

"Perth's Threshold artspace shows no signs of watering down its bold remit in programming stunning and inspiring artwork" Scotland on Sunday

THRESHOLD  
artspace

# OUT OF CHARACTER Vuk Cosic

The first solo exhibition in Scotland by this internationally acclaimed Slovenian artist  
Curated by Iliyana Nedkova

1 Aug – 1 Nov 09

free exhibition guide

Check out Read More: Horsecross' journal for critical writing for in-depth analysis of contemporary art. Latest issues feature contributing writers Jonathon Blackwood, Angela Dimitrakaki, Piotr Krajewski and November Painter. FREE to download | ISSN 1755-0866 | [www.horsecross.co.uk](http://www.horsecross.co.uk)

## FREE EVENTS

**Brunch Preview:** Sat 1 Aug 09 11am-1pm. **RSVP** [inedkova@horsecross.co.uk](mailto:inedkova@horsecross.co.uk)

**Curator's guided tours:** By prior arrangement through e-mailing [inedkova@horsecross.co.uk](mailto:inedkova@horsecross.co.uk)

**Read More:** Horsecross journal: Issue 11 | Oct 09: **Neil Mulholland** on Vuk Cosic: [www.horsecross.co.uk](http://www.horsecross.co.uk)

**Threshold artspace YouTube Channel:** Tribute documentary on Vuk Cosic: [www.youtube.com/Thresholdartspace](http://www.youtube.com/Thresholdartspace)

**Out of Character** reflects Vuk Cosic's interest in media archaeology. Described as 'an archaeologist of the future', Cosic believes that the role of the artist is to move away from the blind adoption of engineering defaults and instead to suggest 'constructive abuse' of technology. The exhibition features new commissions and acquisitions, which echo Vuk Cosic's earlier signature works. The exhibition includes the following works showing at the different 'project rooms' of the artspace including:



**Wave** = a long canvas of 22 flat screens in a row under the copper-clad dome

30 min loop comprised of 4 short artists' films and videos showing back to back as 22-channel video installations including Cosic's own selection of works from the Horsecross collection which all explore the strong relationship between the language of film and contemporary art:

### **Out of Character ASCII (2009) | Vuk Cosic**

Selecting scenes from twenty classic films ranging from *Workers Leaving the Lumière Factory* (1895) to *The Matrix* (1999) the artist applies a retro-futuristic ASCII filter to the history of cinema. Cosic runs visual havoc by exposing 'the ones and zeros' of which popular cinema icons are made of. Part of Cosic's ongoing project to translate culture from one obsolete format to another.

*Latest Horsecross commission for the Threshold Wave. In association with Ljubljana Digital Media Lab (Ljudmila). ASCII programming by Luka Frelih. Acquired as part of the Horsecross collection of contemporary art.*

### **Circles and Squares (2009) | Igor Krenz (Poland)**

Drawing attention to the film industry's secret grammar of cue marks, the artist creates a piece of abstract art by revealing the hidden code system used by projectionists.

### **Empire (After Andy Warhol) (2005) | Ergin Cavusoglu (Bulgaria/UK)**

Slowing down the transition from dusk to night over a forlorn building, the artist echoes Warhol's pioneering use of single continuous take in extremis but instead creates a subtle interplay of light and dark silently gliding across the 22 screens.

### **x 24 (2008) | Jason Dee (UK)**

Combining multiple movie clips of archive footage featuring celebrities, paparazis and flash photography, the artist builds a Mexican wave of white light that highlights the relationship between still and moving imagery.

Open Monday to  
Friday or late on  
FREE to visit

Threshold artspace | Perth Concert Hall | Horsecross | Mill Street | Perth PH1 5HZ UK  
www.horsecross.co.uk

0044 (0) 1738 621031  
info@horsecross.co.uk

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Saturday  
10am - 6pm  
performance evenings  
FUN to experience

Look out for the exhibition Scene 2 by Perthshire Visual Arts Forum and our COLLECT + SUPPORT initiative - both showing at the artspace at Perth Theatre: 185 High Street, Perth PH1 5UH



**Stage** = a playground for live art with larger-than-life projections, a camera and a screen left of the wave

### **File Extinguisher (2005)**

Excavating the history of the Internet, the artist stumbled upon the seminal *Rand Memorandum RM-3420-PR* (1960) by engineer Paul Baran. Describing a model of distributed network, intended to survive an eventual nuclear attack, Baran's document however was published without ... the file extinguisher. Rectifying this omission, Cosic creates a tongue-in-cheek online application as a 'safety tool' for any files or websites which need deleting.

*Acquired as part of the Horsecross collection of contemporary art and showing at Threshold Stage Screen. Programming by Aleš Gabrovec. Initially commissioned by Hamaca, Barcelona and the Institute for Contemporary Art, London.*

### **ASCII Unreal (2009)**

Reworking the popular video game *Unreal Tournament* through streaming ASCII, the artist is using layers of text as primary ingredient in his visual grammar. Cyrillic characters are set adrift in darkened skies and unrecognizable letterforms shipwrecked in a sea of squiggly tildes.

*Acquired as part of Players for the Horsecross collection of contemporary art. Showing in the evenings only at Threshold Stage as large-scale wall projection. In association with Ljubljana Digital Media Lab (Ljudmila). ASCII programming by Igor Kolbas. Additional support by Konrand Becker.*



**Flush** = a trail of 8 small screens tucked away in the public toilets

### **History of Art for Airports and Toilets (2009)**

Compressing art history from Michelangelo's *La Pietà* (1499) to Heath Bunting's *Borderxing Guide* (2001–2011) the artist creates a new desktop iconography resonating with Brian Eno's *Ambient 1: Music for Airports* (1978). Re-enactment of Cosic's public signage poetics for an environment the work was originally conceptualised for.

*Commissioned and acquired as part of the Horsecross collection of contemporary art.*



**Welcome** = interactive soundscape doorway of 16 sensors and 8 speakers

### **Lyrebird Redux (2007) | Nick Janaway + Eleftheria Mylona + Rebecca Prentice + Sean Williams (UK)**

Featuring Cosic's favourite soundwork from the Horsecross collection of contemporary art, this area of the artspace encourages visitors to pass the threshold of the artspace in order to detect six sonic landscapes from the ordinary to the extraordinary.

*Commissioned and acquired as part of the Horsecross collection of contemporary art in 2007.*



**Banners** - the urban environment around the oval-shaped, glazed building of the Threshold artspace

### **Game Flags (2009)**

Satirising the intersection of vintage computer games, colour field aesthetics and national symbolism, the artist creates a visual trail between the two locations of the artspace.

*Horsecross' first commission of contemporary art for the city centre. Acquired as part of Players for the Horsecross collection of contemporary art.*

**VUK COSIC Born in 1966 in Belgrade. Since 1992 lives and works in Ljubljana.** A graduate in Archaeology from Belgrade University, Cosic has maintained his interest in media archaeology throughout his artistic practice. He represented Slovenia at 49th Biennale di Venezia in 2001 with the exhibition *Net.art per me*. He also took part in Valencia Biennial in 2001; Video Positive Biennale, Liverpool in 2000 and Biennale de Montreal in 1998. His most recent solo shows and commissions include *Out of Character*, Threshold artspace, Perth; *MG chez Vuk - ASCII prints from the Permanent Collection of Moderna Galerija*, SCCA Centre for Contemporary Art, Ljubljana and *XL L M Slovenia: Vuk Cosic*, Institute of Contemporary Art, London.

Selected group exhibitions include *Best of Digital Art*, [DAM] Galerie für Digitale Kunst, Berlin; *Museum in the Street*, Moderna Galerija - Ljubljana, Ljubljana; *Holy Fire. Art of the Digital Age*, iMAL Center for Digital Cultures and Technology, Brussels; *Souls and Machines*, Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofia, Madrid; *Pong.mythos*, Württembergischer Kunstverein, Stuttgart; *Influencers*, Centre de Cultura Contemporània de Barcelona; *Under Ctrl*, Nomad, Forum Stadtpark, Graz; *Written in Stone*, Oslo Museum of Contemporary Art, Oslo; *In the Gorges of the Balkans*, Fridericianum, Kassel; *Boundless Border*, National Museum of Contemporary Art (MNAC), Bucharest.

His work is in the public collections of Walker Art Center, Minneapolis; BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Art, Gateshead; Museo Extremeño e Iberoamericano de Arte Contemporáneo MEIAC, Badajoz; Moderna Galerija, Ljubljana; Kunstverein Medienturm, Graz amongst others. His work has been widely reviewed in monographs, books and international media including Artforum, BBC, New York Times, The Times, Wall Street Journal. Cosic' practice is represented by Bryce Wolkowitz Gallery, New York and ARC Projects, Sofia/Edinburgh.

**Out of Character | Vuk Cosic**  
Produced by the artist and Horsecross for  
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