

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



CRNA GORA

MINISTARSTVO ODRŽIVOG RAZVOJA  
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INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION  
FOR THE CONCEPT AND THE CONTENT OF MONTENEGRIN  
EXHIBITION AT 16<sup>TH</sup> ARCHITECTURE BIENNALE IN VENICE, 2018

BIENNALE THEME:

*Freespace / Slobodni prostor*

COMMISSIONER

PhD Dušan Vuksanović, arch.eng.

Master State Architecture

CURATOR

PhD Sonja Radović Jelovac, arch.eng.

Podgorica, Montenegro 11.01.2018.

## 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 one of the most important representation of the contemporary architecture's courses and ranges. Aimed at improving the international recognisability and its image, Montenegro shall participate in the upcoming XVI Biennale of Architecture taking place between 26<sup>th</sup> May and 25<sup>th</sup> November, 2018. The theme of the 16<sup>th</sup> Architecture Biennale in Venice is *Freespace / Slobodni prostor*, selected and defined by the Biennale's Artistic Directors Yvonne Farrell and Shelly McNamara. The description of the thematic outline and elaboration 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 Announcer) opens international competition for the Concept and the content of Montenegrin exhibition for the representation of the Country of Montenegro at the 16<sup>th</sup> International Architecture Exhibition in Venice (La Biennale di Venezia) 2018.

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

## 02 THE THEME OF THE INTERNATIONAL ARCHITECTURE EXHIBITION OF THE 16<sup>TH</sup> BIENNALE – “FREESPACE”

The Curators and Artistic Directors, Yvonne Farrell and Shelley McNamara titled the 16<sup>th</sup> 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 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 outline of the Curators and the Artistic Directors Yvonne Farrell and Shelley McNamara for the 16<sup>th</sup> International Architecture Exhibition in Venice (*La Biennale di Venezia di Architettura*) 2018, including press conference statements can be found in more elaborate and original format at 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 paradigm that abide the **principle of resilience – which entails adaptability, transformability through ecosystem and process-oriented approach for future models and spatial development strategies.**

The participants are expected to provide concept and 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 16<sup>th</sup> Venice Biennale - Yvonne Farrell and Shelley McNamara*

### 03 MONTENEGRO REPRESENTATION PROJECT AT THE VENICE BIENNALE 2018

#### EMERGING RESILIENCE

The decades marked with 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 lack of 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 high degree of nature-culture synergy in the local context.

Sonja Radović Jelovac, architect, the Curator of the 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 it with the surrounding, 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 to identification, strengthening, invigorating urban regeneration of free spaces, the Curator introduces the concept of *“reimagining urban voids”*, as the basis for examining urban realities aimed at strengthening connection to the surrounding.

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

The Curator set the topic: **EMERGING RESILIENCE: Reimage voids through sharing values**, as framework for future research which shall actualise the need for a holistic approach with socio-ecosystems resilience as imperative.

**EMERGING RESILIENCE: Reimagine urban voids through sharing values**, honours this year’s Biennale’s theme and encourages “stimulation of discussion on core architectural values” and validation of “the 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 16<sup>th</sup> 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 composite part of the research which will be presented in the **Catalogue of Montenegro Representation Designs at Venice 2018 Biennale** and which will rest on the same principle.

The focus shall be on the local context, from the aspect of the need for “healing” marginalised landscapes, abandoned spaces, wastelands, “accidental landscapes” and in general urban voids (Ignasi de Sola -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.

The expectation is 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, drossscapes, and unintentional landscapes.

EMERGING RESILIENCE is a generative metaphor of future experimental-process-dynamic project of Montenegrin representation through:

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

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

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

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

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

## 04 CONTENT OF MONTENEGRO REPRESENTATION DESIGN AT THE 16<sup>TH</sup> BIENNALE

Montenegrin exhibition at the upcoming Venice 2018 Biennale is conceptualised as collaborative research platform which is international network.

The network shall treat the set theme in three steps:

### **PART 1 \_ BEFORE**

#### **THEORY AS NEW PRAXIS**

##### **Exhibition Design**

Aimed at achieving a more concrete, more communicative, realistic and feasible concept, it is planned to have a dialog between the Curator and the Commissioner and interested competitors which would occur immediately after the issuance 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 the Catalogue /Compendium**

Aimed at thematic unification of separate contributions to the Catalogue/compendium, it is planned to have a tribune that will be organised in the face of formal opening of Montenegrin exhibition, which will gather renowned names from 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 referring to resilient approach to strategic planning of free spaces aimed at deepening the discourse.

### **PART 3 \_ AFTER**

#### **ADAPTABILITY**

##### **Publication**

Publication is conceptualised as catalogue/compendium that will display all aspects of Montenegrin participation in the 16<sup>th</sup> Architecture Biennale in Venice

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

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## 05 RIGHT TO PARTICIPATE

All natural and legal persons have the right to participate in the Competition, except the persons that have been directly involved in organisation of the Competition, as well as persons that are closely related to and/or cooperate directly with the organisers 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 16<sup>th</sup> International Architecture Exhibition in Venice.

**The Concept and the content** need to be presented in short illustrative and narrative form, in line with the propositions 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 also the option where the first-ranked author team shall 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 **Concept and the content of the Montenegrin exhibition**, equally adjusted to the task and 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 - Malipiero Palazzo, Venice

The design shall be exhibited between 26<sup>th</sup> May and 25<sup>th</sup> 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 are posted on the website of the Ministry of Sustainable Development and Tourism [www.mrt.gov.me](http://www.mrt.gov.me)

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## 09 MANNER AND THE TIMELINE OF COMPETITION ACTIVITIES

The Competition activities shall begin on the day of issuance of the Competition Invitation in the public media. The announcement of the Competition Invitation and supporting competition material shall be made publically available via links below:

<http://www.mrt.gov.me>

**The Competition shall be opened from 15<sup>th</sup> January to 09<sup>th</sup> 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 address: [biennale.arch@mrt.gov.me](mailto:biennale.arch@mrt.gov.me)

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

**Results of the Competition shall be published between 12<sup>th</sup> February and 15<sup>th</sup> 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–technological feasibility of the competition solution	0-10 points
Economic justifiability in the context of the proposed solution	0-10 points

## 11 MUTUAL RESPONSIBILITIES AND RIGHTS

The winner of the competition is obliged to abide to the Competition conditions in terms of realisation of the entry after the termination of the Competition.

If the winner of the Competition is an author team, the team shall appoint 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 15<sup>th</sup> March, 2018, through consultations with the Commissioner and the Curator, prepare and submit executive design of the exhibition including: Technical Description, 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 the Contract with the first-ranked author / authorised representative of the team. The Contract shall define in detail mutual responsibilities and rights.

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

## 12 PRIZE FUND AND REALISATION BUDGET

**Prize fund** for the three first-ranked solutions for Montenegrin exhibition: **€34.000,00**

**I prize: €30.000,00** (*€5.000,00 for I prize and €25.000,00 for the expenses which include: design realisation expenses, transportation, shipping expenses, mounting and dismounting of the exhibition, transferring exhibition to Montenegro upon termination of the Biennale, travel costs, accommodation costs for the author / author team*)

**II prize: €2.500,00**

**III prize: €1.500,00**

The prizes shall be paid in net.

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, participant of the Competition accepts all the propositions of this Competition.

The entries that are not awarded or did not meet requirements of the Competition shall be returned to their authors, or can be collected at the Archive within 30 days from the day of publication of results of the Competition. Upon expiry of this deadline, responsibilities towards the participation 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 with clear note:

<p>Ministarstvo održivog razvoja i turizma,</p> <p><b>„KONKURS ZA KONCEPT I SADRŽAJ CRNOGORSKE POSTAVKE NA 16. MEDJUNARODNOJ IZLOŽBI ARHITEKTURE U VENECIJI - „NE OTVARATI“</b></p> <p>Adresa: IV Proleterske brigade br.19 81000 Podgorica Crna Gora</p> <p>Ministry of Sustainable Development and Tourism “COMPETITION FOR CONCEPT AND CONTENT OF MONTENEGRIN EXHIBITION AT THE 16<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL ARCHITECTURE EXHIBITION IN VENICE – “DO NOT OPEN”</p> <p>Address: IV Proleterske brigade br.19 81000 Podgorica Montenegro</p>
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Along with the competition entry, the authors shall submit one non-transparent sealed envelope with clear indication “Author” containing name, last name and address of an individual or group of authors and signed statement that the price shall be paid at the bank account of the Authorised representative of the author team. In addition, the statement needs to include bank account number, name of the bank and personal identification number of the Authorised representative of the author team.

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## 14 COMPETITION MATERIAL

All the documents that represent competition material in form of textual and graphical layouts can be found at websites

[www.mrt.gov.me](http://www.mrt.gov.me)

- Competition Invitation for the Concept and content of Montenegrin exhibition at the 16<sup>th</sup> Architecture Biennale in Venice
- Theme statement of the Curator of the 16<sup>th</sup> Architecture Biennale in Venice in English Language
- Map with general surrounding and position of the pavilion
- Photographs of the pavilion and the surrounding
- Architectural characteristics of the Montenegrin pavilion in Malipiero Palace in Venice

## 15 CONTENT OF THE COMPETITION ENTRY

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

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

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

The concept and the content of the exhibition need to contain rounded proposal of materialisation with cost estimate.

Entire competition entry needs to be submitted on CD-ROM-u, in JPG and PDF format.

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

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

## 16 PLANNED TIMEFRAME

The 16 <sup>th</sup> Venice Architecture Biennale 2018 duration	26 <sup>th</sup> May – 25 <sup>th</sup> Nov. 2018
Public call for participation in the Competition	15 <sup>th</sup> January 2018.
Deadline for submission of the Concept and the content of the exhibition	09 <sup>nd</sup> February 2018.
Jury decision deadline	12 <sup>th</sup> February 2018.
Deadline for publishing competition results and competition winner	15 <sup>th</sup> February 2018.
Deadline for preparation of the design for exhibition execution	15 <sup>th</sup> March 2018.

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Deadline for completion of the realisation of the entire exhibition ready for transportation and assemblage	<b>25<sup>th</sup> April 2018.</b>
Deadline for completion and termination of assemblage and other works on realisation of the exhibition	<b>18<sup>th</sup> May 2018.</b>
Opening of the 16 <sup>th</sup> Biennale for the media and the guests	<b>24 – 25<sup>th</sup> May 2018.</b>
Official closing of the 16 <sup>th</sup> Biennale and the exhibition in the pavilion of Montenegro	<b>25<sup>th</sup> November, 2018.</b>
Dismounting and transportation of the exhibition to Montenegro	<b>15<sup>th</sup> December, 2018.</b>

## 17 COMPETITION COMMISSION – JURY

1. **PhD Sonja Radović Jelovac**, arch.eng. – Curator, President of the Jury, Montenegro
2. **PhD Dušan Vuksanović**, arch.eng., Commissioner and Master State Architect, Ministry of Sustainable Development and Tourism, member, Montenegro
3. **MSc Dragana Čenić**, arch.eng., General Director of Directorate for Spatial Planning, Ministry of Sustainable Development and Tourism, member, Montenegro
4. **PhD Svetislav Popovic**, arch.eng. – Faculty of Architecture Podgorica, University of Montenegro, member, Montenegro
5. **MSc Petar Ćuković**, Art Historian, member, Montenegro
6. **Ane Dane Beroš**, arch.eng. winner of *Special Recognition* at Venice Biennale 2014, Croatia
7. **PhD Elisa Cattaneo** arch.eng., Politecnico di Milano, Italy, member, Italy
8. **MSc Branko Pavić**, Faculty of Architecture, University of Belgrade, Serbia
9. **PhD Mosè Ricci**, University of Trento, DICAM - Department of Civil, Environmental and Mechanical Engineering, member, Italy

### **Rapporteurs shall be:**

1. MSc Maja Dapčević arch.eng., Ministry of Sustainable Development and Tourism
2. Jovana Nikolić arch.eng., Ministry of Sustainable Development and Tourism

## 18 FINAL PROVISIONS

Results and elaboration of the Competition Commission's decision shall be published at the website:  
<http://www.mrt.gov.me>