GOETHE INSTITUT

Weekly news magazine NIN

04.04.2013

Section: Culture

Circulation

The Belgrade Savamala city quarter is in a very serious state of desolation: even so much so that it virtually wrestles for life or death. It seems to be only the vivid nightlife which every now and then breathes life into the otherwise completey neglected city quarter. Recently, though, Savamala´s revitalization enjoys a surge of public awareness — expecially through the "Urban Incubator: Belgrade"

project of the Goethe-Institut which was officially launched last week.

The project launch marked the opening of "Spanish House" and architects, artists, activists, and other participants of the "Urban Incubator: Belgrade" moving into this building, which could come to be the new pulsating heart of Savamala. The "project brain", however, can be found ion another space, the "Bureau Savamala", from where art theoreticians and sociologists will critically monitor, analyze, and steer the process. The authentic spirit of Savamala will be physically captured by the project "A Model for Savamala", while the "tool-kit"-Project [of the "Design Support Studio Savamala"-team] will look into Savamala's every day life and uniqueness. The same goal will be at the heart of the "Nextsavamala"-project, which will adresses residents and citizens of Belgrade to develop their own ideas and visions about Savamala's future and to engage with the project. The launch of this "circulation" project announces a varied schedule of different activities, presentations and workshops, for example with students of architecture who will research alternative approaches to city quarter devolpement and many

others.

True to the motto "We also love the Art of Others", the Belgrade artists' collective Third Belgrade (Treći Beograd) will work on their body esthetics, co-operating with many local and international artists who, in Savamala, will find their source of inspiration as much as a challenge. And, last but not least, the soundart project "Slušaj Savamala" will collect the sounds of Savamala, creatively transform them only to feed them back into the public space.