

20.09.2023

Information on Roman Uranjek

From 09 September 2023 to 28 January 2024, HMKV presents the exhibition “Was ist Kunst, IRWIN?” by the Slovenian artist collective of the same name, founded in 1983. On 20 August 2022, Roman Uranjek, until then a member of the collective, took his own life. After his death, allegations became public, accusing him of abuse of power and sexual assault towards women. These accusations are related to events held at the premises of “Fotopub” (Ljubljana), an exhibition space owned by the art dealer Dušan Smodej, who is currently under investigation.

We take these accusations very seriously and see it as our duty to address them in the context of the exhibition. It is important to us to take a clear stance against sexual assault and abuse of power and to position us against them.

The planning of the exhibition “Was ist Kunst, IRWIN?” began before the accusations against Roman Uranjek became known. The decision to present the exhibition despite the circumstances is based on the recognition of the artistic significance of the IRWIN group, its four remaining members and its 40-year long history.

To deal with these shocking accusations is a process for us which begins with this statement. We are working on developing a form of discourse on this and on enabling a continuous reflection of the process.

Dr. Inke Arns
Director HMKV

Mathias Wittmann
Head of Commercial Administration HMKV