

Naslov: Graficki Kolektiv

Dear Liljana,

This email is overdue, but it is partly we are facing many of the same tragic pressures the GK gallery currently faces.

As you know, over the more than 17 years I have worked, lived, researched, and taught in the Former Yugoslavia and Belgrade in particular, GK gallery has been an essential artistic hub for me. It supported my colleagues, friends, and artists, and hosted events that were like home for me building my career, and ultimately a successful case for tenure at my faculty, in Belgrade. For this I will always be grateful to you and your very high-level of professionalism and artistic excellence. As well, your publications allowed me to share the work of the gallery with my students in the United States and abroad, highlighting the significant contributions your gallery has made to the international conversation in print.

The whole world faces this cultural crisis, one in which support for the arts has dissolved in favor of commercial interests, consumer goods, and food. We have officially entered the "Dark Ages" in the west given our latest election, and I am sure we will share your fight to maintain the freedom and integrity of the art world. I feel very strongly that the fight for the arts is a fight for humanity.

I know that you will contact me should you need a more formal statement or testimonial as you build your case against closure. I would also like to hear the latest news on this issue.

"Art is a nation's most precious heritage. For it is in our works of art that we reveal to ourselves and to others the inner vision which guides us as a nation. And where there is no vision, the people perish." –Lyndon Johnson, on signing into existence the National Endowment on the Arts

With fondness and admiration,  
Melissa Potter

Melissa Hilliard Potter  
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WEB: [www.melpotter.com](http://www.melpotter.com)  
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