

MGLC
International Centre of Graphic Arts

The International Centre of Graphic Arts is a museum with a 40-year history in the heart of Ljubljana's Tivoli Park. It is housed in two outstanding historic buildings: Tivoli Mansion and Švicarija. In 2024, the Centre expanded to include the Plečnik Auditorium, a wonderful open-air theatre. With historical precision, we keep a rich collection of prints and other printed materials, and organise exhibitions of printmaking and contemporary art. We are also the producer of a major biennial exhibition, the Ljubljana Biennale of Graphic Arts, founded in 1955, which is also the largest manifestation of contemporary art in Slovenia. Our programming reaches out to the visitor. In recent years, we have become a place of many voices, where art is understood as a value that is jointly shaped by artists, creators and visitors. We operate at the intersection of many activities: from collection to production, from research to exhibition, from projects to residencies, from education to hospitality.





MGLC

Tivoli Mansion

Exhibitions

MGLC hosts exhibitions by “the classics” of national and international graphic and contemporary art, complemented by a broad accompanying programme for audiences of all ages. At the same time, it produces new, often bold and unconventional, works in various contemporary art formats, particularly as part of the Biennale programme. Our exhibitions take a contemporary approach and offer a holistic experience that actively addresses and engages visitors.



Nora Turato, *eto ti na*, installation view of the exhibition at MGLC Tivoli Mansion, 2020.



11
Honza Zamojski, *Middlemen*, installation view of the exhibition at MGLC Tivoli Mansion, 2023.



12
Mohammad Omar Khalil in dialogue with Abed Al Kadiri, *Common Ground* (2023) (front), Malle Leis, *Summer* (1973) (back, left), *Flowers VII* (1971) (back, centre), Assadour Bezdikian, *The Surveyor* (1982) (back, right), 35th Ljubljana Biennale of Graphic Arts, *From the void came gifts of the cosmos*, installation view at MGLC Tivoli Mansion, 2023/2024.



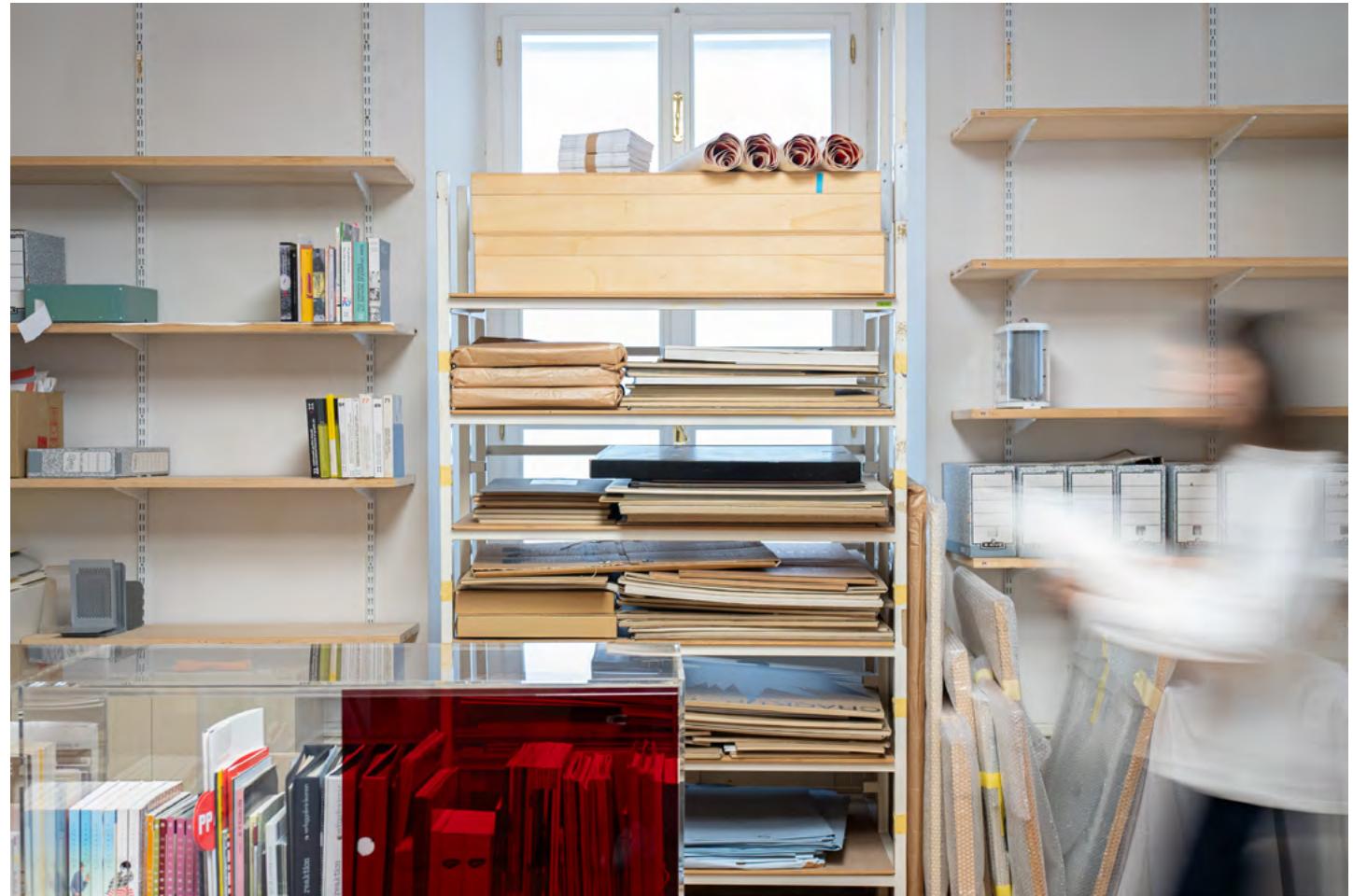
13
Gabriel Kuri, *matching punch cards*, The 32nd Ljubljana Biennial of Graphic Arts, *Birth as Criterion*, installation view at MGLC Tivoli Mansion, 2017.



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Slavs and Tatars, *Tranny Tease for Marcel* (on the wall), *Nose Twister* (in the space), The 32nd Ljubljana Biennial of Graphic Arts, *Birth as Criterion*, installation view at MGLC Tivoli Mansion, 2017.

The MGLC Collections

The MGLC Collections represent the largest Slovenian collection of prints and art publications produced after the Second World War as well as the only public collection of modernist prints in the country, comprising over 10,000 works. Uniquely focused on works on paper, the collection consists of traditional prints alongside other types of material heritage from the art of printing, in particular artists' books, posters, ephemera, art publications, drawings, photographs as well as other works on paper. The collection also includes numerous artworks of its own production.



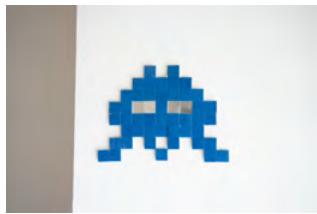
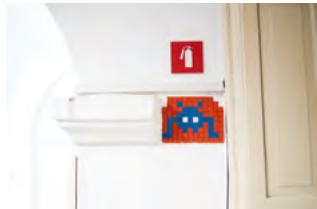
The MGLC Print Studio

We attach great importance to the production of new artworks, both as part of the Biennale and as part of the ongoing activities of our institution. Our print studio regularly hosts national and international printmakers, offering them the opportunity to work intensively with various printmaking techniques. We work with established and emerging artists from around the world, with a particular focus in recent years on artists from outside the dominant Western art milieu. In addition, the studio plays a vital role in our education programme in the form of printmaking workshops, making it a dynamic hub that connects the institution's various units.



Invader

In 2020 and 2021, we hosted an exhibition by the street artist Invader, who has grown into a phenomenon, movement, game and lifestyle. Our connection with the artist dates back to 2006, and during the global pandemic, he presented himself as a platform: with a solo exhibition, an extensive catalogue and programme, a print run (which sold out worldwide in no time!) and a large-scale campaign featuring dozens of new mosaics around the city. A key element of his concept is the Flash Invaders, which allows users to log visits to the locations of his mosaics. MGLC continues to welcome fans of this iconic artist every day for free!



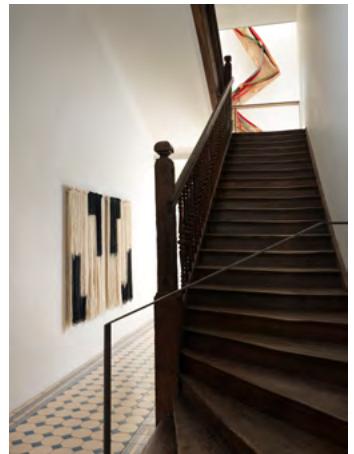


We are a space of coexistence, hospitality, residency and exchange. In the beautifully restored Švicarija, we have established a lively creative and residential centre. Since 2018, our dynamic programme under the motto “community, art and nature” has extended into Ljubljana’s largest park, Tivoli. Through long-term cooperation with a variety of residency centres, we develop residency programmes, networking with artists and visitors from around the world. An experimental laboratory for new forms of conviviality (sculpture and printmaking workshops, sensory and tactile guided tours of the restored buildings, lectures on architectural heritage, performances, literary panel discussions, thematic tours, open days) are created as experiential interpretations of cultural heritage. With artists’ studios and a two-year residency for young artists from Slovenia, we have established a sustainable and long-term studio centre in the heart of the city.

Artists' Studios



Site-specific Commissions



Antonio Pichillá, *Kukulkán* (2024, left) and *Four Cardinal Point* (2022, right), installation view of the exhibition *The Offering* at MGLC Švicarija, 2024/2025.



Urša Vidic, *Crystal Sea* (2014), installation view of the exhibition *Natural Faith* at MGLC Švicarija, 2022.

International Residency Programme

International residencies promote networking and foster connections between visiting international artists and those in residence at Švicarija, interweaving global artistic currents with the local context. Through long-term collaborations with similar residency centres – as part of the *Sustainability is in the AiR* project, these are Matadero Madrid, MeetFactory Prague and Snehta Athens – we endorse sustainable production in residency centres, offering artists more time, production resources and space to work.

The *Ljubljana Biennale of Graphic Arts Residency* is a dynamic production centre for Biennale artists. The *Master Printmakers Residency* facilitates the exchange of knowledge and experience between artists, curators and printmaking masters,

while the *Critics Residency* fills a gap in Ljubljana, where there are no other critics' residencies for the visual arts. Meanwhile, the *Writer in the Park Residency* provides writers time twice a year to rest, reflect and write literary texts. The vision of connecting "community, art and nature" is embodied in the *SUN Residency*, which extends beyond the (Western European) art canon to showcase artistic practices that explore the intersections of art and ecology, myths, beliefs and rituals, personal and collective narratives, as well as tradition and contemporaneity. The *End of the World Residency* aims to reflect on real or fantasy scenarios of the end of the world. The artists in residence also work in the MGLC Print Studio.



Jarrett Key, *Hair Painting No. 14*, The 32nd Ljubljana Biennial of Graphic Arts, *Birth as Criterion*, performance at MGLC Švicarija, 16 June 2017.



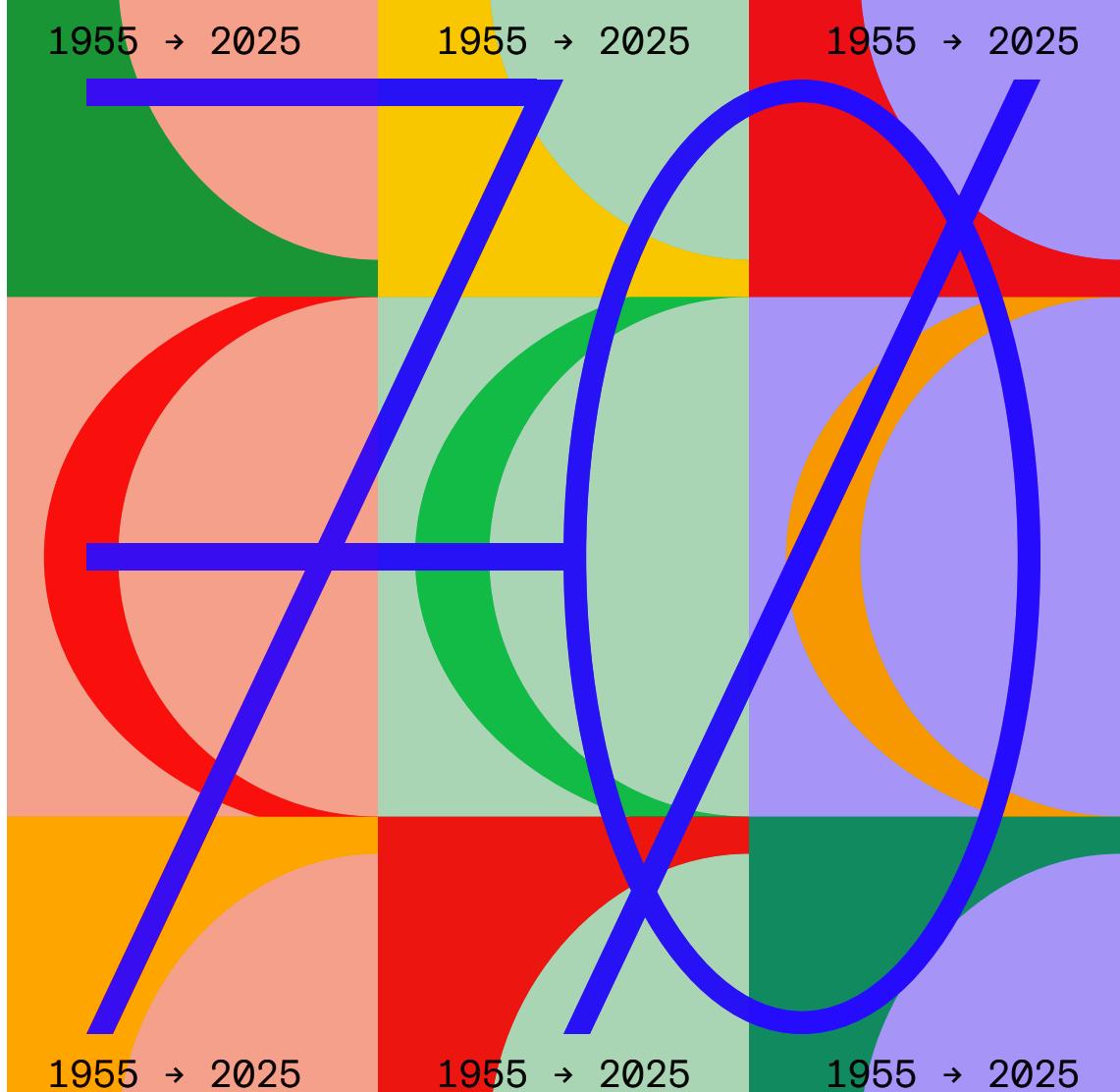
The Plečnik Auditorium

The Plečnik Auditorium is our latest addition, combining heritage with the organisation of public events in the city park to promote a sensitivity to environmental issues. A highlight of our programming is the *Summer in Tivoli* festival, which takes place every year in June and offers a variety of free events: theatre and puppet shows for children, concerts of singer-songwriters and urban music, printmaking workshops and guided tours of exhibitions. These activities transform the surroundings of Tivoli Mansion and Švicarija into the city's largest green cultural venue. During the renovation of the auditorium, the remains of the old summer theatre were uncovered and preserved, including the auditorium in its original form and size. Designed in 1933 by architect Jože Plečnik along the axis of the Jakopič Promenade and inspired by Greek models, it underlines Plečnik's concern for public open space, which is recognised as one of the essential values of his contribution to the heritage of humanity. Selected works by Jože Plečnik in Ljubljana have been on the UNESCO list since 2021.

The Ljubljana Biennale of Graphic Arts

The Biennale, which initially focused on traditional printmaking in its first decades, has undergone continuous change since 2001. Today, it is an internationally significant contemporary art exhibition that pushes boundaries and opens up new horizons with each edition, responding boldly and dynamically to the field of contemporary art. During the Biennale of Graphic Arts, it temporarily covers the entire city and boldly reshapes the artistic map of Ljubljana. In 2025, we are celebrating the 70th anniversary of the Ljubljana Biennale of Graphic Arts with its 36th uninterrupted edition, on view until 12 October.

Find out more at 36.bienale.si.





MGLC

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