

PRESS RELEASE

Reporting House is an exhibition presented by BIRN Kosovo, KALLXO.com, Prishtina Biennale and Paper Gallery, showcasing journalism, photography and media artefacts of the time, positioned alongside contemporary artwork exploring and reflecting on the impact of the war in the decades since.

The exhibition enables visitors to navigate a conflict that simmered through the 1990s, gave birth to the guerrilla Kosovo Liberation Army, boiled over into war in 1998-1999 and culminated in 11 weeks of NATO airstrikes leading to the liberation of Kosovo and, in 2008, its independence.

The exhibition displays the first draft of this history, written by journalists, and demonstrates the central role played by the media alongside subsequent artistic interpretations of that history. The public is invited to further its understanding of Kosovo's extraordinary story, while the exhibition is open to collaboration for its further development.

Background:

The exhibition will present works by artists of diverse backgrounds and regions, from established names such as Anri Sala (Albania), Adrian Paci (Albania), Goncalo Mabunda (Mosambique), Lala Meredith Vula (UK-Kosovo), Zhana Kadyrova (Ukraine), Lana Cmaijcanin (Bosnia & Herzegovina), Olafur Eliasson (Iceland-Denmark), Laura Imami (UK) and Besa Llugiqi (Kosovo) to emerging artists like Vullnet Jakupi and Vita Kasapolli from Kosovo.

The exhibition will feature 150 television stories from Kosovo between 1992 and 1999 by the BBC, Das Erste (German Public TV), NHK (Japanese public TV), RTE (Irish Public TV), EO 2 Vandaag (Dutch public TV), Tele 5 (Spanish TV), Nippon TV, RTK and Frontline Television News, promoting the work of the journalists, photographers, camera operators and local fixers who made them.

Contributors include Jeremy Bowen, Ben Brown, Ilaz Bylykbashi, Thomas Dworzak, Alan Chin, Donika Shahini, Paul Lowe, Max Stahl, Ridvan Slivova, David Loyn, Jehona Lushaku, Besnik Mehmeti, Nik Millard, Andrew Testa, Pal S. Refsdal, Flaka Surroi, Hazir Reka, Marija Ristić, Fred Scott, Eliza Hoxha, Vaughan Smith, Nora Weller, Sean Whelan, Goran Tomasević, Sami Mustafa, Alban Bujari, Linda Gusia, Eki Rrahmani, Gazmend Avdiu, Detektor.ba, Srebrenica Memorial Center, Anibar, Koha Ditore, RTK, Production 21, and Oral History Kosovo.

The challenges faced by journalists covering the war in Kosovo still resonate today, when those covering conflicts from Ukraine to Gaza, Sudan to Ethiopia must contend with propaganda and disinformation amplified by social media.

With three venues: Gërmia Department Store, The Great Hammam and Paper Gallery, Reporting House creates a space for contemplation, dialogue, and catharsis, honouring the memory of those affected by the war in Kosovo while advocating for warless ways forward.

The exhibition is produced by Jeta Xharra and curated by Gazmend Ejupi.

The majority of the television archive material and artefacts has been provided by Vaughan Smith of Frontline News Television.

The exhibition will be open until the middle of September.

For more details, please contact Jeta Xharra: jeta@birnnetwork.org