

SORRË

Milena Jovičević

July 6th, 2023 opening at 11:00 am

6 July – 30 December 2023



ARKIV, The Institute of Contemporary Art is pleased to present Milena Jovičević as part of its current series on contemporary art. Milena lives and works in Podgorica, Montenegro. She is as one the of leading artist from Montenegro.

Arkiv, Pejė Institute of Contemporary is thrilled to present *SORRĚ* a thought-provoking exhibition by the esteemed contemporary artist Milena Jovičević. Opening its doors on July 6th, 2023 and running through December 30, 2023, this exhibition sheds light on the intriguing symbolism and misunderstood nature.

"The crow bird is a very powerful sign, and there are many possible ways of interpreting the crow," says Milena Jovičević. Challenging the misconceptions surrounding this magnificent creature, Jovičević embarks on a journey to unravel the *SorrĚ* true essence. She invites viewers to delve deeper into their understanding and perception of the *SorrĚ*, transcending the superstitions and fears that have clouded its reputation.

While many negative connotations have been associated with the crow throughout history, emphasizes that these beliefs lack scientific support and are rooted in human fear. In fact, the crow holds sacred significance in various cultures. Exhibition aims to shed light on the crow's intelligence, resilience, and the positive qualities often overshadowed by misconceptions.

Intrigued by the dichotomy between the crow's negative associations and its remarkable intelligence, Milena explores the portrayal of women as crows in times of quarrel and sadness. Women have frequently been ascribed avian qualities in a derogatory manner, yet the crow stands as one of the most intelligent animals in the animal kingdom.

Through an array of artistic mediums, including captivating mixed-media installations, *SorrĚ* invites viewers into a transformative experience. Her meticulous attention to detail and evocative imagery creates an immersive environment that challenges preconceived notions and encourages introspection.

Arkiv, Pejė Institute of Contemporary is honored to host Milena Jovicevic's exhibition, as her exploration of the *SorrĚ* aligns with the institution's commitment to presenting thought-provoking contemporary art. The gallery space will be transformed into a captivating realm, inviting visitors to embark on a journey of self-reflection and appreciation for the crow's true essence.

About the Artist

Milena Jovičević, born in 1976 in Cetinje, Montenegro, pursued her artistic education at Faculty of Fine Arts, Cetinje, Montenegro; University of Arts, Belgrade, Serbia; Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Beaux- Arts, Paris, France and Ecole Supérieure des Beaux-Arts, Le Mans, France;

Jovičević exhibited in prestigious contemporary art galleries, museums and art festivals across the globe. Her artwork has been showcased in prominent cities such as New York, London, Basel, Rome, Antwerp, Berlin, Lisbon and more.

Notable exhibitions featuring Jovičević's work include: Ostrale Biennale in Dresden (2023); Faculty of arts, University of Lisbon, Portugal (2023); Arte Laguna Prize Finalist show in Venice, Italy (2023); Museums and galleries of Podgorica, Montenegro (2022); National Museum of Montenegro, Cetinje (2021); Vilnius Academy of Arts, Lithuania (2019); CICA Museum, Gyeonggi-do, South Korea (2017); Festival Danube Dialogues in Novi Sad, Serbia (2016); Kunstmuseum Vaduz, Liechtenstein (2015); Deviant Art Festival, Geneva, Switzerland (2015), MAM Foundation, Former Metallurgical Complex of Elbasan, Albania (2014); Museum of Almeria Spain (2014), CULTURESCAPES festival in Basel, Switzerland (2013); "Erarta" Museum of Contemporary art, Saint-Petersburg, Russia (2012); Institut für Alles Mögliche, Berlin, Germany (2012); Broadway gallery NYC, New York, USA (2009); Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Beaux-arts, Paris, France (2004) among others. Milena Jovičević's artwork has captivated audiences globally, showcasing her artistic prowess and unique perspective.

Milena Jovičević's notable achievements include receiving awards such as *Award for the achieved results and contributions to the development of artistic and professional work* at University of Montenegro (2021); *Grand Prix* of the 13th November Salon at National Museum of Montenegro, Cetinje, Montenegro (2021); First Award of the A.C.A.M. Brecey, Mont Saint Michel, France(2003), *Mai des créateurs* award for painting, Orly, France (2001) and others.

She is currently based in Cetinje and Podgorica, working at Faculty of Fine Arts/ University of Montenegro.

About ARKIV

ARKIV, the Institute of Contemporary Art, is the first public institution dedicated to contemporary art in the Peja region. By bringing together local, national, and international artists across all disciplines, ARKIV will be a center for advanced research, critical thinking, experimentation, and dialogue.

ARKIV aims to offer visitors an unparalleled experience of culture and contemporary art. It will examine the past through collection and archiving, inform the present through exhibitions and production, and inspire the future through education and development. This institute will contribute to the advancement of contemporary art in Kosovo through direct engagement of artists and the public, creating exhibitions and programs that communicate the transformative power of art in our time.

A fundamental value of ARKIV is the promotion of opportunities for public dialogue about art and the ideas that artists generate, making their work part of a national and international conversation. It serves as a special place and a unique platform for discourse and engagement in a society where members of different ethnic, racial, religious, or social groups preserve and develop their traditional cultures.

At ARKIV, there is a belief in fostering community building by bringing people together through art and ideas, recognizing that art is a human necessity and the sharing of its experience promotes collective engagement and international dialogue. ARKIV will be an institution that collects, preserves, organizes, and publishes historical values. The history of Kosovo and beyond has been primarily produced but consumed and documented to a lesser extent. Therefore, ARKIV sees itself as an archive that proposes a space for discussion on contemporary art from Kosovo and beyond.

ARKIV, the Institute of Contemporary Art in Peja, is a non-profit public NGO founded in 2018 by artist Sislej Xhafa. ARKIV is in the current public school "Vaso Pash Shkodrani." The building of this school dates back 1946, serving as the first primary school in Peja, and is strategically located near the city's national park.

The image: *Sing My Precious, Although You Are Married, video stills, 2021-22 (detail)*

AGENDA

Launch of ARKIV and Exhibition Agenda

Press conference: July 6th at 11:00 - 12:00.

Opening of the exhibition: July 6th 2023 11:00 – 17:00.

Duration of the exhibition: July 6th – December 30th 2023

• Contact Information

ARKIV

Working Hours: Tuesday - Sunday, 12:00 - 17:00

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Supported by



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