

DIVIDED GOD

Evaluation

When I look back at the project »Divided God«, I can only say it gave me so much... so many opportunities, experience, so much inspiration.

I remember when Drago told me about this project. When he mentioned religion, I frightened a little bit. But when he explained the whole concept, I was almost ashamed of my primary reaction. I started to wonder how something so sacred and intimate could for every individual, like religion, get such a negative undertone in every day life. And that's why I decided to take part in the project. (Also, all the cities we went to sounded tempting (:)

So, as I've mentioned before, this project gave me so much it's hard to describe. In less than one year I've traveled through the whole Balkan, I visited the »multi-culti« capital of Europe, Berlin and I enjoyed the beauty and charm of Istanbul. I love to travel, so I really enjoyed this part of the project. I met a lot, a lot of people, I had the honor to listen to people as Mr. Želimir Žilnik, mr. Mirko Djordjević, mr. Drago Pilsel, mr. Ferhat Kantel, mr. Dori etc. And also to work with some of them.

One of the best things of this kind of exchanges is that you stay in contact with a lot of people you've met, even friendships can develop. I can say that some really did. And beside that intercultural dialogue was happening all the time. We, the participants come from really different environments, backgrounds, we have different lifestyles but the things that connected us were our youth, our love towards making movies and towards the truth. Just the title »Divided God« proves that it doesn't matter into how many parts you divide it, the God is just one → human is human, no matter in which »shape« of God does he or doesn't believe. Just the really similar religious rituals show that everything came from the same foundation – human. And that's the beauty of the intercultural dialogue – no matter how different our opinions and mentality are, we can still find common language if we just try to. Intercultural dialogue cannot exist without effort. Even if the differences are really big and seem insurmountable, they are not. Intercultural dialogue is a result of compromise, so it is necessary to adjust to each other.

Let's go back to the project. I like it because of the fact that it connects lectures (so, education and knowledge), shooting, filming (the practical part and researching) and also fun and uniting people. Above all I have wonderful memories of this project. We became really close with the participants, we met them, felt the beat of their cities, they felt the beat of our little capital (Ljubljana), and we saw how they live, their temperament, their mentality and their culture.

I also like the project because I've always been and I still am very curious and I notice some facts really fast, so I could express and film that. And I think that results talk for themselves.

I learnt a lot! About religions, of course, about the history, culture, politics, system, I also learnt a lot about life and about myself!

And after the praise comes the acknowledgement! I would like to thank to all the participants of the project, all the people who told me their stories, all the people who just were there and did what they do every day – live their lives, because with that they helped me to realize and to understand their culture, their beat. Of course, thanks to those who enabled us this project (sponsors) and especially to the person without whom this project wouldn't succeed, Mr. Drago Pintarič.

Katarina Rešek