



Exhibition view from City Agents, EKKM Estonian Museum of Contemporary Art, Tallinn, curated by Jussi Koitela.
All photos: Rädle & Jeremić

Real Struggle, Fake Estates

Textile flags of various formats with drawings, acrylic on textile, wall drawing, photographs, 2016

The point of departure for the artistic intervention by Rena Rädle & Vladan Jeremić is a reference to Gordon Matta Clark's *Reality Properties: Fake Estates*, a critique of private property. In 1973 Matta Clark acquired tiny pieces of unusable and sometimes inaccessible surplus land in Queens from the city of New York. At that time industries relocated their production to low-wage, non-union states and the warehouses and manufacturing sites of Queens became an abandoned place with its inhabitants left without jobs. The current development of Tallinn's workers' quarter Kalamaja into a hipster place of the creative industries is another example of appropriation of the city's productivity by capitalist interests that will probably soon be followed by the eviction of less wealthy inhabitants like unemployed, drug addicts and the Russian speaking underclass.

The set of flags *Real Struggle, Fake Estates* with symbols, slogans and drawings is derived from the shape of Matta Clark's *Fake Estates*. The symbols stem from the *Steelworks ABC*, a set of signs the artists have developed earlier and that refers to a specific creative collaboration between workers and artists in self-managed Socialist Yugoslavia. Flags are often used to claim ownership of colonized and privatized land. With the *Real Struggle, Fake Estates* flags they do not claim physical territory but reclaim the class position and consciousness of solidarity of cultural workers and all other workers that are struggling with the precarisation and fragmentation of life and working relations.

Production: EKKM - Estonian Museum of Contemporary Art, 2016













