



AKSIOMA
Institute for Contemporary Art
Ljubljana

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Ljubljana, 12th December 2011

PRESS RELEASE

Aksioma – Institute for Contemporary Art,
kindly invites you to the events:

Close Encounters During The Solstice

Wednesday, 21 December 2011, 9 pm
Club K4, Kersnikova 4, Ljubljana, Slovenia

and

History Of The Future

Tuesday, 10 January 2012, 7 pm
Aksioma | Project Space, Komenskega 18, Ljubljana, Slovenia



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Maja Smrekar

Close Encounters During The Solstice / History Of The Future

The event "Close Encounters During The Solstice" is an introduction to the authorial project by Maja Smrekar, which the author will launch as an autonomous exhibition entitled "History Of The Future" at Aksioma Project Space on 10 January 2012.

"CLOSE ENCOUNTERS DURING THE SOLSTICE" // 21/12/11 // 9 pm

Club K4

DJ: House Wife

VJ: Delta Nu

- *How would love change if we lived to be 500?*
- *If you could travel back in time and revise decisions, would you?*
- *What if you could confront, talk to, or kill God?*
- *What if Nazi sympathisers in the US had won the 1940 elections?*

For nerds:

To the title of the event, which will transpire within the temporal frame of midwinter (winter solstice), we added a trashy subtitle, which befits the event's theme and which is derived from the cult movie *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*. The title of the latter, which has become a common expression in popular discourses, was invented by ufologist J. Allen Hynek (who actually appears in the movie!!!) to describe close encounters between people of the Earth and species from outer space.

For geeks:

We will walk through the audio-visual landscape of the history of musical and filmic references of the science-fiction genre; hence, the recommended dress code: It's time to dress SCI-FI and start your UFO!

For dorks:

La Charcuterie mécanique, Le voyage dans la lune, 20 000 lieues sous les mers, The Airship Destroyer, Verdens Undergang, Himmelskibet, Holger-Madsen, The First Men in the Moon, L'uomo meccanico, Dr. Mabuse, der Spieler, Black Oxen, Paris qui dort, Aelita, Luch Smerti, The Lost World, Metropolis, Frau im Mond, Just Imagine, La Fin du monde, Island of Lost Souls, The Invisible Man, The Tunnel, Der Herr der Welt, Aerograd, The Invisible Ray, Buck Rogers, Dr. Cyclops, The Invisible Woman, Man-Made Monster, The Invisible Man's Revenge, The Lady and the Monster, The Man in Half Moon Street, The Purple Monster Strikes, Counterblast, Krakatit, The Fountainhead, The Day the Earth Stood Still, When Worlds Collide, War of the Worlds, HaHasIt Came From Outer Space, Them!, This Island Earth, Earth vs The Flying Saucers, Forbidden Planet, Invasion of the Body Snatchers, Gojira, Incredible Shrinking Man, Nebo zovyot, The Timemachine, Mothra, La Jetée, The Day of the Triffids, Alphaville, Fahrenheit 451, Quatermass and the Pit, 2001: A Space Odyssey, Planet of the Apes, Doppelgänger, THX 1138, A Clockwork Orange, Solaris, Silent Running, Soylent Green, Dark Star, A Boy and his Dog, Alien, Logan's Run, Alien, Close Encounters of the Third Kind, Stalker, Quintet, Videodrome, Dune, Repo Man, Nineteen Eighty-Four, Enemy Mine, Mad Max, Brazil, The Quiet Earth, The Terminator, Kin-dza-dza!, Akira, Tetsuo: The Iron Man, Total Recall, Delicatessen, Until the End of the World, Kôkaku kidôtai, Twelve Monkeys, Johnny Mnemonic, Strange Days, Mars



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Attacks! , The Fifth Element , Starship Troopers , Gattaca, The Matrix, I.K.U. , Donnie Darko, A.I. Artificial Intelligence , Vanilla Sky , Avalon, Equilibrium , Minority Report, Le Temps du Loup, Primer, Æon Flux , Children of Men, Papurika, Avatar

DRESS CODE: SCI / FI

The science-fiction genre always explores broader socio-anthropological topics, which is why it makes sense to organise a pop derivative of the project entitled “Close Encounters During The Solstice” in a club environment, as an event that enables an alternative immersion into the (pop)culture of audio-visual contents related to the theme of the project “History Of The Future”. The establishment of the individual’s identification with the sci-fi genre – by means of signifiers that designate characters from famous (and less famous) sci-fi texts – in this case becomes key only through the luddite action of the club dress code.

While the object on display at the gallery is an integral part of the project, the club event is its derivative!

“CLOSE ENCOUNTERS DURING THE SOLSTICE” // 10/01/12 // 7 pm

Aksioma | Project Space

“History of the Future” takes us on a temporal journey through the cinematic archive of international science-fiction production, organised as a multi-media presentation of content-based clusters of representations of possible realities of the future and the present, which follow chronologically from 1895 until 2009, and they appear on a time line in the future, which ends in the year of 802,701. The interactive infrastructure of the multi-media installation offers the user a selection of contents, within which the author presents the socio-political contexts that shaped the *zeitgeist* of each historical period in which the selected films were made. The presentation transpires in the form of a video lecture and in the style of *philoscifi* (= the philosophy of science fiction). Through the topics of sociological and media structure of popular culture, the author in this project explores the anthropology of fear as it relates to the changes in the perception of nature, technology and, consequently, social psychodynamics through the phenomenology of the perception of time, which, in the January instalment of the project, she will offer to the viewer as a presentation of the juxtaposition of linearity and laterality.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Maja Smrekar was born 1978 in Slovenia, 2005 graduated at the Sculpture Department of Fine Art Academy in Ljubljana, currently finishing MA at the New Media Department. Her main interest is based at the phenomenology of perception which she first started researching through space phenomena by composing live video among various collaborations in interactive sound/visual projects with other artists. Her main artistic focus remains at the intermedia art field. Among others, she has been collaborating with Kapelica Gallery in Ljubljana for the last five years and with Aksioma Institute for the last two years. Under their production she has executed projects within which she was researching frequency phenomena through biofeedback and telematic presence in relations to body, privacy and (inter)subjective perception of space. During the last two years she has been developing projects within the field of bioart with focus on living organisms. In 2010 she organised International Festival HAIP10/New Nature which has been focussed to



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interdisciplinary dialogue and collaboration ethics between scientists and artists. The festival took place at Multimedia Centre Cyberpipe in Ljubljana where she has been active as an artistic director for two years. Maja Smrekar currently lives and works in Ljubljana, Slovenia.

<http://majasmrekar.org/>

Concept and execution: Maja Smrekar

CGP, programming and graphic design: Luka Marčetič

Installation design: Maja Smrekar and Andrej Strehovec

Technical planning: Andrej Strehovec

Execution: RPS d.o.o.

Thanks: Louis Barçon, Rok Čančer, Ida Hiršfenfelder

Production: Aksioma – Institute for Contemporary Art, Ljubljana, 2011

www.aksioma.org

Artistic director: Janez Janša

Executive producer: Marcela Okretič

Public relations: Mojca Zupanič

Technical support: Valter Udovičić

Assistant: Sonja Grdina

Supported by the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Slovenia and the Municipality of Ljubljana.

Sponsor: Datacenter d.o.o.



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This event is organized in the framework of ARSCOPE (Art-Science Co-OPERation Environment) project co-financed by the EU Culture programme and implemented in partnership of TAKOMAT (DE), CIANT (CZ) and AKSIOMA (SI).



Education and Culture DG

Culture Programme

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