

Oendra Multimedia, Pristina (Kosovo), and Tirana Art Lab / Center for Contemporary Art (Albania) are pleased to announce a call for entries to participate in an upcoming graphic novel workshop

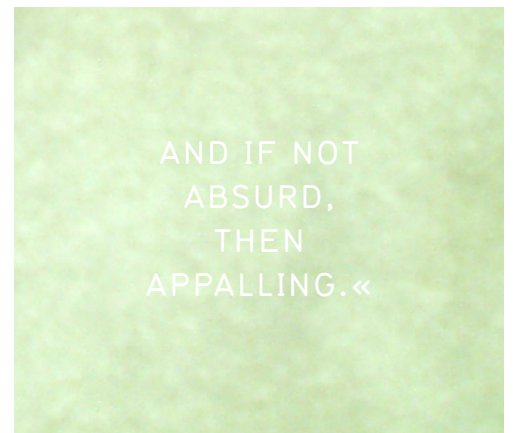
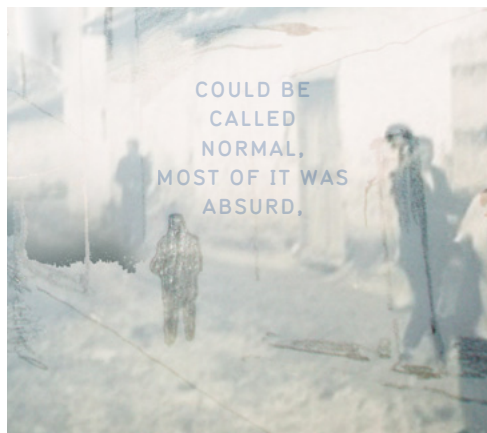
The call is now open for applications. Submission deadline: March 25, 2012

OPEN CALL PRISTINA

**PRISTINA, KOSOVO
MAY 5 - MAY 11, 2012**

GRAPHIC, NOVEL.

SKETCHING W.G. SEBALD IN PRISTINA



W.G. SEBALD - VERTIGO

In the past few years graphic novels have attracted more and more attention both in the field of literature and the visual arts. Not only do they allow for an alternative perspective on the complexities of everyday life, but because of their distinct use of two media - image and text - they also suggest how memories of the past can find new forms of expression despite their inherent blanks.

This interrelation between image and text lies at the core of the project **GRAPHIC, NOVEL**. Taking the works of W.G. Sebald as a point of departure, we would like to rethink the dynamics between the two mediums in the context of Pristina, eager to tackle what suggests itself as ›grey areas‹ in the memorization process by means of graphics and text. Also W.G. Sebald famously utilized in his work both image and text in order to find a momentary equilibrium between otherwise hazy or fragmented recollections, personal memories and, at times, ineffable events. However, similar to the grid-like structure of a Graphic Novel, the merging of image and text in W.G. Sebald's work produces an ›excess of meaning‹, which cannot be fully resolved.

The workshop **GRAPHIC, NOVEL** takes this relationship between W.G. Sebald's work and graphic novels as a starting point to enhance an in-depth study on how to access memory through image and text. It aims at taking the potential of the literary and graphic elements of graphic novels further by drawing on the author's ›poet(h)ic of remembering‹, but also by the direct encounter with and research into the environment the workshop is set in. The participants are invited to creatively delve into yet unprecedented graphic-novelist techniques, sketching what has been lost, what is to be retrieved, and how to conjoin the missing bits and contradictions of recent local history.

Being an initiative from Pristina, the subject-matter from where to explore those techniques is the city and its (in-)visible histories. Therefore, additional to the seminars, the workshop will have a closer look at the matter and the surfaces of the city. Archival documents, found photographs, oral history and walks through the city will form a central part of the research and of the elaboration of a new graphic novel by means of visual and literary expressions.

Throughout the workshop, the participants are invited to work on a chosen context presented to them in the city of Pristina. The results of the workshop will be shown in a group exhibition during the »Polip Literature Festival« held from May 11, 2012 to May 13, 2012.

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GRAPHIC, NOVEL. SKETCHING W.G.SEBALD IN PRISTINA is organized by Elisabeth Desta and Sonja Lau. The workshop is led by researcher Ute Friederich and graphic novelist Barbara Yelin.

UTE FRIEDERICH | (born 1984) studied German and English philology in Bonn and Aberdeen. In 2009, she accomplished her studies with the Magister Artium in Bonn. Her Masters thesis »Komik – Comic. Komische Elemente in den Texten Franz Kafkas und ihre bildliche Umsetzung in verschiedenen Comic-Adaptionen« (Engl.: »Komik – Comic. Comical elements in the work of Franz Kafka and their visual translations in graphic novels.«) was awarded the Roland-Faelske-Preis for comic and animation films. She is currently working on her dissertation on trauma, remembrance and montage in the oeuvre of W.G. Sebald and in a selection of graphic novels.

BARBARA YELIN | (born 1977 in Munich) studied illustration at the Hamburg University of Applied Sciences. She lives and works in Berlin as illustrator and comic book artist. Recent graphic novels include »Le Visiteur« (2004), »Le Retard« (2006), both published by Actes Sud/ Editions de L'An 2, and »Gift« (2010, with Peer Meter) published by Reprodukt. Since 2005 she has been co-editor and contributor of SPRING, the annual magazine of women illustrators and comic artists. From 2010 to 2011, she was commissioned to run a series of comic workshops in Cairo on behalf of the Goethe-Institute Cairo. She currently teaches as a visiting professor at the »Hochschule der Bildenden Künste Saar« in Saarbrücken (Germany), presenting a seminar on »Comics and Graphic Novels«.

SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS WILL RECEIVE TRAVEL COSTS AND FREE BOARD AND LODGING IN PRISTINA.

APPLICATION PROCESS

The workshop is open to art students, graphic-novelist, comic artists, designers, illustrators, visuals artists and writers of all ages and backgrounds.

All applications arriving prior to the due date, March 25, 2012, will be taken into consideration, assessed, and a selection of participants chosen. The result of the selection will be announced by April 15, 2012. All applicants will be informed in written form whether they are accepted or not.

If you are interested in being a part of the workshop **GRAPHIC, NOVEL.** please send a completed application form (see attachment), an artist statement, an idea for any research you want to deal with in the workshop, a short biography, a selection of recent works (literary or visual), and a picture of the artist by no later than March 25, 2012 (date of receipt) to:

Elisabeth Desta

Qendra Multimedia

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Fax: +381 38 222 793

elisabeth.desta@kulturmanager.net

Please specify in your statement why you would like to participate in the workshop in Pristina, and if you have any prior experience in working in the region.

Submission can be made either online or by sending a CD-ROM / works on paper. Please respect the format JPG and a resolution of 300 dpi for visual/graphic works. Incomplete applications cannot be considered. Application on papers / CD-ROM cannot be returned to the sender.

VISUALIZATION/PICTURE OF THE ARTIST

We will be using one of the sketches submitted as well as the picture of the artist for PR purposes. We therefore ask you to label the visualization that you prefer for the media and to indicate all relevant credits.

GRAPHIC, NOVEL.

SKETCHING W.G.SEBALD IN PRISTINA

APPLICATION FORM

ARTIST NAME

NAME, SURNAME

DATE OF BIRTH

ADDRESS (MAIN): STREET,

CITY

POSTCODE

COUNTRY

EMAIL

WEB

PHONE

MOBILE

HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THE WORKSHOP GRAPHIC, NOVEL.?

I am hereby applying for the workshop **GRAPHIC, NOVEL.** I understand and accept the terms and conditions of participation. I herewith declare my approval that Qendra Multimedia Center and Tirana Art Lab may use my visual material and the work generated in the workshop for PR purposes.

DATE

SIGNATURE

For further information please contact:

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Sonja Lau:
sonja.lau@kulturmanager.net