARTS PRACTICE**



## PRETHODNO PRIOPĆENJE – PRELIMINARY PAPER

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**SAŽETAK:** U članku se promatraju kategorije ritualnoga (obrednoga) i ezoteričnoga u opusima odabranih umjetnika/ica performansa na našoj sceni, sagledane u širem kontekstu svjetske performativne umjetničke prakse. Fokus je stavljen na radove onih umjetnika/ica koji među gledateljima/sudionicima pokušavaju izazvati određene reakcije, služeći se pritom elementima različitih vjerskih praksi, posezanjem za ezoterijom i paranormalnim te sadomazohističkim oblicima ritualnoga umjetničkog ponašanja. Analizom pojedinih performansa i akcija pokušava se odrediti uzrok takvog načina umjetničkog izražavanja te protumačiti poruke koje autori takvim izvedbama nastoje odaslati.

**KLJUČNE RIJEČI:** ritualni oblici umjetničkog ponašanja, metaspiritualna umjetnost, Josip Zanki, Marko Marković, Ksenija Kordić, umjetnik-šaman, umjetnik-medij, alkiemistički i ezoterički performans, Vladimir Dodig-Trošut, Damir Stojnić, Petar Grimani, koncept „lječenja zemlje“, Vlasta Delimar, ekspresivni *body art*, sadomazohizam, Siniša Labrović, Vlatko Vincek

Iako se u znanstvenoj i teorijskoj literaturi pojmovi ritual i obred često koriste kao sinonimi, razlike se očituju kada se *ritualom* naziva ponašanje od kojeg se „očekuje“ magijsko djelovanje, a *obredom* propisano ponašanje koje izgleda *kao* da se od njega „očekuje“ magijsko djelovanje, ali se od njega zapravo „očekuje“ običajna mikrosocijalna ili makrosocijalna identifikacija pripadnika određene zajednice. Usredotočimo li se na zonu interferencije, između rituala i umjetničke sfere

mogu se razlikovati, po M. Šuvakoviću, ritualni oblici ponašanja umjetnika i tzv. metaspiritualna umjetnost. Dok se prvo odnosi na umjetničke prakse kojima se ukazuje na prehistorijske, etnološke, etničke ili religiozne rituale,<sup>1</sup> metaspiritualnom umjetnošću određuju se simbolička, arhetipska, narativna i alegorijska umjetnička djela (među kojima i performansi i ambijenti) postavangarde i postmodernizma, koja nastaju citiranjem i simulacijom poruka, zamisli i učenja spiritualnih (ezoteričnih, mističkih) tradicija Zapada i Istoka. Prefiks „meta“ ukazuje da u doba kasnog modernizma i rane postmoderne ne postoje direktni kontakti s izvornim duhovnim učenjima i mističkim doživljajem, nego da je umjetničko djelo jedna od drugostupanjskih (meta)interpretacija spiritualnog, model ili simulakrum povijesnih i civilizacijskih primjera ritualnog ubličavanja duhovnosti i života.<sup>2</sup>

Neizostavno je u tom smislu navesti predstavnike bečkog akcionizma (*Wiener Aktionismus*), koji su 60-ih godina prošloga stoljeća u ritualima povezivali primarnu ekspresivnu upotrebu tijela s tradicijom (njemačkog) slikarskog, književnog i kazališnog eksperimenta. Kako su njihove akcije (happeninzi i performansi ritualnog karaktera) rušile društvene tabue i isticale urodene agresivne instinkte čovječanstva (koje su mediji „potisnuli i prigušili“), bile su namjerno šokantne, uključujući pritom npr. samosakaćenja i pseudoreligijske ceremonije, životinjsku krv

Even though scholarly and theoretical literature often uses the terms “ritual” and “ceremony” as synonyms, the differences become manifest when observing that ritual denotes a behaviour from which some magical effect is “expected”, while ceremony only looks like a magical effect is “expected”, yet what is “expected” of it is actually the customary micro-social or macro-social identification between the members of a particular community. If we focus on the zone of interference between ritual and the sphere of art, one can differentiate, according to M. Šuvaković, ritual forms of behaviour and the so-called meta-spiritual art. Whereas the first refers to those artistic practices which indicate some prehistoric, ethnological, ethical, or religious ritual,<sup>1</sup> meta-spiritual art denotes symbolic, archetypal, narrative, and allegorical artworks (performances and ambiances among others) of post-avant-garde and postmodernism, which are created by quoting and simulating messages, ideas, and teachings from the spiritual (esoteric, mystical) traditions of the West and the East. The prefix “meta” shows that, in the era of late modernism and early postmodernism, there were no direct contacts with the original spiritual teachings and mystical experiences; instead, an artwork was one of the second-degree (meta-)interpretations of the spiritual, a model or simulacrum of the historical and cultural examples of formulating spirituality and life.<sup>2</sup>

It is inevitable to mention in this context the representatives of Viennese Actionism (*Wiener Aktionismus*), whose rituals in the 1960s merged the primary, expressive use of the body with the tradition of (German) experiments in painting, literature, and theatre. Since their actions (happenings and performances of ritual character) violated social taboos and emphasized the innate aggressive instincts of mankind (which the media had “suppressed and subdued”), they were intentionally shocking and involved, for example, self-mutilation and pseudo-religious ceremonies, animal blood and entrails, as well as all sorts of bodily fluids. In Hermann Nitsch’s Orgy-Mystery-Theatre (*Orgien-Mysterien-Theater/OMT*), the abreactional ceremonies were based on Dionysian rituals, the mythology of Dionysius Zagreus, Athis, Oedipus, and the Bacchantes, Catholic liturgy, and psychoanalytical theory,<sup>3</sup> which is why they became a means of liberating suppressed energies and human psyche, as well as an (Aristotelian) act of purification and redemption through suffering.<sup>4</sup> At the same time, in the field of feminist performance, an interest emerged in the prehistoric art (characteristically impossible to separate from the social context in which it was created and which it served), which was, according to the American art theoretician Lucy Lippard, linked to the ritual approach to material culture and fertility cults.<sup>5</sup> In that respect, the characteristic performances were the maternity video-rituals of Ulrike

i iznutrice, kao i sve tjelesne tekućine. Takve abreakcijske ceremonije *Orgijskoga misterijskoga teatra* (*Orgien-Mysterien-Theater/OMT*) Hermanna Nitscha svoje temelje pronalaze u dionizijskim ritualima, mitologiji Dioniza Zagreja, Atisa, Edipa i bakantica, katoličkoj liturgiji i psihanalitičkoj teoriji,<sup>3</sup> te postaju sredstvo oslobođanja potisnutih energija ljudske psihe, kao i (aristotelovski) čin pročišćenja i iskupljenja u patnji.<sup>4</sup>

U isto se vrijeme u grani feminističkog performansa javlja zanimanje za prehistorijsku umjetnost (odlika koje je neodvojivost od društvenog konteksta u kojem je nastajala i kojem je služila), a što je, po američkoj teoretičarki umjetnosti Lucy Lippard, povezano s ritualnim tematizacijama matrijarhalne kulture i kultovima plodnosti.<sup>5</sup> U tom su smislu karakteristični

videorituali s materinstvom Ulrike Rosenbach, antropološke rekonstrukcije arhaičnih rituala s vatom Mary Beth Edelson, hepening Carolee Schneemann *Oko tijela* (*Eye body*, 1963),<sup>6</sup> te posebice djelovanje performerice Ana Mendieta. Spomenimo, primjera radi, njezin ritualni performans *Smrt kokoši* (*Death of a chicken*, 1972.), u kojem umjetnica gola drži obezglavljenu kokoš (čija joj krv curi niz noge), s obzirom kako će strukturno slične izvedbe, ali bez religijskih konotacija, izvoditi dvadesetak godina kasnije hrvatska multimedijalna umjetnica Vlasta Delimar. Oponašajući elemente afro-kubanskog *santería* rituala pročišćenja krvlju, Mendieta se izjednačuje sa žrtvovanom životinjom te kao simbol žene-žrtve detabuizira temu nasilja nad ženama.<sup>7</sup>

JOSIP ZANKI, MIRILA, 2008.



JOSIP ZANKI, MEASURES, 2008

Rosenbach, the anthropological reconstructions of archaic fire rituals by Mary Beth Edelson, the happening *Eye Body* by Carolee Schneemann (1963),<sup>6</sup> and especially the work of performer Ana Mendieta. We may mention as an example her ritual performance *Death of a Chicken* (1972), in which the artist, naked, held a headless chicken in her hands (with blood trickling down her legs), since structurally similar performances, only lacking all religious connotations, would be made twenty years later by the Croatian multimedia artist Vlasta Delimar. Imitating the elements of Afro-Cuban *santería* ritual of purification through blood, Mendieta identified herself with the sacrificed animal, breaking the taboo of silence around violence against women as a symbol of the woman-victim.<sup>7</sup>

These definitions help us establish the ritual-artistic framework that serves as a starting point for an analysis of some specific art performances and particular Croatian performers, among whom we should especially mention the meanwhile legendary performance *Mirila* of Josip Zanki from Zadar, which he did with Bojan Gagić. They first presented it in the monastery of Scardavilla near Forli in Italy, in 2001, and the Croatian public had the opportunity of seeing it in the framework of the first Zagreb! Festival (Bundek, 2008, performed at 5:30 a.m.). It was about a religious tradition that has died out in actual funerary practice, a posthumous custom from the region at the foot of Mount Velebit – in which the dead body was laid on stone slabs and “measured”. “In the beliefs of ancient Croats, *mirila*

Navedene definicije oblikuju ritualno-umjetničke okvire koji služe kao polazište za analizu specifičnih umjetničkih izvedbi i pojedinih hrvatskih performera, od kojih je potrebno istaknuti danas već kulturni performans *Mirila Zadranina Josipa Zankija*, koji izvodi s Bojanom Gagićem. Prvi put su ga predstavili u samostanu Scardavilla kod Forlja u Italiji 2001. godine, a naša ga je publika imala prilike vidjeti u sklopu prvog *Zagrebi! Festivala* (Bundek, 2008., izveden u 5.30 ujutro). Riječ je o religijskoj tradiciji koja je zamrla u stvarnoj funeralnoj praksi, a odnosi se na posmrtni običaj iz podvelebitskog kraja – polaganje mrtvoga tijela na kamene ploče i uzimanja „mjere“ pokojnika. „U starim hrvatskim vjerovanjima mirila su bila mjesta gdje počivaju duše pastira uz bok duša svoga ovčjeg stada“; okrenuta su

istoku i dio su kulta Sunca, s obzirom da se “pokojnik na svom putu ka Suncu, potpomognut kamenom uzetom mjerom, oslobađa svojih sedam velova i postaje ‘Bogom pomilovan’“. Navedimo zatim i ritualistički hepening *Tetraterratron* (Zagreb, 2007.) osječko-splitskog performera Marka Markovića, prilikom kojeg je publika sudjelovala u obredu inicijacije tako da je ritualno žigosalu inicijante, uz izricanje molitve na latinskom, rezanje svinjske glave, zapaljenu vatrnu, urlikanje i polijevanje vina i brašna.<sup>9</sup>

S druge pak strane, multimedijalna umjetnica mlađe generacije zagrebačkih performera, Ksenija Kordić, svojim se performansom *Samozapaljenje* (2003.) pokušala odvojiti od svih nametnutih religijskih ideja. Tako ona tijekom izvedbe ritualno

KSENIA KORDIĆ, SAMOZAPALJENJE, 2003.



KSENIA KORDIĆ, SELF-COMBUSTION, 2003

(“measures”) were places where the shepherds’ souls rested in the vicinity of their flocks of sheep”; they were turned towards the East as a part of the Sun cult, and the “deceased, on his way to the Sun, supported by his measure taken in stone, liberated his seven veils and was ‘blessed by God’.”<sup>8</sup>

One should also recall the ritualistic happening *Tetraterratron* (Zagreb, 2007) by Marko Marković, performer based in Osijek and Split, in which the audience participated in an initiation ceremony, ritually branding the initiates, saying a prayer in Latin, cutting off a pig’s head, lighting fire, uttering screams, and spilling wine and flour.<sup>9</sup>

On the other hand, Ksenija Kordić, a multimedia artist of the younger generation of Zagreb performers, sought to detach

herself of all superimposed religious ideas in her performance called *Self-Combustion* (2003). During the performance, she ritually burnt the Bible (as the symbol of her social determination), the Qur'an (as the mark of family determination), and the Bhagavad Gita (which represented her own religion of choice), and then used the ashes, mixed with clay, to shape a phallus symbol.<sup>10</sup> In the first part of the performance, while she was burning the books, two young men were holding burning candles at the level of their genitals, which, according to the artist, symbolized the motion of energy from the first chakra, raw energy, and destructiveness. In the second part of the performance, while she was making the phallus, the young men lifted the candles to the level of their hearts, which had the

pali Bibliju (kao simbol svoje društvene uvjetovanosti), Kur'an (kao oznaku obiteljske uvjetovanosti) i Bhagavad-gītu (koja predstavlja umjetničin vlastiti izbor religije), a od dobivenog je pepela, pomiješanoga s glinom, oblikovala falusni simbol.<sup>10</sup> U prvom dijelu performansa, dok je palila knjige, dvojica mladića držali su upaljene svjeće u visini svojih genitalija, što je, prema tumačenju same umjetnice, *simboliziralo pokretanje energije iz prve čakre, sirovu snagu i destruktivnost*. U drugom dijelu performansa, dok izrađuje falus, mladići podižu svjeće na razinu srca, što *ima značaj podizanja razine svijesti i svjetlosti u sferu emocija i ljudskosti*.<sup>11</sup> Rad je prožet magijskim simbolima od kojih su neki prisutni i u Wicca-praksi, neopoganskoj religiji inspiriranoj pretkršćanskim kultovima prirode.

Može se konstatirati kako umjetnik kasnog modernizma ponekad preuzima ulogu šamana, svjestan racionalne i otudene moderne subjektivnosti. On prekorачuje granice umjetnosti, da bi se vratio primarnim oblicima izražavanja, neposrednog iskustva, oslobadanja podsvijesti; istražuje zaboravljene, tzv. arhaične i izvaneuropske civilizacije, pokušavajući proživjeti njihov svijet. Tako Joseph Beuys u svojim ritualnim izvedbama – *Kako objasnitи slikу mrtvom zecu* (*Wie man dem toten Hasen die Bilder erklärt*, 1965.) ili *Kojot: Volim Ameriku i Amerika voli mene* (*Coyote: I like America and America likes me*, 1974.) – kao šaman komunicira s mrtvom (zec, miš) ili živom (konj, kojot) životinjom,



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meaning of raising the level of consciousness and light into the sphere of emotions and humanity.<sup>11</sup> The work was permeated with magical symbols, some of which are known from the Wicca, a neo-pagan religion inspired by the pre-Christian cults of nature. One may say that the artist of late modernism sometimes takes on the role of a shaman, aware of the rational and alienated modern subjectivity. He or she surpasses the limitations of art in order to return to the primary forms of expression, to immediate experience and the liberated subconscious, exploring the forgotten, so-called "archaic" civilizations outside Europe, and trying to relive their world. Thus, Joseph Beuys in his ritual performances – *How to Explain Paintings to a Dead Hare* (*Wie man dem toten Hasen die Bilder erklärt*, 1965) and *Coyote: I like America and America Likes Me*, 1974) – communicated as a shaman with a dead animal (hare, mouse) or a living one (horse, coyote), creating an ecstatic encounter between human and animal consciousness.<sup>12</sup> Czech performer Petr Štembera has also recalled elements of shamanic and voodoo practices in his artworks, using ritual as a means of self-protection (for example, in his attempt at growing a plant on his arm tissue), while Polish artist Zbigniew Warpechowski finds inspiration for his work in shamanistic rituals and animism (whereby it is important to note that his performances, close to shamanistic practice, express opposition to the powerful, dominating Catholicism in the Polish society).<sup>13</sup>

In esoteric tradition, there is a concept of the artist-medium as someone who is not the original creator of his artwork, but in a way acting according to the dictate of some spiritual being. Such an artist is a sort of translator of super-sensual and non-linguistic messages into visual language. In conceptual art, telepathy is mentioned as the extreme form of immaterial (dematerialized) and super-sensual communication of artistic ideas (according to art critic Jack Burnham, it even represents the ideal stage of conceptual art). Thus, for example, members of the Slovenian art group OHO (1966-1971) realized a series of artworks called *Intercontinental Group Project America-Europe* (1970), which was based on establishing telepathic relationships (fields) between artists who were located on different continents.<sup>14</sup>

In that context, Croatian anti-artist, shaman, and mystic Vladimir Dodig-Trošek, often marginalized by the profession, performed a series of psychic actions in the period from 1971-1976, in the forms of interventions and conversations with people (talks about the possibility of applying psycho-phenomena such as telepathy, telekinesis, visions/precognition, mental transfer of images and energy, as well as writing occult or cabalistic messages). In that series of actions, Trošek collaborated with P. Dulčić and T. Čaleta,<sup>15</sup> as well as T. Bebić and Ž. Lepa, and they mostly performed on Peristyle in Split, where the message box

ostvarujući ekstatičku situaciju sučeljavanja ljudske i životinjske svijesti.<sup>12</sup> Češki performer Petr Štembera svojim radovima pak priziva elemente šamanističkih i vudu-praksi, koristeći ritual kao sredstvo samozaštite (primjerice, njegov pokušaj usađivanja biljke u tkivo vlastite ruke), dok poljski umjetnik Zbigniew Warpechowski inspiraciju za svoje performanse traži u šamanističkim ritualima i animizmu (s time da je potrebnog ovdje naglasiti kako njegove izvedbe bliske šamanskoj praksi predstavljaju oporbu moćnom vladajućem katolicizmu poljskoga društva).<sup>13</sup>

U ezoteričnoj tradiciji postoji zamisao umjetnika-medija, koji nije originalni stvaralač umjetničkog djela, nego ga ostvaruje po diktatu duhovnih bića. Takav umjetnik je svojevrsni prevodilac nadosjetilnih i nejezičnih poruka u likovni jezik. U konceptualnoj umjetnosti kao krajnji oblik nematerijalne (dematerijalizirane) i nadosjetilne komunikacije umjetničkih ideja spominje se zamisao telepatije (po kritičaru Jacku Burnhamu ona čak predstavlja idealni stupanj konceptualne umjetnosti). Tako su, primjerice, članovi slovenske grupe *OHO* (1966.–1971.) realizirali seriju radova pod nazivom *Interkontinentalni grupni projekt Amerika-Europa* (1970.), zasnovanih na uspostavljanju telepatskih odnosa (polja) između umjetnika koji su se nalazili na različitim kontinentima.<sup>14</sup> U tom kontekstu od struke često marginaliziran hrvatski antumjetnik, šaman i mišić Vladimir Dodig-Trošek u razdoblju 1971.–1976. godine izvodio je akciju parapsihološkog sadržaja s

intervencijama i radovima među ljudima (razgovori o mogućnosti primjene psiho-fenomena – telepatija, telekinezija, vidovitost/ prekognicija, prenošenje slike i energije umom, kao i ispisivanje poruka okultno-kabalističkog sadržaja). U tom nizu akcija s Troškom sudjeluju P. Dulčić i T. Čaleta<sup>15</sup> te T. Bebić i Ž. Lepra, a uglavnom ih izvode na splitskom Peristilu gdje se nalazila kutija za poruke,<sup>16</sup> dok su sudionici bili slučajni prolaznici/namjernici. Trošek svojom serijom alkemijskih i ezoteričkih performansa u trijadu postavlja magiju, umjetnost i znanost. Tako se tijekom performansa *Transformacije crnog u bijelo – Samo anđeli znaju* (2002.) Trošek pojavljuje nagog tijela na koje je poljepio perje te nekoliko minuta sjedi na velikom jajetu. Izvedbu je protumačio kao korespondiranje s unutarnjim seksualnim libidom, susret s vlastitom sviješću. Sveukupno idejno-umjetničko, anti-muzejsko i obredno-performersko djelovanje Troška usmjereno je na otkrivanje kulturno-istorijske spone između suvremene hrvatske kulture i transnacionalnih korijena pučke, „izvorne“ kulture naših predaka. Spone kojima se Trošek i u ovom performansu bavi uvriježene su sve do sekulariziranog animističko-šamanističkog pratemelja.<sup>17</sup>

Ezoterija je polazišna točka i u performansima Damira Stojnića (jedan od umjetnika mlađe generacije, koji je vezan uz riječku umjetničku scenu, a radove izvodi i u Istri). On u ideji svojih radova često poseže za osnovama teozofije i antropozofije te

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VLADIMIR DODIG-TROŠEK,  
TRANSFORMACIJE CRNOG U BIJELO, 2002.

VLADIMIR DODIG-TROŠEK,  
TRANSFORMATIONS OF BLACK TO WHITE, 2002

DAMIR STOJNIĆ,  
IGNISOGRAMI, 2006.

DAMIR STOJNIĆ,  
IGNISOGRAMS, 2006

was located,<sup>16</sup> with the participation of casual passers-by. Trošek's series of alchemic and esoteric performances created a triad of magic, art, and science. Thus, in his *Transformations from Black to White – Only Angels Know* (2002), he appeared naked, with his body covered in feathers, and sat for a while on a large egg. He interpreted the performance as an act of correspondence with his inner sexual libido, an encounter with his own consciousness. Trošek's entire conceptual-artistic, anti-museum, and ritual-performing activity has been directed at discovering the cultural link between the contemporary Croatian culture and the transnational roots of the popular, "authentic" culture of our ancestors. These links, which Trošek was also dealing with in the abovementioned performance, go all the way to their secularized animistic and shamanistic first source.<sup>17</sup> Esoterija is likewise the starting point of performances by Damir Stojnić (an artist of the younger generation, linked to the art scene of Rijeka, who also performs in Istria). He often draws ideas for his artworks from the basic principles of theosophy and anthroposophy, which is also how he invented the concepts of anarchitecture/astralography<sup>18</sup> and fragmentomachy.<sup>19</sup> In the framework of New Scene of Rijeka/FONA 2006 programme, Stojnić performed an intimist alchemic action called *Ignisogram: Heart*, in which he used the elements of fire and earth. Three small benches circumscribed a small, rectangular performance



je na taj način i osmislio koncepte *anarhitekture/astralografije<sup>18</sup>* i *fragmentomahije*.<sup>19</sup> U okviru programa *Nova riječka scena/FONA 2006.*, Stojnić izvodi intimistički alkemijski performans *Ignisogram: srce*, u kojem koristi element vatre i zemlje. Tri klupice su omeđivale malen pravokutan izvedbeni prostor, unutar kojega je umjetnik kredom iscrtao srce, na čije je rubove zatim položio kameničće, a unutrašnjost ispunio grančicama i na kraju cijeli kozmogram srca zapalio.<sup>20</sup> Kao idejni uzor za taj i ostale slične radove Stojnić, uz ostale,<sup>21</sup> navodi kubansku umjetnicu Anu Mendieta koja je ranih 1970-ih petardama ili barutom palila svoju siluetu crtanu na zemlji, a rad nazvala *Anima*.<sup>22</sup>

Neke akcije ezoteričnog koncepta, izvedene u sklopu *21. proljeća*, umjetničkog projekta koji se počinje održavati od 1996. godine, a čiji je autor i inicijator splitski umjetnik Petar Grimani, svodive su (po određenju A. Peraice) najčešće na formu multi-performativnosti i duhovne igre.<sup>23</sup> U jednoj od tih akcija Grimani dотиче i ekološku dimenziju, kada je, u povodu Dana planeta Zemlje 1998. godine, pozivao ljudе na zajedničku meditaciju, s obzirom da je tema akcije bilo zagodenje zvukom, odnosno elektroničkim frekvencijama (radiovalovima). Od ostalih njegovih radova koji dотичу polje ezoterije navedimo manje poznat višesatni hepening izveden na *DOPUST-u* 2008. godine, kada je na školskom poligonu slikao prizor na platnu, a zatim u sumrak poput šamana zapalio bor, stoeći u krugu od morske trave.<sup>24</sup>

Uz ezoterično se veže i koncept „lječenja zemlje“, koji obuhvaća ritualni i ambijentalni rad s ekološki ugroženim gradskim, prirodnim, geografskim i planetarnim lokacijama. Slovenska umjetnička grupa/komuna *Družina v Šempasu* započela je lječenje zemlje sredinom 1970-ih godina kao oblik ritualnog performansa (kolektivne meditacije i plesa) koji izvode članovi komune ili sudionici rituala na ekološki ugroženom tlu. Cilj rituala je uskladivanje duhovne energije čovjeka, tla i kozmosa. Tijekom 1980-ih godina Marko Pogačnik je lječenje zemlje (obnovu i restauriranje ekološki uništenih lokacija, poput industrijskih zona ili napuštenih površinskih rudničkih kopova) povezao s primjenom radiesteziskih tehnika na otkrivanje negativnih energetskih tokova (geopatogenih mjeseta). Postupak lječenja tla nazvao je litopunkturom, a riječ je o permanentnoj pejzažnoj instalaciji koja se realizira postavljanjem kamenih skulptura na akupunkturne točke pejzaža.<sup>25</sup>

Zemlja kao Gea/živi organizam tematska je odrednica i umjetničke organizacije *Moja zemlja, Štaglinec*, koju je inicirala 2005. godine Vlasta Delimar (u suradnji s M. Božićem, M. Špoljarem i koprivničkom Galerijom S). Riječ je o projektu u okviru kojega se svake godine u ljetnim mjesecima održavaju ambijentalni performansi i akcije naših i stranih umjetnika, a čime se ostvaruje koncept „zemlja kroz umjetnost i umjetnost kroz zemlju“.<sup>26</sup> Delimar je na očevu posjedu, nakon njegove smrti,

space, in which the artist drew a heart in chalk. Then he placed pebbles on its edges, filled the inside with twigs, and set the entire heart cosmogram on fire.<sup>20</sup> As his artistic model for this and other, similar performances, Stojnić named, among others,<sup>21</sup> the Cuban artist Ana Mendieta, who in the early 1970s burned up her silhouette drawn on the ground using firecrackers or gunpowder, and she called her work *Anima*.<sup>22</sup> Some actions based on an esoteric concept and performed at the 21<sup>st</sup> Spring festival, an art project that first took place in 1996, authored and initiated by the Split artist Petar Grimani, can mostly be reduced (according to A. Peraica) to the form of multi-performativity and mental game.<sup>23</sup> In one of such actions, Grimani also touched upon the ecological dimension, when he invited people, inspired by the Day of Planet Earth in 1998, to engage in collective meditation, regarding the fact that the theme of the action was noise pollution, that is, electronic frequencies (radio waves). Considering the rest of his work that touches upon the field of esoterics, one should mention a not so famous happening performed at DOPUST in 2008, which lasted for several hours. The artist painted a scene on canvas in a schoolyard, and then at twilight, like a shaman, burnt a pine tree while standing in a circle made of seaweed.<sup>24</sup> The field of esoterics also covers the concept of “healing the earth”, which includes ritual and ambiental work at ecologically

threatened urban, natural, geographic, and planetary localities. Slovenian art group/commune *Družina v Šempasu* (The Šempas Family) began to heal the earth in the mid-1970s, in a sort of ritual performance (collective meditation and dance) done by the commune members or other participants on the ecologically threatened terrain. The aim of the ritual was to bring into balance the spiritual energy of man, the earth and the cosmos. During the 1980, Marko Pogačnik linked the healing of the earth (renewal and restoration of ecologically devastated localities, such as industrial zones or abandoned open pits) with the application of radiesthesia techniques, detecting negative flows of energy (geo-pathogenic spots). He called the procedure of healing the earth lithopuncture, which is a set of permanent installations made by placing stone sculptures on acupuncture spots in the landscape.<sup>25</sup> Earth as Gea or a living organism has also been the inspiration of the art project *My Land, Štaglinec*, initiated in 2005 by Vlasta Delimar (in collaboration with M. Božić, M. Špoljar, and S Gallery in Koprivnica). It consists of a series of ambiental performances and actions of Croatian and international artists, which take place every year in the summer months, with an aim of actualizing the concept of “the earth through art and art through the earth.”<sup>26</sup> After her father’s death, Delimar decided to honour him by organizing an art project on his land dedicated to

RITUALNO,  
OBREDNO I  
EZOTERIČNO  
U HRVATSKOJ  
PERFORMATIVNOJ  
UMIETNIČKOJ  
PRAKSI

THE RITUAL,  
THE CEREMONIAL,  
AND THE ESOTERIC  
IN CROATIAN  
PERFORMING  
ARTS PRACTICE

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VLASTA DELIMAR,  
ZEN GARDEN, 2006.



VLASTA DELIMAR,  
ZEN GARDEN, 2006

odlučila njemu u čast organizirati umjetnički projekt posvećen zemlji, pa je uputila poziv umjetnicima i udrugama koje se bave ekologijom, geomantijom, energetskim sustavima te raznim oblicima duhovnosti. Među mnogobrojnim izvedbama ilustrativno spomenimo performans iz ciklusa *Zen garden*, koji je Delimar izvela na drugom susretu 2006. godine, a prilikom kojega je, odjevena poput podravske žene, uz zvukovnu podlogu snimljenog fijukanja vjetra i umjetničina izgovaranja imena *Marička*, ugazila u blato pravokutnog zen-vrtu i, razodjenuši se, valjala se u njemu. Suzana Marjanić u tom kontekstu naglašava kako je blato moguće iščitati u dijadnom etičkom simbolizmu: kao pozitivno načelo zemlje koju je oživjela voda (pozitivno blato stvaranja, *massa confusa* i povratak počelu), ali i kao blato/talog vode koju je etički okaljala zemlja (*Marička* koja je okaljana u *blatu nagosti*).<sup>27</sup>

Da bismo analizirali šokantne, ekscentrične izvedbe pojedinih umjetnika, neizostavno je navesti *body art*, koji se ustanavljuje kao potkategorija performansa<sup>28</sup> u kojoj umjetnici koriste i (bitno je ovdje naglasiti) „zlostavljuju“ vlastito tijelo u svrhu tjelesne ekspresije vlastitih ideja. *Body art* nastaje u urbanom postindustrijskom društvu, gdje su primarne funkcije ljudskog tijela otudene i pomaknute na margine simboličkog prikazivanja i upotrebe tijela. M. Šuvaković formira razlikovnu odrednicu između *body arta* i performansa, razlikujući pritom analitički,

ekspresivni i bihevioralni *body art*, no kada postavlja definiciju ekspresivnoga ili ekspresionističkoga *body arta* – u kojem tijelo umjetnika, elementarni procesi s tijelom ili ekscesni oblici ponašanja (autoerotizam, otudenost, sadizam, mazohizam, narcizam, travestija, homoerotizam) postaju sredstvom izražavanja unutarnjih stanja umjetnika – određuje ga kao *ritualni, terapijski ili egzistencijalni performans*.<sup>29</sup> Osvrнимo se ovdje posebno na element sadomazohizma, koji se zasniva na mehanizmu identifikacije s drugim, tj. s onim koji nanosi bol i s onim koji podnosi bol. Sadistički i sadomasohistički oblici umjetničkog ponašanja su primijenjeni kao transgresivni činovi kojima se ljudsko biće izlaže graničnim suočavanjima s bolnim/uživalačkim, zabranjenim/dozvoljenim, javnim/privatnim oblicima ponašanja, čime umjetnost postaje vrsta privilegirane terapijske ili antiterapijske, ritualne i antiritualne prakse.<sup>30</sup>

Umjetnikov dramatični samozraz vidljiv je, primjerice, u izvedbama/samoosakaćenjima bečkog akcionista Rudolfa Schwartzkoglera, koje je sâm nazivao „umjetničkim aktovima – sličnim olupinama“,<sup>31</sup> kao i u izvedbama Güntera Brusa koji se rezao žletom. I umjetnica Gina Pane izlagala se samonanošenju bola rezanjem žletima ili ubodom. Koristeći krv, vatru, mlijeko i uvijek iznova nanošenje боли kao „elemente“ svojih performansa, vjerovala je (kao i H.

the earth, so she invited various artists and associations dealing with ecology, geomancy, energy systems, and various forms of spirituality. Among the many performances, one may mention as an illustration one from the series called *Zen Garden*, which Delimar enacted at the second encounter in 2006. Dressed as a woman from Podravina, with a recorded background of wind whistling and herself uttering the name *Marička*, Delimar walked into the mud in a rectangular Zen garden and, taking her clothes off, wallowed in it. Referring to that performance, Suzana Marjanić has emphasized that the mud can be interpreted in terms of dual ethical symbolism: as a positive principle, earth made alive by water (the positive mud of creation, *massa confusa*, and return to the first principle), but also as the mud/sediment of water that has been ethically polluted by the earth (*Marička* as a woman polluted by the mud of nakedness).<sup>27</sup> When analyzing the shocking, eccentric performances of various artists, it is inevitable to say something about body art, which has been established as a subcategory of performance<sup>28</sup> in which the artists use and “abuse” (which is essential) their own body in order to achieve a corporal expression of their ideas. Body art emerged in the post-industrial urban society, where the primary functions of the human body had been alienated and pushed to the margins of symbolic representations and bodily use. M. Šuvaković has created a

differential borderline between body art and performance by classifying body art as analytical, expressive, or behavioural, but when establishing a definition of expressive or expressionist body art – in which the artist's body, the elementary processes related to the body, or the excessive forms of behaviour (autoeroticism, alienation, sadism, masochism, narcissism, travesty, homoeroticism) become a means of expressing the artist's inner states – he defines it as ritual, therapeutic, or existential performance.<sup>29</sup> One may especially mention the element of sadomasochism, which is based on the mechanism of identifying oneself with the other, that is, on the identification between the one who inflicts pain and the one who suffers it. Sadistic and sadomasochistic forms of artistic behaviour are applied as transgressive acts in which a human being is exposed to borderline encounters with painful/pleasurable, forbidden/permitted, and public/private forms of behaviour, whereby art becomes a sort of privileged therapeutic or anti-therapeutic, ritual or anti-ritual practice.<sup>30</sup> Dramatic self-expression of an artist is manifest, for examples, in the performances/self-mutilations of the Viennese actionist Rudolf Schwartzkogler, which he himself called “artistic act-like wracks”,<sup>31</sup> as well as performances by Günter Brus, who cuts himself with a razor blade. Artist Gina Pane likewise inflicted pain to herself by using razor blades or by stabbing herself.

Nitsch) kako ritualizirana bol ima pročišćavajući učinak. Bob Flanagan izvodio je kastracijski ritual, a Paul McCarthy različite transgresivne samokažnjavajuće i kastracijske oblike ponašanja.<sup>32</sup> Na sličan način pokušavajući shvatiti ritualiziranu bol samopovrđivanja, posebice onako kako su je iskazivali psihički oboljeli pacijenti, te nepovezanost koja se pojavljuje između tijela i sebe samog, Marina Abramović je u Beogradu stvarala jednakouznenimiravajuća djela. U performansu nazvanom *Rhythm O* (1974.), izvedenom u napuljskoj galeriji *Studio Morra*, dozvolila je gledateljima da je zlostavljuju po volji šest sati koristeći instrumente za izazivanje boli i užitka koji su im na stolu bili stavljeni na raspolažanje, čime je istraživala pasivnu agresivnost između pojedinaca.<sup>33</sup>

Izvođenje takvih ekscentričnih radnji s tijelom susrećemo i u opusima nekih hrvatskih performer-a. U ovome je kontekstu potrebno izdvojiti ranije navedenog performer-a M. Markovića, koji (na drugom izdanju splitskoga *DOPUST-a*, 2009.) izvodi svoj prvi performans iz ciklusa *Samojed*, tijekom kojega, uz pomoć medicinske sestre, kroz cjevčicu spojenu u venu piye vlastitu krv gledajući u lica prisutnih. U drugom performansu iz spomenutog ciklusa (izvedenom na drugom Zagrebi! Festivalu, 2009.), Marković se odlučuje na jedenje vlastitog tkiva. Tom prilikom asistentica-medicinska sestra s Markovićeve lijeve ruke skalpelom odsijeca komadić mesa

i postavlja ga na bijeli tanjur, a umjetnik poseže za vilicom i nožem u jedenju vlastitoga tkiva. Ovime se Marković direktno suprotstavlja cinizmu svih državotvornih moći (ne/kulturi) na vlasti, koja od ljudi, kako smatra S. Marjanić, „oblikuje vampire s autokanibalističkim strategijama preživljavanja“.<sup>34</sup> Umjetnik time ujedno upozorava kako danas ljudi izjedaju sami sebe te pritom stvaraju materijalno i duhovno naslijede osuđeno na propast.

Idejnu analogiju s prethodno navedenim moguće je uočiti u performansu Siniše Labrovića *Perpetuum mobile* (*Perforacije*, Zagreb, Dubrovnik, 2009.), tijekom kojega umjetnik u nekoliko navrata urinira i piye vlastitu mokraću. Na taj način on tijelo prikazuje kao samodostatnu cjelinu i sarkastično servira rješenje problema siromaštva.<sup>35</sup> Očito je kako njegova izvedba strukturalno podsjeća na akciju *Kunst und Revolution*, koju je još 1968. godine izveo pripadnik bečkih akcionista Günter Brus, a u sklopu koje je pred publikom, u dvorani za predavanja na Bečkom sveučilištu, vršio nuždu i ispijao vlastiti urin, ali i masturbirao, samoranjavao se, te na kraju zapjevao austrijsku himnu (zbog čega je i optužen za degradiranje državnih simbola).

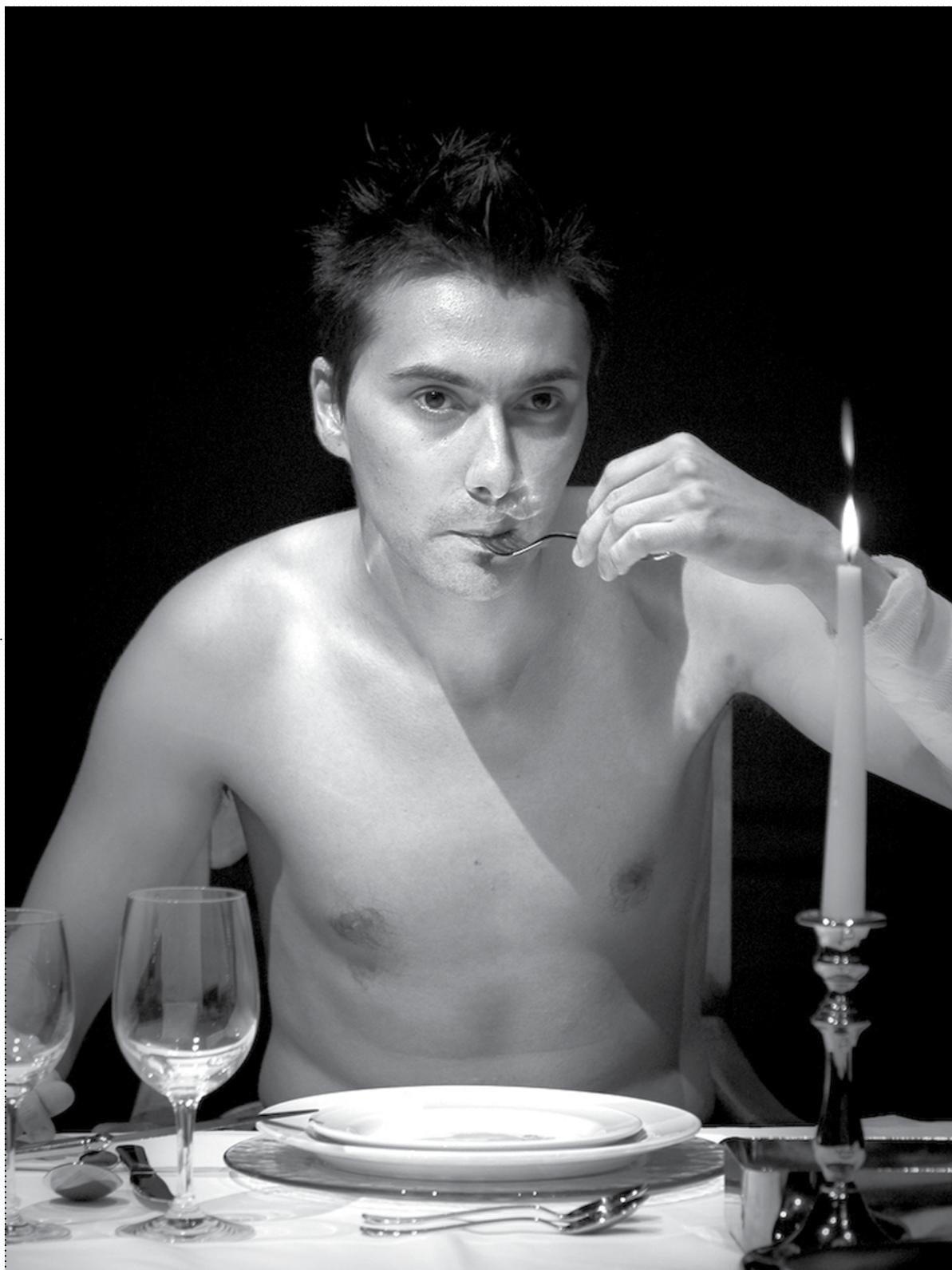
Vlatko Vincek, kojemu konstanta u performansima ritualnoga karaktera svakako postaje korištenje životinjskih crijeva,<sup>36</sup> također koristi i vlastitu krv dobivenu prilikom samoranjanja.

While using blood, fire, and milk, and by repeatedly inflicting pain as the “elements” of her performances, she believed (same as H. Nitsch) that ritualized pain had a purifying effect. Bob Flanagan performed a castration ritual, and Paul McCarthy engaged in various transgressive self-punishing forms of behaviour, as well as castration.<sup>32</sup> In a similar way, in an attempt at understanding the ritualized pain of self-mutilation, especially in the form in which it has been practiced by mentally ill patients, as well as the lack of connectedness between the body and the self, Marina Abramović has performed equally disturbing actions in Belgrade. In a performance called *Rhythm O* (1974), which took place at Studio Morra in Naples, she allowed the spectators to torture her at their will during six hours, using instruments for inflicting pain and pleasure which were set on the table for their use, whereby she explored passive aggression occurring between people.<sup>33</sup>

Such eccentric performances using the body can also be found in the opus of some Croatian artists. In this context one should single out the abovementioned performer M. Marković, whose first performance from the series called *Self-Eater* took place at the second DOPUST event in Split (2009). With the help of a medical assistant, he drank his own blood through a tube leading to his vein, looking straight at the audience. In the second performance from this series (which took place at

the second Zagrebi! Festival, 2009), Marković decided to eat his own tissue. On that occasion, the medical assistant cut off a piece of meat from Marković's left arm with a scalpel and placed it on a white plate, and the artist reached for a fork and a knife in order to eat it. With this performance, the artist directly countered the cynicism of all authority structures (no/culture) in power, which, according to S. Marjanić, “produced vampires out of people with its self-cannibalistic strategies of survival.”<sup>34</sup> At the same time, the artist warned that people nowadays eat themselves, thereby creating material and spiritual legacy that is doomed to perish.

An analogous idea can be observed in the performance *Perpetuum Mobile* by Siniša Labrović (*Perforacije*, Zagreb and Dubrovnik, 2009), during which the artist urinated several times and drank his own urine. In this way, he presented the body as a self-sufficient entity and sarcastically offered a solution to the problem of poverty.<sup>35</sup> It is evident that his performance was structurally reminiscent of the action called *Art and Revolution* (*Kunst und Revolution*), performed back in 1968 by the Viennese actionist Günter Brus. In front of the audience, in a lecture hall at the Vienna University, he urinated and drank his own urine, but he also masturbated, wounded himself, and eventually sang the Austrian anthem (after which he was accused for degrading state symbols).



GORAN

BUDANEC

Za svoj četverogodišnji performans *Narodno jelo – Nationalgerichte* (1984.–1988.) prikuplja je uginule životinje, preparirane fetuse u menzuri te rukopise poznatih osoba iz kulturnih krugova (J. J. Strossmayer, Lj. Gaj, O. Ivezović). Sve je to, zajedno sa vlastitom krvljom, koju u ritualnom samoranjanju ispušta iz glave, pakirao u crijeva, stvarajući svojevrsne *art kobasice-krvavice* (prema Ž. Jermanu).<sup>37</sup> Taj čin svoga žrtvovanja Vincek tumači kao proces osvještavanja kulturno-povijesnog konteksta u kojem je kao mladi autor tražio svoj identitet.<sup>38</sup> Spomenimo i njegovu neobičnu trilogiju performansa, kojom umjetnik tematizira smrt – strah – tjeskobu služeći se esencijalnim tekućinama (nafta – mlijeko – voda). U performansu *Sanguis – Lac* vlastitu krv uvodi kao četvrту tekućinu, gdje je sadržaj performansa usredotočen na miješanje krvi iz umjetnikove glave (nakon što nožem zareže kožu na čelu) s mlijekom. Kao inspiraciju umjetnik je naveo ritualno samoranjanje u obredu inicijacije dječaka afričkog plemena Maasai u svijet odraslih (zarezivanje čela i ispijanje mješavine krv i mlijeka).<sup>39</sup>

Na kraju je potrebno napomenuti kako je specifičnost performansa uvjek bila sadržajna, ali i kulturna relevantnost te kritičko utjecanje na publiku i šиру društvenu zajednicu.

Vlatko Vincek, for whom animal entrails have become a permanent element in performances of ritual character,<sup>36</sup> has also been using his own blood, obtained by self-mutilation. For his four-year performance *National Kitchen – Nationalgerichte* (1984–1988) he collected animal carcasses, preserved foetuses in test tubes, and handwritings of famous persons from the field of culture (such as J. J. Strossmayer, Lj. Gaj or O. Ivezović). He packed all that, along with his own blood, which he extracted from his head in self-mutilation, into animal guts, thus creating a sort of artistic blood sausages (according to Ž. Jerman).<sup>37</sup> Vincek has interpreted his act of self-sacrifice as a process of drawing attention to the cultural and historical context in which he searches for his identity as a young artist.<sup>38</sup> One should also mention his unusual trilogy of performances in which he discussed death – fear – anxiety by using essential liquids (oil – milk – water). In a performance called *Sanguis – Lac*, he introduced his own blood as the fourth liquid into the performance, which consisted in mixing blood from the artist's head (which he obtained by cutting his forehead) with milk. As his inspiration, the artist has mentioned the ritual self-wounding of boys from the African tribe of Maasai in the initiation ritual through which they enter the world of grown-up men (cutting their own forehead and drinking a mixture of blood and milk).<sup>39</sup>

Stoga performans i slovi kao „umjetnost bunta, ekstremizma, interakcije i reakcije“.<sup>40</sup> Performans umjetnici ne daju ništa drugo osim sebe samog. Ritualno-obrednim te ezoteričkim i alkemijskim konotacijama služi se određen broj umjetnika performera, a njihove su izvedbe, po riječima RoseLee Goldberg, emotivnije i više ekspresionističke.<sup>41</sup> Likovna kritičarka Catherine Millet navodi kako se „velik broj modernih i suvremenih umjetnika, sluteći zašto puko podudaranje sa svijetom može izazvati sklerotične promjene, počeo zanimati za skrivenu zbilju. Umjetnici su protupozitivistički posegnuli za paravjerskim učenjima. Napuštanje velikih religija koje su vladale našom civilizacijom navelo ih je da se okrenu njihovim otpadničkim rubnim izdancima ili da ožive pradavna vjerovanja“.<sup>42</sup> Millet izvlači zaključak kako se dio suvremene umjetnosti prestao vezivati uz discipline i vrednote napretka, ne bi li u čovjeku, naprotiv, pokazao preostatak okorjelih arhaizama koje discipline napretka nisu uspjele ugušiti.<sup>43</sup> U tom je kontekstu moguće (možda čak i potrebno) sagledati umjetničke izvedbe navedenih (domaćih i stranih) autora, koji, služeći se upravo elementima ritualnog i ezoteričnog (odnosno onog napretkom potisnutog i arhaičnog), ističu izuzetnost i kodificiranost svoga umjetničkog ponašanja.

Eventually, it must be said the specificity of these performances has always been their content, but also their cultural relevance and the impact they have on the audience and the society at large. It is for this reason that performance is known as “the art of rebellion and extremism, interaction and reaction.”<sup>40</sup> The performing artists offer nothing else but themselves in the process. Rituals and ceremonies, as well as esoteric and alchemic connotations are used by a number of artists-performers, whose artwork thereby become, according to RoseLee Goldberg, more emotional and more expressionistic.<sup>41</sup> Art critic Catherine Millet has stated that “a large number of modern and contemporary artists, who feel that mere adjustment to the world may lead to sclerotic change, have developed an interest in a hidden reality. These artists have reached for para-religious teachings in a counter-positivistic manner. Abandoning the great religions that used to dominate our civilization has led them towards their marginal, dissenting offshoots, or towards reviving ancient beliefs.”<sup>42</sup> Millet has concluded that a part of contemporary art can no longer relate to the disciplines and values of progress in order to show the vestiges of perennial archaisms in man, which the disciplines of progress could not suppress.<sup>43</sup> It is in this context, therefore, that it may be possible (or even necessary) to view the artistic

<sup>1</sup> Miško Šuvaković, *Pojmovnik suvremene umjetnosti*, Horetzky, Zagreb, 2005., 550.

<sup>2</sup> Šuvaković, bilj. 1, 369–370.

<sup>3</sup> Suzana Marjančić, „Eksploracija i monumentalizacija izvedbe životinje kao žive, mrtve i ubijene ideje“, u: *Treća, časopis Centra za ženske studije*, VIII/2, 2006., 98–99.

<sup>4</sup> Rose Lee Goldberg, *Performans: od futurizma do danas*, Test! – Teatar studentima, URK – Udrženje za razvoj kulture, Zagreb, 2003., 146.

<sup>5</sup> Šuvaković, bilj. 1, 508.

<sup>6</sup> Prilikom izvedbe umjetnica je puštala zrnje (koje preuzimaju ulogu simbola vrtloga vode, vrtloga vjetra i kozmičke energije maternice koja štiti i održava embrio kao što ocean obuhvaća zemlju) da gmižu po njezinom nagom tijelu. Šuvaković, bilj. 1, 508.

<sup>7</sup> Tracey Warr (ur.), *The Artist's Body: Themes and Movements*, Phaidon, London, 2003., 101.

<sup>8</sup> Josip Zanki, „Svaka određenost vodi u ksenofobiju“ (razgovarala Suzana Marjančić), *Zarez*, 239, 18. rujna 2008., 31.

<sup>9</sup> Marko Marković, „Splitska energija performera i redikula“ (razgovarala Suzana Marjančić), *Zarez*, 234, 26. lipnja 2008. <http://www.zarez.hr/pages/234/kazaliste2.html> (travanj-lipanj, 2010.)

<sup>10</sup> Ksenija Kordić, „Moja je umjetnost moj najveći aktivizam“ (razgovarala Suzana Marjančić), *Zarez*, 229, 17. travnja 2008. <http://www.zarez.hr/229/kazaliste1.html> (travanj-lipanj, 2010.)

<sup>11</sup> Kordić, bilj. 10.

<sup>12</sup> Šuvaković, bilj. 1, 605.

<sup>13</sup> Tracey Warr (ur.), bilj. 7, 295.

<sup>14</sup> Šuvaković, bilj. 1, 613–614.

<sup>15</sup> I Čaleta i Lepra izvršili su samoubojstvo. Čaleta je, po Trokutovu tumačenju, na kraju postao žrtva svojih kabalističkih (često je izvodio privatne performanse s crvenom Biblijom) i pitagorejskih (numeroloških) sustava. <http://www.rirock.net/forum/viewtopic.php?f=13&t=472> (travanj-lipanj, 2010.)

<sup>16</sup> Isto, bilj. 15.

<sup>17</sup> Trokutov performance u Balama 2002 g., [http://new-entries.blogspot.com/2005\\_05\\_01\\_archive.html](http://new-entries.blogspot.com/2005_05_01_archive.html) (travanj-lipanj, 2010.)

<sup>18</sup> Ujedinjujući u svom likovnom izrazu antropološke ideje i vizualizacije Rudolfa Steinera, kabalizam i geometriju, Stojnić svoje slike gradi prema prirodnom principu kristala, te uz to, izučavajući pentagrame i heksagrame, na karti Istre odabire pet gradova koji povezani čine „istarski pentagram“. *Damir Stojnić izlaze u Lamparni: Anarhitektura - Astralografije*, 2008., <http://www.labin.com/web/vijest.asp?id=4722>, travanj-lipanj, 2010.

<sup>19</sup> Pojam obuhvaća stvaranje asocijativnih nizova koji se uklapaju u jednu cjelinu, primjerice: zvijezde-geomantičke figure-pločice za domino-mađezi na tijelu, kao oblik senzibiliziranja samog sebe za osjećaj povezanosti sa čitavim univerzumom. Damir Stojnić, „Performansi vatre & Animalkemija“ (razgovarala Suzana Marjančić), *Zarez*, 181, 1. lipnja 2006., 33.

<sup>20</sup> Suzana Marjančić, „Ispitivanje ne/pripadnosti“, *Zarez*, 177, 6. travnja 2006., <http://www.zarez.hr/177/kazaliste2.htm> (travanj-lipanj, 2010.)

<sup>21</sup> Kao izvor inspiracije navodi i *Antropometrije* Yvesa Kleina iz 1960-ih godina, u kojima je Klein siluete svojih modela iscrtavao parafinom na platnu i papiru te potom palio, referirajući se na bacanje A-bombe na Hirošimu i Nagasaki gdje su se na zidove kuća „preslikale“ siluete ljudi i njihovi položaji u trenutku eksplozije. Inspiriralo ga je i jesensko paljenje drača u Istri, kako bi se poljima osigurala plodnost. Te linije vatre, koje su ljudi spontano palili, podsjećale su ga na odredene simbole, pa ih je nazvao *ignisogrami*. Stojnić, bilj. 19, 32.

<sup>22</sup> Stojnić, bilj. 19, 32. Napomenimo kako svojom serijom radova *Silueta* (1973.–1980.) A. Mendieta spaja *land art* i *body art*, koristeći često svoje nago tijelo kako bi istražila i povezala se sa samim mjestom izvedbe, kao i (u širem smislu) s Majkom Zemljom (figurom Velike božice). Priroda joj pritom služi i kao medij i kao „platno“ te ona svojim tijelom oblikuje siluete u travi ili pjesku, a neke čak i pali.

<sup>23</sup> Petar Grimanić, „Stvaranje otvorene rampe“ (razgovarala Suzana Marjančić), *Zarez*, 227, 20. ožujka 2008., <http://www.zarez.hr/227/kazaliste1.html> (travanj-lipanj, 2010.)

performances of the abovementioned authors (local and international), since they have used precisely ritual and esoteric elements (archaic and suppressed by progress) to emphasize the exceptional and encoded character of their artistic behaviour.

<sup>1</sup> Miško Šuvaković, *Pojmovnik suvremene umjetnosti* [Lexicon of contemporary art] (Zagreb: Horetzky, 2005), 550.

<sup>2</sup> Šuvaković, as in n. 1, 369–370.

<sup>3</sup> Suzana Marjančić, „Eksploracija i monumentalizacija izvedbe životinje kao žive, mrtve i ubijene ideje“ [Exploiting and monumentalizing animal as a living, dead, and killed idea], *Treća, časopis Centra za ženske studije* VIII/2 (2006), 98–99.

<sup>4</sup> Rose Lee Goldberg, *Performance: From Futurism to the Present* (New York: Harry N. Abrams, 1988), 164.

<sup>5</sup> Šuvaković, as in n. 1, 508.

<sup>6</sup> During her performance, the artist let snakes (which took on the symbolism of water whirls, wind swirls, and the cosmic energy of the uterus, which protects and sustains the embryo as the oceans envelops the earth) to crawl over her naked body. Šuvaković, as in n. 1, 508.

<sup>7</sup> Tracey Warr (ed.), *The Artist's Body: Themes and Movements* (London: Phaidon, 2003), 101.

<sup>8</sup> Josip Zanki, „Svaka određenost vodi u ksenofobiju“ [All determination leads into xenophobia] (an interview conducted by Suzana Marjančić), *Zarez* 239 (18 September 2008), 31.

<sup>9</sup> Marko Marković, „Splitska energija performera i redikula“ [The energy of Split's performers and weirdoes] (an interview conducted by Suzana Marjančić), *Zarez* 234 (26 June 2008), <http://www.zarez.hr/pages/234/kazaliste2.html> (last accessed in April-June 2010).

<sup>10</sup> Ksenija Kordić, „Moja je umjetnost moj najveći aktivizam“ [My art is my strongest activism] (an interview conducted by Suzana Marjančić),

*Zarez* 229 (17 April 2008), <http://www.zarez.hr/229/kazaliste1.html> (last accessed in April-June 2010).

<sup>11</sup> Kordić, as in n. 10.

<sup>12</sup> Šuvaković, as in n. 1, 605.

<sup>13</sup> Tracey Warr (ed.), as in n. 7, 295.

<sup>14</sup> Šuvaković, as in n. 1, 613–614.

<sup>15</sup> Both Čaleta and Lepra committed suicide. According to Trokut, Čaleta eventually fell victim to his own cabalistic tendencies (he often did private performances with the red Bible) and the Pythagorean (numerological) system, <http://www.rirock.net/forum/viewtopic.php?f=13&t=472> (last accessed in April-June 2010).

<sup>16</sup> Ibidem.

<sup>17</sup> Trokutov performance u Balama 2002 g. [Trokut's performance in Bale, 2002], [http://new-entries.blogspot.com/2005\\_05\\_01\\_archive.html](http://new-entries.blogspot.com/2005_05_01_archive.html) (last accessed in April-June 2010).

<sup>18</sup> By fusing in his art the anthropological ideas and visualisations of Rudolf Steiner, cabalism, and geometry, Stojnić has been building his images according to the natural form of crystal. Moreover, having studied pentagrams and hexagrams, he has chosen five towns on the map of Istria which, when connected, produce the “Istrian pentagram.” Damir Stojnić’s exhibition called *Anarchitecture – Astralographies* took place in Lamparna in 2008, <http://www.labin.com/web/vijest.asp?id=4722> (last accessed in April-June 2010).

<sup>19</sup> This notion includes making associative chains that combine into a single entity, such as: stars-geometric figures-dominoes-birthmarks, as a form of self-sensibilization for the feeling of interconnectedness with the universe as a whole. Damir Stojnić, “Performansi vatre & Animalkemija” [Fire performances and animalchemistry] (interview conducted by Suzana Marjančić), *Zarez* 181 (1 June 2006), 33.

<sup>20</sup> Suzana Marjančić, “Ispitivanje ne/pripadnosti” [Exploring the non-belonging], *Zarez* 177 (6 April 2006), <http://www.zarez.hr/177/kazaliste2.htm> (last accessed in April-June 2010).

<sup>21</sup> As a source of his inspiration, he has also mentioned the *Anthropometries* of Yves Klein from the 1960s, in which the artist was drawing contours of

<sup>24</sup> <http://dopust-izvedbe.blogspot.com/> (travanj-lipanj, 2010.)

<sup>25</sup> Riječ je o metodi izvedenoj iz proučavanja stare kineske tehnike akupunkture zemlje i umijeća postavljanja kuća (feng shui), kao i europske megalitske tradicije sačuvane u keltskoj mitologiji. Šuvaković, bilj. 1, 345.

<sup>26</sup> Vlasta Delimar, „Na mojem drvetu spava fazan“, *Zarez*, 207, 31. svibnja 2007., [http://www.zarez.hr/207/z\\_info.html](http://www.zarez.hr/207/z_info.html) (travanj-lipanj, 2010.)

<sup>27</sup> Suzana Marjanić, „O Z/zemlji – planetarno i ambijentalno“, *Zarez*, 183, 29. lipnja 2006., <http://www.zarez.hr/183/kazaliste1.htm> (travanj-lipanj, 2010.)

<sup>28</sup> Višnja Rogošić, „Život bez smrti: Orlanini i Stelarcovi zahtjevi tijelu“, *Kazalište*, 37./38., 2009., 103.

<sup>29</sup> Šuvaković, bilj. 1, 118–119.

<sup>30</sup> Šuvaković, bilj. 1, 552–553.

<sup>31</sup> Goldberg, bilj. 4, 147.

<sup>32</sup> Šuvaković, bilj. 1, 552.

<sup>33</sup> Goldberg, bilj. 4, 148.

<sup>34</sup> Suzana Marjanić, „Ponuda vlastitoga mesa i hobotnica, odnosno politike i estetike“, 2009., <http://zagrebi.com/hr/iz-zareza-ponuda-vlastitoga-mesa-i-hobotnica-odnosno-politike-i-estetike/> (travanj-lipanj, 2010.)

<sup>35</sup> Sanja Fligić, „Pijenje urina i propovijedi obraćenja na Perforacijama“, 2009., <http://www.tportal.hr/kultura/kulturmiks/36157/Pijenje-urina-i-propovijedi-obracenja-na-Perforacijama.html> (travanj-lipanj, 2010.)

<sup>36</sup> Umjetnik navodi kako su crijeva u simboličkom smislu provodnik, mjesto transformacije organskog u anorgansko. U kulturološkom smislu ona su spremište za hranu i vodu, a njihova prozirna opna više otkriva nego što skriva sadržaj u njima. Vlatko Vincek, „Arhiviranje purgatorija, performativna tehnička“ (razgovarala Suzana Marjanić), *Zarez*, 136/137, 9. rujna 2004., <http://www.zarez.hr/137/vizualna4.htm> (travanj-lipanj, 2010.)

<sup>37</sup> Vincek, bilj. 36.

<sup>38</sup> Isto, bilj. 36.

<sup>39</sup> Vincek, bilj. 36.

<sup>40</sup> <http://www.index.hr/xmag/clanak/performans-umjetnost-bunta-ekstremizma-interakcije-i-reakcije-/445146.aspx> (travanj-lipanj, 2010.)

<sup>41</sup> Goldberg, bilj. 4, 146.

<sup>42</sup> Catherine Millet, *Suvremena umjetnost*, MSU i Hrvatska sekcija AICA, Zagreb, 2004., 79.

<sup>43</sup> Millet, bilj. 42, 81.

RITUALNO,  
OBREDNO I  
EZOTERIČNO  
U HRVATSKOJ  
PERFORMATIVNOJ  
UMJETNIČKOJ  
PRAKSI

THE RITUAL,  
THE CEREMONIAL,  
AND THE ESOTERIC  
IN CROATIAN  
PERFORMING  
ARTS PRACTICE

his models in paraffin on canvas or paper, and then set them on fire, referring to the throwing of the A-bomb on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, where people's contours and their postures at the moment of explosions were "transferred" onto the walls of houses at the moment of explosion. He was also inspired by the autumnal burning of weeds in Istria, a ritual meant to ensure fertile fields. These lines of fire, which people set up spontaneously, reminded him of certain symbols, so he called them "ignisograms". Stojnić, as in n. 19, 32.

<sup>22</sup> Stojnić, as in n. 19, 32. One may observe that in her series of *Silhouettes* (1973–1980) A. Mendieta merged land art and body art, since she often used her naked body in order to explore the performance site and to relate to it, as well as, more broadly, to Mother Earth (the figure of the Great Goddess). Thereby she used nature as a medium and a "canvas", shaping silhouettes in grass or sand with her body, and some of them she also set on fire.

<sup>23</sup> Petar Grimani, "Stvaranje otvorene rampe" [Creating an open ramp] (an interview conducted by Suzana Marjanić), *Zarez* 227 (20 March 2008), <http://www.zarez.hr/227/kazaliste1.html> (last accessed in April-June 2010).

<sup>24</sup> <http://dopust-izvedbe.blogspot.com/> (last accessed in April-June 2010).

<sup>25</sup> It is a method gained from exploring the ancient Chinese technique of acupuncturing the earth and the art of designing houses (feng shui), as well as the European megalithic tradition preserved in Celtic mythology. Šuvaković, as in n. 1, 345.

<sup>26</sup> Vlasta Delimar, "Na mojem drvetu spava fazan" [There is a pheasant sleeping in my tree], *Zarez* 207 (31 May 2007), [http://www.zarez.hr/207/z\\_info.html](http://www.zarez.hr/207/z_info.html) (last accessed in April-June 2010).

<sup>27</sup> Suzana Marjanić, "O Z/zemlji – planetarno i ambijentalno" [On the E/earth – as a planet and an ambience], *Zarez* 183 (29 June 2006), <http://www.zarez.hr/183/kazaliste1.htm> (last accessed in April-June 2010).

<sup>28</sup> Višnja Rogošić, "Život bez smrti: Orlanini i Stelarcovi zahtjevi tijelu" [Life without death: Orlana's and Stelarc's demands on the body], *Kazalište* 37/38 (2009), 103.

<sup>29</sup> Šuvaković, as in n. 1, 118–119.

<sup>30</sup> Šuvaković, as in n. 1, 552–553.

<sup>31</sup> Goldberg, as in n. 4, 164.

<sup>32</sup> Šuvaković, as in n. 1, 552.

<sup>33</sup> Goldberg, as in n. 4, 165.

<sup>34</sup> Suzana Marjanić, "Ponuda vlastitoga mesa i hobotnica, odnosno politike i estetike" [Offering one's own meat and octopus, or: Politics and aesthetics] (2009), <http://zagrebi.com/hr/iz-zareza-ponuda-vlastitoga-mesa-i-hobotnica-odnosno-politike-i-estetike/> (last accessed in April-June 2010).

<sup>35</sup> Sanja Fligić, "Pijenje urina i propovijedi obraćenja na Perforacijama" [Drinking urine and sermons on conversion at Perforacije] (2009), <http://www.tportal.hr/kultura/kulturmiks/36157/Pijenje-urina-i-propovijedi-obracenja-na-Perforacijama.html> (last accessed in April-June 2010).

<sup>36</sup> The artist has stated that guts are symbolically a conducting medium, a place of transformation of organic into inorganic matter. In terms of culture, they are a container for food and water, and their transparent membrane reveals what is inside them rather than concealing it. Vlatko Vincek, "Arhiviranje purgatorija, performativna tehnička" [Archiving the purgatory, a performing technique] (an interview conducted by Suzana Marjanić), *Zarez* 136/137 (9 September 2004), <http://www.zarez.hr/137/vizualna4.htm> (last accessed in April-June 2010).

<sup>37</sup> Vincek, as in n. 36.

<sup>38</sup> Ibidem.

<sup>39</sup> Ibidem.

<sup>40</sup> <http://www.index.hr/xmag/clanak/performans-umjetnost-bunta-ekstremizma-interakcije-i-reakcije-/445146.aspx> (last accessed in April-June 2010).

<sup>41</sup> Goldberg, as in n. 4, 164.

<sup>42</sup> Catherine Millet, *Suvremena umjetnost* [Contemporary art] (Zagreb: Museum of Contemporary Art, and the Croatian branch of AICA, 2004), 79.

<sup>43</sup> Ibid., 81.