

After the inaugural meeting in Lublin in April, the term for our first workshop in Copenhagen at the beginning of June finally came.

The weather in Skopje was already warm, a real summer even though the summer has not yet begun.

"Copenhagen, great! Small refreshment" - I said to myself on the way to the Skopje airport.

The excitement grew ...

Direct flight in duration of two hours and twenty minutes and I'm already far away from home.

KØBENHAVN COPENHAGEN

1st Reshape Meeting

Workshop 1: Transnational / postnational artistic practices

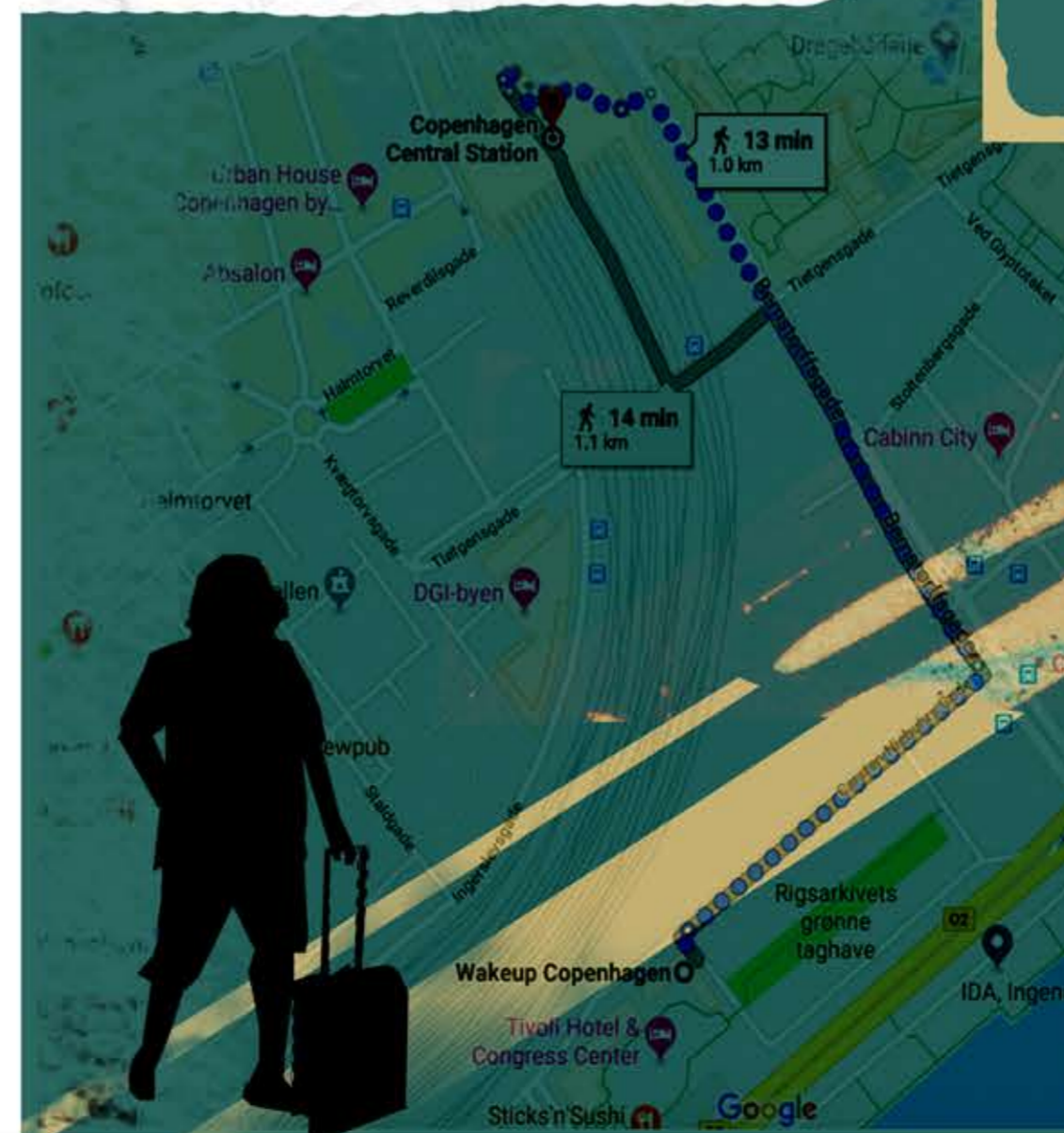
That's me at the time I headed to the train that would take me to the city center.

One of the first things you notice when you are entering Copenhagen is the large number of cyclists. Yes, this city is one of the most bike friendly cities in Europe. Ecological awareness is on high level, but still, part of the reason for the great number of bikes is also due to the fact that Denmark has one of the highest car taxes in the world :)



Copenhagen is a super organized city and therefore pretty relaxed.

So, this is another good reason for a short escape from the chaos that I'm facing every day in Skopje.



my hotel :)

wakeup
copenhagen.com



My hotel window is facing the colorful Tivoli Hotel and the neon lights placed on its facade gave me a feeling for a moment that I'm in Las Vegas.

But wait a second... let's stop here with this and let me tell you a bit more about my participation in our first meeting within the Reshape project.

The general question of our group is *What framework and tools do artists working transnationally need and how to provide them?* So, during this couple of days here, we have started with the brainstorming and opening many aspects on this topic in order to see our positions in the contemporary art system and maybe to come up with some practical proposals and alternatives which will improve our creative and working conditions.

Artists, performers, organizers, groups, curators, managers and producers are all indicating that they are having to work harder and harder to achieve the same results in a market that may indeed be growing, but increasingly competitive. It is also becoming more difficult to explain the governments and other stakeholders why investing in the internationalization of the arts is so important. - is what Joris Janssens underlines in the introduction of his book (Re) framing the international. On the ways of working internationally in the arts. This is on a very same track with the general issue on which our group is working on and I hope that his research well be more than helpful during our working process.

Mobility of knowledge, decentralization, responsibility, fair practice, funding, sharing common values, save working conditions, hospitality are just few of the important notions that we started to talk about. These lead us into a direction of creating a several diagrams in which we have tried to record the problems, struggles and urgencies that we are facing on a daily basis.



We have also talked a lot about how the artist residencies are structured and this led us into a direction of imagining of an ideal residency program.

The intense development and spread of residency programs, which encourages face-to-face collaboration and networking, reflects the changing position of art and artists. Residencies provide opportunities for artistic and social practices to intertwine; however, the concept behind them has rarely been the subject of critical investigation.

We have focused into this direction of investigation and tried to go behind the "curtain".

Later on, we agreed that instead of looking at the moment for establishing a new residency program, we will try to imagine the Reshape project as a residency that we all participating. We agreed that this position it could be very inspiring to see it as a space to practice.

Our first internal meeting gave us a possibility to get to know each other better, to find bit more about our professional background and experiences and understand our common interests.



And it was also a moment to find the most suitable forms and tools of communications which will help us during the next phases of our work.

Beside our internal sessions we had an opportunity to talk with individuals and institutions- both state and private, in order to find little bit more about the working conditions, political conditions and fundings under which artist are working in Denmark.

At the very end we have shared tasks on which we should individually work on in the next two months: Study of the philosophical materials concerning the notion of trans and post-national, overview on the way how institutions deal with a problem of artists and art-workers visas, research about art institutions in order to define its problems and struggles, research on the methodology of the modes of evaluating in the frames of the institutions, creating fake TV news (mockumentary), related to the conditions under which the cultural workers are facing...



And as I'm finishing this report on our first meeting in Copenhagen, I'm already thinking about my individual task and the following joint contributions that we will record on our favorite platforms for communication pad.riseup.net and padlet.com

See you soon:) after Cluj

GJORGJE