

Maja Hodošek

Too simple and too easy, 2020

October 20–December 13, KGLU, Slovenj Gradec

Two-channel video installation, 11'15" and 6'49"

The artist Maja Hodošek centres her work on high-school youth, their behaviour during the education process, and development of critical thinking using informal learning and establishment of a variety of dynamics of teamwork and interpersonal relations. In her videos, the artist indirectly searches for new possibilities that a young subject can establish in relation to formal, conventional and rigid social structures. With actual proximity of her camera, she thoughtfully discloses the gestures by portraying a collective situation, including vulnerable parts or deficiencies – and it is precisely this kind of approach that restores the youth's visibility.

In her video installation *Too Simple and Too Easy*, the artist delves deep into horizontal learning, more specifically, learning of a foreign language. A group of high school students works together to translate a cut from the film *Ici et ailleurs (Here and Elsewhere)* by Jean-Luc Godard and Anne-Marie Miéville, which juxtaposes a French family in front of a TV set with a community of Palestinian revolutionaries, and questions in terms of essence the status of an image that relays a remote social reality. The complex, yet still relevant topic of the film, does not hinder the youth seeking to rise above the language barriers. A statement from the film, "It is too simple and too easy to divide the world in two", becomes a tool for learning French and Arabic; yet through a specific experiential situation of the learning process, it underscores the universal message and thus activates the questions of division, community and solidarity. Maja Hodošek's video takes us down the path of an essential idea of many Godard's films, as "school thus becomes the good place which removes us from cinema and reconciles us with 'reality' (a reality to be transformed, naturally)", as the film critic Serge Daney puts it.

Maja Hodošek graduated at the Faculty of Pedagogy in Maribor and completed her Master's Degree at the Dutch Art Institute in Arnhem in the Netherlands. In her artistic practice, she uses the media of video and installation. She takes interest in various concepts

of knowledge, learning processes and social relations, with particular emphasis on creating or setting up situations in which temporary, transient communities are formed. She has presented her work in many solo and group exhibitions in Slovenia (*Landscape*, Likovni salon, Celje, 2010; *We Need a Title*, Škuc Gallery, Ljubljana, 2015; *Prepih*, Museum of Contemporary Art Metelkova, Ljubljana, 2019; *Virusni avtoportreti*, group online exhibition, Moderna Galerija (Modern Gallery/Museum of Modern Art), Ljubljana, 2020), as well as internationally (*The Dreamers*, Miroslav Kraljević Gallery, Zagreb, Croatia, 2016; *Hidden Curriculum*, tranzit.sk, Bratislava, Slovakia, 2019; *Imagine*, Dom omladine, Belgrade, Serbia, 2019; *See Me*, Tabakalera – International Centre for Contemporary Culture, San Sebastian/Donostia, Spain). In 2010, she won the OHO Group Award, and in 2020 she won the Jakopič Commendation. Her work is included in the permanent collection of the Centre for Contemporary Arts Celje and the collection of Modern Gallery in Ljubljana.

Website: <http://www.hodoscek.com/>