



REgeneration of disused Industrial Sites
through Creativity in Europe
607507-CREA-1-2019-1-IT-CULT-COOP1



Co-funded by the
Creative Europe Programme
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SCARTI

ACTIVITY 1- RESEARCH WORKSHOPS IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS

Responsible: Associazione culturale Gli Scarti in collaboration with Comune di Santo Stefano di Magra

FINAL REPORT: X-OP

PERIOD May-June 2021

PLACE Maribor

PARTICIPANTS highschool students of 16 years old, total participants 4

ACT 1'S DESCRIPTION

We conducted workshops for high school students in order to enable them to learn about the industrial heritage and its importance for the region and its inhabitants. The workshops raised questions such as: How do younger generations of Maribor residents experience the local industrial heritage? The workshop was oriented on posing questions about industrial heritage and it was realised online at the zoom platform and at collaborative visual platform Lucidspark.

The series of online workshops were entitled **The workers left, what now?**

The workers left, what now? -1st meeting, 7th May, zoom

The first workshop took place on 7th of May 2021 and all mentors participated – art historian Simon Žlahtič, artist Maja Hodošček, artist Toni Soprano Meneglejte and writer Tomo Podstenšek. Simon Žlahtič had a brief introduction about local industrial heritage and his talk was used as a starting point for the further discussion. At the workshop there were 3 participants, one from the 1st grade, one from the 2nd and one from the 3rd grade. The workshop was organised in an interactive way so the participants had a chance to engage in the discussion with mentors and to write their thoughts and ideas. The first workshop served as a preparation for the upcoming workshops. Irena Borić took care of the infrastructure of the workshop, from communication with participants, setting up a meeting and helping with moderation. Jernej Stergar provided the technical support.

The workers left, what now? -2nd meeting, 14th May, zoom

The second workshop took place on 14th of May, and it was lead by writer Tomo Podstenšek. He introduced short story writing as a model the participants will follow during the workshops. The participants responded very well and set up the base for the stories. Irena Borić took care of the infrastructure of the workshop, from communication with participants, setting up a meeting and helping with moderation. Jernej Stergar provided the technical support.

The workers left, what now? -3rd meeting, 21st May, zoom

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The third workshop took place on 21st of May and it was led by writer Tomo Podstenšek. During the workshop he focused on improving already existing stories and on directions for the new ones. One more participant from the 2nd grade joined the workshop. Irena Borić took care of the infrastructure of the workshop, from communication with participants, setting up a meeting and helping with moderation. Jernej Stergar provided the technical support.

The workers left, what now? - 4th meeting, 28th May, zoom

The fourth workshop took place on 28th of May and it was led by writer Tomo Podstenšek. During the workshop he provided several google map photos of maribor industrial heritage sites and invited participants to write a short story from the perspective of the site on the photo. The main question to answer was: What would I like to become?

Two participants attended the workshop. Irena Borić took care of the infrastructure of the workshop, from communication with participants, setting up a meeting and helping with moderation. Jernej Stergar provided the technical support.

The workers left, what now? - 5th meeting, 4th June, zoom

The fifth workshop took place on the 4th of June and it was led by writer Tomo Podstenšek. The mentor went through written stories and this was an opportunity to finalize them. Irena Borić introduced the further steps and activities within the Rescue project that will include written stories. One participant attended the workshop. Irena Borić took care of the infrastructure of the workshop, from communication with participants, setting up a meeting and helping with moderation. Jernej Stergar provided the technical support.

ACT 1 OUTCOMES

During the workshop we had an introductory lecture by Simon Žlahtič on Maribor's industrial heritage and this was our starting point. Later on through the workshop we reflected on some other concrete examples of Maribor's industrial heritage and within the stories this became abstracted.

CONSIDERATION AND ANALYSIS

Within the conception of the RESCUE project it is defined that the target group for the Activity 1 are high school students. Ideally it was planned to reach several different classes, reaching pupils in age span from 15-18 and expected number of the participants would be 15-17. X-OP association has established contacts with high school professors Natalija Rojc Črnčec, Bojan Sedmak and Nataša Smolič who work in 1st and 2nd Gymnasium already in 2020 but the organisation of the workshops was often postponed. Even though the plan was to have in each workshop 10-15 students participating, age 16-18, at the end we have 4 of them in age from 15 to 17.

OUTPUTS

The workshops resulted in five short stories tackling the topic of industrial heritage. The plan for the further activities was to bring the short stories written by high school students to artists Maja Hodošček, Toni Soprano Meneglejte and Barbara Polajnar who used the stories as a script for their works. Tomo Podstenšek also wrote one short story and X-OP published a small book with all the short stories, as well as the short story by Tomo Podstenšek. Also, we invited artist Janja Kosi to illustrate each story of the participants. We presented the results of the workshop and the book during the public event Creative impulses of Industrial Heritage. It had a form of a conversation

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with Tomo Podstenšek, two participants and Janja Kosi.

We have produced the following documentation: recordings of each zoom session, published short stories, public events that were documented in video and photography.