



KIOSK K67
SYSTEM FOR URBAN IMAGINATION

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Date: July 2021 - August 2024

The **Kiosk K67**: *System for Urban Imagination* project is an ongoing cultural and urban revitalization initiative dedicated to restoring and reintroducing Kiosk K67 modules into public spaces across the region of the former Yugoslavia and beyond. Originally designed as modular structures to activate public spaces and support micro-businesses, the project seeks to revive Kiosk K67 units as monuments of the region's shared cultural heritage and collective identity among diverse ethnic communities. To date, four Kiosk K67 units have been restored and integrated into the urban environments across Houston, Texas; Ključ, Bosnia and Herzegovina; and London, United Kingdom.

TEAM

Project Lead:

Dijana Handanovic (University of Houston)

Restoration Collaborators:

MiSan, Esad Handanovic

Houston, TX, Blaffer Art Museum Exhibition Collaborators:

More Magnets, Rodrigo Gellardo, Allan Perez, Kim Saotonglang

The exhibition was partially funded by the Cynthia Woods Mitchell Center for the Arts.

Ključ (Bosnia and Herzegovina) Exhibition Collaborators:

Municipality of Ključ, Cultural Center Ključ

London (UK) Installation Collaborator:

FAWW Gallery

Two students served as paid research assistants during the preliminary stages of the project, each completing 80 hours of work.

Collection of **Kiosk K67** units in an urban setting

Image courtesy of "Saša J. Mächtig, Kiosk K67", Museum of Architecture and Design, Ljubljana



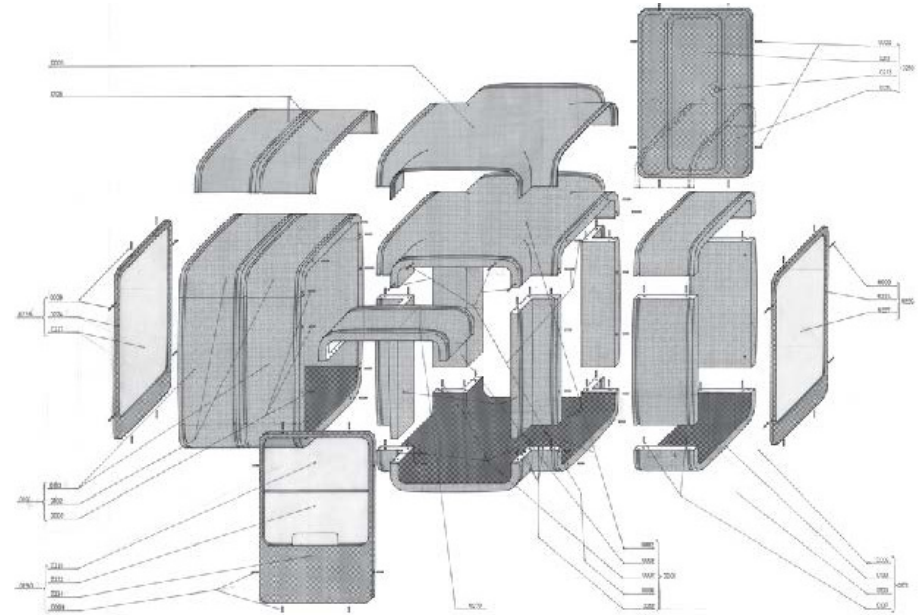
HISTORICAL CONTEXT

Kiosk K67 was designed in 1966 by Slovenian architect Sasa Mächtig. As socialism and privatization began to intersect in Yugoslavia, Mächtig recognized the impact objects have on daily urban life and envisioned the kiosk as a modular structure that activates public space through flexible, community-oriented use. Using two intersecting plastic pipes, he constructed physical study models that helped him test his idea of marrying structural integrity and function. Using physical models as a primary study method, Mächtig conceptualized the first version of the Kiosk K67 system as a kit of parts, comprising five primary structural components into which secondary components, doors, walls, and windows, were inserted.

The first full-scale reinforced polyfiber, Kiosk K67, was presented to the public in 1969 in Ljutomer, Slovenia, and produced by the Slovenian manufacturer Imgrad. As a product of urban design, architecture, and industrial design in the political and socio-economic context of socialist Yugoslavia, Kiosk K67 embarked on a path of further development, ultimately becoming an undeniable part of the urban landscape in the region of former Yugoslavia. While some kiosks were exported to Australia, New Zealand, and Japan, the majority were adopted within the domestic market. The Kiosk K67 could stand alone as an individual unit or be combined

to create larger aggregations. The individual parts allowed for endless configurations that responded to the existing urban landscape, its users, and various programs. It formalized the sensibility of community through the forms that can host a wide range of microbusinesses, such as newspaper stands, flower shops, ticket booths, coffee shops, food stalls, and more. In Yugoslavia's fast-evolving towns and cities, the kiosk provided a common pattern yet a unique identity. In contrast to the 'heavy' concrete brutalist architecture that characterized Yugoslavia, the kiosk was light, bright, flexible, and nomadic.

The kiosk's production began to fade in the 1980s, when Yugoslavia's economy entered a state of rapid decline. As a result, Imgrad dissolved, and so did Yugoslavia itself, leaving behind traces of ethnic division. Of the 7,500 Kiosk K67 modules produced, only a few remain, yet they continue to represent a shared history and a sense of collective identity that transcends ethnic and national boundaries. In a region of continuous ethnic upheaval, the Kiosk K67 serves as a monument to the shared cultural memory rooted in everyday experiences.



Top: Exploded axonometric drawing of **Kiosk K67** system

Bottom: **Kiosk K67** as a newspaper stand, Slovenia 1973

Image courtesy of "Saša J. Mächtig, Kiosk K67", Museum of Architecture and Design, Ljubljana



Sarajevo, 1992-1996.

Abandoned **Kiosk K67** in Sarajevo during the Siege, a silent witness to disrupted urban life.

Image courtesy: Oslobodjenje

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The **Kiosk K67**: *System for Urban Imagination* project is a culturally significant urban revitalization initiative dedicated to restoring and reintegrating Kiosk K67 modules into contemporary public spaces across the region of former Yugoslavia and beyond. The project engages with the Kiosk K67 as an architectural artifact and as a social catalyst that fosters dialogue and community within fragmented urban contexts. In post-Yugoslav urban environments that are marked by division, the Kiosk K67 serves as a reminder of shared identity and coexistence.

The Kiosk K67 restoration process began with disassembling each kiosk into its components. Every side panel, window, door, and flooring component was removed and assessed for damage. The kiosks were severely deteriorated, with cracks in their polyfiber shells, decayed floors, structural instability, and leaking roofs. In addition, in many cases, original parts had been altered or lost over time, requiring the combination of multiple kiosks to reconstruct a single unit. After disassembly, each part of the kiosk was carefully restored: surfaces were sanded, structural elements were repaired, cracks and holes in the polyfiber shell were patched, and all components were primed and repainted in the kiosk's original colors. Glass panels were cleaned or replaced as needed.

Once all parts were restored, each kiosk was reassembled and sealed. As of 2025, four Kiosk K67 units have been restored and introduced into the urban fabric of Houston (Texas), Ključ (Bosnia and Herzegovina), and London (UK).



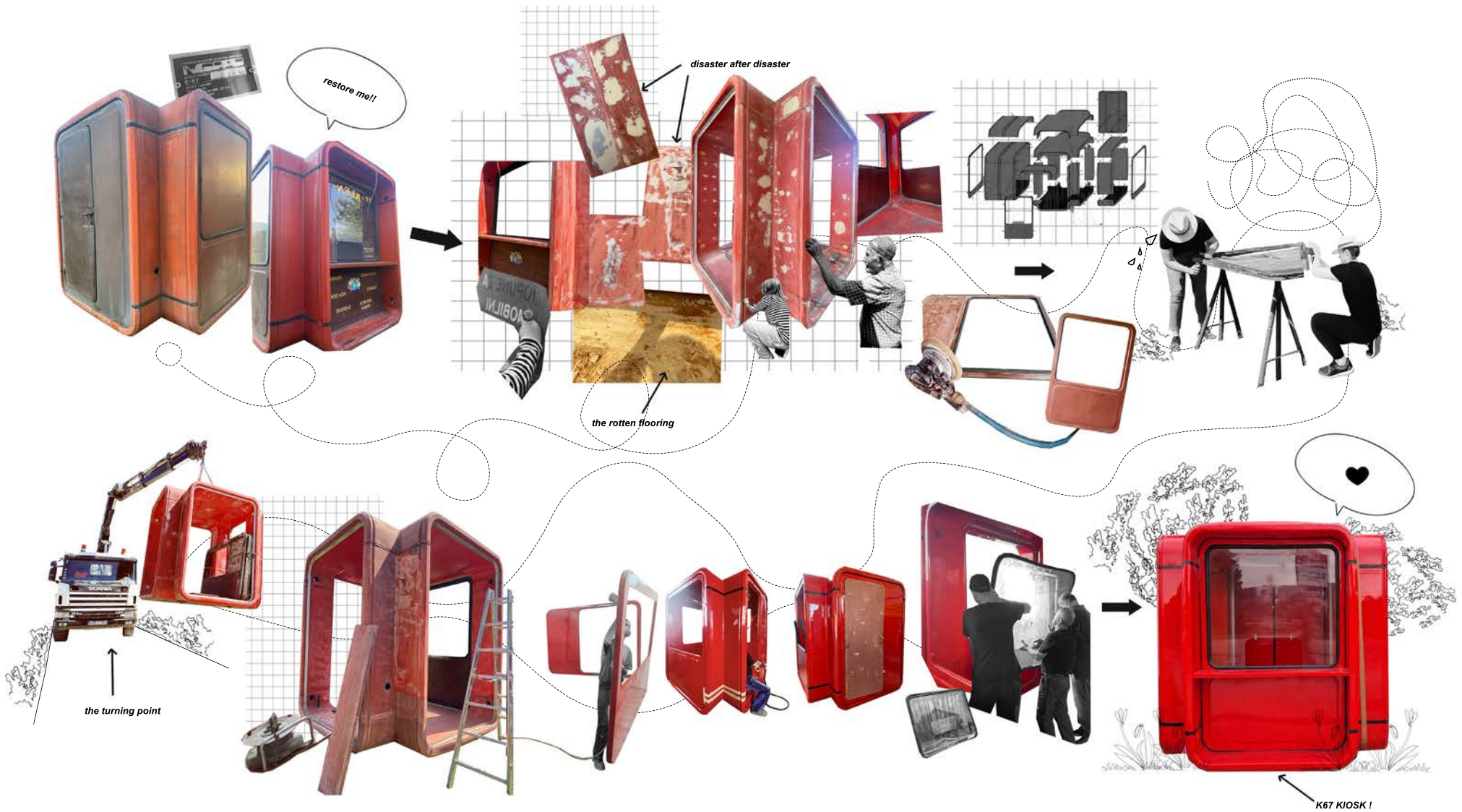
Kiosk K67 units before restoration
Image courtesy: Dijana Handanovic



Kiosk K67 restoration process
Image courtesy: Dijana Handanovic



Restoration team painting and assembling **Kiosk K67** units
Image courtesy: Dijana Handanovic





Four restored **Kiosk K67** units
Image courtesy: Dijana Handanovic

KIOSK K67: SYSTEM FOR URBAN IMAGINATION

Exhibition

Location: Blaffer Art Museum, Houston TX

Opening Date: January 26, 2023

INSTALLATION 1

The first restored **Kiosk K67** was installed as part of the *Kiosk K67: System for Urban Imagination* exhibition at the Blaffer Art Museum in January 2023. The restored Kiosk, shipped from Bosnia and Herzegovina, served as a central piece in the exhibition, highlighting its architectural and cultural significance.

Kiosk K67 at the Blaffer Art Museum as part of the "Kiosk K67: System for Urban Imagination" exhibition

Image courtesy: Dijana Handanovic, Nicholas Nguyen / University of Houston

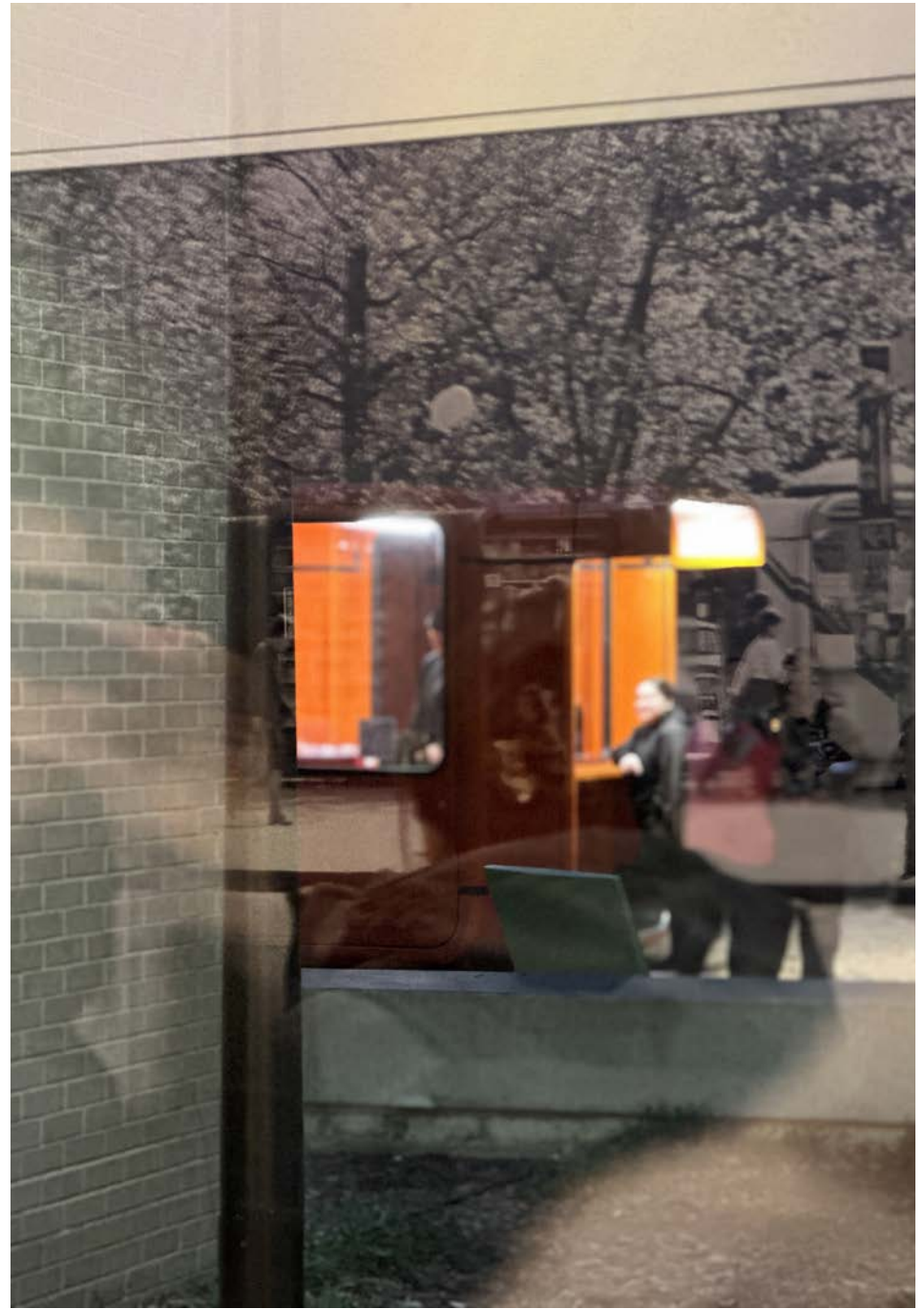




Kiosk K67 at the Blaffer Art Museum, installed in the School of Art courtyard as part of the 'Kiosk K67: System for Urban Imagination' exhibition
Image courtesy: Niclas Nguyen / University of Houston



Kiosk K67 at the Blaffer Art Museum as part of the "Kiosk K67: System for Urban Imagination" exhibition
Image courtesy: Dijana Handanovic, Nicholas Nguyen / University of Houston



KIOSK K67/ZANAT Exhibition

Location: Blaffer Art Museum, Houston TX
Opening Date: March 9, 2023

During the **Kiosk K67: System for Urban Imagination** exhibition, the restored kiosk hosted a K67/ZANAT pop-up installation developed in collaboration with ZANAT and Adam Cook (Shop).

Kiosk K67/ZANAT, Pop-up Exhibition, Blaffer Art Museum, Houston
Image courtesy: Dijana Handanovic, Nicholas Nguyen / University of Houston





Kiosk K67/ZANAT, Pop-up Exhibition, Blaffer Art Museum, Houston
Image courtesy: Nicholas Nguyen / University of Houston

KIOSK K67: SYSTEM FOR URBAN IMAGINATION

Exhibition

Location: Ključ, Bosnia and Herzegovina

Opening Date: July 20, 2024

INSTALLATION 2

In July 2023, a restored yellow **Kiosk K67** was installed in Ključ, Bosnia and Herzegovina. This was the first restored kiosk to be reintroduced into the urban fabric of Bosnia and Herzegovina post the Bosnian War. Here, the kiosk serves as a symbol of heritage and collective identity.

Kiosk K67: System for Urban Imagination, Ključ, Bosnia and Herzegovina, 2024

Image courtesy: Dijana Handanovic, Ksenija Hotic





Kiosk K67: System for Urban Imagination, Ključ, Bosnia and Herzegovina, 2024
Image courtesy: Ksenija Hotić

KIOSK K67 / FAWW GALLERY

Location: London
Opening Date: June, 2024

INSTALLATION 3

The **Kiosk K67** installation in London is a collaboration with the FAWW Gallery. Here the Kiosk K67 operates as a pop-up gallery. During weekends, it transforms into a DJ booth, offering a moment of pause in the busy urban setting and fostering a sense of community.



Kiosk K67/FAWW Gallery, London. UK, 2024
Image courtesy: FAWW Gallery

Kiosk K67/FAWW Gallery, London. UK, 2024
 Images courtesy: FAWW Gallery





Kiosk K67/FAWW Gallery, London. UK, 2024
Image courtesy: FAWW Gallery