

INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION
FOR THE CONCEPT AND THE CONTENT OF MONTENEGRIN EXHIBITION AT
THE 16TH ARCHITECTURE BIENNALE IN VENICE, 2018



MONTENEGRO

MINISTRY OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
AND TOURISM

OPENS

INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION
FOR THE CONCEPT AND THE CONTENT OF MONTENEGRIN
EXHIBITION AT THE 16TH ARCHITECTURE BIENNALE IN VENICE,
2018

BIENNALE THEME:

Freespace / Slobodni prostor

COMMISSIONER

Dušan Vuksanović, PhD, arch.eng.

Chief State Architect

CURATOR

Sonja Radović Jelovac, PhD, arch.eng.

Podgorica, Montenegro, 19th January 2018

La Biennale di Venezia di Architettura

Freespace / Slobodni prostor

MONTENEGRO

EMERGING RESILIENCE: Reimage voids through sharing values

01 INTRODUCTION

International architecture exhibition *La Biennale di Venezia di Architettura* is considered the most important event presenting the courses and range of the contemporary architecture. So as to improve the international recognisability and its image, Montenegro will participate in the upcoming 16th Architecture Biennale that will take place between 26th May and 25th November 2018.

The theme of the 16th Architecture Biennale in Venice is *Freespace / Slobodni prostor*, selected and defined by the Biennale's Artistic Directors Yvonne Farrell and Shelley McNamara. The description of the thematic outline and explanation of the exhibition concept can be found at the link below:

<http://www.labiennale.org/en/news/freespace-16th-intl-architecture-exhibition-2018>

The Ministry of Sustainable Development and Tourism of Montenegro (the announcing body) opens international competition for the Concept and the Content of Montenegrin Exhibition for the representation of the State of Montenegro at the 16th International Architecture Exhibition in Venice (La Biennale di Venezia) 2018.

The competition is international by type, concept preliminary by task, anonymous by manner of submission, single-round by form.

02 THE THEME OF THE INTERNATIONAL ARCHITECTURE EXHIBITION OF THE 16TH BIENNALE – “FREESPACE”

The Curators and Artistic Directors, Yvonne Farrell and Shelley McNamara titled the 16th International Architecture Exhibition in Venice (*La Biennale di Venezia di Architettura*): *Freespace*. In their press release, the Curators explained that the new edition of the exhibition shall focus on the sense of humanity in the work of architects, as well as the quality of the very space enriched with **'nature's free gifts of light - sunlight and moonlight, air, gravity, materials'**.

“Freespace celebrates architecture's capacity to find additional and unexpected generosity in each project - even within the most private, defensive, exclusive or commercially restricted conditions.” According to the Curators, this theme stimulates new view of the world where architecture provides for the wellbeing and dignity of each citizen.

The Artistic Directors point out that **"the exhibition invites emotional and intellectual engagement of the many who come to the Biennale in order to understand architecture more fully, to stimulate discussion on core architectural values and to celebrate architecture's proven and enduring contribution to humanity."**

The theme outlines of the Curators and the Artistic Directors Yvonne Farrell and Shelley McNamara for the 16th International Architecture Exhibition in Venice (*La Biennale di Venezia di Architettura*) 2018, including press conference statements can be found in more detail and in original form at the following links:

<http://www.labiennale.org/en/architecture/2018/16th-international-architecture-exhibition>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=heg72H6Wseg>

<http://www.labiennale.org/en/news/freespace-16th-intl-architecture-exhibition-2018>

<https://www.archdaily.com/873126/grafon-architects-yvonne-farrell-shelley-mcnamara-2018-venice-venezia-architecture-biennale-free-space>

<http://www.labiennale.org/en/news/curators-biennale-architettura-2018>

The Invitation is expected to stimulate multidisciplinary teams in the country and abroad to problem identification, critical-systematic analysis, consideration of new models and new paradigms that comply with the **principle of resilience – which entails adaptability, transformability through ecosystem- and process-oriented approach for future spatial development models and strategies.**

The participants are expected to provide the concept and the content of Montenegrin exhibition.

“We invite all participants and every national pavilion to bring to Venice their Freespace, so together we may reveal the diversity, specificity and continuity in architecture based on people, place, time, history, to sustain the culture and relevance of architecture on this dynamic planet.”

Curators of the 16th Venice Biennale - Yvonne Farrell and Shelley McNamara

03 MONTENEGRO REPRESENTATION PROJECT AT THE 2018 VENICE BIENNALE

EMERGING RESILIENCE

The decades marked by transition left a trace on socio-economic and spatial transformations in terms of urban development, industrial, urban and rural regeneration and socio-cultural relationships.

Overwhelming issue is the lack of a coherent model which will create theoretical and practical framework for dealing with process-oriented approach. One of possible directions is resilience, not as a concept but as a tool for the development of flexible scenarios aimed at achieving a high degree of nature-culture synergy in the local context.

Sonja Radović Jelovac, architectural engineer, the Curator of the Montenegrin Exhibition, following the Venice Biennale 2018 theme, insists on broader research frame of the Montenegro Representation Project.

Putting a man in the spotlight and connecting him with the surroundings, the Curator stresses the need for instrumentalisation of the resilience in the local context, as well as the need for adopting the model of sharing values. As the first step towards identification, strengthening, invigorating, urban regeneration of free spaces, the Curator introduces the concept “*reimagine urban voids*”, as the basis for examining urban realities aimed at strengthening connection to the surroundings.

Such approach entails transdisciplinary methods i.e. broadening the architectural knowledge base, and understanding complex, adaptive and self-regulating systems where narrow-range activities have unconceivable consequences.

The Curator set the topic: **EMERGING RESILIENCE: Reimagine voids through sharing values**, as a framework for future research which will actualise the need for a holistic approach, through imperative resilience of socio-ecological systems (*SES Resilience*).

EMERGING RESILIENCE: Reimagine urban voids through sharing values, honours this year’s Biennale’s theme and invites “to stimulate discussion on core architectural values” and validate “the relevance importance of architecture on this dynamic planet”, focusing on integral models of treating space.

The role of architect is to participate actively in reconceptualising and giving new meaning to **free spaces of urban voids**: spent and meaningless spaces, polluted soils and habitats, taking into consideration broader forms of social, economic and cultural “recoveries”.

Taking into account all of the aforesaid, the idea is to use the form of the competition to create the concept and the content of Montenegrin exhibition.

The multidisciplinary teams that will be participating in the Competition for the concept and the content of Montenegrin exhibition at the 16th International Architecture Exhibition in Venice 2018 are expected to explore the set theme.

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It is also expected that the concept and the content of the representation of Montenegro shall be based on the experimental-process-dynamic approach, since it is assumed that the first-ranked concept-solution will be a component part of the research which will be presented in the **Catalogue of Montenegro Representation Designs at the 2018 Venice Biennale** and which will rest on the same principle.

The focus shall be on the local context, from the aspect of the need to “heal” marginalised landscapes, abandoned spaces, wastelands, “accidental landscapes” and urban voids in general (Ignasi de Solà-Morales, "Terrain Vague").

The focus of treating urban voids shall be on mutual connectedness in climatic, geological, hydrological, sociological and ethical sense, taking into consideration dynamic interactions and potential transformability and adaptability as basic components of resilience.

It is expected that the premises of transformability and adaptability of urban voids shall be explored and actualised through a concise Glossary of Urban Voids: *terrain vague, wastelands, waste sites, wasted sites, wasteless sites, drosscapes, and unintentional landscapes*.

EMERGING RESILIENCE is a generative metaphor for future experimental-process-dynamic project of representing Montenegro through:

1. Concept and Content / Exhibition Design
2. Theoretical research that will be presented in the form of a catalogue / compendium

Montenegro’s exhibition strives for multidisciplinary integration of results of contemporary ecological research and collaborative practices in urban design and spatial planning.

The research is expected to provoke new perspectives and stimulate debates on the set theme.

“The absence of collaborative approach and process-oriented thinking resulted in devastation of space and identity disbalance within many locations and ambiance. In that regard, I propose framework for the Montenegro Representation Design at the 16th International Architecture Exhibition – Venice Biennale, founded on exploring of new collaborative models that concern treatment of urban voids – important generative potential for establishing healthy interactive and adaptive socio-ecological systems in the era of uncertainty. “

The Curator of Montenegrin Exhibition at the 16th Venice Biennale, Sonja Radovic Jelovac, PhD

04 CONTENT OF MONTENEGRO REPRESENTATION DESIGN AT THE 16TH BIENNALE

Montenegrin exhibition at the upcoming 2018 Venice Biennale is conceptualised as a collaborative research platform i.e. an international network.

The network shall address the set theme in three steps:

PART 1 _ BEFORE

THEORY AS NEW PRAXIS

Exhibition Design

In order to achieve a more concrete, more communicative, realistic and feasible concept, it is planned to have a dialogue between the Curator and the Commissioner and interested competitors which would take place immediately after the announcement of the competition invitation (*the participants shall be subsequently informed about the date and time of the interview*).

The theoretical research shall be published in a Catalogue /Compendium

With the aim of thematic unification of separate contributions to the Catalogue/Compendium, it is planned to have a discussion forum that will be organised before the formal opening of Montenegrin exhibition, which will gather renowned experts in the area of resilient approach to strategic planning of the space.

PART 2 _ DURING

EMERGING RESILIENCE

Conference

During the Biennale, it is planned to have a conference on the themes relating to resilient approach to strategic planning of free spaces aimed at intensifying the discourse.

PART 3 _ AFTER

ADAPTABILITY

Publication

Publication has been conceptualised as a catalogue/compendium that will display all aspects of Montenegrin participation in the 16th Architecture Biennale in Venice.

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After the Biennale, it is planned to promote the results in line with different requirements and forms of presentation.

05 RIGHT TO PARTICIPATE

All natural and legal persons are eligible to participate in this Competition, except for the persons that have been directly involved in the organisation of the Competition, as well as persons that are closely related to and/or cooperate directly with those persons during the course of the Competition.

06 SUBJECT OF THE COMPETITION

The subject of the Competition is **the Concept and the Content** of Montenegrin exhibition at the 16th International Architecture Exhibition in Venice.

The Concept and the Content need to be presented in short illustrative and narrative form, in line with the rules set out in the Content of the Competition Entry.

After the results of the Competition are published, the first-ranked author team shall commence with preparation and realisation of the design in cooperation with the Curator and her team.

There is an option that the first-ranked author team shall also participate in conceptualisation and realisation of the overall concept of visual segment of the exhibition.

07 THE OBJECTIVE OF THE COMPETITION

The objective of the Competition is the original **Concept and the Content** of the Montenegrin exhibition, equally adjusted to the task and to the space where it will be located, with the ambition to stimulate exchange of information and discussion.

The Concept and the Content shall be understood as the initial phase of collaborative process which will result in realisation of Montenegrin exhibition.

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08 LOCATION OF MONTENEGRIN PAVILION IN VENICE



The position of Montenegro pavilion - Palazzo Malipiero, Venice

The design shall be exhibited between 26th May and 25th November 2018 in the Pavilion of Montenegro in Malipiero Palace in Venice.

Pavilion Address: *Palazzo Malipiero (ground floor), San Marco 3078-3079/A, Ramo Malipiero.*

Detailed information on architectural characteristics of the space is posted on the website of the Ministry of Sustainable Development and Tourism (www.mrt.gov.me).

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09 MANNER AND THE TIMELINE OF COMPETITION ACTIVITIES

The Competition activities shall begin on the date of announcement of the Competition Invitation in the media. The announcement of the Competition Invitation and supporting competition material shall be made publicly available on the website: <http://www.mrt.gov.me>.

The Competition shall be open from 19th January to 9th February 2018.

All the participants can ask questions about the Competition until the deadline set for submission of entries. The questions shall be sent via e-mail to biennale.arch2018@mrt.gov.me.

Contact person: **Sandra Lalić, MSc, arch.eng., coordinator.**

The participants in the Competition shall submit their works in an enveloped form by 9th February 2018, 14.00h, at the Archive of the Ministry of Sustainable Development and Tourism. If the competition entry is sent by post, postal receipt dated 8th February 2018 shall be deemed valid. Late or incomplete entries shall not be juried.

Results of the Competition shall be published between 12th February and 15th February 2018.

10 ENTRIES EVALUATION CRITERIA

| | |
|---|-------------|
| Author concept | 0-50 points |
| Message and message communicativeness | 0-20 points |
| Alignment of the author approach with the exhibition trends of the Venice Architecture Biennale | 0-10 points |
| Technical and technological feasibility of the competition solution | 0-10 points |
| Economic justification in the context of the proposed solution | 0-10 points |

11 MUTUAL RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS

The winner of the Competition is obliged to comply with the Competition conditions with regard to the realisation of the entry after the termination of the Competition.

If the winner of the Competition is an author team, the team shall appoint an authorised representative. The winner of the Competition shall fit into the budget and the timeframe set out in the Competition Invitation.

The winner of the Competition shall accept the suggestions of the Curator in the post-competition activities.

The winner of the Competition shall, by **15th March 2018**, through consultations with the Commissioner and the Curator, prepare and submit executive design of the exhibition, technical description, priced bill of quantities and description of execution of the exhibition adhering to the timeline set out in this Invitation and the contract between the winner of the Competition and the Ministry of Sustainable Development and Tourism.

The Ministry of Sustainable Development and Tourism of Montenegro shall sign a contract with the first-ranked author / authorised representative of the team. The contract shall define in detail their mutual rights and obligations.

The first-ranked author/author team shall be available, in cooperation with the Curator and the organisation team of the Biennale, for preparation of materials for its work for the official promotion of the 16th Architecture Biennale 2018. This entails media materials, material for the main catalogue, material for the official website and other promotional material.

12 PRIZE FUND AND REALISATION BUDGET

Prize fund for the three highest-ranked solutions for Montenegrin exhibition: **€30,000.00**

1st prize: €25,000.00 (*which includes: exhibition realisation expenses, transportation expenses, expenses of freight-forwarding, mounting and dismounting of the exhibition, transferring exhibition to Montenegro upon termination of the Biennale, travel costs, accommodation costs for the author / author team*)

2nd prize: €3,500.00

3rd prize: €1,500.00

The prizes shall be paid in net amounts.

After the Competition is closed and the prize money paid, the MoSDT shall have no further liabilities towards the awarded authors.

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With the submission of the entry, the participant in the Competition accepts all the rules of this Competition.

The entries that are not awarded a prize or have not met the requirements of the Competition shall be returned to their authors, or can be collected at the Archive within 30 days from the date of announcement of the results of the Competition. Upon expiry of this deadline, responsibilities towards the participants in terms of keeping the entries shall cease.

13 EQUIPMENT OF THE COMPETITION ENTRY

Every competition entry needs to be wrapped in a separate envelope, with code placed in the corner of the envelope and with clear indication:

| |
|---|
| <p>Ministarstvo održivog razvoja i turizma,</p> <p>„KONKURS ZA KONCEPT I SADRŽAJ CRNOGORSKE POSTAVKE NA 16. MEDJUNARODNOJ IZLOŽBI ARHITEKTURE U VENECIJI - „NE OTVARATI“</p> <p>Adresa: IV Proleterske brigade br.19 81000 Podgorica Crna Gora</p> |
|---|

Along with the competition entry, the authors shall submit one non-transparent sealed envelope with clear indication "Author" containing the name, last name and address of an individual author or group of authors and signed statement that the prize shall be paid into the bank account of the authorised representative of the author team. In addition, the statement must include bank account number, the name of the bank and personal identity number of the authorised representative of the author team.

14 COMPETITION MATERIAL

All documentation that represents competition material in the form of textual and graphical annexes can be found on the website www.mrt.gov.me.

- Competition Invitation for the Concept and the Content of Montenegrin exhibition at the 16th Architecture Biennale in Venice
- Theme statement of the Curators of the 16th Architecture Biennale in Venice in English
- Map with general surroundings and position of the pavilion
- Photographs of the pavilion and the surroundings
- Architectural characteristics of the Montenegrin pavilion in Malipiero Palace in Venice

Ministry of Sustainable Development and Tourism, IV Proleterske brigade, no. 19, 81000 Podgorica
Tel: (+382) 20 446 354; Fax: (+382) 20 446 215
Web: www.mrt.gov.me

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15 CONTENT OF THE COMPETITION ENTRY

Narrative and graphical annexes shall be prepared in free format, scale and technique that the participants deem to be the most adequate.

Narrative and graphical annexes shall be submitted on soft, non-laminated paper in A3 book format, 6-12 sheets including front page and blank back of the paper, with the code in the upper right corner of every sheet.

The competition proposal for the concept and the content of the exhibition must be clear, concise, descriptive and communicative.

The concept and the content of the exhibition must contain rounded proposal for materialisation with a cost estimate.

A complete competition entry must be submitted on CD-ROM, in JPG and PDF formats.

All the annexes shall be also adjusted to A4 book format in seven copies for the purpose of jurying.

Along with the competition entry, the participants shall submit a CD containing all graphical layouts in DWG, PDF or TIFF format, as well as the textual part in DOC or PDF format.

16 PLANNED TIMEFRAME

| | |
|---|---|
| Duration of the 16 th Venice Architecture Biennale 2018 | 26 th May – 25 th November 2018 |
| Public call for participation in the Competition | 19 th January 2018 |
| Deadline for submission of the Concept and the Content of the Exhibition | 9 th February 2018 |
| Jury decision deadline | 12 th February 2018 |
| Deadline for publishing competition results and competition winner | 15 th February 2018 |
| Deadline for preparation of the design for exhibition execution | 15 th March 2018 |
| Deadline for completion of the realisation of the entire exhibition ready for transportation and mounting | 25 th April 2018 |
| Deadline for completion and termination of mounting and other necessary work on realisation of the exhibition | 18 th May 2018 |
| Opening of the 16 th Biennale for the media and the guests | 24 th – 25 th May 2018 |
| Official closing of the 16 th Biennale and the exhibition in the pavilion of Montenegro | 25 th November 2018 |
| Dismounting and transportation of the exhibition to Montenegro | 15 th December 2018 |

17 COMPETITION COMMISSION – JURY

1. **Sonja Radović Jelovac, PhD**, arch.eng., Curator, Studio Synthesis President of the Jury, Montenegro
2. **Dušan Vuksanović, PhD**, arch.eng., Commissioner, Ministry of Sustainable Development and Tourism, member, Montenegro
3. **Dragana Čenić, MSc**, arch.eng., Ministry of Sustainable Development and Tourism, member, Montenegro
4. **Svetislav Popovic, PhD**, arch.eng., Faculty of Architecture, University of Montenegro, member, Montenegro
5. **Petar Ćuković, MSc**, Art Historian, member, Montenegro
6. **Ana Dana Beroš**, arch.eng., independent architect, member, Croatia
7. **Elisa Cattaneo, PhD**, arch.eng., Politecnico di Milano, member, Italy
8. **Branko Pavić, MSc**, graphic designer, Faculty of Architecture, University of Belgrade, member, Serbia
9. **Mosè Ricci, PhD**, University of Trento, DICAM - Department of Civil, Environmental and Mechanical Engineering, member, Italy

Rapporteurs shall be:

1. Sandra Lalić, MSc, arch.eng., coordinator, Ministry of Sustainable Development and Tourism, Montenegro
2. Jovana Nikolić, arch.eng., Ministry of Sustainable Development and Tourism, Montenegro
3. Milena Radulović, arch.eng., Ministry of Sustainable Development and Tourism, Montenegro

18 FINAL PROVISIONS

The results and reasons for the Competition Commission's decision shall be published on the website <http://www.mrt.gov.me>.