

*galerie frank elbaz.*

# **Mangelos**

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Mangelos (born in 1921 in Sid, Serbia ; died in 1987 in Zagreb, Croatia)

Dimitrije Bašičević was an art historian, a critic, a museum director but also an artist under the pseudonym Mangelos. He studied history of art and philosophy in Vienna and in Zagreb. During the Second World War, he used to draw a black square in one of his school notebooks each time he learned about the death of a relative or a friend. These black squares became blackboards to cover with notes – poems, thoughts, quotations linked to his theoretical work. Indeed, after his graduation in 1949, he held several important institutional posts such as curator of the Modern Gallery; from 1962 to 1964, he also directed the Gallery of Primitive Art that he cofounded in 1952. He became a key-member of the avant-garde group Gorgona in Zagreb, until 1966. Mangelos is famous for having organized numerous exhibitions and published essays and art reviews, doing much to promote abstract art.



Mangelos Installing the Exhibition Shid Theory (Galerija Podroom)  
Zagreb, Croatia, 1978), 1978  
MAN1978-1239



Miroirs Noirs, Mangelos  
galerie frank elbaz, Paris  
2013-2014



*Mane tekell fares*, 1987  
Globe, acrylic and tempera on globe made of wood, metal and paper  
35 x 58 cm Ø (13 3/4 x 22 7/8 in. Ø)  
MAN1987-1058



*Miroirs Noirs*, Mangelos  
galerie frank elbaz, Paris  
2013-2014



*Die Energie*, 1977  
Tempera on chipboard  
40 x 40 cm (15 3/4 x 15 3/4 in.)  
MAN1977-351



*Miroirs Noirs, Mangelos*  
galerie frank elbaz, Paris  
2013-2014



U poslednje vreme ..., / Recently, 1967-1972  
 Tempera et collage sur carton  
 31 x 45 cm (12 1/4 x 17 3/4 in.)  
 MAN1967-1972-341







Ovu sliku ne pozna 99% čovečanstva / 99% of the mankind has not heard of this painting..., 1967 - 1972

Tempera and collage on paper

41 x 36 x 4,7 cm (16 1/8 x 14 1/8 x 1 7/8 in.)

Unique

MAN1967 - 1972-3136

fenomen  
picasso  
komentar mangelos

novi sad  
tribina mladih

17-30 aprila

rodjen 1881 u malagi pikaso je proveo detinjst

u barceloni igrajući se ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~

zatim je umesto da radi nastavio da se igra

picaso u svom životu nije nikad radio

samo se igrao

neki su pristali pristali na tu igru

pa je pikaso postao

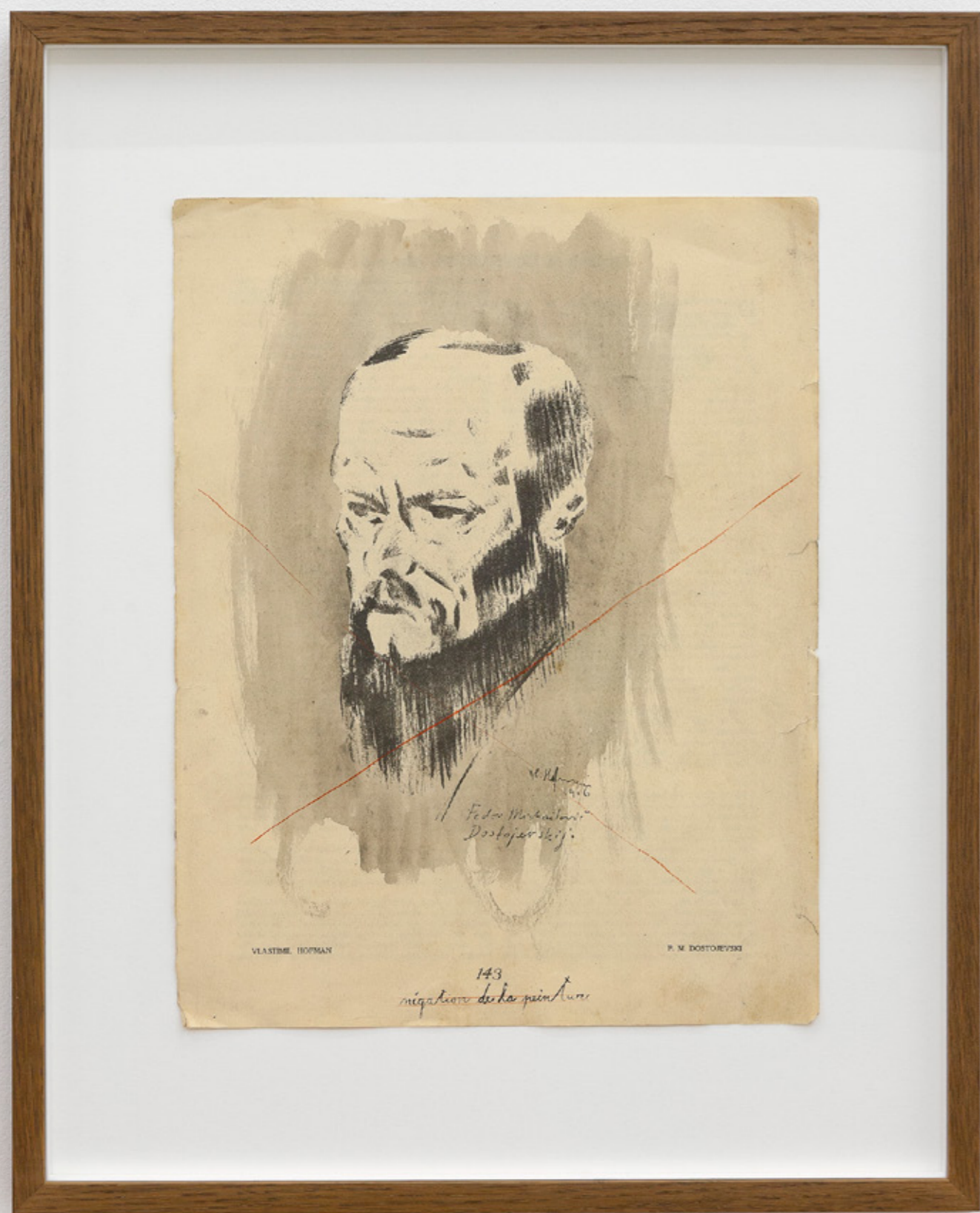
opsesija

za sve ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~ i snobove  
i intelektualce

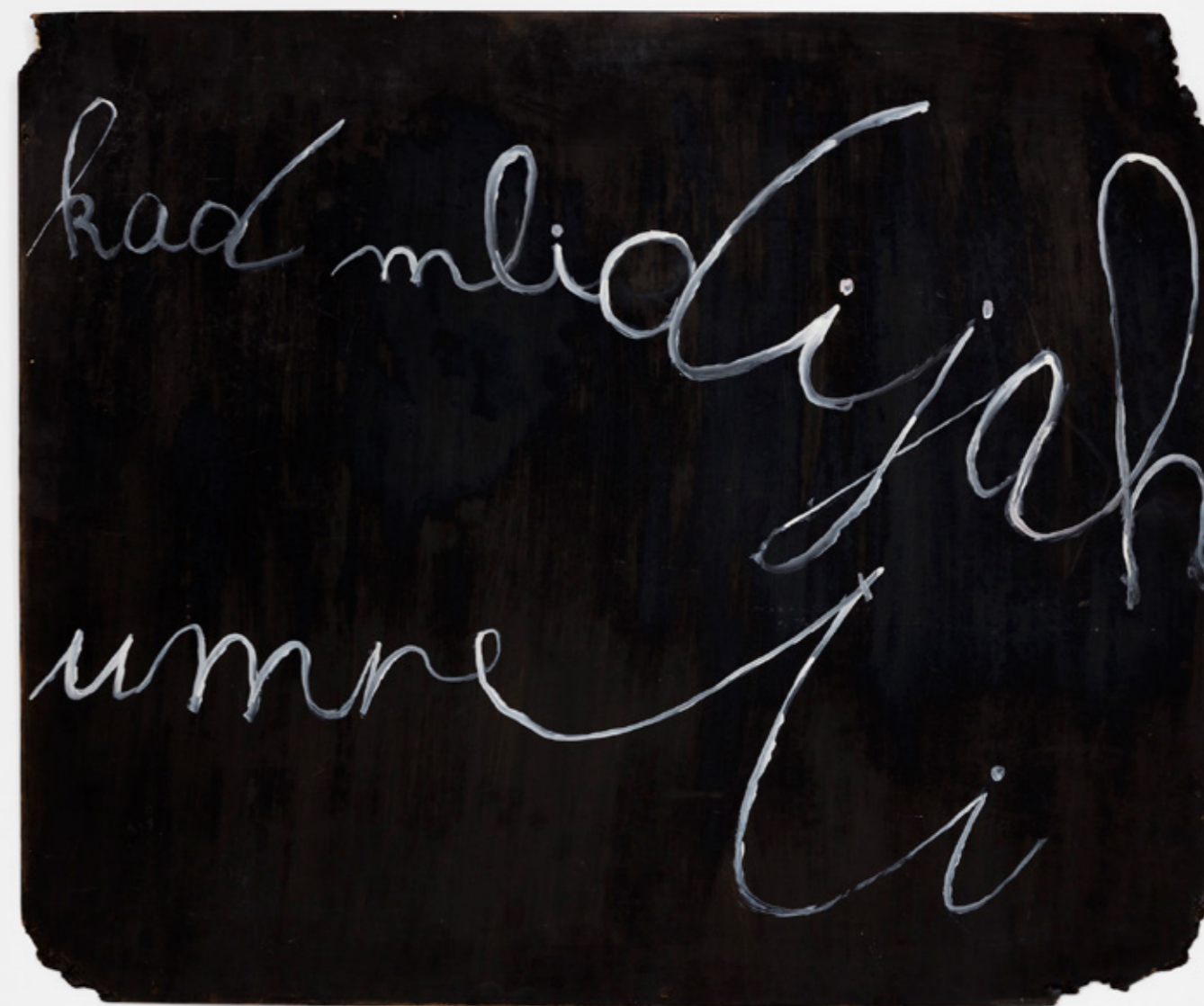
koji misliti ne mogadoše



From Scratch: Mangelos, Knifer, Koller, Stilinović & Trbuljak  
Peter Freeman, Inc., New York  
2022



*Négation de la peinture (Portrait od Dostoevsky)*, 1951 - 1956  
Tempera on paper  
51 x 41,5 cm (20 1/8 x 16 3/8 in.)  
MAN1951-1956-618



*kad mlidijah umreti, (When I thought I would die)*, 1957-1963  
Tempera on hardboard  
65,5 x 79 cm (25 3/4 x 31 1/8 in.)  
MAN1957-1963-349



Transmissions: Art in Eastern Europe and Latin America, 1960-1980  
Museum of Modern Art, New York City  
2016  
Photo: Thomas Griesel.



Hypotese f, 1978  
Painted notebook  
19 x 11,3 cm (7 1/2 x 4 1/2 in.)  
MAN1978-1015



54th Carnegie International  
Carnegie Museum of Art, Pittsburgh  
2004  
Photo: Tom Altany

Bernard Marcadé's, *Mangelos, or: Painting-writing after the disaster*, published in: *Mangelos* nos. 1-9 1/2

« Mangelos's approach is part and parcel of a line of thinking about origins that is at once non-discursive (Am Beginn war es kein Wort) and non-artistic (Noart). This line of thinking, which has been compared with the «Great-Taoist Void» (Branka Stipancic), is also an offspring of Malevich's «black square», and negative theology. It is actually by reiteration of «Nothing», and by the repeated negation of all determinations, that the artist envisages having access to the meaning of things and the world. «Non Credo», «Sein=Nichts», «There is no Genius», «Anti-paintings», «No-stories», «Noart» D.B.M. is an artist of the tabula rasa.

Mangelos's approach is part of the very nub of the issue, expressed by Adorno, of knowing whether it is still possible to make a work of art after Auschwitz. How, in effect, is it possible to carry on writing and painting after that disaster of - and for - humankind? Mangelos's answer is exemplary. After that unprecedented episode which, perforce, caused thought to become involved with horror, it is a question of starting out all over again from square one, of creating language, and relearning how to talk» (...) « With Mangelos, the blank slate is neither the expression of a «pure nothingness», nor the symbol of an «absolute of negation». «Because a blank slate could not remain a blank slate forever, it had to be written», the blank slate is rather the space-time frame of a possibility of beginning again. (...) In this sense, Mangelos's painting-writing is not that of the disaster (as for Dada and Blanchot) but rather the painting-writing of the post-disaster (as with Marcel Broodthaers). Death, here, does not mark the end of a world, but the opening onto other possibilities.»

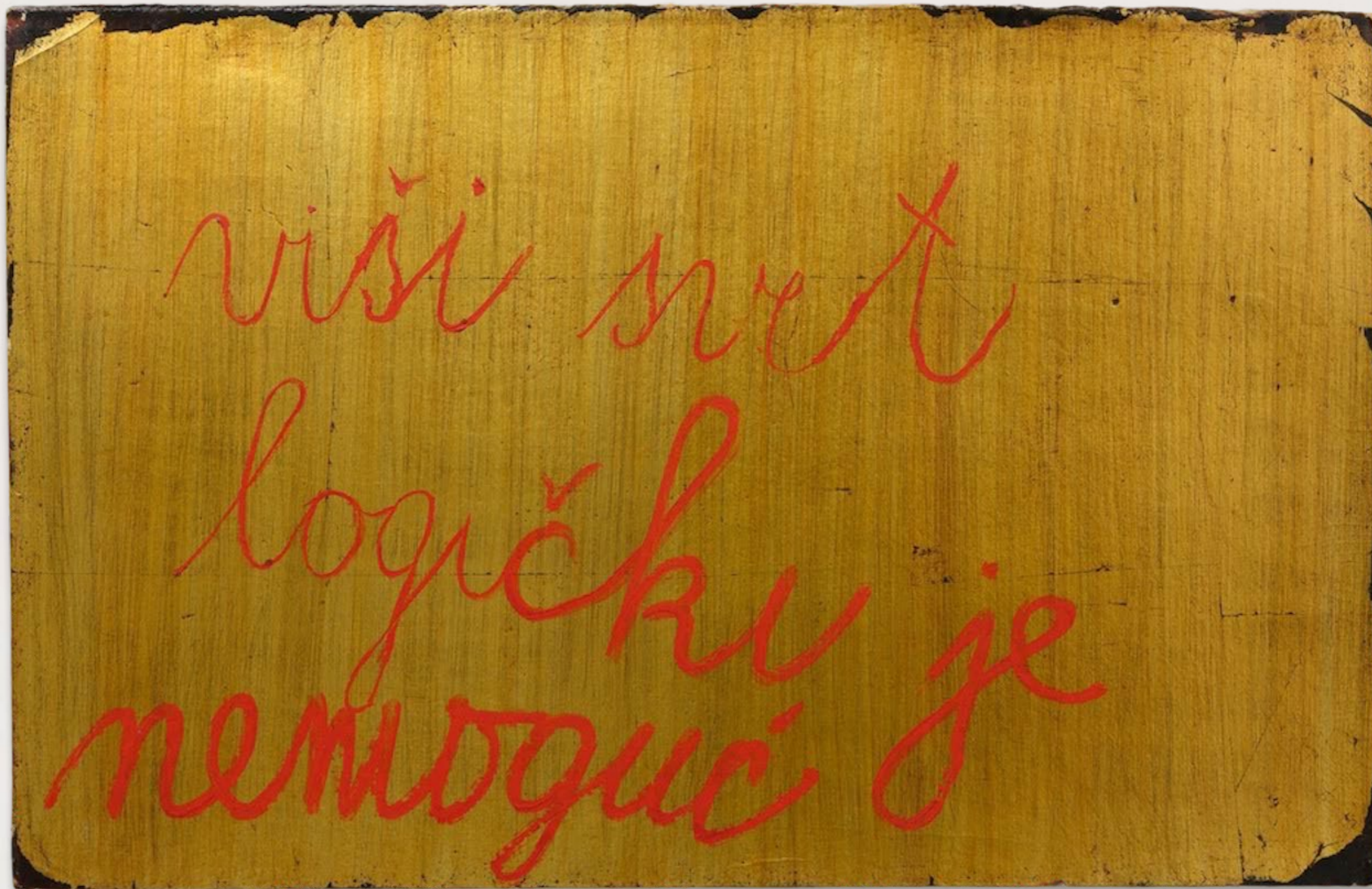


*Noart 12 Juna 1964, 1964*  
Tempera on paper  
12 x 10,5 cm (4 3/4 x 4 1/8 in.)  
MAN1964-613



*Glagolitic letters, m. 5, 1961 - 1956*  
None, Tempera on canvas over  
cardboard book cover  
27,3 x 18,5 cm (10 3/4 x 7 1/4 in.)  
MAN1951-1956-889





**Mangelos**

Viši svet logički je nemoguć / a world on a higher level is  
logically impossible, 1977-1978

Tempera on cardboard

53 x 78 cm (20 7/8 x 30 3/4 in.)

Unique

MAN1977-1978-1412

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### **Mangelos**

Born in 1921 in Sid, Serbia. Died in 1987 in Zagreb, Croatia.

#### Solo Exhibitions (selection)

- 2021 Museum of Contemporary Art (MSU), Zagreb, Croatia  
Word Images, Mangelos & Mladen Stilinovic, 1 Mira Madrid, Spain
- 2018 Museum of Contemporary Art, Belgrade, Serbia
- 2016 Mangelos: a retrospective of exhibitions, 1972-1981, Peter Freeman, Inc.  
New York, NY, USA
- 2014 Mangelos Documenta, Aanant & Zoo, Berlin, Germany
- 2013 Miroirs noirs, galerie frank elbaz, Paris, France
- 2012 Mangelos: Pythagoras, Peter Freeman, Inc., New York, NY, USA
- 2005 Les lettres et les mots, Peter Freeman, Inc., New York, NY, USA
- 2004 Mangelos nos 1 to 9 ½, Fundació Antoni Tapies, Barcelona, Spain;  
Kunsthalle Fridericianum, Kassel, Germany
- 2003 Mangelos nos 1 to 9 ½, Neue Galerie am Landesmuseum Joanneum,  
Graz, Austria; Fundação de Serralves – Museu de Arte Contemporânea,  
Porto, Portugal
- 2001 Les paysages des mots, The Drawing Room, Berlin, Germany
- 1999 Teze ali manifesti/Theses or Manifestos, Mala galerija – Moderna galerija,  
Ljubljana, Slovenia
- 1998 Mangelos, A/D Gallery/Peter Freeman, New York, NY, USA; D'Offay  
Gallery, London, UK
- 1997 abc, Galerie Rainer Borgemeister, Berlin, Germany  
Flow, MU, Eindhoven, the Netherlands  
New Work, Rena Bransten Gallery, San Francisco, CA, USA
- 1995 Mangelos, Muzej Ilijanum, Šid, Serbia and publication of the book  
Mangelos: A draft for antimonography – My father Ilija
- 1993 Mangelos Books, Opus Operandi, Gent, Belgium
- 1991 Mangelos, Museum of Contemporary Art (MSU), Zagreb, Croatia  
Mangelos, Mestna galerija, Ljubljana, Slovenia
- 1990 Pass The Mic 1991-1996, Muzej suvremene umjetnosti, Zagreb, Croatia
- 1988 Mangelos-Painting, Galerija PM, Zagreb, Croatia
- 1986 Mangelos, Galerija Sebastian, Belgrade, Serbia  
Mangelos, Izložbeni salon Doma JNA, Zagreb, Croatia

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- 1985 Otac i sin with his father Ilija Bosil, prostor ispred Vestibula, Split, Croatia
- 1981 Mangelos no. 1-9 Retrospective, Galerija PM, Zagreb, Croatia
- 1979 Mangelos no. 9 Energy, Galerija Dubrava, Zagreb, Croatia
- 1978 Mangelos no. 9 Shid-Theory, Podroom, Zagreb, Croatia  
Manifesti, Atelier Tose Dabca, Zagreb, Croatia
- 1972 Fenomen Picasso-Komentari Mangelos, Likovni salon Tribine mladih, Novi  
Sad, Serbia

#### Group Exhibitions (selection)

- 2025 Julije Knifer and Mangelos, Gallery 406: Museum of Contemporary Art,  
Zagreb, MoMA, New York
- 2024 For What It's Worth: Value Systems in Art since 1960 Curated By: Thomas  
Faulmer & Lisa Le Feuvre, The Warehouse, Dallas, USA
- 2023 Collages : Julije Knifer, Tomislav Gotovac, Mangelos and Mladen Stilinovic  
– Curated by Branka Stipančić, galerie frank elbaz, Paris, France  
Open Storage : 25 Years of Collecting, The Warehouse, Dallas, TX, USA  
From Scratch: Mangelos, Julije Knifer, Július Koller, Mladen Stilinović, Go-  
ran Trbuljak. Curated by Branja Stipančić, Peter Freeman, New York City,  
USA
- 2022 The Sensation of Space, The Warehouse, Dallas, TX, USA
- 2018 Doubles, Dobros, Pliegues, Pares, Twins, Mitades, The Warehouse, Dallas,  
USA  
Sixties in Croatia - Myth & Reality, Museum of Arts and Crafts, Zagreb,  
HRV  
Guernica, Musée Picasso, Paris, France  
Doubles, Dobros, Pliegues, Pares, Twins, Mitades. Curated by Rodrigo  
Moura, The Warehouse, Dallas, TX, USA
- 2017 The Serralves Collection: 1960-1980, Fundação de Serralves – Museu de  
Arte Contemporânea, Porto, Portugal  
Gorgona, Kunstmuseum Liechtenstein, Vaduz, Liechtenstein  
Non-Aligned Art. Marinko Sudac Collection, Ludwig Museum of  
Contemporary Art, Budapest, Hungary  
Gorgona Postgorgona, P420, Bologna, Italy  
Meandering, Abstractly, galerie frank elbaz, Dallas, TX, USA
- 2016 Facing the Future. Art in Europe 1945 - 1968, ZKM Center for Art and  
Media, Karlsruhe, Germany

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- Non-Aligned Modernity. Eastern-European Art from the Marinko Sudac Collection, FM Centro per l'Arte Contemporanea, Milan, Italy  
Der „Geist“ ist die Memorie, Galerie Martin Janda, Vienna, Austria
- 2015 Transmissions: Art in Eastern Europe and Latin America, 1960–1980, Museum of Modern Art (MoMA), New York, NY, USA  
Knifer, Mangelos, Vaništa, Mitchell-Innes & Nash, New York, NY, USA  
Ich kenne kein Weekend. Archive and Collection René Block, Neuer Berliner Kunstverein, Berlin, Germany
- 2014 Personal Cuts, Carré d'Art – Musée d'Art Contemporain, Nîmes, France  
Ilija/Mangelos. Father & Son, Inside & Out, Galerie St. Etienne, New York, NY, USA  
The Sky is Blue in Some Other Way, curated by Adam Budak, Galería Elba Benítez, Madrid, Spain
- 2013 Modernités plurielles (de 1905 à 1970), Centre Pompidou – Musée national d'art moderne, Paris, France  
The Present and Presence: Repetition 4 - Micro-political Situations, Museum of Contemporary Art, Ljubljana, Slovenia  
Conceptual Form and Material Actions, Fundação de Serralves – Museu de Arte Contemporânea, Porto, Portugal  
Critique and Crises. Art in Europe Since 1945, Kumu – Art Museum of Estonia, Tallinn, Estonia
- 2012 Architectural Dispositions, Thomas Solomon Gallery, Los Angeles, CA, USA  
Gold, Belvedere, Vienna, Austria  
The Desire for Freedom. Art in Europe since 1945, German Historical Museum, Berlin, Germany  
First Avenue: One-Way Street, Fundação de Serralves – Museu de Arte Contemporânea, Porto, Portugal  
Summer Selections, Thomas Solomon Gallery, Los Angeles, CA, USA
- 2011 Gorgona (...Knifer, Mangelos, Vanista...), curated by Zarko Vijatovic, galerie frank elbaz, Paris, France  
Museum of Parallel Narratives. In the framework of L'International, Museu d'Art Contemporani de Barcelona (MACBA), Barcelona, Spain  
I Am Still Alive: Politics and Everyday Life in Contemporary Drawing, Museum of Modern Art (MoMA), New York, NY, USA  
You are kindly invited to attend, Gallery Aanant & Zoo, Berlin, Germany  
The Museum of Affects, Museum of Contemporary Art Metelkova, Ljubljana, Slovenia
- 2010 Les Promesses du Passé, curated by Christine Macel and Joanna Mytkowska, Centre Pompidou – Musée national d'art moderne, Paris, France  
Art Always Has Its Consequence, Former Building of the Museum of

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- Contemporary Art, Zagreb, Croatia
- 2009 Who killed the painting, collection René Block, Bremen Museum of Modern Art, Bremen, Germany
- 2008 As soon as I open my eyes I see a film, Museum of Modern Art, Warsaw, Poland  
Transmediale 08: Conspire, Haus der Kulturen der Welt, Berlin, Germany
- 2007 Konceptualna umetnost-arhiva doukmenata, informacija i umetnickih dela: 1968-2007, Museum of Contemporary Art Vojvodina, Novi Sad, Serbia  
Avangardne tendencije u hrvatskoj umjetnosti, Galerija Klovićevi dvori, Zagreb, Croatia
- 2006 Fluxus, Happening, Kontextkuns, Neue Galerie, Graz, Austria  
Living Art on the Edge of Europe, Kröller Müller Museum, Otterlo, the Netherlands  
Fenomen Ilija - Mangelos, Galerija O3one, Belgrade, Serbia  
Eye on Europe, Museum of Modern Art (MoMA), New York, NY, USA  
Big-Bang, Centre Pompidou – Musée national d'art moderne, Paris, France
- 2005 East Art Museum, Karl Ernst Osthaus-Museum Hagen, Hagen, Germany
- 2004 Open systems: Rethinking Art c.1970, Tate Modern, London, UK  
Love it or Leave it, 5th Cetinjsko bijenale, Cetinje, Montenegro  
Zbirka Filip Trade, Umjetnicka galerija, Dubrovnik, Croatia  
54th Carnegie international, Carnegie Museum of Art, Pittsburgh, PA, USA
- 2003 In den Schluchten des Balkans, Kunsthalle Fridericianum, Kassel, Germany
- 2002 In Search of Balkania, Neue Galerie am Landesmuseum Joanneum, Graz, Austria  
Beyond preconceptions, Berkeley Art Museum, Berkeley, CA, USA ; Samuel P. Han Museum of Art, Gainesville, FL, USA ; Portland Art Museum, Portland, OR, USA  
The Misfits, Kunstamt Kreuzberg Bethanien, Berlin, Germany; Muzej na sovremenata, Skopje, Macedonia; Art Moscow, Moscow, Russia  
Monochromes, Art Pavilion, Zagreb, Croatia  
2000+ ArtEast Collection, National Gallery – Cifte Hammam, Skopje, Macedonia; ZKM Center for Art and Media, Karlsruhe, Germany
- 2001 PM 20 (1981-2001), Museum of Modern Art, Dubrovnik, Croatia; HDLU, Zagreb, Croatia  
2000+ ArtEast Collection, Orangerie Congress, Innsbruck, Austria  
Beyond préconceptions, Paço Imperial, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; Museu de Arte Brasileira - Fundação Armando Alvares Penteado, Sao Paulo, Brazil; Museo de Arte Moderno, Buenos Aires, Argentina; Zaçeta Narodowa Galeria Sztuki, Warsaw, Poland  
Aspects/Positions, City Gallery Southampton, Southampton, UK
- 2000 Beyond preconceptions -The Sixties Experiment, Veletržni Palac-Nacionalna galerija, Prague, Czech Republic

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- 2000+ ArtEast, Collection, Moderna galerija, Ljubljana, Slovenia  
Das fünfte Element, Geld oder Junst, Kunsthalle Düsseldorf, Germany  
Art in Central Europe, 1949-1999, Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona, Spain  
Aspects/Positions, Ludwig Museum of Contemporary Art, Budapest, Hungary
- 1999 Circa 1968, Fundação de Serralves – Museu de Arte Contemporânea, Porto, Portugal  
Aspekte/Positionen, 50 Jahre Kunst aus Mitteleuropa 1949-1999, mumok – Museum of Modern Art, Vienna, Austria
- 1998 Kartografi, Mucsarnok, Kartogrfi Maribor, Umetnosna galerija, Budapest, Hungary
- 1997 Gorgona, Gorgonesco, Gorgonico, Villa Pisani, La Biennale di Venezia, Italy  
Dolo, Ex Macello, La Biennale di Venezia, Italy  
Art Fair 97, Galerie Rainer Borgemeister, Berlin, Germany  
Cartographers, Ujazdowski Castle Centre for Contemporary Art, Warsaw, Poland
- 1996 Dessins: acquisitions 1992-1996, Centre Pompidou - Musée national d'art moderne, Paris, France
- 1994 Zwischen Zeit Raum, Galerie Schuppenhauer, Cologne, Germany  
Rijeci i slike, Museum of Contemporary Art, Zagreb, Croatia
- 1993 The horse who sings – Radical Art from Croatia, Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney, Australia  
Le Milieu du monde, Centre Régional d'Art Contemporain (CRAC), Sète, France
- 1991 Akvizicije 1986-1991, Museum of Contemporary Art, Zagreb, Croatia
- 1989 Galerija PM 1981-1989, Collegium Artisticum, Sarajevo, Bosnia; Dom sindikata, Dubrovnik, Croatia  
Anti-museum Archive, Knjizara Moderna Vremena, Zagreb, Croatia  
Gorgona, FRAC Bourgogne, Dijon, France  
Scenes of language, Galerija ULUS, Belgrade, Serbia  
Art Acquisitions 23 (1984-1988), Museum of Contemporary Art, Zagreb, Croatia
- 1988 Mangelos-paintings, Galerija PM, Zagreb, Croatia  
150 g. Gimnazije u Sremskoj Mitrovici, Museum of Srem, Sremska Mitrovica, Serbia
- 1987 Yugoslav documenta 87, Collegium Artisticum, Sarajevo, Bosnia
- 1986 Geometries, Galerija Karas, Zagreb, Croatia
- 1985 Anti-museum: no art, Galerija Dioklecijan, Split, Croatia
- 1982 Verbal-Vocal-Visual in Yugoslavia 1950-1980, Museum of Contemporary

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- Art, Belgrade, Serbia  
Innovations in Croatian Art in the 1970s, Collegium Artisticum, Sarajevo, Bosnia; Museum of Contemporary Art, Belgrade, Serbia; Museum of Contemporary Art, Zagreb, Croatia
- 1981 Beyond Aesthetic, Galerija SC, Zagreb, Croatia
- 1978 Plakati-radovi umjetnika, Salon MSU, Belgrade, Serbia
- 1977 Gorgona, Städtisches Museum Abteiberg, Mönchengladbach, Germany; Museum of Contemporary Art, Zagreb, Croatia
- 1976 Konfrontacije, Museum of Contemporary Art, Zagreb, Croatia
- 1971 Visual Poetry, Galerija 212, Belgrade, Serbia
- 1969 Typoezija, Galerija 212, Belgrade, Serbia
- 1968 Permanent Art, Galerija 212, Belgrade, Serbia

### Public Collections

- Australia Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney
- Croatia Museum of Contemporary Art, Zagreb
- France Centre Pompidou – Musée national d'art moderne, Paris
- Germany Städtisches Museum Abterbeig, Mönchengladbach
- Slovenia MGLC-International Centre of Graphic Arts, Ljubljana  
Museum of Modern Art, Ljubljana
- UK Tate Modern, London
- USA The Carnegie Museum of Art, Pittsburgh, PA  
Museum of Modern Art (MoMA), New York, NY  
The Collection of Marguerite Steed Hoffman, TX  
The Warehouse Dallas, TX
- Portugal Museum of Contemporary Art, Porto, Portugal