RU TALK:
“Sunny Side” and the Tourist Gaze: Lana Stojićević & Sara Garzón in conversation

March 7, 2023 | 6.30-8pm
360 Court St., Brooklyn, NY 11231

Sara Garzón on left and Lana Stojićević on right
Best known for her sci-fi and dystopian photo-performances, architectural models, and costumes, the Croatian artist Lana Stojičević has created a visual language that advances a critique on the transformations of the landscape. Stojičević’s surrealist, imaginary practice allows us to explore crucial questions of our living reality through a playful lens, bringing a humorous quality to a deeply political theme.

In discussion with the curator Sara Garzón, Lana Stojičević will share her research of contemporary neo-style tendencies in the context of illegal construction on the Dalmatian coast through various media, approaches, and conceptual solutions (Façade, Betonicus, Project Villa Roza, Neo-ornament...). In her parodic mise-en-scènes, Stojičević visually re-interprets the intrusive and almost picturesque aesthetics of unplanned constructions made for the Airbnb market. In her Façade series, the artist is wearing an outlandish pink costume made in imitation of a coastal holiday villa. On a different take to the tourist gaze and its architectural manifestations her work Sunny Side, constitutes an arresting series of photographs involving the futuristic swimming pool of the Hotel Zora in Primošten. Stojičević proposes a link between the modernist architectural vision of Lovro Perković’s (designer of Zora Hotel) and the growth of tourism in the age of advanced-capitalism.

Her mesmerizing imaginaries prompts questions about how in the backdrop of post-industrial ruination tourism delineates the new materialities of our present age. Stojičević’s works highlight our shared global concern around mass tourism, the hotel industry, and the transformation of the landscape in the Anthropocene.
Works on view by Lana Stojićević

FAÇADE (series of photographs),
performative photography, costume. 2018
BETONICUS (series of photographs)
photography, costume. 2018
About Sara Garzón and Lana Stojićević

Sara Garzón is Assistant Curator at Canal Projects. She is also a founding member of Collective Rewilding, a curatorial working group that researches the intersection between art, ecology, and care. Sara has worked as the Jane and Morgan Whitney Curatorial Fellow as well as the Lifchez-Stronach Curatorial Fellow at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and as Audience Engagement Associate at the Brooklyn Museum. Besides museum appointments, Sara has also curated a number of exhibitions and has contributed to several exhibition catalogs, anthologies, peer-reviewed journals, and art magazines including Arts of the Working Class, E-Flux, Artishock, Ocula Magazine, Terremoto, Hyperallergic, and others.

Lana Stojićević (b. 1989, Šibenik, living and working in Split) is a visual artist working in the field of artistic research. She utilizes performative and staged photography, textile, costumes, and architectural models to explore themes, such as illegal construction, architectural and industrial heritage, environmental pollution, contemporary neo-style tendencies, devastation of cultural heritage, and the transformation of the landscape as a result of mass tourism. She works as an assistant professor at the Department of Art Education and Fine Arts of the Arts Academy in Split. She has won numerous professional awards, such as the Radoslav Putar Award, Institute of Contemporary Art, Zagreb (2021); the third Ivan Kožarić Award, Museum of Contemporary Art, Zagreb (2021); the Metro Imaging Award at the New East Photo Prize exhibition, Calvert 22 Foundation, London (2016); the Annual Award for Young Artists, Croatian Association of Artists, Zagreb (2015).