

# EAST TO EAST PHOTOGRAPHY: Belgrade with Klavdij Sluban

28 April -2 May 2025

An immersive workshop in Belgrade with Klavdij Sluban, a French photographer of Slovenian origin renowned internationnally, who has been photographing, exhibiting and leading workshops (also in Krusevac and Valjevo jails for teenagers) in Serbia for the last 20 years.

Belgrade is one of Europe's most happening cities and offers the most inspiring photographic ambiences. It hurtles towards a brighter future. Its chaotic past unfolds in front of your lens: socialist blocks are squeezed between art nouveau masterpieces, and remnants of the Habsburg legacy contrast with Ottoman relics and socialist modernist monoliths.

## **Specifity of the workshop**

This workshop consists of developing one's personal photographic writing throughout a unique exploration of Belgrade. Discovering places that remain hidden to travellers passing by will enable an exploration off the beaten tracks and outdoor spaces. Another part will be focused on more inner spaces and more interior and personal territories. The sensitive viewer will appreciate the multi-layered approach Belgrade offers.

Klavdij Sluban's capacity of sharing and transmitting photography helps each participant to find their skills as an author. Everyday photo sessions will be followed by a daily editing, main pillar to build a coherent and meaningful series. "Show me your photos and I will tell you who you are".

## Who can join this workshop

Anyone who has a passion for the still image: professional photographers, artists, students of photography and art, amateurs of photography and art, etc...

Klavdij Sluban believes that every individual has the capacity to build one's own visual language when passion for the image and the right guidance co-exist..

### What to bring

All material – photos, portfolios, etc – relevant to your work, between 15 and 25 printed photos of small size (up to A4 format).

Your digital camera, one lens only & all its accessories (extra batteries, memory cards, cable for image transfer to a computer, USB key, external hard disk, etc...).

A notebook or recording device to facilitate note-taking during the workshop since many references on photographers, books, main exhibitions, places...will be given any time.

Your personal computer will be necessary for more efficient work.

### **Price**

Price of the workshop: 1200,00€.

The number of participants is limited to 12. First-come, first-served.

This price includes the fee of the workshop. All other expenses are at the participant's charge (travel, accomodation, food...).

Restaurants for every day, lunch and dinner, will be suggested. Specially chosen for their typical atmosphere and tasty food (tchevaptchitchi, similar to kebab and burek are a must). Affordable prices. It will be a moment to be shared with the group in a relaxed atmosphere. Everybody is welcome to join (meals at your cost yet different ranges of prices available).

Regarding accomodation, Airbnb is very popular in Belgrade and proposes many options. An accomodation in the center is strongly recommended. There are varieties of hotels and hostels as well. The ETEP team will help you to get any kind of practical information you need.

### Contact / Info

To apply or for information, you can call (whatsapp):

Andjela: + 381 62 550 812

email: easttoeastphotography@gmail.com

# **Spoken languages**

English, French, Serb, Slovene...and many others, just ask.

### ETEP - East to East Photography

Tereza Kozinc and Klavdij Sluban founded ETEP, East to East Photograpy specialized in the Balkan countries, to spread photography as a visual language. The aim is to express one's personal photographic writing in countries still to be discovered. Tereza and Klavdij's knowledge of this post-communist part of Europe, both have been travelling and photographing there for many years, is the reason why they wish to share their passion.

www.lemasterklass.com https://www.instagram.com/east\_to\_east\_photography

Tereza Kozinc is a Slovenian photographer living between Ljubljana and Paris, born in 1985. She studied at the Institute and Acamedy of Multimedia in Ljubljana and graduated in Multimedia. Winner of the FOTOFEVER PRIZE 2020, Paris, Tereza's « documentary and intutive » work has been shown in the Rencontres d'Arles (Voies Off), the Benaki Museum in Athens, the Terragona Photo Festival in Spain, the Schmiede International Multimedia Festival in Austria, Cankarjev Dom in Ljubljana, KUD France Prešeren, the Fine Art UGM Gallery in Maribor, Slovenia, La Nuu Photo Festival in Catalunya, Inselgalerie in Berlin and Les Azimutes d'Uzes in France.

https://terezakozinc.com/

Klavdij Sluban is a French photographer of Slovenian origin born in Paris in 1963.

He develops long term projects from the Balkans to the Kerguelen islands in the Antarctic, the Black sea, the Trans-Siberian or Japan. Often nourished by literature, never inspired by immediate and sensational events, these cycles share in common a questioning of time and confined spaces.

Elected « artist of the year » in South Korea (2017), he was awarded the Villa Kujoyama residence in Kyoto (2016), the Prix de l'Académie des Beaux-arts, Paris (2015), the Prix Niépce (2000), main French prize in photography. His work has been shown and collected in such leading institutions as the National Museum of Singapore, the Shanghai Art Museum, les Rencontres d'Arles, the Metropolitan Museum of Photography of Tokyo, the Musée Beaubourg, Paris, .

His many books include Balkans-Transit, text by François Maspero and East to East, text by Erri de Luca (winner of the European Publishers Award for Photography, 2009).

Since 1995, K.Sluban has been photographing teenagers in jails, creating simultaneously workshops for the young offenders. This project is still on-going. First originated in France (Fleury-Mérogis), Henri Cartier-Bresson took actively part in the project. This commitment was pursued in the disciplinary camps in former-Yugoslavia and former Soviet-Union, then in Central America, Brazil and Peru.

He has been conducting photography workshops in France and many other countries for the last 20 years. From world-class photo festivals like Rencontres d'Arles or Japanese Kyoto Photography festival to institutions such as Harvard University in the USA, the Shanghai Fine art museum, the National Museum in Singapore, to name a few.

K.Sluban is represented by Klüser Gallery, Munich.

www.sluban.com www.lemasterklass.com

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# PROGRAM OF THE WORKSHOP FROM SUNDAY 3rd TO SATURDAY 8th of October

<u>Sunday 27 April</u> is a welcoming day when we will meet for dinner in bohemian Skadarlija, a cobbled, traffic-free and tree-shaded street in Stari Grad (Old Town). This first meeting is a pleasant way to know each other as well as to see details about the week to come and get information, maps, brochures, etc...in a local restaurant.

# Monday 28

The morning is dedicated to editing and see everyone's photos. Bring up to 25 printed photos, maximum size A4 / 18x24cm. Prints must contact proofs of quality good enough to be worked on. Constructive criticism and advices will be given to channel photographically one's perception of the various situations that will be encountered during the week to come.

The editing room is located in Knez Mihailova Street, the main pedestrian street in the heart of Belgrade. Knez Mihailova is a common meeting point for Belgraders. This one kilometer long street has been named one of the most beautiful pedestrian zones in South East Europe and is a constant buzz of people. The afternoon will be an exploration by foot of the neighbourhood of the old town of Belgrade. This promenade spot is perfect for approaching people, discussing, street photography, portrait... Other Belgrade's highlights will be at a walkable distance, Terazije, the busy central town square, the Belgrade Fortress. Kalemegdan park, on top of a hill, offering a unique view on the confluent of the River Sava and Danube with the modern city in the background.

# Tuesday 29 April - Friday 2 May

The program will be organized around several themes. Outings will be proposed in group, but also for those who wish to explore on their own to concentrate more specifically on certain spots, all needed information (meeting points, transport, local contacts...) will be provided.

We will meet everyday at the editing room in the afternoon.

The program of the next day will be given during the editing session of the previous day.

One of Europe's most happening cities, Belgrade hurtles towards a brighter future, its chaotic past unfolds before your eyes: socialist blocks are squeezed between art nouveau masterpieces, and remnants of the Habsburg legacy contrast with Ottoman relics and socialist modernist monoliths.

Fascinating brutalist architecture, simple, block-like buildings made out of concrete. Belgrade is a mix of modernism and Communist Cold War era architecture.

Considered once as a model of bad taste that's all changing now, with a renewed interest and appreciation for this once derided architectural style. Imposing and geometric, Brutalist buildings have a graphic quality that is part of what makes them so appealing today and so photogenic. The word Brutalist comes from - béton brut.

Novi Beograd (New Belgrade): most of Novi Beograd is built in the brutalist style. Novi Beograd is divided into so-called Blocks. We suggest visiting Block 22 and Block 23, that are just across the Sava river and near Sava Centar. These two will give you a perfect idea of how Novi Beograd looks like. Other interesting parts are Block 30 (across the street from Palace of Serbia), Block 28 or Block 61, 62 and 63.

# Main buildings of Brutalist architecture:

"Genex Tower" – known also as Western Gates of Belgrade. 30 storeys residential tower and a 26 storeys office tower, connected on top with a rotary restaurant (that is not working!) is a symbol and the most known example of Belgrade brutalist architecture. It's one of most interesting pieces of architecture in the Balkans, and a great spot to take photos. Ideal photographic spot to enjoy the sense of abandonment. You can take as many pictures as you like, unperturbed.

Eastern Gate of Belgrade, known also as Rudo Buildings. Each of them has 28 floors, with around 1,4 thousand inhabitants. You can also find some street art around.

Palace of Serbia, huge and impressive.

Hotel Jugoslavija, once the most beautiful in Yugoslavija, today...decayed.

...and, last but not least: Toblerone Building (!). This residential building looks like a Toblerone chocolate is a must to see for all the fans of brutalist architecture!

The Zemun district, on the Danube's right bank, is lined with Austro-Hungarian houses and narrow streets, a vestige of its past. The majority of the town is a living history, a snapshot of what the region looked like in the 19th century. Excellent market and view from the top of Gardos hill onto old Belgrade town and Danube riverside.

Local life, open markets: Kalenic Pijaca, Zeleni Venac, also main city bus station, craft street market, Fruit and Veg market, main fresh produce market. Very busy Central Bus station, same for the Central Train Station. Dorcol.

Public transportation : tramway, with mythic Tram 2, taking in centuries of history on a Yugoslavian-era tram ride through Belgrade's Old Town, trolley-buses...

Day and night life, private parties in apartments, clubs, underground scene. Retro, run-down and loads of fun, the alternative river-barges provide peaceful spots for a drink during daytime or live concerts and night-clubs later in the night.

Street art and graffiti are highly developed in Belgrade. A major way of expression. To be seen in BIGZ building or "Genex Tower" as well as throughout the city.

Supermarket concept store, designed in socialist-era style with artisan craft as well as the trendiest stuff.

Monuments, museums, religious buildings are chosen for their architecture as well as the unexpected photographic motifs they can offer :

The Temple of Saint Sava is one of the largest church buildings in the world, Saint Marko church, Belgrade synagogue, Bajrakli mosque, New Zvezda cinema, authentic and pretty run down, the National Museum, Marshal Tito's grave, the Palace of Princess Ljubica...

# Friday 2 May

Day dedicated to editing and creating a coherent series of the week's creation. The editing done day by day during the week will take shape into the expression of a personal vision and expression of Belgrade. Individual / private meeting with Klavdij for evaluation and end-of-course impressions.

# Saturday 3 May

Farewell breakfast

This programme has been elaborated considering all the aspects that will make this workshop as pleasant as can be (athmosphere, logistics, technical aspects, material aspects,...). Yet, some changes can occur due to unexpected circumstances.

