

Zlatko Ćosić

A Murmuration



Zlatko Ćosić: A Murmuration, installation view, Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis, 2017. HD video, 3:00 minutes. Courtesy the artist.

A native of the former Yugoslavia, Zlatko Ćosić's experience of war and displacement have consequently shaped the content of his artistic practice. For CAM's Street Views, Ćosić's "motion painting," *A Murmuration*, begins with the play of light on water, a natural image that Ćosić manipulates by intensifying colors, varying speed and direction, to mimic the patterns of a flock of birds. The artist has said that nature was a source of solace when he was driven into forced labor during the war. With *A Murmuration*, Ćosić expresses nature's liberating imaginative power.

Ćosić's work spans a number of disciplines, including short films, video installations, theater projections, and live audio-visual performances. His work relates to issues of identity, immigration, and the complexities of

living in unfamiliar cultural environments. By capturing the visuals and sounds of real subject matter and transforming and presenting them as abstract materials, Ćosić re-frames content to encourage viewers to reconsider their own contexts in nature and in society, an invitation to imagine the changeable nature of reality.



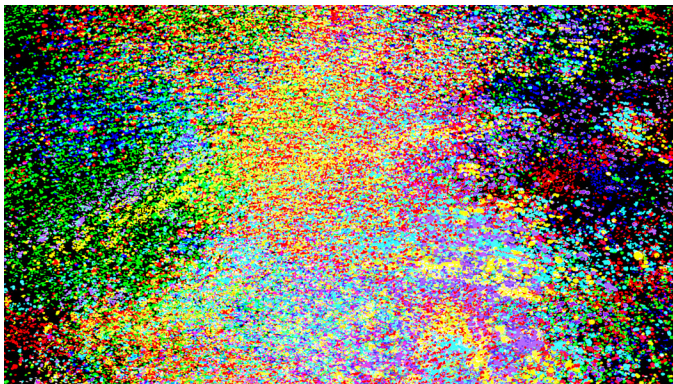
Audio Tour

Visit camstlaudio.org or ask for an iPod at the front desk to hear directly from the artists and curator on the audio tour.

Zlatko Ćosić (b. 1972, Banja Luka, Yugoslavia) has been included in video art screenings and an official selection at film festivals in more than forty countries. He was a prize winner at the St. Louis International Film Festival; Macon Film Festival, GA; and Sunscreen Film Festival, St. Petersburg, FL. Ćosić's videos have been screened at festivals, galleries, and museums in North America, South America, Europe, Australia, and Asia, and exhibited in St. Louis at the Kemper Art Museum, Gallery 210, Bruno David Gallery, and Regional Arts Commission. Ćosić has received numerous grants and fellowships including the Regional Arts Commission Artist Fellowship and a Kranzberg Grant for a video installation at Laumeier Sculpture Park. He holds degrees from Washington University in St. Louis and Webster University, and currently teaches at both institutions.

Street Views is generously supported by the WHITAKER FOUNDATION.

A Murmuration is organized for the Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis by Lisa Melandri, Executive Director.



Zlatko Ćosić, *A Murmuration* (still), 2016. HD video, 3:00 minutes. Courtesy the artist.

Related Program

RE: Out of Diaspora

Saturday, October 14, 1:00 pm

Border Crossings

Borders are never definitive. The nation of Yugoslavia showed itself off to the world as a peaceful, prosperous, and modern nation when it hosted the 1984 Winter Olympics in Sarajevo. Yugoslavia is no more, divided by new borders for nations with new names—the aftermath of a decade of wars, atrocities, genocide, and ethnic cleansing. This is a horrific story, and in the twenty-first century, tragically not uncommon, as millions of people flee the violent disruptions of the homelands they had known, where they felt they had belonged. “Where are you from?” is a query thick with meaning. “Who am I now?” is an ongoing question for those who find themselves strangers in strange lands. Zlatko Ćosić’s work reflects how present reality is a very unstable place, as indefinite as a stream, as quicksilver as the imagination, as shifting as one’s identity, or that of many. He’ll talk about his work in relation to the anxiety of identity in the midst of global diaspora in the free program, RE: Out of Diaspora.

St. Louis and the Yugoslavian Diaspora

From the mid-1990s to the early 2000s, close to 40,000 refugees moved to St. Louis from the former Yugoslavia. As a result, St. Louis currently has the largest Bosnian population outside of Bosnia-Herzegovina, approximately 70,000.



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