

Stockholm 20.09.2016

Dear Ljiljana,

So sad to hear the news about the future for Graficki Kolektiv although I am not surprised this would finally happen also to you. Cities in Europe have undergone many changes during the years where the commercialization of the city centers have destroyed culture and cultural heritage and made them all look the same, with the same brands, same shops and same meaningless consumption.

Graficki Kolektiv is known all over the world by printmakers and artists. Numerous exchanges between countries have been made. We also made an exchange exhibition with Stockholm and Grafiska Sällskapet (Swedish Printmakers Association). I did myself a solo show, invited by you in the beginning of this millennium and I have curated an exhibition with one of your printmakers at Grafikens Hus in Sweden. You were invited by us to be a jury member for our National Printmaking Triennial at the Royal Academy of Fine Arts in Stockholm in 2007. Visiting Belgrade and being fortunate getting to know you and many of your artists have also led to that I have recommended and shared my impressions knowledge with other artists and curators and this has resulted in other exchanges and cooperations. This is how cultural life and cultural meetings always give way to new ideas and borderless communication between countries and cultures. This process is priceless and part of the development of our society for future peace and mutual understanding.

You, dear Ljiljana, and Graficki Kolektiv has played, and will play an important part of this. It is my sincere hope and deepest wish that Graficki Kolektiv and its staff will remain and continue its fantastic work in the future.

With all my best wishes for the future and I hope to be part of coming projects in whatever way possible!

Mikael Kihlman

Stockholm

Dr. H. C. at The Eugeniusz Geppert Academy of Art and Design, Wrocław, Poland

Artist and Printmaker

Chairman of The Axel Fridell Society

Vice Chairman of The Swedish Fine Art Society, National Museum, Stockholm

Boardmember of Grafikens Hus, Södertälje