

PRESS RELEASE

Exhibition Opening - (Re)Conceptualizing Roma Resistance

75 years ago, on 02 August 1944, despite powerful resistance, 2,897 Roma men, women, and children were murdered in the gas chambers of the Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp. During the Roma Holocaust at least 500.000 Roma men, women, and children were massacred, with some countries annihilating as many as 90% of their entire Roma population. The experiences of the past were made even more painful, because for decades it was “the forgotten Holocaust” – unrecognized, silenced, unreconciled. The Roma Holocaust continues to shape the Roma transnational collective identity, and its consequences are still lived today.

On the occasion of the International Roma Holocaust Memorial Day, ERIAC is re-staging the exhibition - (Re)Conceptualizing Roma Resistance - first presented at the Europäisches Zentrum der Künste in 2016 in Dresden, and later extended at the Goethe Institute, Prague. The eight participating artists contemplate the memory of the Holocaust, reflecting with new research on Roma resistance which testifies of Roma taking an active and conscious effort in shaping their lives and defining their own faith both during the Holocaust and in its aftermath.

Exhibiting Artists

Daniel Baker | Júlia Baki | Miklós Déri | Dušan Marinković | Tamara Moyzes | Csaba Nemes | Alexander Schikowski | Kálmán Várady

Curated by Timea Junghaus

About ERIAC

The European Roma Institute for Arts and Culture, e.V. (ERiac) was officially established on 07 June 2017, in Berlin, Germany. The Institute is a joint initiative of the Council of Europe (CoE), the Open Society Foundations (OSF), and the Roma leaders' initiative –the Alliance for the European Roma Institute. ERIAC has a unique mandate as the first transnational organization for the recognition of Roma arts and culture. The Institute functions as a transnational creative hub, supporting the exchange of creative ideas across borders, cultural domains, and Romani identities. ERIAC highlights the numerous and multifaceted contributes of Romani contributions to European culture, talent, success, and achievement, as well as documents the historical experiences of Romani people across Europe.

“The Roma arts and culture gives me hope for the Europe of the future. Their culture is part of our European DNA. For centuries they created human links between the countries of Europe. Roma have never been tied by national borders. And at a time when nationalism is on the rise this is more precious than ever.” (German Foreign Minister Heiko Maas, 10 May, 2019)

Program August 2nd

// Doors open at 6p.m.

// Guided tour with curator Timea Junghaus and artist(s)

Contacts

European Roma Institute for Arts and Culture (ERiac)

Reinhardtstr. 41-43 10117, Berlin

www.eriac.org

eriac@eriac.org