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The Survival Kit for the Anthropocene—Trailer

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The Survival Kit for the Anthropocene—Trailer

by Maja Smrekar



About the Author

Maja Smrekar's (SI) is an internationally established artist in art and science milieu. Grounded in sculpture and contemporary arts, she has been leading collaborations in developing cross-conceptual productions, including performances, installations, site-specific art, drawings, videos, sound, workshops, lectures, talks, and texts. Smrekar received the Golden Nica Award in the Hybrid Art category of the Prix Ars Electronica in 2017 and Prešeren Foundation Award, the highest national award for artistic achievements in Slovenia in 2018. Selected museum and festival participations: ZKM Karlsruhe; Musée de l'Homme Paris; MAK Vienna; National Arts Museum, Latvia; Ars Electronica, Austria; Click Festival, Denmark; Transmediale, Germany.

Survival Kit for the Anthropocene—Trailer

Maja Smrekar

The *Survival Kit for the Anthropocene—Trailer* (2015) installation is designed as an openly disassembled mobile survival kit, which can also function as a water reservoir (see Fig. 1–3). The project consists of design prints, a series of photography, *The Anthropocene Manifesto*, an audio of the manifesto with the Slovenian tune, and the mobile survival tool kit sculpture, which also functions as a water reservoir.



Figure 1. Smrekar, Maja. *The Survival Kit for the Anthropocene —Trailer*, 2015. Borut Peterlin photo.

The fast growth of invasive species—a natural phenomenon triggered by the *Homo Sapiens* species—can be understood as an (un)intentional experiment enabling humankind to objectively or subjectively directly observe the dramatic sixth extinction of species on Earth. Continuing our opus of the exploration of the typology of invasive species, through intersections of geopolitical parameters on one side and local-sociological paradigms on the other, Smrekar and her collaborator picked some signifiers of the national cultural heritage and transformed them into the *Survival Kit for the Anthropocene* (2014). The mobile survival kit serves as a paraphrase of disappearing cultures and local economies that dissolve in the pool of modern capitalism, as well as a critique of ecology as an ideology that “solves” climate change within global neoliberal frameworks, therefore within the existing capitalist paradigms.



Figure 2. Smrekar, Maja. *The Survival Kit for the Anthropocene* —Trailer, 2015. Borut Peterlin photo.



Figure 3. Smrekar, Maja. *The Survival Kit for the Anthropocene—Trailer*, 2015. Borut Peterlin photo.