

Janez Janša, Janez Janša, Janez Janša

Mount Triglav on Mount Triglav

On 30 December 1968, at the Zvezda Park in Ljubljana, three members of the group OHO (Milenko Matanović, David Nez, and Drago Dellabernardina) donned a heavy black sheet which reached down to their feet, leaving only their faces visible. The performance – in actual fact little more than a tableau-vivant – was entitled *Mount Triglav*. About 35 years later, the group Irwin re-enacted *Mount Triglav* along with other works by OHO in the frame of the project Like to Like (2003 - 2004). In Irwin's remake, the performance aspect of the various projects is lost, and what is highlighted is their ability to give rise to images that lodge in the memory, both individually and collectively, withstanding the test of time, becoming part of history and manipulating an identity. On 6 August 2007 Janez Janša, Janez Janša and Janez Janša staged a performance entitled *Mount Triglav on Mount Triglav*, which provisionally closes this matrioska-style story initiated by OHO in 1968. The three artists, who had just completed a long bureaucratic procedure enabling them all to take the same name (a name that also happens to belong to one of the most important Slovenian politicians of the present day), documented the event, and about an year later celebrated it creating a golden monumental sculpture entitled *Monument to the National Contemporary Art (Golden Triglav)*.

The three performances, and the related artifacts, can be interpreted as both a research on the shifting life of a symbol in an age that lacks strong political narratives and on the destiny of performance art in the contemporary, increasingly commodified, art world.

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