

Vladimir Bonačić – rani radovi, Zagreb 1968–1971

| Darko Fritz

Darko Fritz je umjetnik novih medija, živi i radi u Amsterdamu, Zagrebu i Korčuli.

Vladimir Bonačić radio je u Istraživačkom institutu Ruder Bošković u Zagrebu od 1964., gdje je od 1969. do 1973. bio je voditelj Laboratorija za kibernetiku. Doktorirao je 1967. na polju prepoznavanja uzoraka i struktura skrivenih podataka. Njegova umjetnička karijera otpočela je 1968. u okviru međunarodnog pokreta *Nove tendencije* u Galeriji suvremenе umjetnosti u Zagrebu, koja se zalagala za njegovo uključenje u pokret.¹ Od 1961. pokret je zastupao razne aspekte lumino-kinetičke i neokonstruktivističke umjetnosti.² Tezu brazilskog umjetnika Waldemara Cordeira, da je kompjutorska umjetnost zamjenila konstruktivističku³, dokazuje upravo Bonačićev rad. Gledajući unatrag na kruzni neokonstruktivistički umjetnosti s kojom su se Nove tendencije suočile 1965., jedan od kustosa pokreta, Radoslav Putar, napisao je 1970.: „... mnogi slijedbenici Novih tendencija pokušali su svojemu radu dati svoju stroju, ili su temeljili svoje postupke na uporabi mehaničkih ili električnih naprava; svi su sanjali o strojevima – a sada su oni stigli, i to iz pomalo neočekivanog smjera, u pratinji ljudi koji nisu slikari ni kipari“.⁴ Bonačić je od početka bio kritičan prema uporabi kompjutora u umjetnosti u svrhu simulacije stvarnosti. Također je kritizirao pokus Michaela Nolla u kojem je uspoređivana reprodukcija Mondrianovog crteža sa kompjuterskom simulacijom istog. Kazao je: „Kompjuter ne smije ostati sredstvo za simulaciju postojećeg u novoj formi. Kompjuter ne treba slikati kao što je to činio Mondrian ili komponirati kao Beethoven. Kompjuter nam daje novi sadržaj, otkriva nam novi svijet. U tom novom svijetu nakon niza godina ponovo će se susresti znanstvenici i umjetnici dijeleći želju za spoznajom“.⁵ Suprotno Bonačićevim htijenjima iz 1969., kompjutorska umjetnost slijedila je drugi put.

Kompjutorska grafika istraživala je mogućnosti kompjutorski generirane figurativne vizualizacije i – animacijom i specijalnim efektima za mainstream filmsku industriju – ušla u domenu komercijalnog i vojni sektor, usavršavajući tehnike virtualne stvarnosti koja oponaša „stvarni život“. Takav razvoj dogadaja doveo je sredinom sedamdesetih do skoro potpunog isključenja kompjutorske umjetnosti sa suvremenе umjetničke scene.⁶ No Bonačić je bio jedan od umjetnika koji su pronašli način kako da kompjutore i kibernetiku rabe u humanističke svrhe.⁷ Prošlo je 20-tak godina prije no što je umjetnost utemeljena u kompjutarskoj tehnici ponovno pronašla mjesto na suvremenoj umjetničkoj sceni, u sklopu nove geo-političke situacije i kulturne klime.

Vladimir Bonačić započeo je svoju umjetničku karijeru 1968. surađujući s Ivanom Picenjem. Ta suradnja rezultirala je elektronskim objektom *T4*, prikazanim 1969. Naziv *T4* odnosio se na niz događanja *Tendencije 4*. Gornji dio prednje ploče načinjen od žaruljica statican je i pokazuje znakove „t4t4t“. Ostatak ploče pali se po programu pseudo-slučajnog odabira.⁸ Tijekom *Tendencija 4* Bonačić nije prikazao samo *T4*, nego ukupno 17 radova⁹, za koje je dobio jednu od nagrada za „kompjutorsko i vizualno istraživanje“.¹⁰ Žiriju se svidio „sklad između matematičkih posljedica programiranja i vizualizacije procesa koji je iz programiranja proizašao. Posebno pohvaljujemo Bonačićev novi pristup koji uključuje rješavanje problema uzimanjem slike, a ne broja kao parametra, time otvarajući mogućnost rješavanja mnogo složenijih problema“.¹¹ Bonačićeva stalna inspiracija bilo je „Galoisovo polje“, nazvano po matematičaru Evaristeu Galoisu. 1974. napisao je slijedeće: „Jedan od najzanimljivijih aspekata tog rada (s Galoisovim poljima) je demonstracija različitih vizualnih pojavnosti uzoraka koji proizlaze iz polinoma, a koje matematičari pri proučavanju Galoisova polja ranije nisu zabilježili“.¹²

Bonačić je za sve svoje „dinamičke objekte“ rabio hardware izrađen posebno za tu priliku. Oni su bili utjelovljene postavke koju je kasnije razradio u svojoj kritici utjecaja koji je na kompjutorski generiranu umjetnost izvršila izložbena oprema dostupna na tržištu.¹³ Dinamički Objekt GF.E 32-s (1969./70.)¹⁴ stvara uzastopne simetrične uzorke. Ekrani

Vladimir Bonačić – Early Works, Zagreb 1968–1971

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Vladimir Bonačić worked in the Croatian National Research Institute Ruder Boskovic in Zagreb from 1964 onwards. There he headed the Laboratory of Cybernetics from 1969 to 1973. He earned his PhD in 1967, in the field of pattern recognition and hidden data structures. In 1968, he began his artistic career under the auspices of the international movement *New Tendencies* (NT), at the Gallery for Contemporary Art of Zagreb, which had pushed for his inclusion.¹ From 1961 on, the movement had been presenting different aspects of lumino-kinetic and neo-constructivist art.² The statement of the Brazilian artist Waldemar Cordeiro that computer art had replaced constructivist art³ found its proof in Bonačić's work. Looking back at the crisis of neo-constructivist art that NT faced in 1965, one of the curators, Radoslav Putar, wrote in 1970: "Many followers of the NT tried to give their work the habits of the machine or else they based their procedures on the use of mechanical or electric devices; they all dreamt of the machines – and now the machines have arrived. And they have arrived from a direction which was somewhat unexpected, accompanied by people who were neither painters nor sculptors."⁴ From the start Bonačić had a critical view on the use of the computer in art for the simulation of reality. He also criticized Michael Noll's experiment with a Mondrian-like drawing that he had generated by computer simulation. He said: "The computer must not remain simply a tool for simulation of the existing in a new form. It should not be used to paint in the way Mondrian did or to compose music as Beethoven did. The computer gives us a new substance; it uncovers a new world before our eyes. In that world, after such a long time, scientists and artists will meet again on common ground, stimulated by their common desire for knowledge".⁵

Contradicting Bonačić's wishes from 1969, computer art pursued a different way. Computer graphics explored the possibilities of computer-generated figurative visuals and entered – with animation and special effects for the mainstream film industry – the commercial world as well as the military sector, advancing the virtual-reality techniques that mimic "real life." This development led to computer art's exclusion from the contemporary art scene around the mid 1970's.⁶ Yet Bonačić was one of the artists who found a way to use computers and cybernet-



5



3 | DIN.PR 16

NaMa, Ilica, Zagreb, 1971
foto | photo: Petar Dabac

5 | DIN.PR 18

detajl | detail

4 | DIN.PR 18

NaMa, Kvaternikov trg, Zagreb, 1969
foto | photo: Marija Braut



6



6 | DIN.PR 10

NaMa, Kvaternikov trg, Zagreb, 1972
foto | photo: Marija Braut

se sastoji od 1024 piksela bijelog svjetla. Generator polja je dio posebno ustrojenog kompjutera koji se nalazi unutar objekta. Ta je jedinica neovisna i stvara Galoisova polja. Mehanizam koji upravlja ritmom pojavljivanja vizualnih uzoraka podesiv je, tako da ga promatrač može postaviti na vrijednosti između 0.1 i 5 sekundi. Na frekvenciji ponavljanja od 2 sekunde, isti uzorak će se ponoviti za otprilike 274 godine. Na stražnjoj strani objekta promatrač nalazi „ručno upravljanje pokretanja, zauzimanja te kontrole odabira i iščitavanja bilo kojeg uzorka. Binarnim bilježenjem, 32 svjetlosna indikatora i 32 gumba omogućavaju da se bilo koji uzorak iz slijeda iščita ili namjesti“.¹⁵ Iz naše suvremene vizure, u tom radu vidimo pionirsku uporabu interaktivnosti kod kompjutorski generiranih umjetničkih djela. Od 1969. do 1971. Bonačić je razvio viši stupanj interaktivnosti u djelu *GF.E (16,4)*.¹⁶ Polje interakcije širi se od samoga objekta, kao u slučaju objekta *GF.E 32-s*.¹⁷ *Dinamički objekt GF.E (16,4)* veličine je 178 x 178 x 40 cm i teži pola tone. Prednja ploča ima reljefnu strukturu, načinjenu od 1024 polja u 16 boja. Tri generatora Galoisovih polja rasvjetljavaju tako sačinjen trodimenzionalnim 'monitor' stvarajući različite uzorke. Ti generatori u interakciji su s drugim generatorima i kontroliraju zvuk koji dolazi iz četiri zvučnika. Gledatelj na sliku i zvuk može utjecati manualno, ili daljinskim upravljačem. Zvukom se može manipulirati ispuštanjem pojedinih tonova. Brzina vizualnog također se može podešavati, beskonačnim ponavljanjem odabranih odsječaka. Promatrač ne može mijenjati logiku sustava. Čitava „kompozicija“ ovog audio-vizualnog spektakla, koja se sastoji od 1 048 576 različitih vizualnih uzoraka i 64 oscilatora zvuka, može trajati od 6 sekundi do čak 24 dana.¹⁸

Vladimir Bonačić provodio je i interaktivna istraživanja na društvenoj razini, postavljajući radove zasnovane na kompjutorima u javnim prostorima. Instalacija u javnom prostoru velikog mjerila *DIN. PR18* postavljena je 1969. na pročelje robne kuće Na-Ma na Kvaternikovom trgu u Zagrebu. U to doba taj trg je bio slabo osvjetljen tako da je instalacija djelovala i kao dodatna javna rasvjeta gradskoga trga.¹⁹ Druge javne instalacije postavljene su 1971. na Na-Mi u Ilici, u samom centru Zagreba i u Beogradu na pročelju Muzeja savremene umetnosti.²⁰

Bonačić je kritizirao korištenje principa slučaja u kompjutorskoj umjetnosti, smatrajući ljudje jednostavno boljima u „stvaranju 'estetskog programa' koji odgovara ljudskim bićima“. Aludirajući na tvrdnju Abrahama Molesa da redundancija stvara strukturu na uštrb originalnosti, Bonačić piše: „Promatrajući kvalitativni odnos kao estetsku mjeru, dolazimo do zaključka da maksimalna originalnost (odnosno, nered koji je nastao nasumičnim izborom simbola) dovodi do neizmernih estetskih vrijednosti. Prepostavimo da smo nekako drugačije došli do programa koji u rezultatu daje estetski objekt. Upotreboom generatora slučaja postojeću informaciju raspoređit ćemo nasumce. U dosljednoj upotrebi generatora slučaja, bez obzira na rezultat programa govorimo o „maksimalnoj originalnosti“. Upotreba generatora slučaja dovodi do *random* i neponovljivog prikaza stanja, koje nema vrijednosti za čovjeka. Tako nastala informacija može evocirati različite asocijacije kod promatrača. Međutim, kompjuter korišten na taj način daleko zaostaje za ljudskim bićima. Čak i kad bi izražajne mogućnosti kompjutera („realizator“, odnosno periferne jedinice) bile jednake čovjekovim, suština Pollockova svijeta i stvaranja ne bi bila nadmašena bez obzira na sutrašnju kompleksnost kompjutera i perifernih jedinica. To dakako ne znači da čovjek (majmun ili neka druga životinja) uz pomoć kompjutera ne može stvoriti estetski relevantan objekt ako djeluje svjesno ili nesvesno, povodeći se za zakonitosti slučaja“.²¹

Ta je kritika potakla nastanak objekta *Random 63*, 1969. godine, kada su uporabljena 63 neovisna *prava* generatora slučajnosti, zasnovana na funkcioniranju elektronskih žarulja. To je jedino djelo Vladimira Bonačića koje se služi istinskom slučajnošću i može nas odvesti do čistog estetskog užitka. Svi drugi Bonačićevi „dinamički objekti“ zasnovani su na pseudo-slučajnosti, što u načelu omogućava opservaciju matematičkih zakonitosti.

Bonačić je bio skeptičan u pogledu mogućnosti primjene teorije informacija na estetiku, budući da je ona tako malo povezana sa semantikom, no vizualnim fenomenima je pristupao na matematički i sustavan način.²² „Poznanstvljivanje umjetnosti“, koje je teoretičar Matko Meštrović razradio u okviru Novih tendencija²³, našlo je svoj odraz u Bonačićevom random postupku kao „estetizaciji znanosti“. Čini se da Bonačićev rad prevodi u stvarnost Meštrovićevu ideju iz 1963. – da „umjetnost mora prodrijeti u izvan-poetsko i van-ljudsko, kako bi bogatila čovjeka“.²⁴

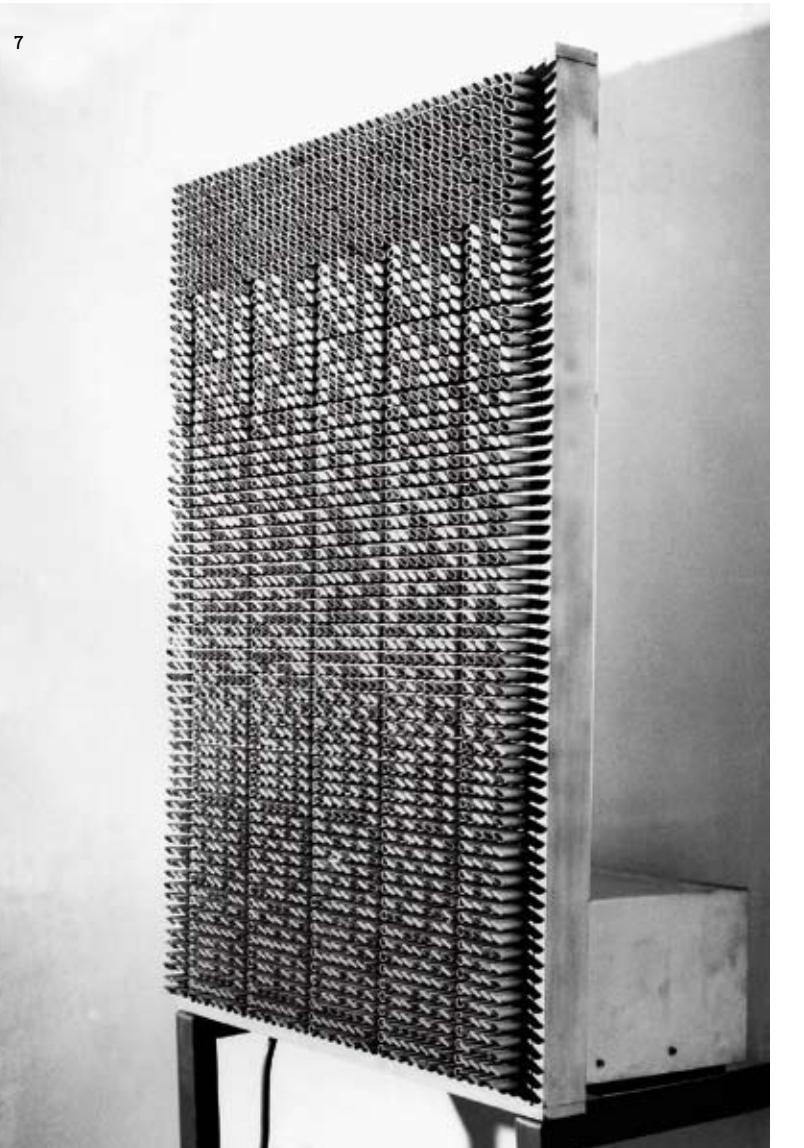
ic art for humanistic purposes⁷. It took about 20 years before computer-based art found its place again in the contemporary art scene, within a new geo-political situation and cultural climate.

Vladimir Bonačić began his artistic career through collaboration with the artist Ivan Picej in 1968. It resulted in the electronic object *t4*, which was presented in 1969. The title *t4* referred to the *Tendencies 4* event series. The upper part of the front panel made of small lamps is static and displays the signs "t4t4". The rest of the panel lights up following a pseudo-random program.⁸ During *Tendencies 4* Bonačić was not only showing the *t4* but a total of 17 works⁹ and was awarded one of the prizes for "computer and visual research".¹⁰ The jury appreciated "the harmony between the mathematical consequences within the programming and the visualisation of the process resulting from the programming. We especially praise Bonačić's new approach entailing the solution of problems by including a picture and not a number as a parameter, thereby rendering possible a solution of much more complicated problems."¹¹ The "Galois field," named after the mathematician Evariste Galois, was an overall inspiration to Bonačić. In 1974 he wrote, "One of the most interesting aspects of this work [in Galois fields] is the demonstration of the different visual appearance of the patterns resulting from the polynomials that had not been noted before by mathematicians who have studied Galois fields."¹²

Bonačić used custom-made hardware for all his "dynamic objects". They were embodied statements of what he later elaborated on in his critique of the influence on the computer-based arts of commercially available display equipment.¹³ The dynamic Object *G.F.E 32-s* (1969 – 1970)¹⁴ creates sequences of symmetric patterns. The screen consists of 1,024 white light pixels. The field generator is part of a special-purpose computer located inside the object. The unit is self-contained and performs the generation of the Galois fields. The clock that controls the rhythm of the appearance of the visual patterns is variable and can be adjusted by the observer between 0.1 seconds and 5 seconds. At a frequency range of 2 seconds, the same pattern will repeat in approximately 274 years. On the rear side of the object the observer finds "manual controls - start, stop and control for the selecting or read-out of any patterns. With binary notation, 32 light indicators and 32 push buttons enable any pattern from the sequence to be read or set."¹⁵ From our contemporary perspective we see in this work an example of pioneering use of interactivity in computer-based artworks. From 1969 to 1971 Bonačić developed a higher level of interactivity in the work *GF.E (16,4)*.¹⁶ The interaction field extends from the sole object, as was the case with the object *GF.E 32-s*.¹⁷ The dynamic object *GF.E (16,4)* is 178 x 178 x 20 cm in size and half a ton in weight. The front panel shows a relief structure made of 1,024 light fields in 16 colors. Three Galois field generators are in operation to light the grid in different patterns. Those generators interact with other generators controlling the sound played out through four loudspeakers. The viewer can influence both sound and image, either manually or by remote control. Sound can be manipulated by excluding some tones. The speed of the visual can be adjusted as well, by looping the selected sequences. The observer cannot change the logic. The entire "composition" of this audio-visual spectacle, which consists of 1,048,576 different visual patterns and 64 sound oscillators, can be played within 6 seconds, or with a duration of 24 days¹⁸.

Vladimir Bonačić explored interactivity on a social level, too, installing computer-based works in public spaces. In 1969, a large-scale public installation, *DIN. PR18*, was set up on the facade of the NAMA department store on Kvaternik Square in Zagreb. At that time, the square was rather dark with little lighting, so that the installation acted also as additional illumination¹⁹. Other public installations were set up in 1971 on the NAMA store in Ilica Street, in the very centre of Zagreb and in Belgrade on the facade of the Museum of Contemporary Art²⁰.

Bonačić criticized the use of randomness in computer-based art, as he considered humans to be simply better in "making an 'aesthetic program' relevant for human beings". Referring to the dictum of Abraham Moles that redundancy makes structures at the expense of originality, Bonačić wrote: "Observing the qualitative relation for the aesthetic measure, we come to conclude that the maximal originality (namely, disorder created by random selection of symbols) brings immense aesthetic values. Let us suppose that we have created the program in some other way, but it is still a program that will result in an aesthetic object. Using the random generator, we shall carry on with random distribution of the existent information. As long as we are consistent in the use of the random generator, we speak of 'maximal originality,' no matter what the results of the program might be. The random generator creates an accidental and unique presentation, which has neither value nor importance for human beings. Such information can evoke various associations in the observer. But a computer used in such a way lags far behind the human being. Even if the expressive potentialities of the computer were equal to those of a human being, the essence of Pollock's world and creation would not be surpassed, regardless of the complexity of future computers or peripheral units.



7



Bilješke

¹ Pismo Borisa Kelemana Jasiji Reichardt od 22.09.1968., arhiv Muzeja suvremene umjetnosti, Zagreb.

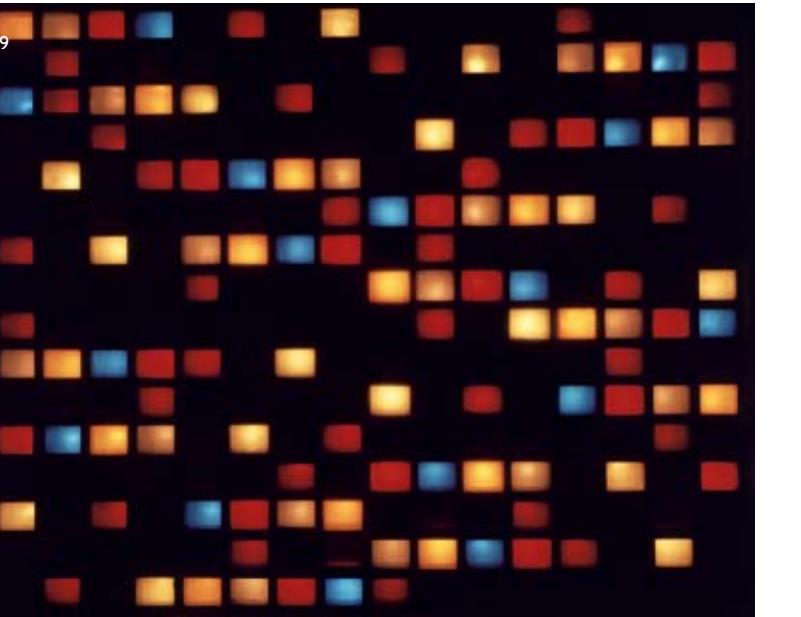
² O pokretu Nove tendencije vidi: Jerko Denegri, *Umjetnost konstruktivnog pristupa*, Horezky, Zagreb, 2000. O Bonačiću piše na str. 490-497.

³ „Konstruktivizam pripada prošlosti, njegov sadržaj koji odgovara paleokibernetskom

dobu je kompjutorska umjetnost”, Walde-mar Cordeiro *Analogical and/or Digital Art*, September 22, 1968, archives of the Mu-seum of Contemporary Art, Zagreb.

² On New Tendency movement see Jerko Denegri, *Umjetnost konstruktivnog pristupa*, Horezky, Zagreb, 2000. For information on Bonačić see p. 490 - 497. English edition *Constructive approach art: Exat 51 and new tendencies*, Horezky, Zagreb, 2004.

⁴ Radoslav Putar, bez naslova, *Tendencies*, Horezky, Zagreb, 2004.



That, of course, does not mean that a man (or a monkey or other animal), aided by a computer, could not create an aesthetically relevant object if they consciously or unconsciously act obeying the law of accident.”²¹

This critique inspired the creation of the object *Random 63* in 1969, making use of 63 independent *true* random generators based on the performances of electronic bulbs. This is the only piece by Vladimir Bonačić that makes use of true randomness and can lead us to a mere aesthetic enjoyment. All other “dynamic objects” by Bonačić utilize pseudo-randomness, which in principle allows observation of mathematical laws.

Bonačić was skeptical about the applicability of information theory to aesthetics, since it takes so little account of semantics. But he approached visual phenomena in a mathematical and systematic way.²² The “scientification of art”, theoretically elaborated on by Matko Meštrović within the frame of NT²³, finds its mirror image in Bonačić’s working process as the “aesthetization of science”. It seems that Bonačić’s work fulfills Meštrović’s idea from 1963, that “in order to enrich that which is human, art must start to penetrate the extra-poetic and the extra-human”.²⁴

7 | t4
Ivan Picelj i Vladimir Bonačić, kompjuter-ski generirani objekt | computer generated object, 1969

8 | GF.E.32-S

9 | DIN.PR 100
kompjuterski generirani objekt, detalj | computer generated object, detail, 1969

Endnotes

¹ Letter by Boris Kelemen to Jasja Reichardt, September 22, 1968, archives of the Mu-seum of Contemporary Art, Zagreb.

² On New Tendency movement see Jerko Denegri, *Umjetnost konstruktivnog pristupa*, Horezky, Zagreb, 2000. For information on Bonačić see p. 490 - 497. English edition *Constructive approach art: Exat 51 and new tendencies*, Horezky, Zagreb, 2004.

³ “The constructive art belongs to the past, its contents corresponding to the Paleocibernetic Period being those of the Computer Art.” Wal-de-mar Cordeiro, “Analogical and/or Digital Art, symposium t - 5, *The rational and irrational in visual research today, Match of Ideas* (Ana-logna i/ili digitalna umjetnost, simpozij t-5, Racionalno i iracionalno u današnjim vizualnim istraživanjima), 2. lipnja 1973., arhiv Muzeja suvremene umjetnosti.

⁴ Radoslav Putar, no title, *Tendencies*, Horezky, Zagreb, 2004.

⁵ “The constructive art belongs to the past, its contents corresponding to the Paleocibernetic Period being those of the Computer Art.” Wal-de-mar Cordeiro, “Analogical and/or Digital Art, symposium t - 5, *The rational and irrational in visual research today, Match of Ideas*, June 2, 1973”, archives of the Museum of Contemporary Art.

⁶ Osim samog karakterističnog objekta, jedna statična slika koju je stvorio kompjuterski program uporabljen je za Piceljev plakat izložbe T4.

⁷ Bonačić je izložio reljefne skulpture R. GF100 - 13, fotografije PLN0074 - 2, IR. PLNS. 0044. 7714. 7554 - 3. RS. PLMS. 0374. 0124. 0064 - 4; PLN - 5, PLN - 6, PLN - 7, PLN - 8, PLN - 9 AND PLN0434 - 10; color slides GF0000 - 11 and GF1110 - 12; and

⁸ GF100 - 13., fotografije PLN0074 - 2, IR. PLNS. 0044. 7714. 7554 - 3. RS. PLMS. 0374. 0124. 0064 - 4; PLN - 5, PLN - 6, PLN - 7, PLN - 8, PLN - 9 AND PLN0434 - 10; slajdove u boji GF0000 - 11 i GF1110 - 12, kao i dinamičke objekte GF100 - 14 i PR 18 - 15. Svi izloženi programirani su na kompjutorima PDP - 8 i SDS - 930.

⁹ Zajedno s Marcom Adrianom i skupinom Campos 68. Članovi ocjenjivačkog suda bili su Umberto Eco, Karl Gerstner, Vera Horvat-Pintarić, Boris Kelemen i Martin Krampen.

¹⁰ „Kompjuter i vizualna istraživanja”, odluka ocjenjivačkog suda, izložbeni katalog *Tendencije* 4, 1968./69., Galerija suvremene umjetnosti, Zagreb, 1970.

¹¹ Vladimir Bonačić, *Kinetic Art: Application of abstract algebra to objects with computer-controlled flashing lights and sound combinations* (Primjena apstraktne matematike na objekte s bljeskalicama i kombinacijama zvukova upravljenim kompjutorma), u: *Leonardo*, sv. 7, Oxford/New York: Pergamon Press 1974., str. 193 i dalje.

¹² isti izvor

¹³ Svi „dinamički objekti“, načinjeni u Zagrebu između 1969. i 1971., koji rabe pseudo-sluzajni račun Galoisovog polja (označeni s „GF“ u nazivu) stvoreni su uporabom kompjutora SDS-930 koji je programirao Miro Cimerman. 1971. osnovan je „bcd-cybernetic art team“, a tvorili su ga Bonačić, Cimerman i arhitektica Dunja Donassy. Radili su zajedno do Bonačićeve smrti 1999.

¹⁴ isti izvor kao (12)

¹⁵ Ova je kompjutorska skulptura prvo izložena na Pariškom bijenalu 1971., a kasnije u UNESCO-u u Parizu, povodom 25-godišnjice te organizacije.

¹⁶ U članku navedenom pod (12) Bonačić razrađuje te različite vrste interakcije s praktične i teorijske točke gledišta, a bavi se i uporabom moždanih valova u umjetničkom radu.

¹⁷ Isti izvor i Harbert W. Franke i Gottfried Jäger, *Apparative Kunst*, Köln: M. DuMont 1973., str. 214-217; IBM, *Computerkunst*, IBM France 1975. (njemačko izdanje 1978.), str. 54.

¹⁸ Želimir Koščević, „Svetlost nove urbane kulture“, u: *Telegram*, br. 479 od 4. srpnja 1969., str. 17. Članak također donosi i pozitivno vrednovanje „poruke“ ovog javnog svjetlosnog sustava uporabljenog u estetske, ali ne i komercijalne svrhe (kao svjetlećih reklama), kao i njegovog unapredivanja demokratizacije umjetnosti u kontekstu pokreta Nove tendencije.

¹⁹ In 1972 Bonačić founded The Art and Science Program at the Bezalel Academy of Arts and Design in Jerusalem where his team made several projects as first functional digitalization of Arabic alphabet (see *Impact of Science on Society*, Vol. 25, No. 1, January - March 1975, p. 90- 94). In 1977 he organized a collective resignation of the international board of The Art and Science Program as a form of the public protest. Such activistic work he continued with *bcd - cybernetic art team* in the form of 35 printed posters (1977 - 1979) including images of destroyed 385 Palestinian villages.

²⁰ In addition to this emblematic object, one static picture delivered from the program was used in the T4 exhibition poster design by Picelj.

²¹ Bonačić showed the relief sculpture R. GF100 - 13, photographs PLN0074 - 2, IR. PLNS. 0044. 7714. 7554 - 3. RS. PLMS. 0374. 0124. 0064 - 4; PLN - 5, PLN - 6, PLN - 7, PLN - 8, PLN - 9 AND PLN0434 - 10; color slides GF0000 - 11 and GF1110 - 12; and

²² Jonathan Benthall, *Science and Technology in Art Today*, London: Thames and Hudson 1972, p 59 - 63

²³ See the book by Matko Meštrović Od pojedinačnog općem, Mladost, Zagreb, 1967

²⁴ Matko Meštrović, no title, 1963, in: *tendencies* 4. 1968 - 1969, exhib. cat., Gallery of Contemporary Art, Zagreb, 1970, n.p.

dynamic objects *GF100* - 14 and *PR 18* - 15, all programmed on a PDP-8 and SDS-930 computers.

¹⁰ Together with Marc Adrian and the group Compos 68. The jury consisted of Umberto Eco, Karl Gerstner, Vera Horvat-Pintarić, Boris Kelemen and Martin Krampen.

¹¹ “Computers and Visual Research”, decision of the Competition Jury, exhibition catalogue *tendencies* 4, 1968 - 1969, Gallery of Contemporary Art, Zagreb 1970, n. p.

¹² Vladimir Bonačić, *Kinetic art: Application of abstract algebra to objects with computer-controlled flashing lights and sound combinations*, in: *Leonardo*, Vol. 7, Oxford / New York: Pergamon Press 1974. pp 193.

¹³ ibid.

¹⁴ All “dynamic objects” made in Zagreb between 1969 and 1971 making use of pseudo-random algebra of Galois field (signed “GF” in the title) were created using the computer SDS-930. Software programmer was Miro Cimerman. In 1971 “bcd - cybernetic art team” is founded, consisting of Bonačić, Cimerman and architect Dunja Donassy. They will work together until Bonačić’s death in 1999.

¹⁵ Vladimir Bonačić, “Kinetic art: Application of abstract algebra to objects with computer-controlled flashing lights and sound combinations”, in: *Leonardo*, Vol. 7, Oxford / New York: Pergamon Press 1974. pp 193.

¹⁶ This computer sculpture was first exhibited at the Paris Biennale 1971 and later in UNESCO, Paris on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of this organization.

¹⁷ In the article “Kinetic art: Application of abstract algebra to objects with computer-controlled flashing lights and sound” Bonačić elaborates those different kinds of interaction from a practical and theoretical point of view and also considers the use of the brain waves in artistic practice. Published in *Leonardo*, Vol. 7, Oxford / New York: Pergamon Press 1974, pp 195 and 196.

¹⁸ ibid and Herbert W. Franke and Gottfried Jäger, *Apparative Kunst*, Köln: M. DuMont 1973., p. 214 - 217; IBM, *Computerkunst*, IBM France 1975 (German edition 1978), p. 54

¹⁹ Želimir Koščević, “Svetlost nove urbane kulture” (“The Light of the New Urban Culture”), in: *Telegram*, no. 479, July 4, 1969, p. 17. The article also brings affirmative evaluation on the ‘message’ of this public light system used for an aesthetic but not for commercial purposes (as light-signs) and its improvement of democratization of art within the context of the New Tendency movement.

²⁰ 4th Triennial of Yugoslav Art, Belgrade 1970

²¹ Vladimir Bonačić, “Arts as function of subject, cognition, and time”, paper read at the symposium “Computers and visual research”, May 5.-6., 1969, Zagreb, published in *Bit International* no. 7, Dialogue with the machine, Gallery of Contemporary Art, Zagreb 1971, pp 129 - 142.

²² Jonathan Benthall, *Science and Technology in Art Today*, London: Thames and Hudson 1972, p 59 - 63

²³ See the book by Matko Meštrović Od pojedinačnog općem, Mladost, Zagreb, 1967

²⁴ Matko Meštrović, no title, 1963, in: *tendencies* 4. 1968 - 1969, exhib. cat., Gallery of Contemporary Art, Zagreb, 1970, n.p.