

ДЕВ&Т
СЛОНА

ДЕВЕТ СЛОНА
Визуална идентичност,
разработена от Crunchy Oyster



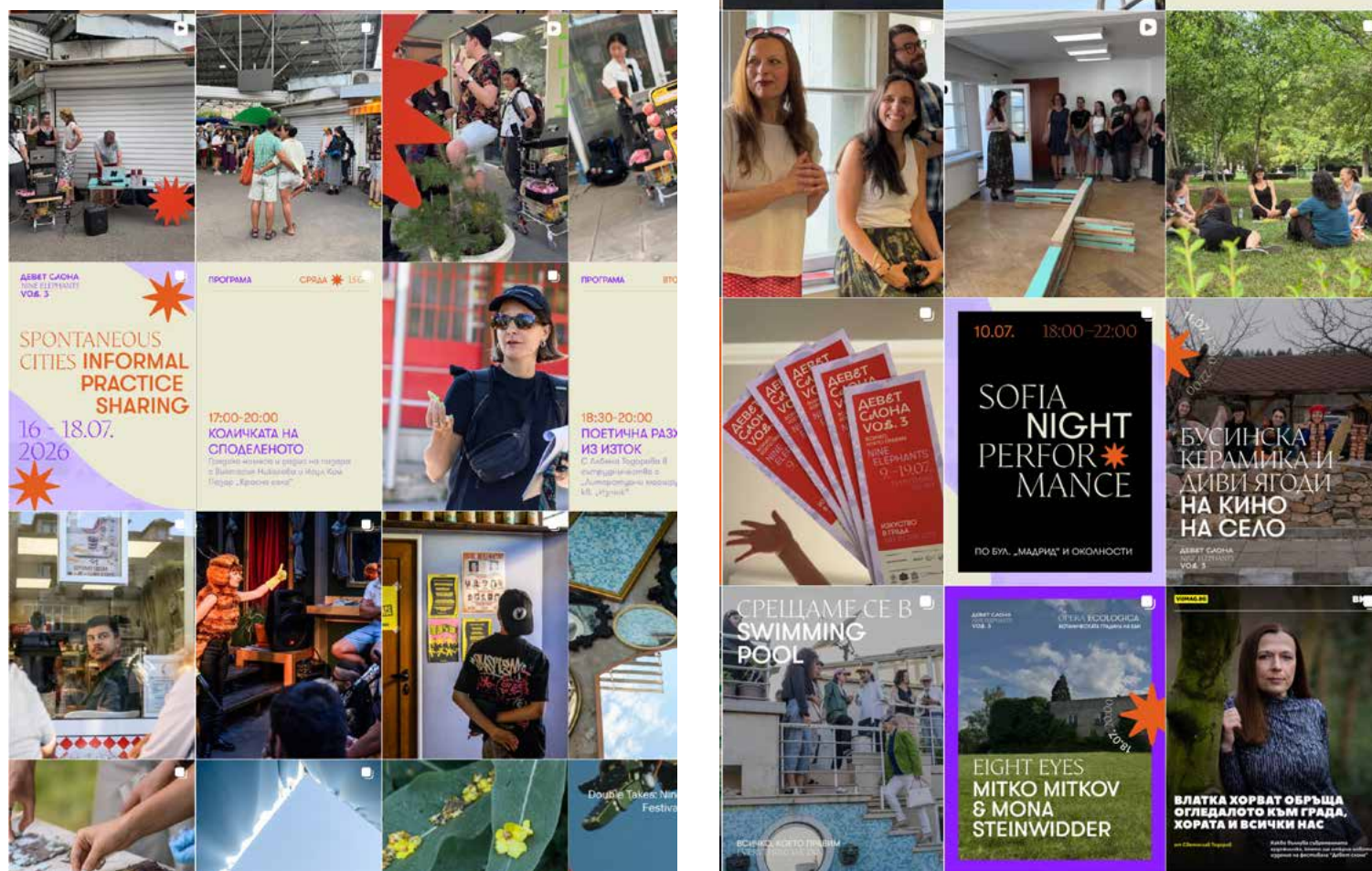
ПРОГРАМА ЧЕТВЪРТЪК 09.07.

17:00-18:00
PREVIEW С
ВЛАТКА ХОРВАТ В
ИЗЛОЖБАТА И
ECHO LOCATION

18:00-22:00
ОФИЦИАЛНО ОТКРИВАНЕ
НА „ДЕВЕТ СЛОНА“
И ECHO LOCATION
НА ВЛАТКА ХОРВАТ
Swimming Pool,
бул. „Цар Освободител“ 10

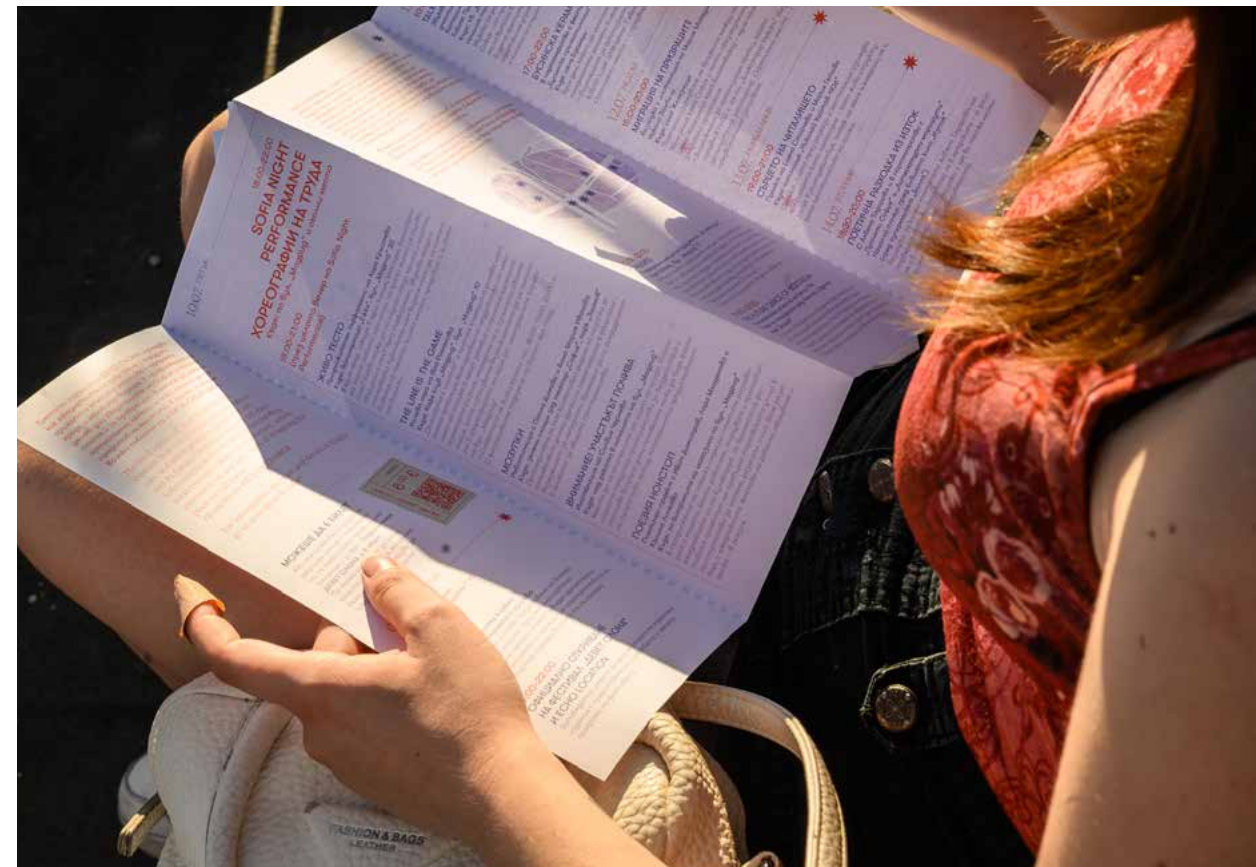
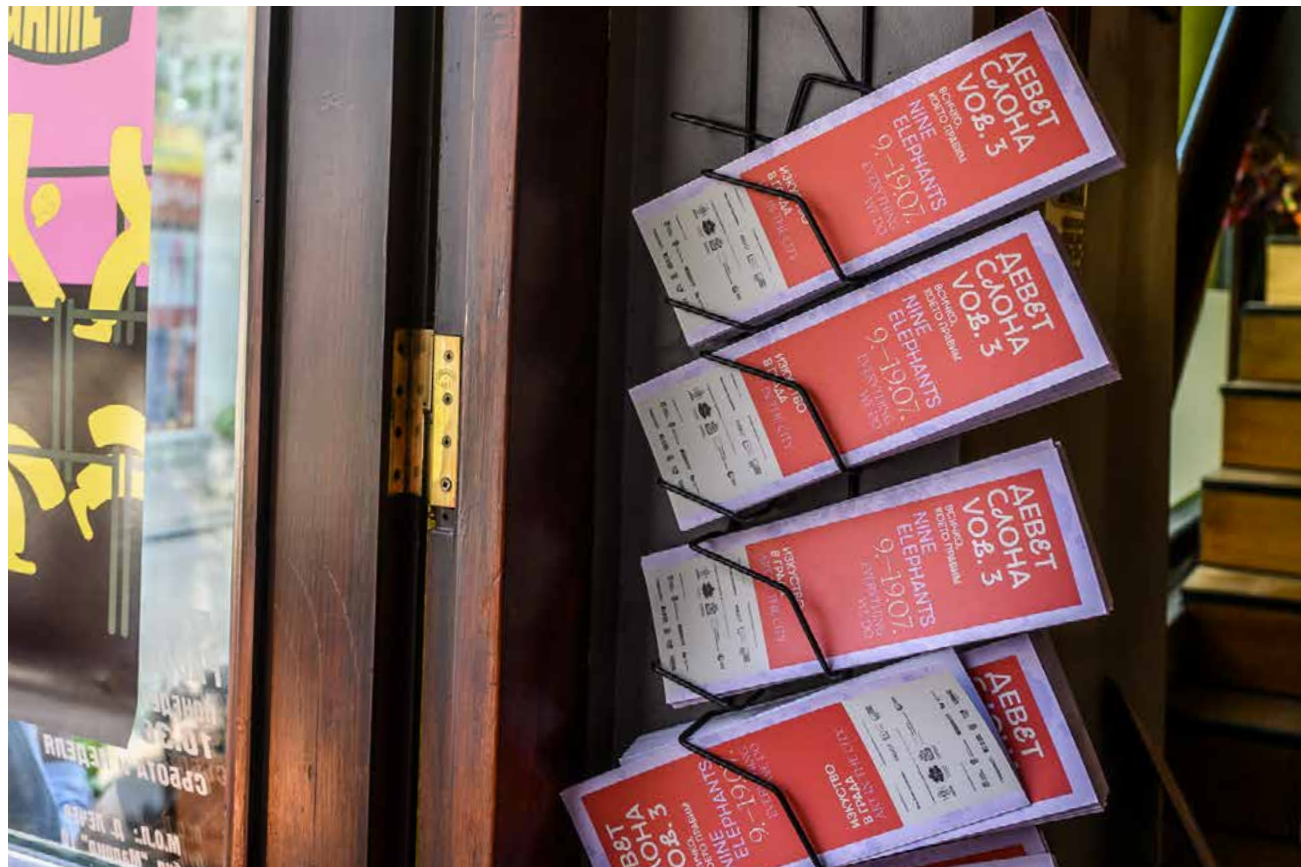


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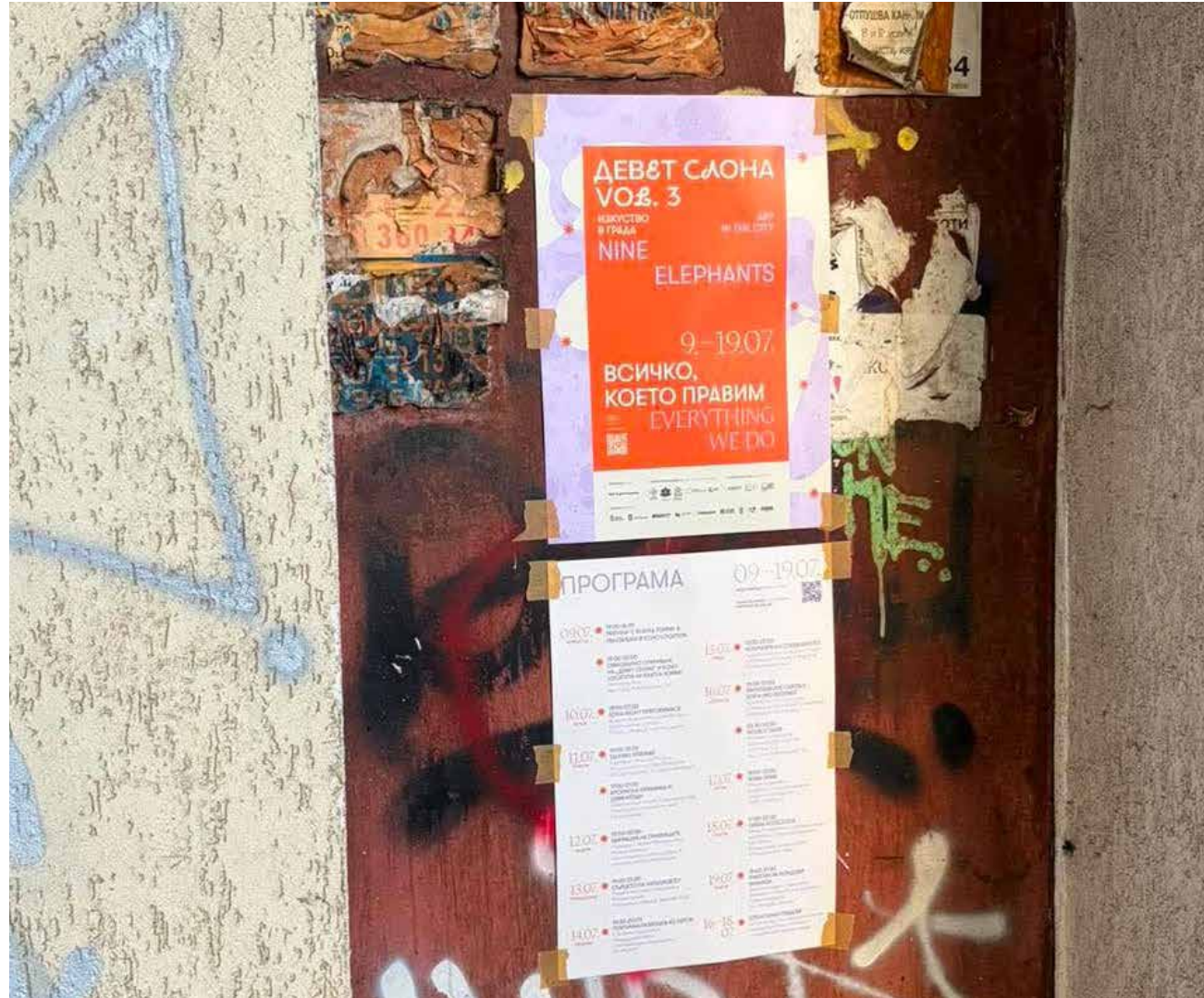


ДЕВЕТ
СЛОНА

ДЕВЕТ СЛОНА
флаери с програма,
разработени от Crunchy Oysters
Снимки: Росина Пенчева



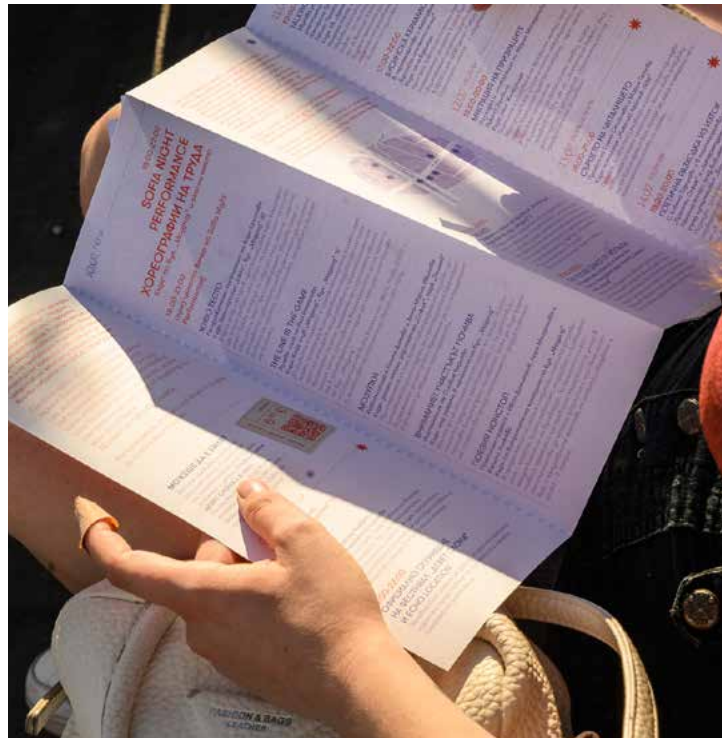
ДЕВЕТ СЛОНА
рекламни плакати
на различни места в града, автобусна спирка и метростанция,
разработени от Crunchy Oysters
Снимки: личен архив





ДЕВ&Т
СЛОНА

ОТКРИВАНЕ „ДЕВЕТ СЛОНА“
изложба Echo Location
на Влатка Хорват
9 юли 2026
Снимки: Росина Пенчева





ДЕВЪТ
СЛОНА



СЪОБЩЕСТВО
РАЙОН ОБОРИЩЕ

SOFIA NIGHT PERFORMANCE
поредица от пърформанси по бул. „Магруд“
ПОЕЗИЯ НОНСТОП
поезия на Иван Димитров, Лора Младенова, Калина Линкова
10 юли 2026
Снимки: Росина Пенчева

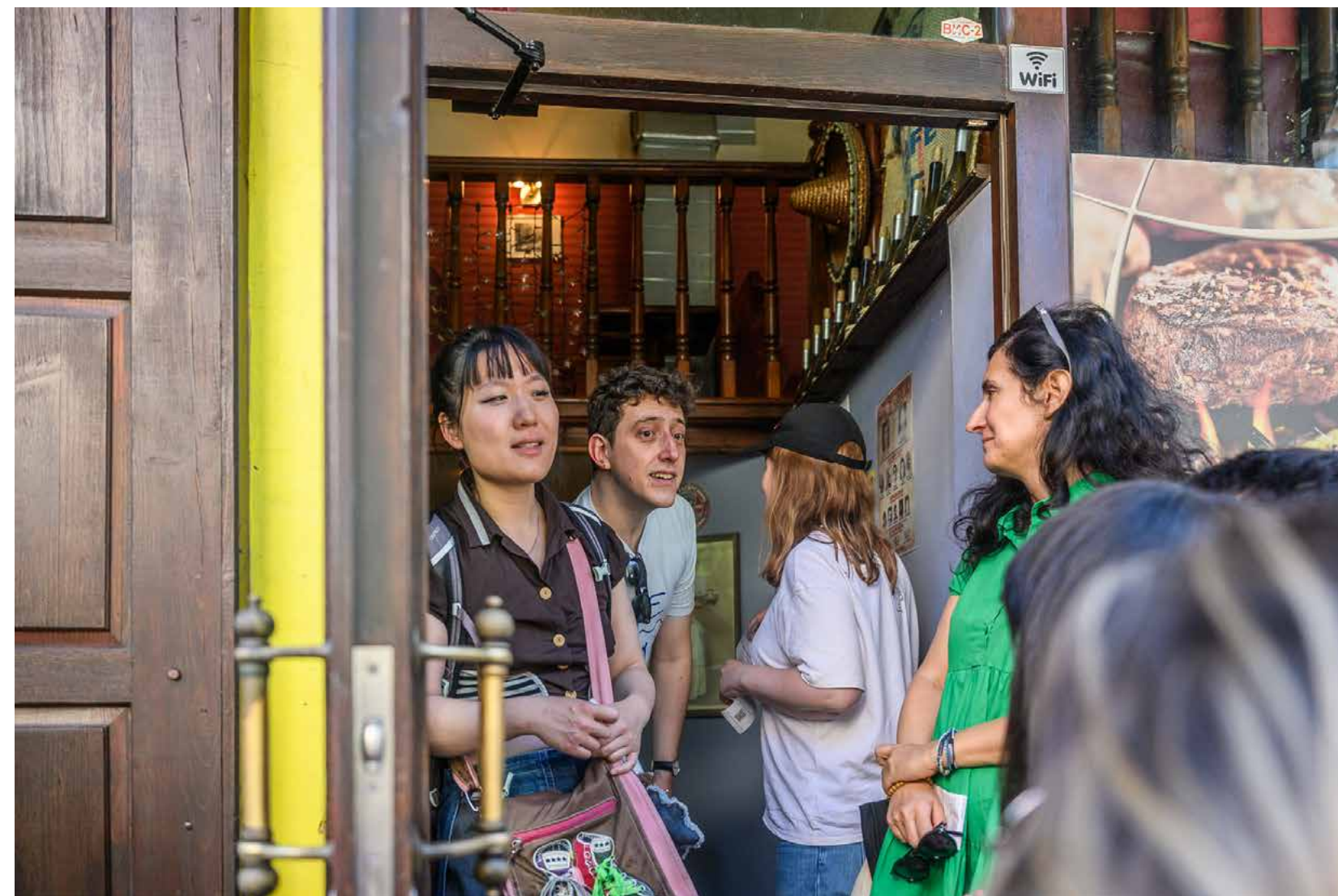


ДЕВ&Т
СЛОНА



Столична община
РАЙОН ОБОРИЩЕ

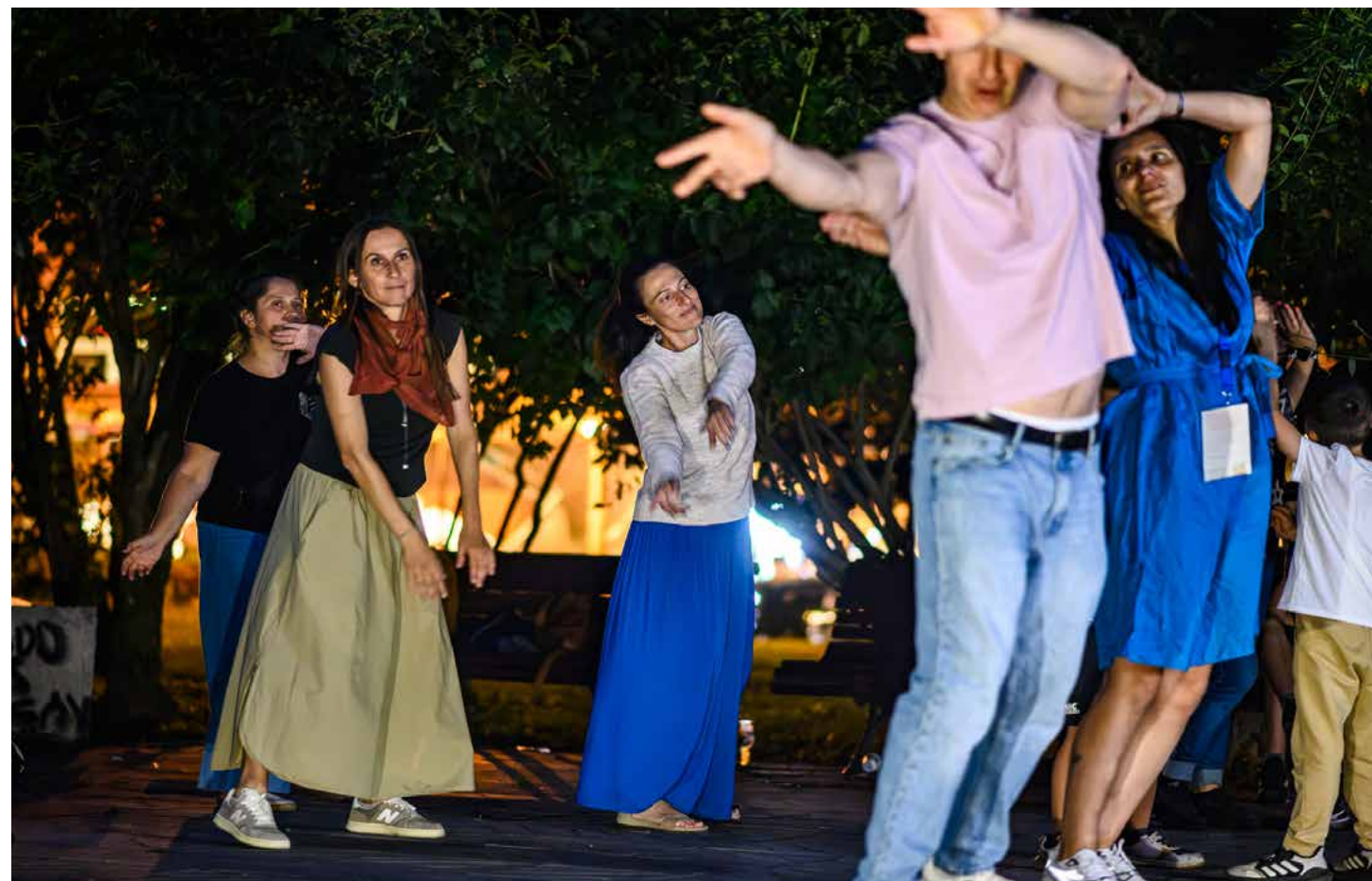
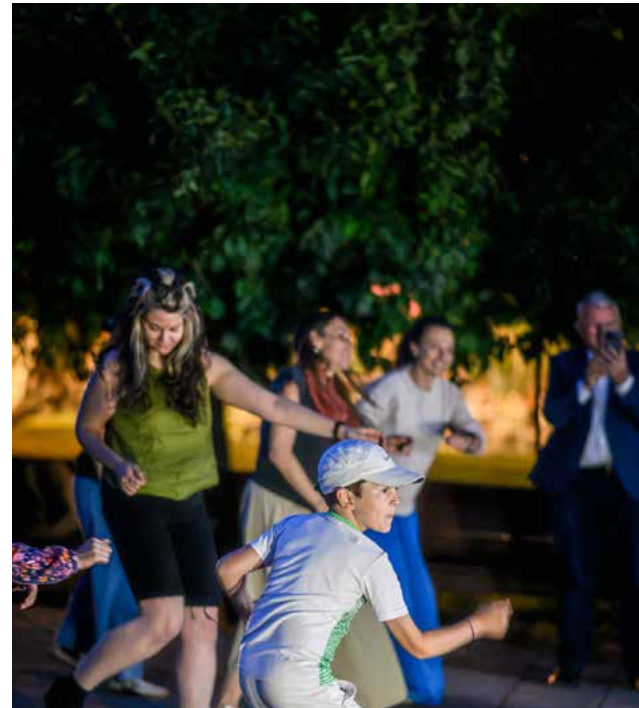
SOFIA NIGHT PERFORMANCE
поредица от пърформанси по бул.
„Magrug“
THE LINE IS THE GAME
ролева игра на Яна Романова
10 юли 2026
Снимки: Росина Пенчева



ДЕВ&Т
СЛОНА



SOFIA NIGHT PERFORMANCE
поредица от пърформанси по бул. „Магрид“
THE FUTURE DANCE OF NOSTALGIA
интерактивен геймплей на Кексин Хао
10 юли 2026
Снимки: Росина Пенчева



ДЕВ&Т
СЛОНА



SOFIA NIGHT PERFORMANCE
поредица от пърформанси по бул.
„Magrid“
ЖИВО ТЕСТО
пърформанс на Лора Кръстева
10 юли 2026
Снимки: Росина Пенчева



ДЕВ&Т
СЛОНА



SOFIA NIGHT PERFORMANCE
поредица от перформанси по бул. „Магрид“
МОЗУПКИ
работилница на Паола Димова и Анна-Мария Иванова
10 юли 2026
Снимки: Росина Пенчева

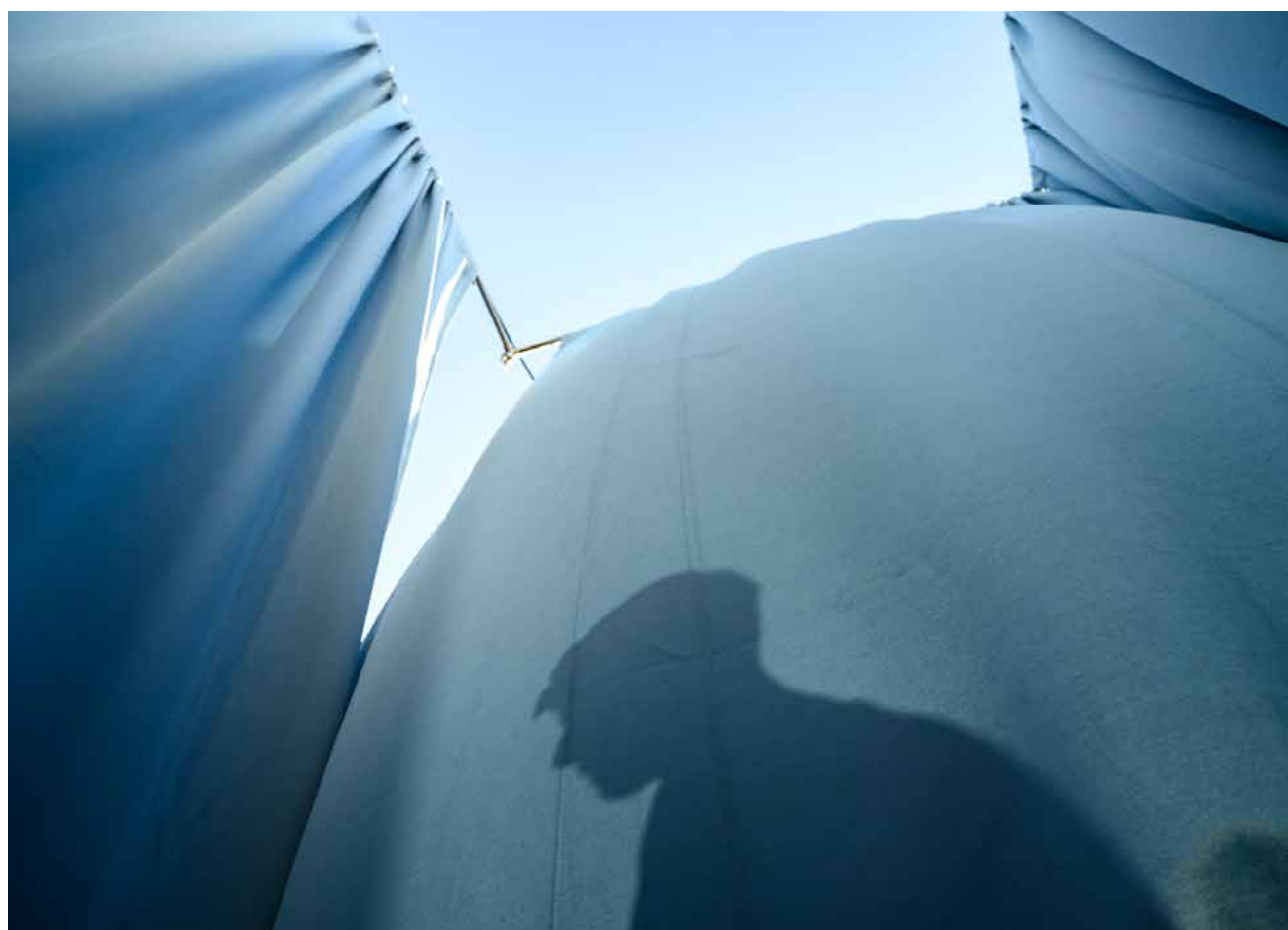
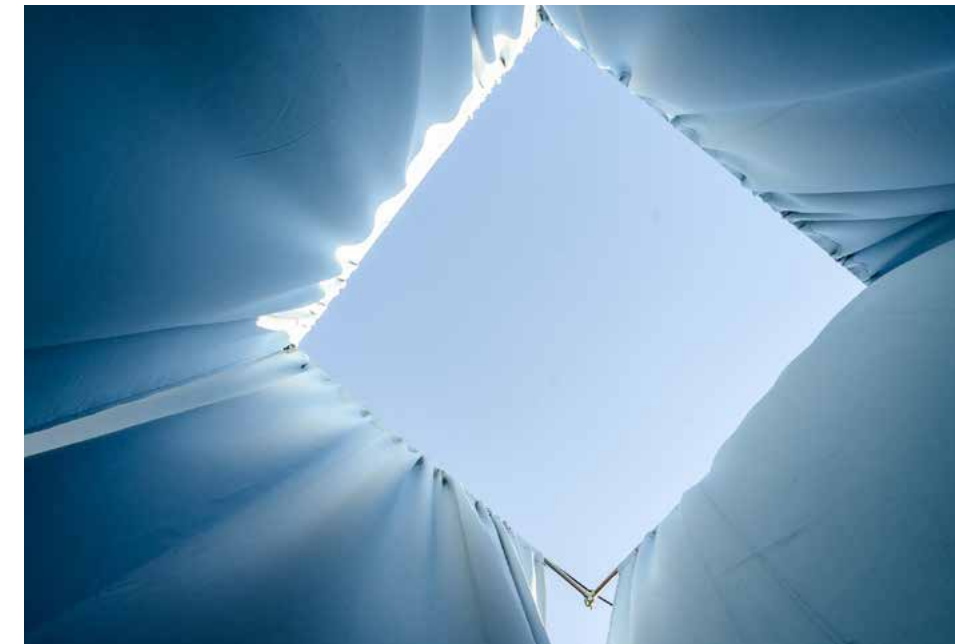
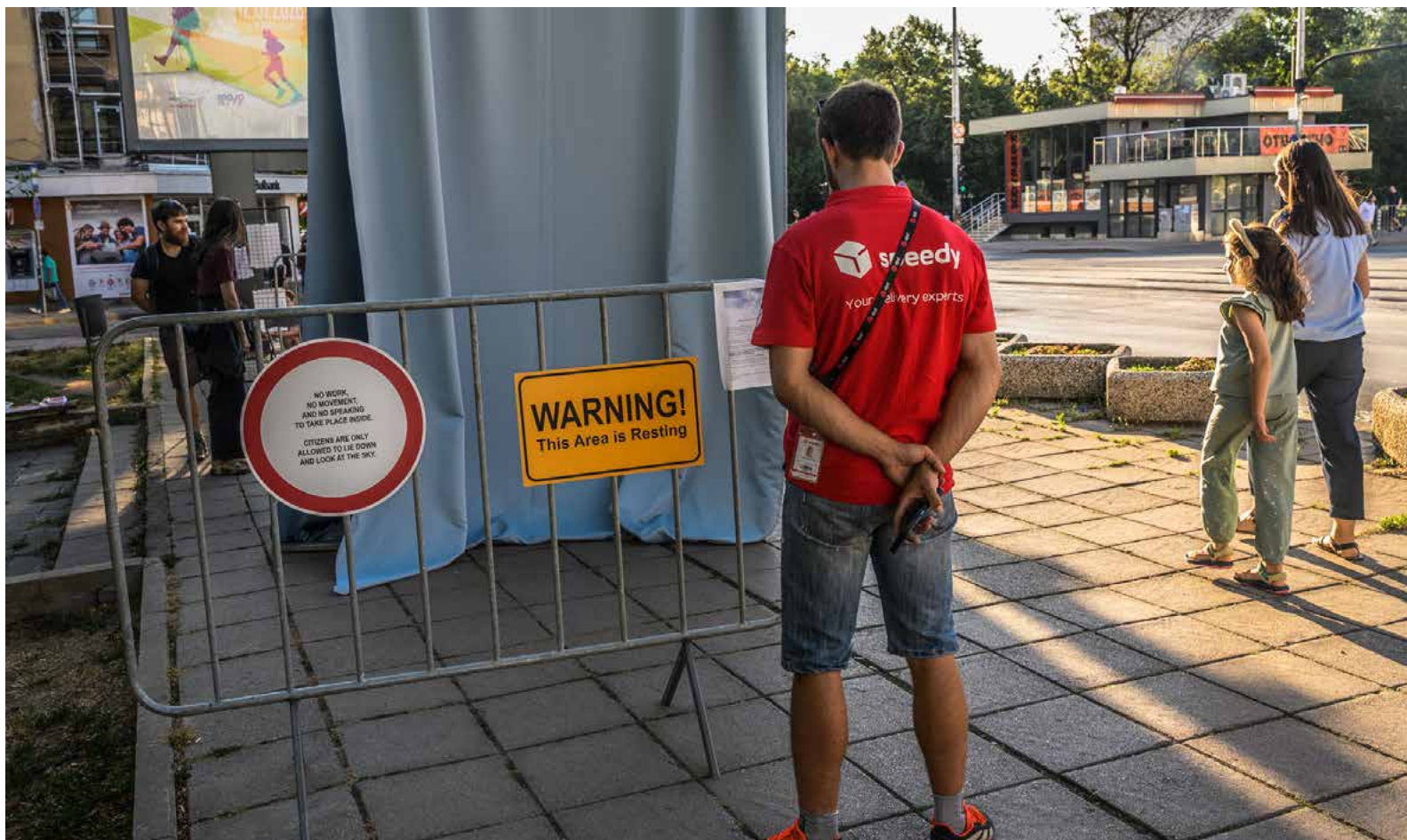


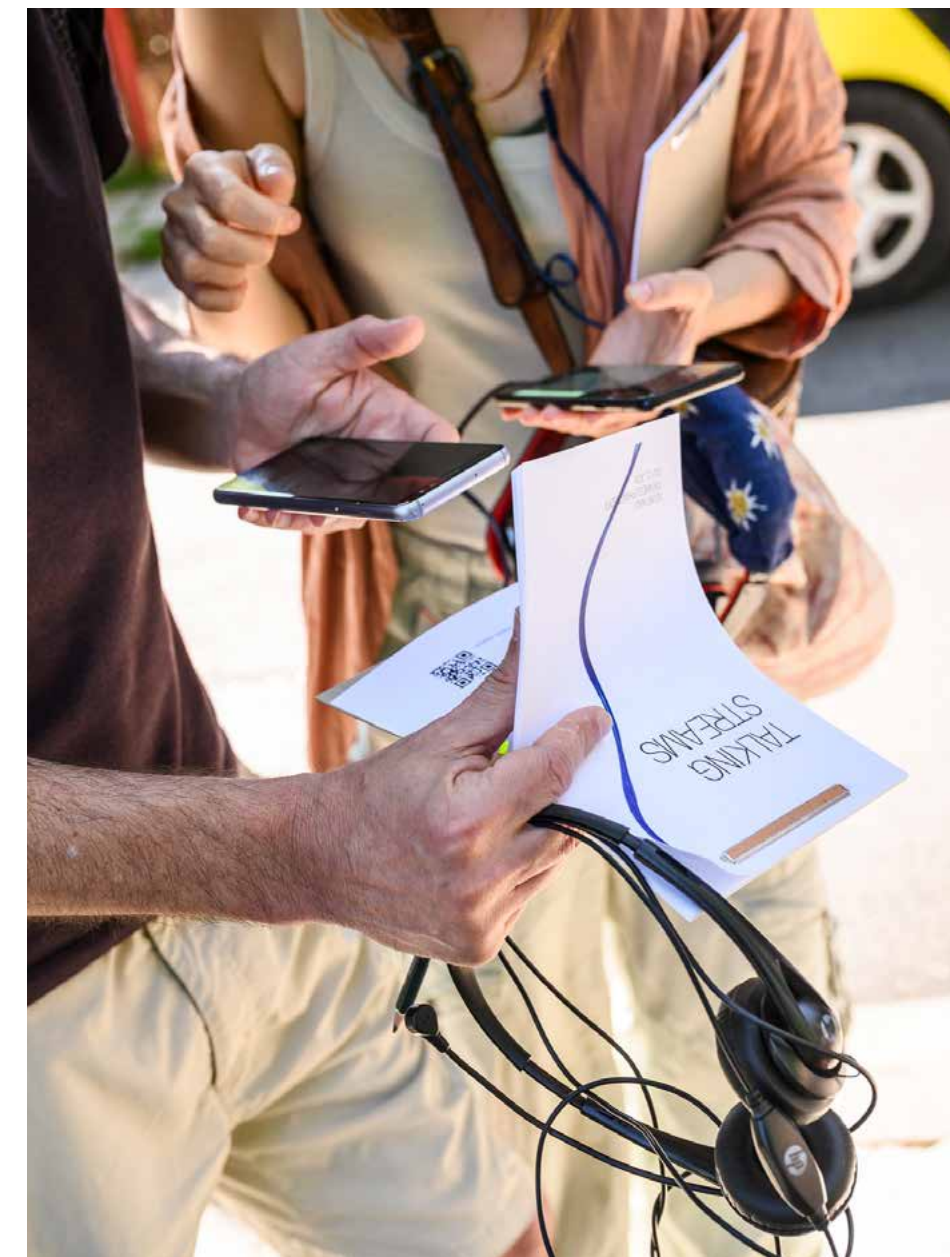
ДЕВ&Т
СЛОНА



Столична община
РАЙОН ОБОРИЩЕ

SOFIA NIGHT PERFORMANCE
поредица от перформанси по бул. „Магрид“
ВНИМАНИЕ! УЧАСТЪКЪТ ПОЧИВА
инсталация на Силвия Чернева
10 юли 2026
Снимки: Росина Пенчева





ДЕВ&Т
СЛОНА



БУСИНСКА КЕРАМИКА И ДИВИ ЯГОДИ
в партньорство с „На кино, на село“
и „Бусинска сръчкотилница“
село Бусинци
11 юли 2026
Снимки: личен архив







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СЛОНА



ПРОЧЕТИ
СОФИЯ

ПОЕТИЧНА РАЗХОДКА ИЗ ИЗТОК
Албена Тодорова в партньорство с
„Прочети София“ и „Литературни
маршрути“
в кв. „Изток“
14 юли 2026
Снимки: Яна Лозева









ДЕВ&Т
СЛОНА

KADIST

DOUBLE TAKES
в сътрудничество с KADIST
филмова програма
в Swimming Pool
16 юли 2026
Снимки: Росина Пенчева



ДЕВ&Т
СЛОНА
ГРАДОСКОП

ЖИВА ЗЕМЯ
в партньорство с Градоскоп и с
участието на „Рецепти за бъдеще“
разходка и работилница
парк „Робов дол“, кв. „Слатина“
17 юли 2026
Снимки: xxx



ДЕВ&Т
СЛОНА

ботаническа
градина

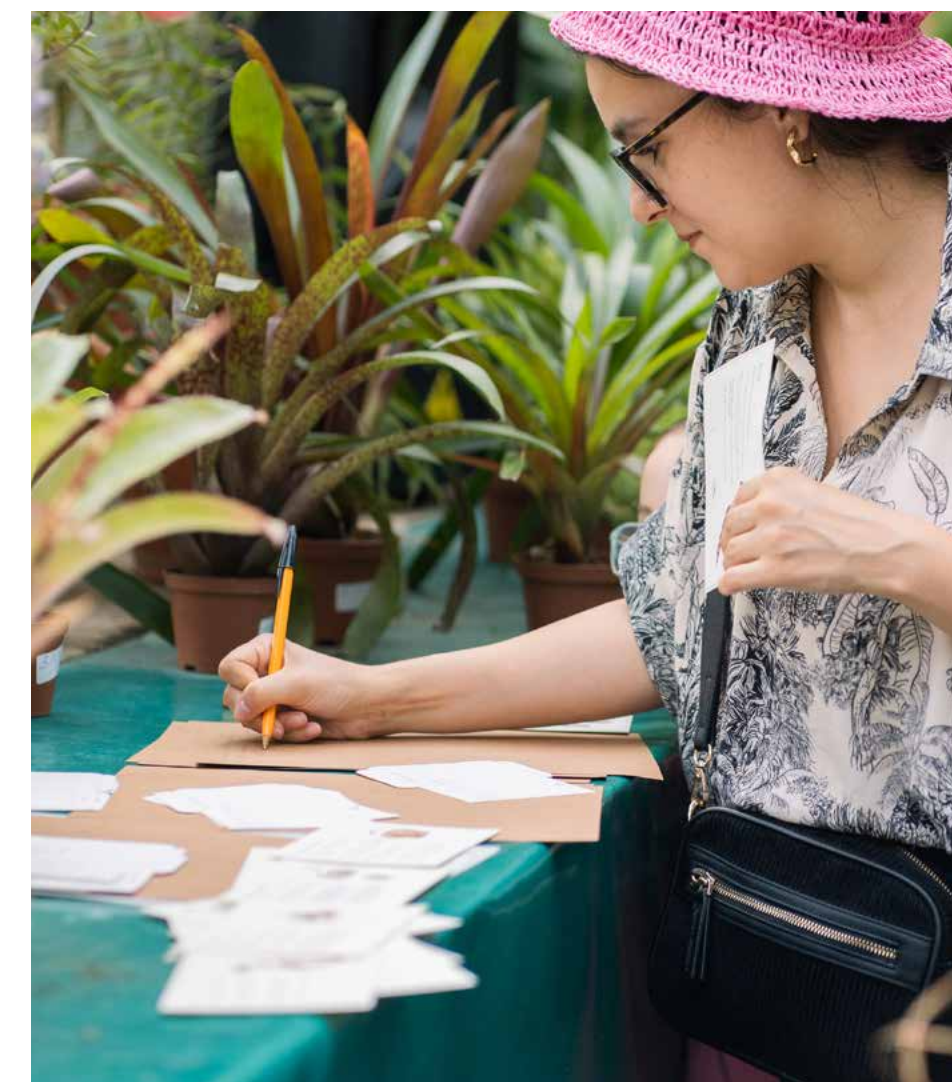
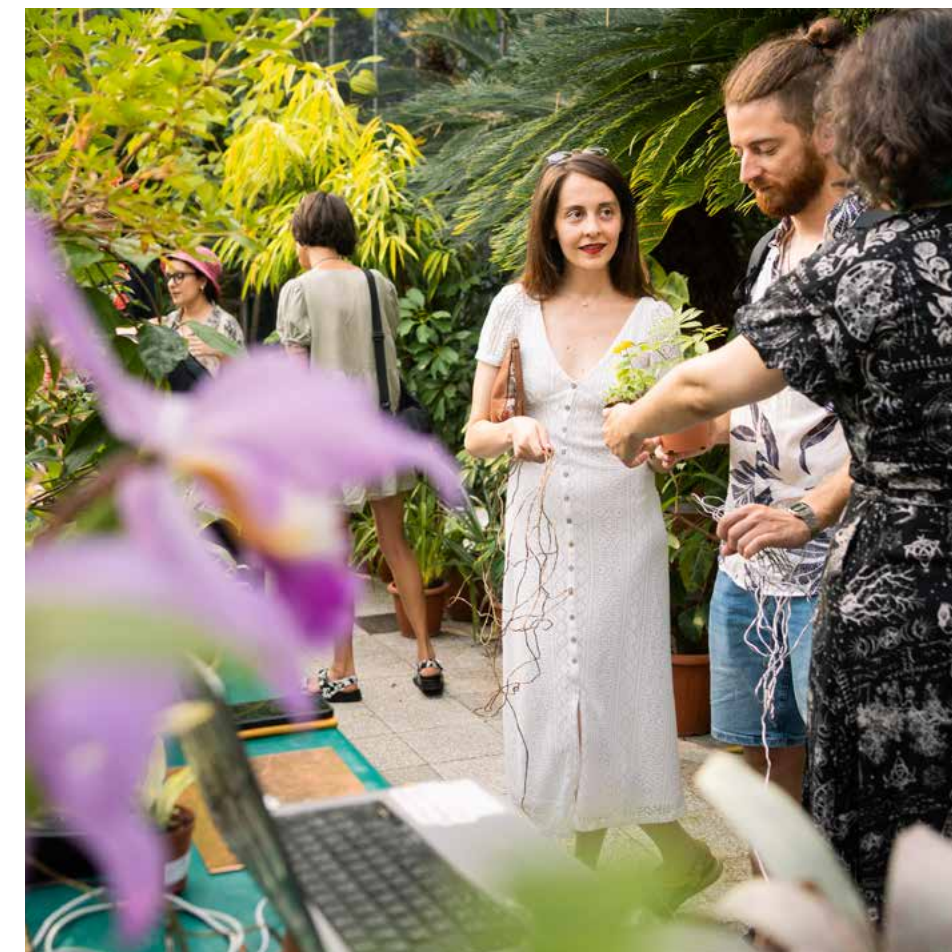
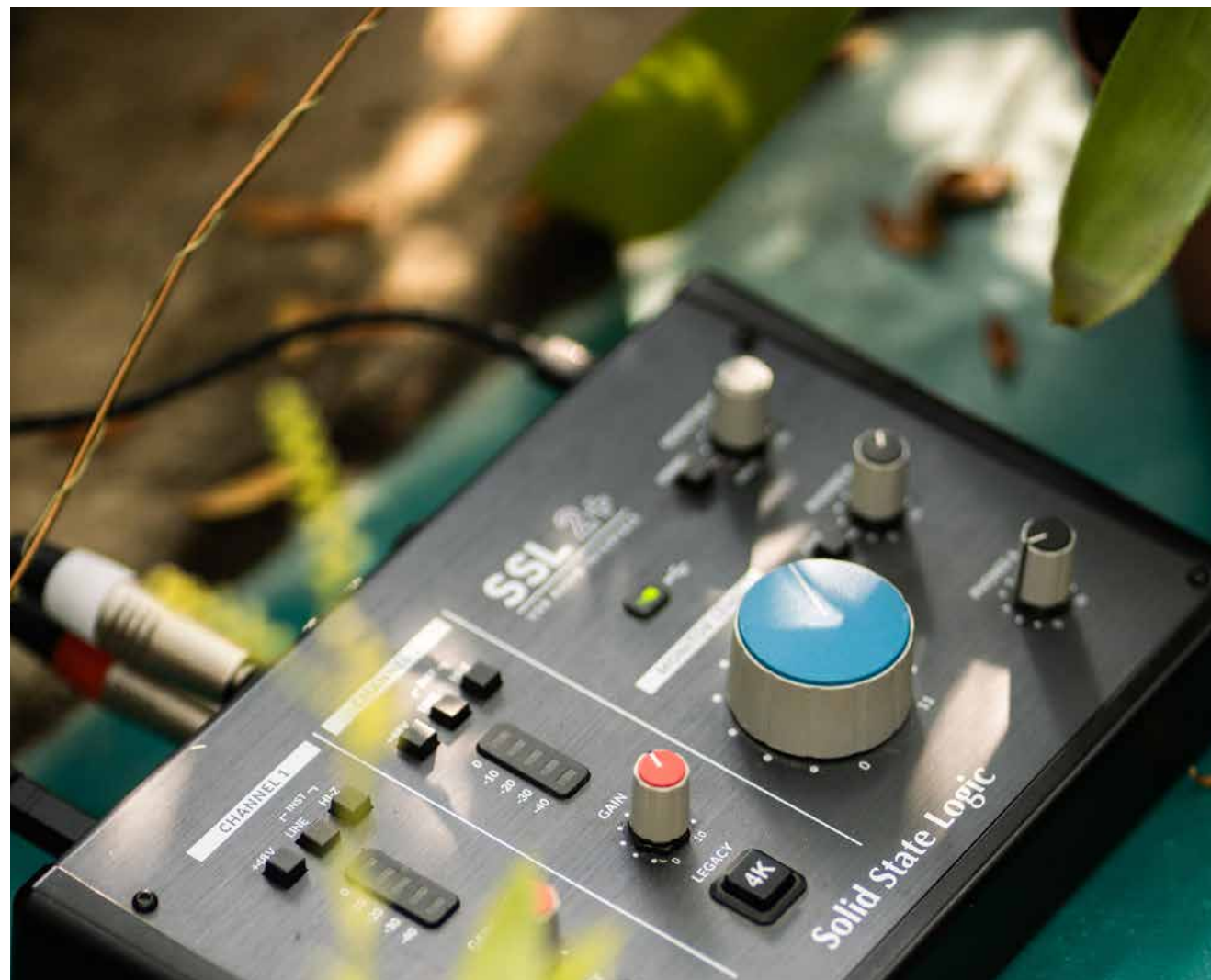
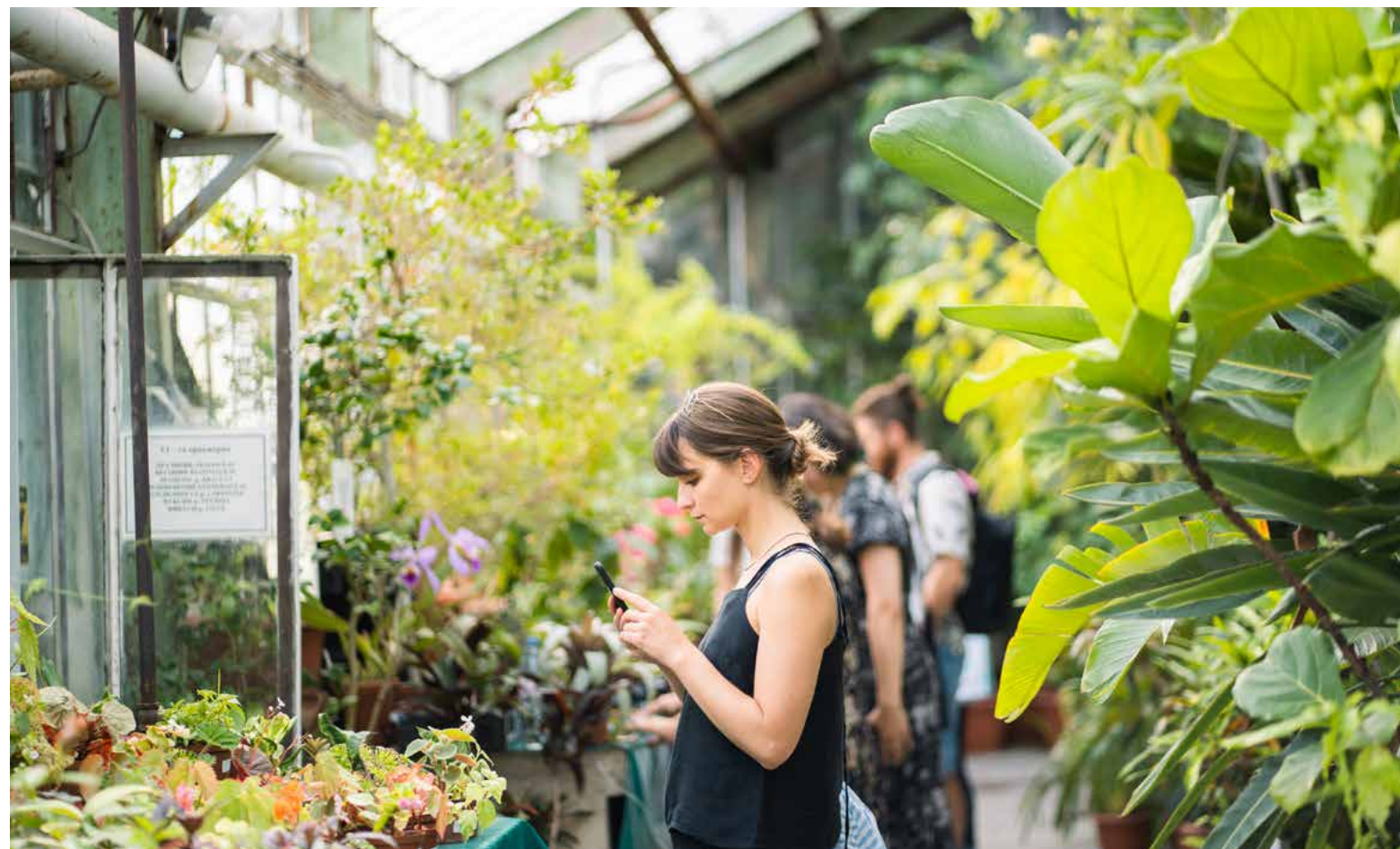
OPERA ECOLOGICA
Ботаническата градина на БАН (Околовръстен път)
SHARED GROUNDS
Деяна Старева и Хайоне Серато
18 юли 2026
Снимки: Дени Стойчев



ДЕВ&Т
СЛОНА

ботаническа
градина

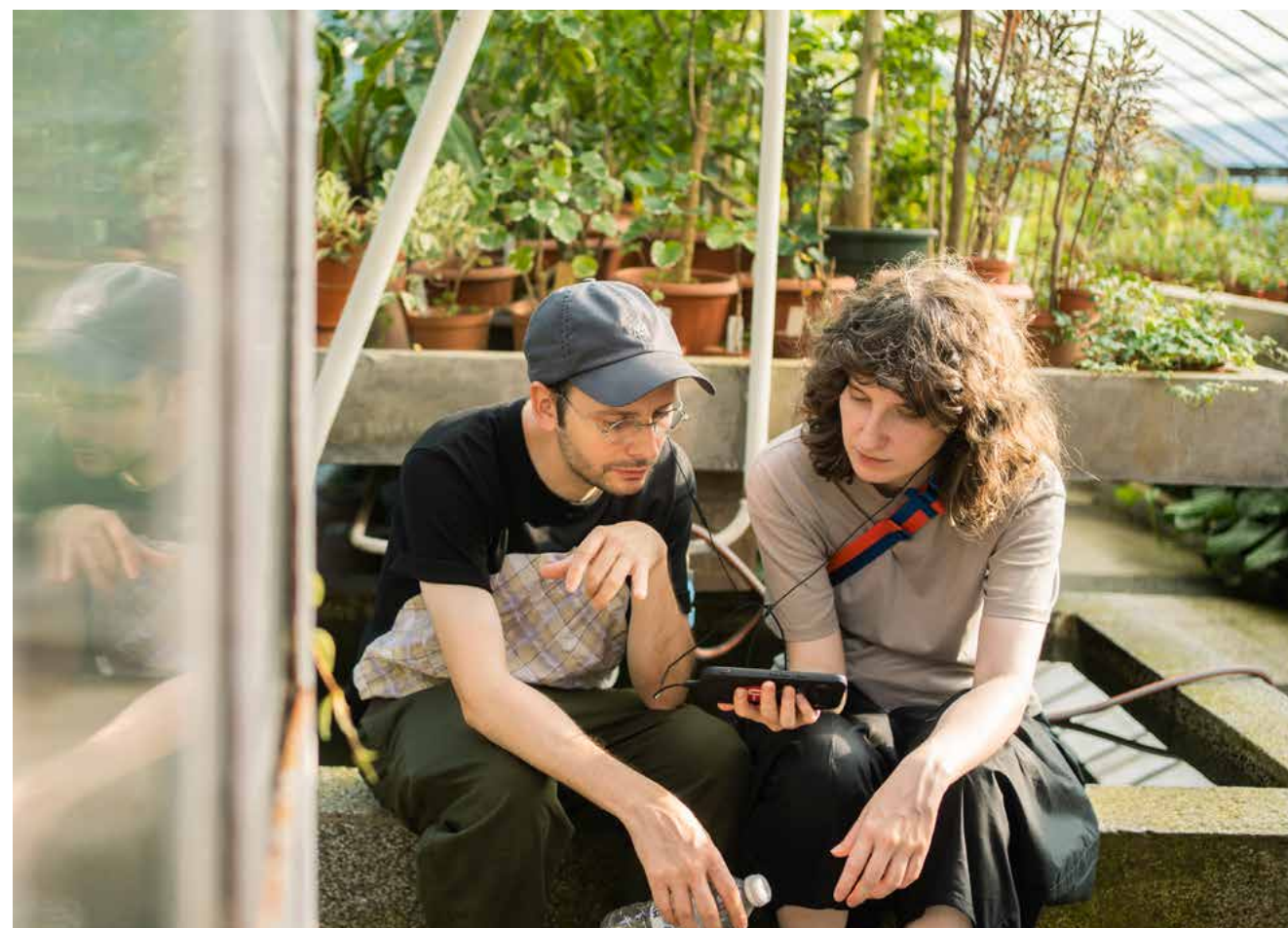
OPERA ECOLOGICA
Ботаническата градина на БАН (Околовръстен път)
SONIC SEEDS
Виолета Ценова и Джемили Райм
18 юли 2026
Снимки: Дени Стойчев



ДЕВ&Т
СЛОНА

ботаническа
градина

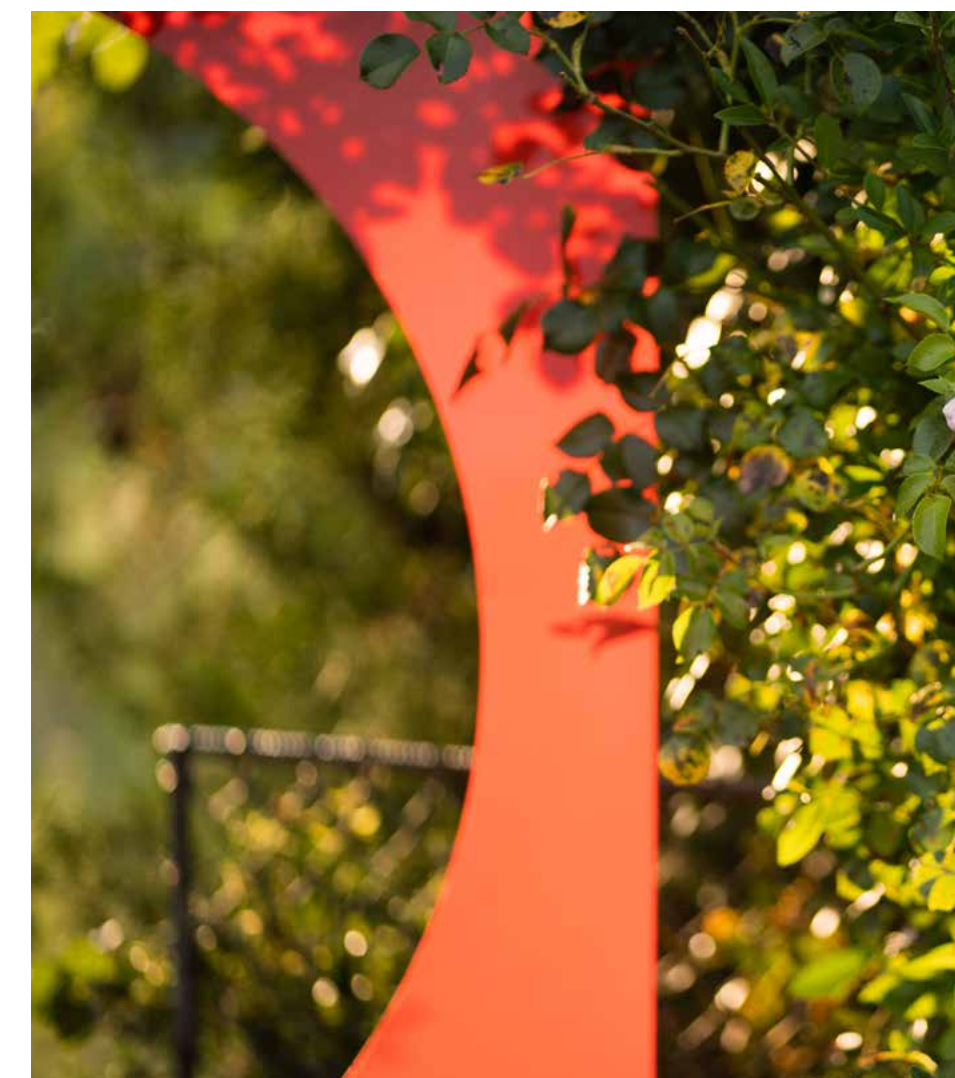
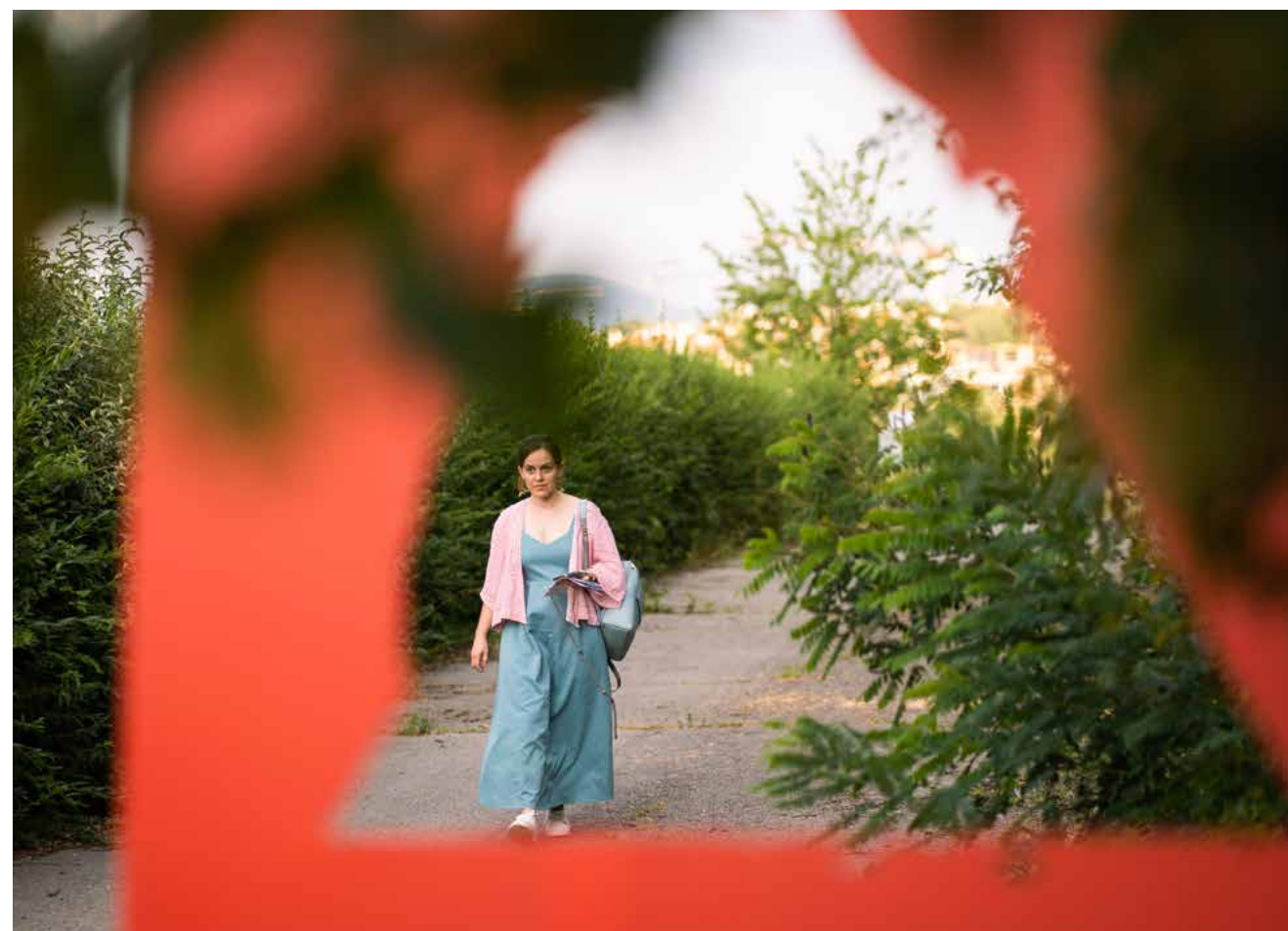
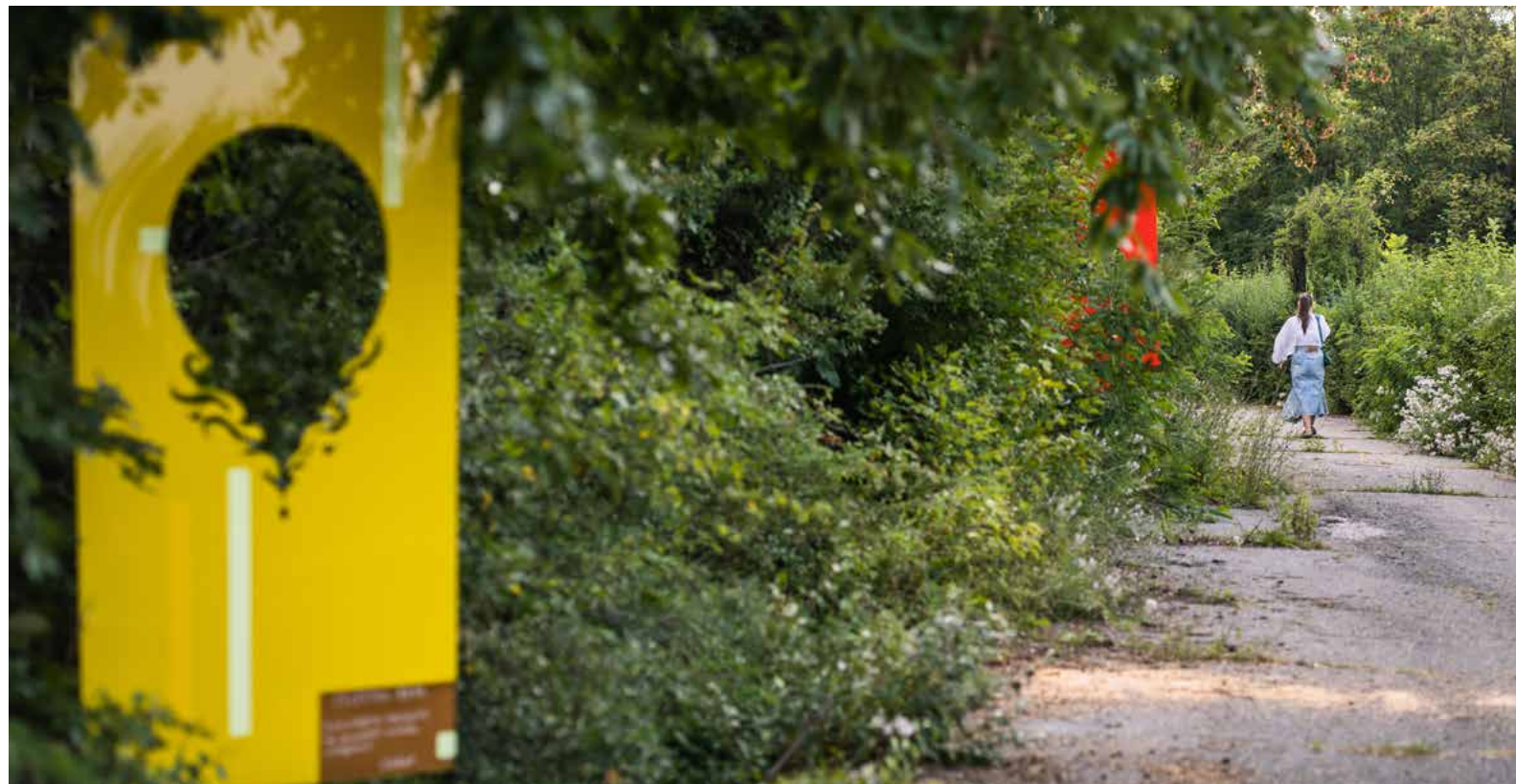
OPERA ECOLOGICA
Ботаническата градина на БАН (Околовръстен път)
PRESENZIA
Валентина Шара с куратор Алесия Симонети
18 юли 2026
Снимки: Дени Стойчев



ДЕВ&Т
СЛОНА

ботаническа
градина

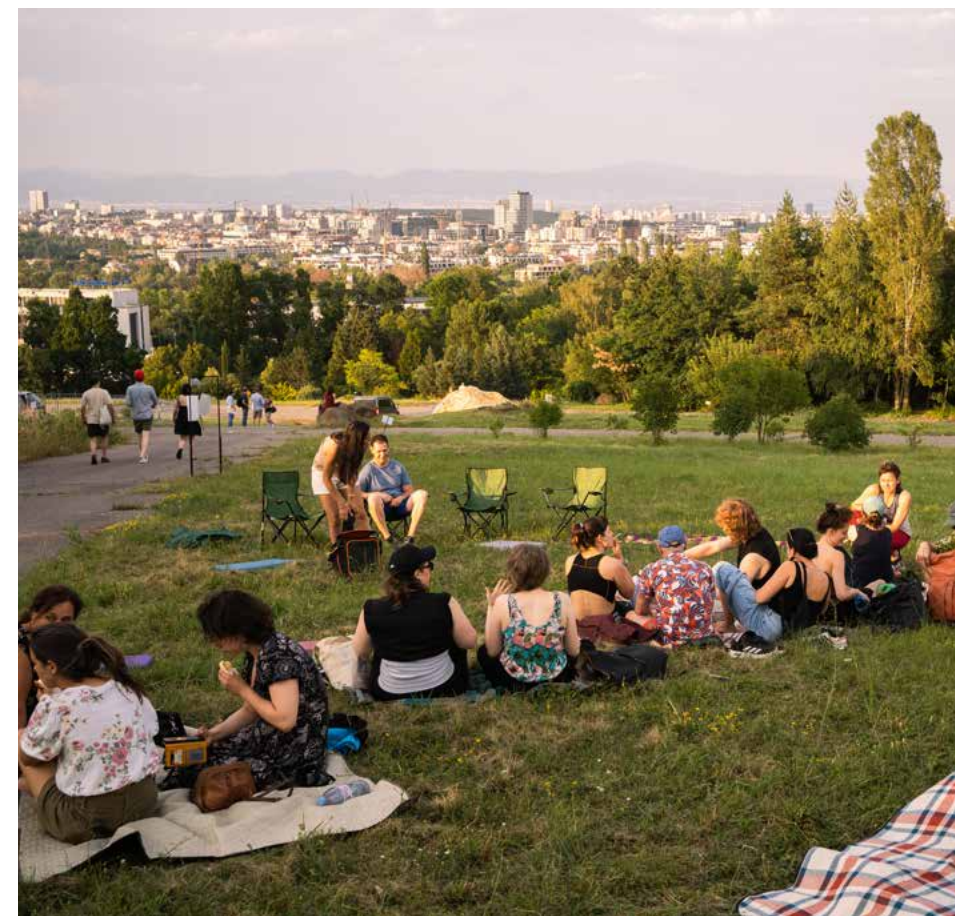
OPERA ECOLOGICA
Ботаническата градина на БАН (Околовръстен път)
МИСТИЧНИ СЪЗДАНИЯ
инсталация на Мария Минкова
18 юли 2026
Снимки: Дени Стойчев



ДЕВ&Т
СЛОНА

ботаническа
градина

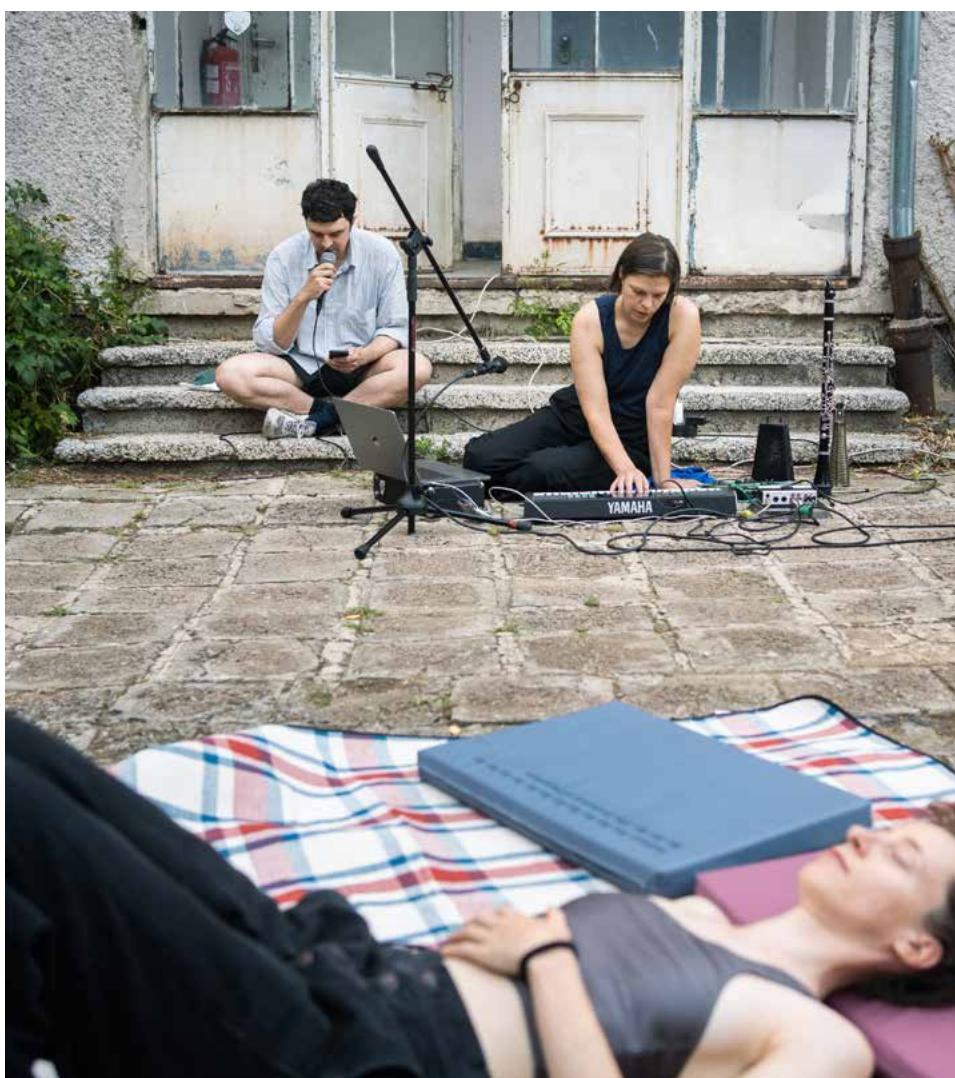
OPERA ECOLOGICA
Ботаническата градина на БАН (Околовръстен път)
ГРАДИНАТА КАТО СЪАВТОР
дискусия с участващите артисти и изследователи
18 юли 2026
Снимки: Дени Стойчев



ДЕВ&Т
СЛОНА

ботаническа
градина

OPERA ECOLOGICA
Ботаническата градина на БАН (Околовръстен път)
ГРАДИНАТА КАТО СЪАВТОР
дискусия с участващите артисти и изследователи
18 юли 2026
Снимки: Дени Стойчев



ДЕВ&Т
СЛОНА

ботаническа
градина

KADIST

OPERA ECOLOGICA

Ботаническата градина на БАН (Околовръстен път)

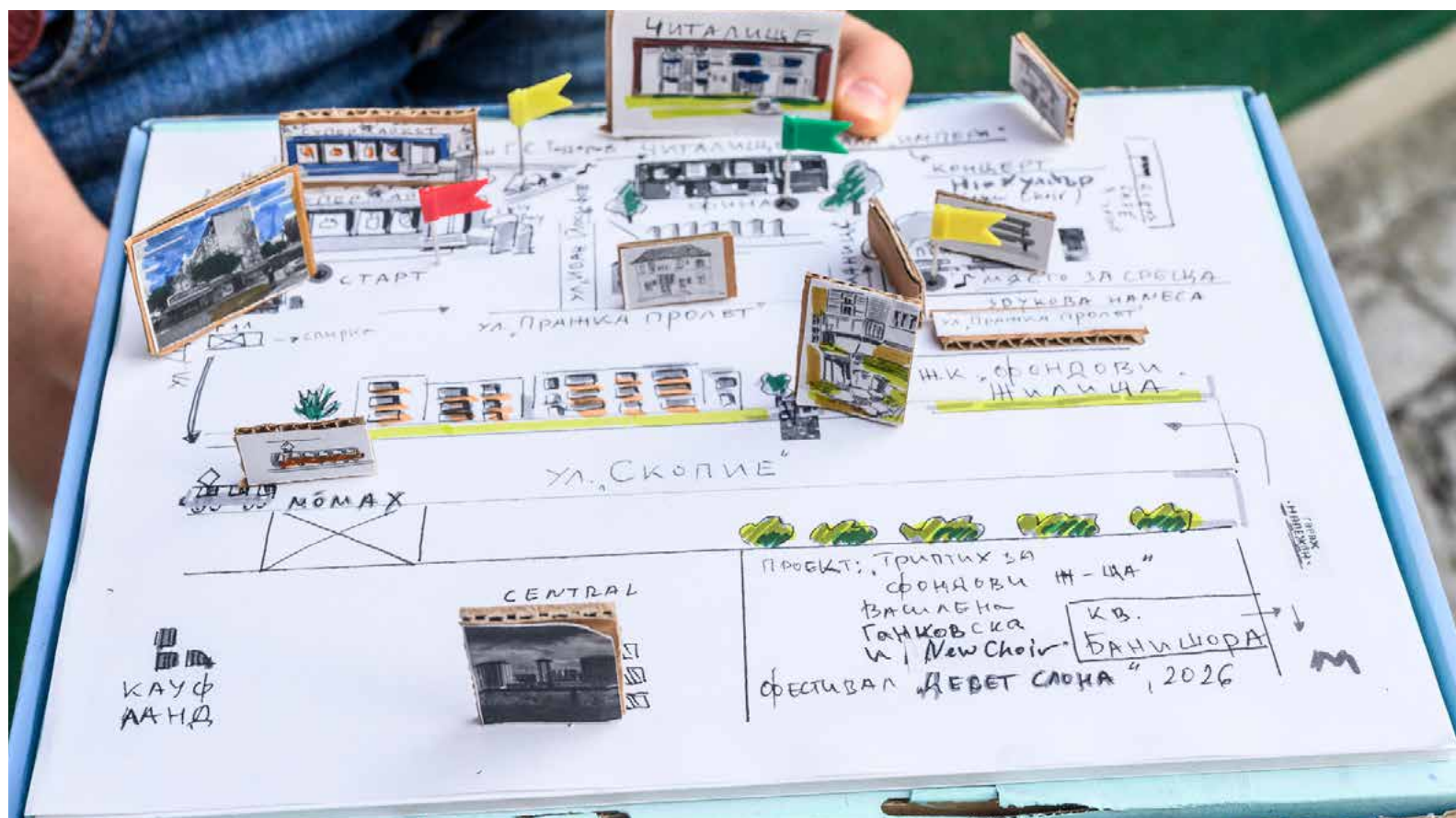
DOUBLE TAKES

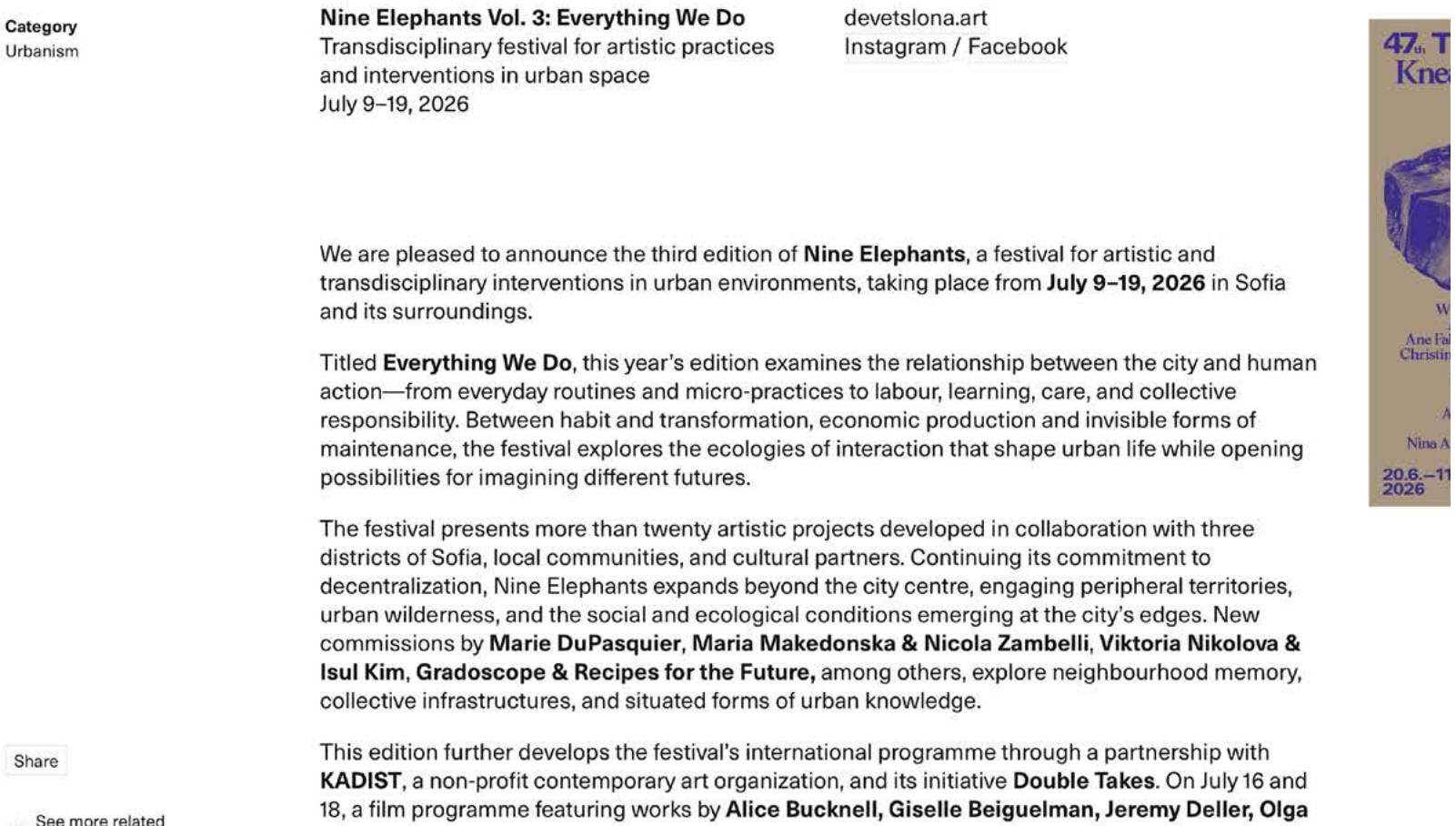
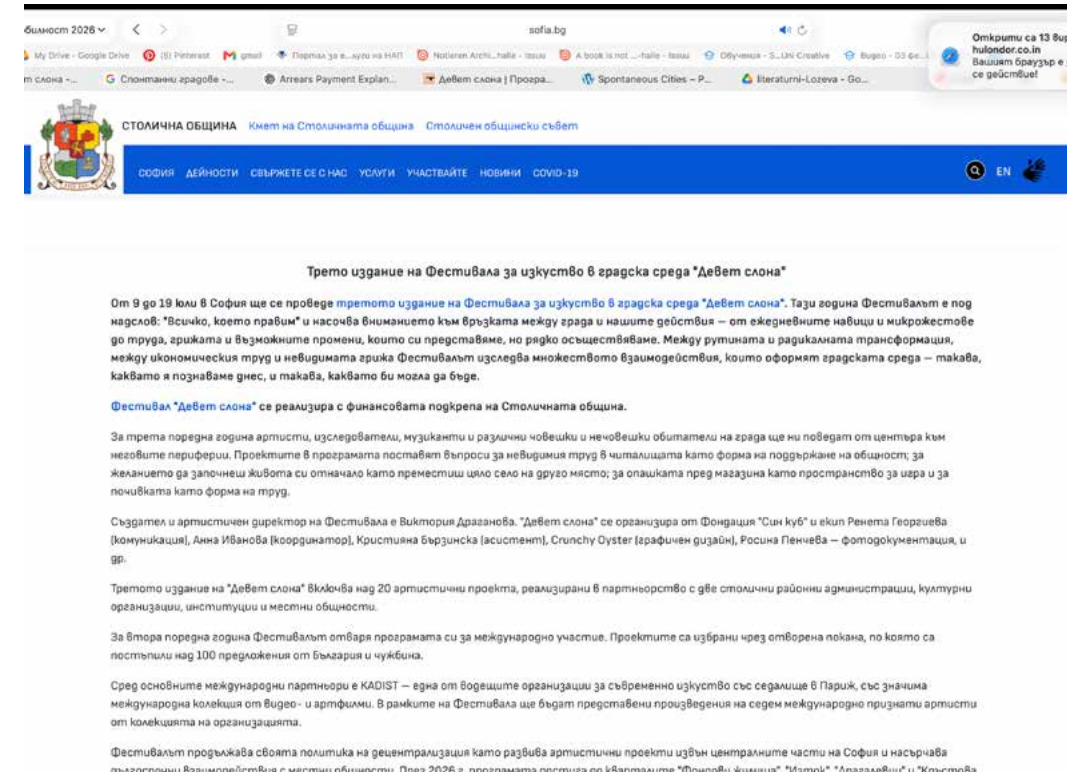
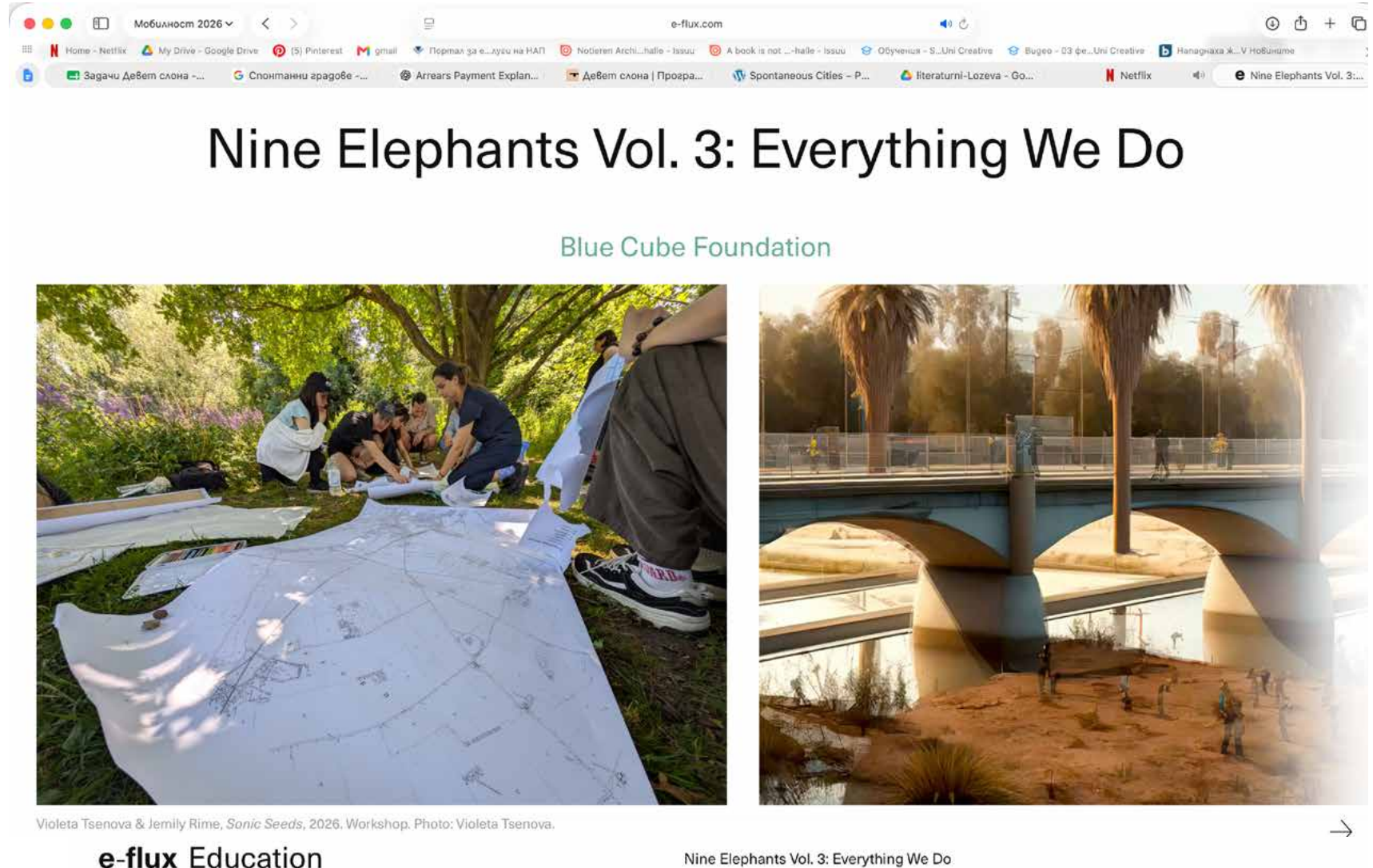
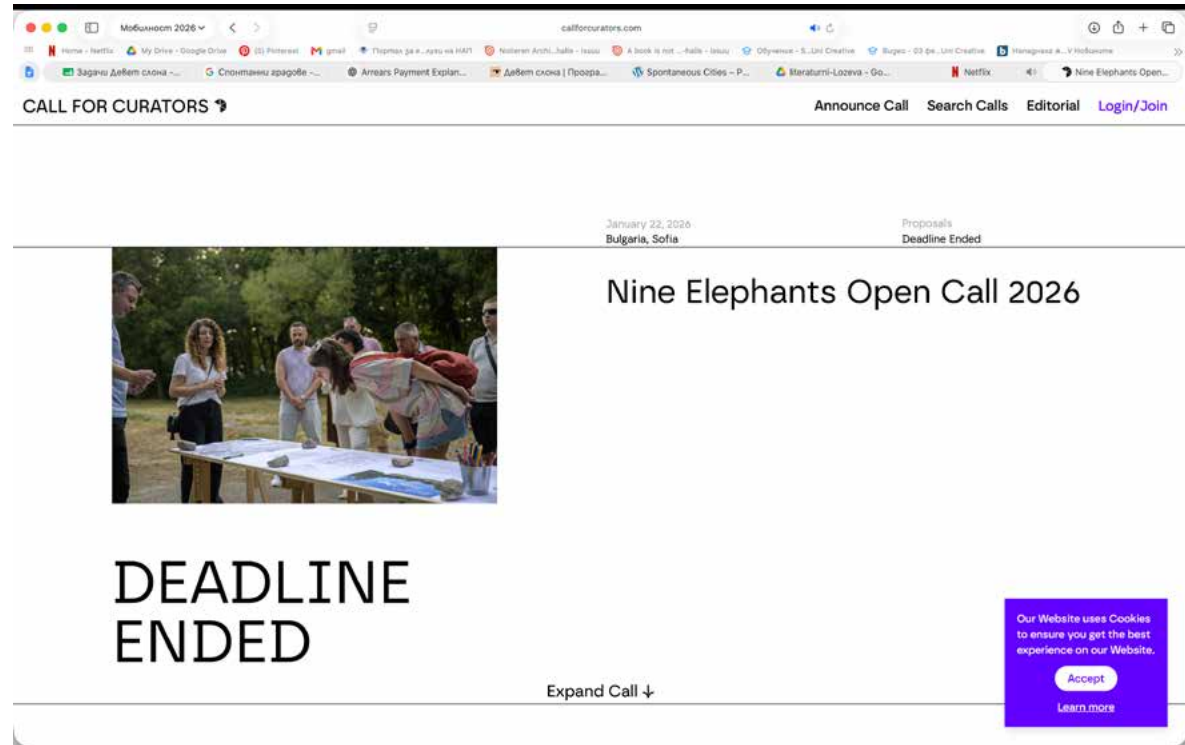
Втора част на филмова програма с KADIST

18 юли 2026

Снимки: Дени Стойчев

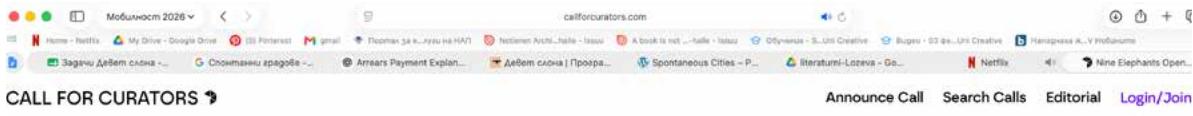
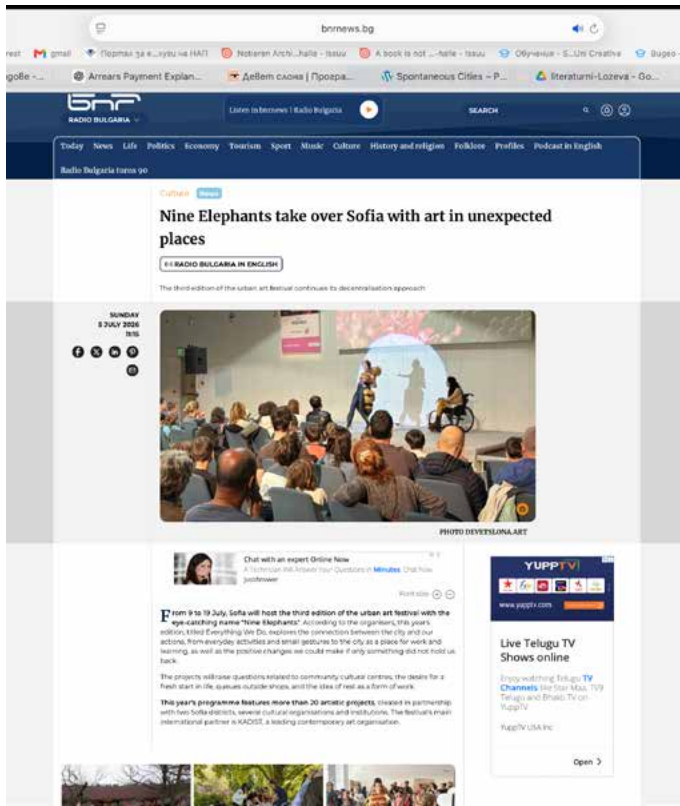






ДЕВЪТ
СЛОНА

МЕДИЙНИ ИЗЯВИ



January 22, 2026
Bulgaria, Sofia

Proposals
Deadline Ended

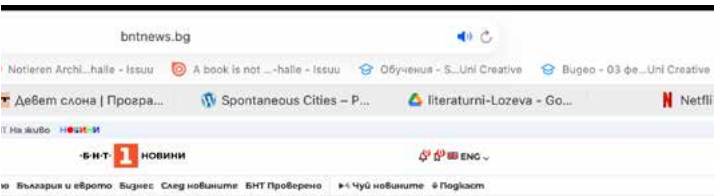
Nine Elephants Open Call 2026

Expand Call ↓

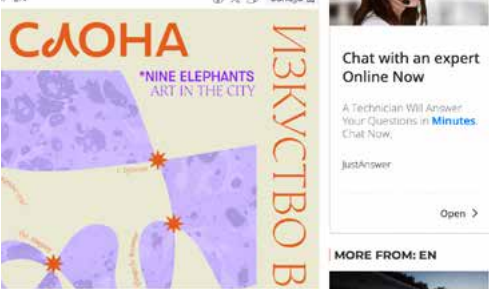
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Learn more



Urban Art Festival to Begins in Sofia on



Urban Art Festival will take place in Sofia from 9 to 19 July, the organizers

More than 20 artistic projects, delivered in partnership with two Sofia district

the national participation. The projects were selected through an open call

s from Bulgaria and abroad.

© with an exhibition by internationally renowned Croatian artist Vlatko

view of the exhibition and a conversation with the artist will take place

led by Vlatko Horvat will also be held. Among the programmes

led Chronographies of Labour, which will take place along Madrid

e evening will feature performance art, artistic interventions, theatre,

the Institute of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Research Botanical Garden

static interventions, talks and a film programme will be presented. The

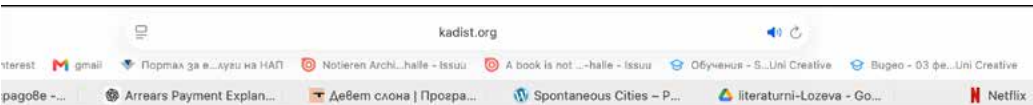
view Zlatitsa neighbourhood, one of Sofia's historic working-class

from Vienna, conducted by Pavel Naydenov and artist Vasilena

professional forum Spontaneous Cities, a platform for the exchange of

emotions, urban research and cultural work in public space. The comple-

tain art handbook Cities with Imagination will also be published.



Programs Collection Artists Tv

Sofia
Double Takes: Nine
Elephants Festival

16 JUL 2026-18 JUL 2026



Alice Bucknell, The Adults, 2023 (video still)



1 OF 8

As part of the Nine Elephants Festival, KADIST present Double Takes: Nine Elephants Festival, two screening events of artist films resonating with this year's festival theme, *Everything We Do*, which considers the city as shaped through everyday actions, forms of labor, care, and more-than-human interactions.

Curator
Viktoria Draganova

Artists
Alice Bucknell, Giselle Beiguelman, Jeremy Deller, Olga Grotova, Christian Jankowski, Isadora Neves Marques and Daniel Zenski

First screening
Thursday, July 16, 6:30-10pm
@Swimming Pool
Screening followed by a conversation with Daria Oancea & George Marinescu from Atelier Ad Hoc
Total duration: 1h30 (45 min screening followed by 45min conversation)

On July 16th, the first screening will invite reflection on the role of art in shaping and interrogating public environments. After the screening, the Bucharest-based architectural studio Atelier Ad Hoc will introduce their practice and participate in a conversation moderated by Viktoria Draganova.

Films
- Jeremy Deller, *Beyond the white walls* (26 min., 2012)
- Christian Jankowski, *Rooftop Routine* (4:30 min., 2008)
- Christian Jankowski, *Abstract Machine Lecture* (8:17min)

Information
Double Takes: Nine Elephants Festival
As part of the Nine Elephants Festival, KADIST present Double Takes: Nine Elephants Festival, two screening events of artist films.

Repeat the white walls
Thursday, July 16, 6:30-10pm
Screening followed by a conversation with Daria Oancea & George Marinescu from Atelier Ad Hoc
@The Swimming Pool
Total duration: 1h30 (45 min screening followed by 45min conversation)

Open Ecologies
Saturday, July 18, 6-10:30pm
@Botanical Garden of the Bulgarian Academy of Science
Total duration: 1h

Artists
The Animals
Flora Rebelli, Muhamed (Momen) Our Grandmother's Garden
The Public Relation between Machine and Plant
Beyond The White Walls
Rooftop Routine



For the third consecutive year, Nine Elephants – a festival for art in urban environments – invites artists, curators, researchers, urban planners and interdisciplinary practitioners to contribute projects to this year's edition of the festival, which will take place between 9 and 19 July 2026 in Sofia and its periphery.

For the new edition, we follow the festival's original impulse to develop and present artistic and interdisciplinary practices in a decentralized way across different locations in the city—within neighborhoods, along streets, in parks, and in informal or liminal spaces—mapping new ways of coexistence, perception, and storytelling of the city. At the same time, inspired by the mass protests at the end of the past year, in 2026 Nine Elephants will focus on the city as a living, changing body – ecological, emotional, remembering and collective. The recent projects have shown us the takeover of streets and squares that were until recently unrecognized as places of free expression, and the return of people to public space. These moments are perceived not only politically, but also as spatial, bodily and emotional phenomena.

Through this open call, we welcome proposals for projects and practices that expand the imagination for individual and collective life in the city – through storytelling, laborious community economy, activism and solidarity. What is that forbidden collective body of the city that

glean.art

GLEAN

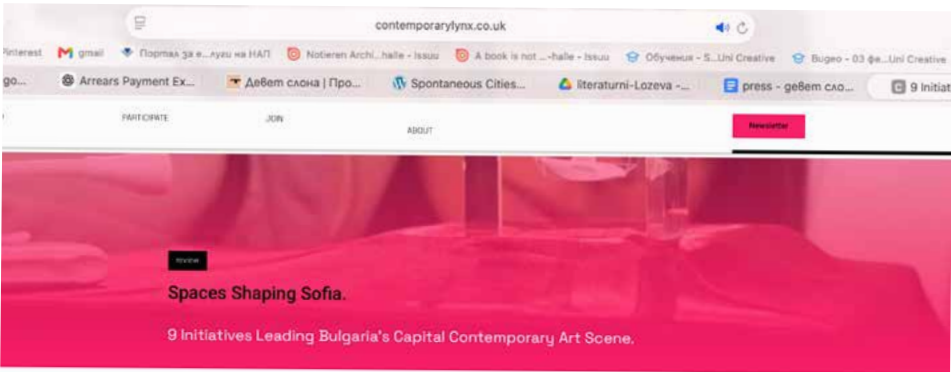
BREAKING OUT: ART IN SOFIA

Glean 7, Spring 2025
Essay by Viktoria Draganova

A photograph of a city street in Sofia, Bulgaria. The street is lined with buildings, and there is a prominent pink wall on the right side. The sky is blue with some clouds.

If you arrive in Sofia as a tourist, chances are you'll soon find yourself heading toward the Women's Market area. This neighbourhood has long been one of the most intriguing parts of the city, known for its mix of early twentieth-century architectural monuments and lively streets with food shops from around the world (especially the Middle East) — and for its stores teeming with all sorts of goods at low prices, like an offline Temu. The area is one of the most socially diverse in the city, home to various communities, including minorities and marginalized groups. But it has also become a place of gentrification in the last few years. Many cafes, brunch places, bars and co-workings have moved in, attracting both global travellers and affluent young locals who are drawn by the contrast between the 'authenticity' of everyday life and the cool-looking new designs and architecture.

Since last year, two galleries have moved into the area. One is the **Sacred Gallery @ DOT Sofia**, run by gallerist Vesselin Sariev and housed in a hotel of the same name that has won multiple architecture awards. The other is **PUNTA Gallery**, founded by curator Boyana Djikova and artists Aaron Roth and Vasilina Komitcheva, which relocated from a nearby spot just a few blocks away. Although both galleries present a somewhat traditional 'white cube' experience, they connect in different ways to the neighbourhood around them and the more complex underlying society. At PUNTA, it seems that the curators are eager to test how simulation and contrast can amplify conceptual messages in the surrounding environment. The gallery kicked off this year with an exhibition by artist Irina Georgheva and the Bureau for Melo-



contemporaryfynx.co.uk

contemporaryfynx.co.uk

Spaces Shaping Sofia.

9 Initiatives Leading Bulgaria's Capital Contemporary Art Scene.

A photograph of a person in a costume, possibly a lion or a similar animal, in a dark, possibly outdoor setting. The person is wearing a large, orange, lion-like headpiece and a dark body suit.

In between Sofia's green spaces and layered centuries of history, its contemporary art scene has been blossoming. Slowly but surely opening up to an international audience, established artists mingle with younger generations in carefully curated shows, fairs, and festivals all throughout the year.

To begin to unravel Bulgaria's path towards the contemporary today, we must take into account the large scope of historical circumstances that shaped its artistic development – circumstances that produced numerous ethnographic museums, museums, after the fall of the Ottoman Empire and the Bulgarian liberation at the end of the 19th century, our country began the journey of 'catching up' to European and global movements of the previous five centuries with deep roots in craft and material culture, the country's art form, and by the 1930s, found itself entering a compressed period, which set the tone for a completely different logic – and exploration – to artmaking.

As in the other countries under Soviet rule, we can only refer to art as 'contemporary' after the crumbling of the border – an culture that deviated from the long-established Soviet model of art, and began to explore new forms of expression. In Bulgaria, art began to reflect towards the contemporary in the 1980s. Since then, the country has built a diversity of approaches, and the opening of state borders allowed for artists an exciting new perspective to learn and practice abroad.

This brought forth a new paradigm, which was presented back in 2007 in the seminal exhibition 'Export Import' curated by Maria Vasileva at the Sofia Art Gallery, presenting the very first 'import' of Bulgarian artists abroad, an exhibition that was only for the local scene to remain confined within the borders of Bulgaria. Because of a lack of encouragement for its growth or the appreciation of contemporary Bulgarian art has effectively become a luxury import for its own public. Furthermore, as liberalization shared in conversation with Tonia Nakova, Bulgarian art is 'forced' to be seen compared to Western European art – by approximately thirty years.

This time gap is quickly shortening, and many young artists who have received formation abroad have found themselves returning to Bulgaria and active in the contemporary scene. However, the large shifts of this new shift are institutions, offering the framework to sustain contemporary art in its multiple dimensions.

As such, here you'll find an insight of what the dynamic scene contains: active galleries that have included theatre, journals, and prizes, hopping between Sofia's first art fair and empty swimming pools, passing by commercial galleries and old water towers.

Swimming Pool
The focus of **SWIMMING POOL**, an interdisciplinary project space in Sofia founded in 2015, lies on art and cultural research, collaborative approaches, art education, and art politics. Taking its name from its location on a central rooftop with an empty outdoor pool built before the 1950s, it adds intrigue and the feeling of discovering a secret that was right above your head the whole time. Here, exhibitions, performances, publications and other projects are presented year-round.

A photograph of a city street in Sofia, Bulgaria. The street is lined with buildings, and there is a prominent pink wall on the right side. The sky is blue with some clouds.

revista-atelierul.ro

ATELIERUL

Viktoria Draganova: 'Dare to ask big questions. Be kind'

by MIHAELA ION - 8 JANUARY - INTERVIEWS

A photograph of a group of people standing together outdoors. There are about eight people in total, some are looking at something on a table in front of them. The background is a green, grassy area with trees.

Viktoria Draganova is a curator and writer based in Sofia. In 2015, she established **Swimming Pool**, an art project space in Sofia, Bulgaria, dedicated to research, collaborative practices, art education, and community politics within the art world. She had the opportunity to meet Viktoria, the Swimming Pool and Nine Elephants festival when I was a speaker at the two-day symposium 'Imaging Cities' organized by Viktoria and her team.

Desecrated Memory Atelierul

Promocionărilor pe Art Atelierul

Deșeurile noi

Unveiled 3.5 % pentru Atelierul

Asociația Atelierul de Creație

Artists

Patronat

Coment

Întreaga Abia a Creativității și Imaginării de Proiect

Caută...