

Mind The Kiss

Affective map of the city of Plovdiv

Final exhibition and presentation of Plovdiv Love Map

Community Centre “Aleko Konstantinov”

6 Septemvri Blvd, 160 - Plovdiv

6 April - 5 May, 2019

Inauguration: 6 April, 2019 - 6pm

Press preview: 6 April, 2019 - 4.30pm

Under the patronage of Plovdiv - European Capital of Culture 2019, Community Centre “Aleko Konstantinov” hosts the final exhibition of the project *Mind The Kiss*, featuring works by Italian photographer Sabrina Bellenzier and an audio installation of interviews to Plovdiv citizens, recorded during the project field work. The exhibition will be open from 6 April to 5 May, 2019 from 9am to 6pm and the inauguration, on 6 April, 2019 at 6pm, will also be the opportunity to present to the audience *Plovdiv Love Map*, the physical product of 4 months of research, an alternative itinerary of the city based on *love personal monuments*.

The project *Mind The Kiss* has been a photographic and physical journey through symbolic places of love and affection in the city of Plovdiv. Cartography has been the key by means of which to trace the transformation of the city and of the ways in which it lived, to sensitize the memory, history and common values, using different methods of reading, analysing and building reality and the past. Plovdiv citizens have been involved in an exercise of recalling life memories connected to the most diverse places in the city.

During the project field work, which started on 30 November, 2018, the data collection activities were performed through anonymous interviews and a social media campaign on the project platform on Facebook (*Mind The Kiss Plovdiv*). The photographer, then, embarked on a journey during which she recorded her personal interpretation of the locations mentioned by the project participants.

The exhibition displays fragments, details of the places, a collection which aims to evoke an atmosphere, to capture hints of the magnetic attraction of these personal and collective love monuments, and is surrounded by the recorded voices of the people recalling their love memories during the interviews: a sound landscape that guides the visitors

in a reflection on the subjective importance of the city, which has built its uniqueness through a set of common experiences, starting from affection.

During the **inauguration**, which will take place on **6 April, 2019 at 6pm**, ***Plovdiv Love Map*** will also be presented to the audience, the cartography of places where Plovdiv citizens have exchanged a **kiss that is significant for them**, developed through the data collection activities of the project: an **alternative itinerary of the city based on *love personal monuments***, which will be available for the audience to take during the whole exhibition opening time at **Community Centre “Aleko Konstantinov”** and will be then given broad diffusion. The map aims to be both an **occasion for Plovdiv citizens to embark on an affective journey through their memories** and an **opportunity to provide tourists with a different interpretation of the city** and of its subjective value, which is made of **people, emotions and experiences**, before than of buildings and monuments.

The project and the exhibition are coordinated by Italian organisation **Cescot Veneto** in partnership with **Confesercenti Bulgaria** and **Frase Contemporary Art**, and are performed and curated by **Italian photographer Sabrina Bellenzier**.

The project and the exhibition are part of the official programme of **Plovdiv - European Capital of Culture 2019**.

Mind The Kiss

Affective Map of the City of Plovdiv
Final exhibition and presentation of Plovdiv Love Map

Community Centre “Aleko Konstantinov”

6 Septemvri Blvd, 160 - Plovdiv

6 April - 5 May, 2019

9am - 6pm

Inauguration: 6 April, 2019 - 6pm

Press preview: 6 April, 2019 - 4.30pm

For more information:

mindthekiss@gmail.com

Facebook: Mind The Kiss Plovdiv