

As the result of the research, Open Museum workshop group has elaborated two antagonistic versions of a possible mission of the museum, open for further discussion

Preambula

National Art Museum of Ukraine is a space for public debate and development of critical practices. The Museum should reclaim its background as a public institution by providing a space for debating the crucial issues in cultural and political field, just as it provides the space for the contemplation of the artworks. With the construction of narratives of Ukrainian cultural, artistic and national identity, the Museum should preserve a critical distance towards these narratives. Such a stance will let the museum represent the society in its contradictions, inconsistencies and antagonisms, rather than construct a singular totalizing narrative that excludes various minoritarian segments of society. Ukrainian society as a highly differentiated, fragmented and diversified society deserves a critical institution that would not impose hierarchical values and narratives, but should build a space for representation of antagonisms within its own structure. National Art Museum of Ukraine is an open institution which offers opportunities for deeper understanding of current socio-political and cultural processes through art exhibitions, scientific researches, performances, discussions and other practices.

National Art Museum of Ukraine goes towards "Open Museum".
The Museum makes it real via:

being an open institution with an articulated proactive position towards current sociopolitical and cultural agenda of the state

being active in fundraising

continuously reconsidering the given body of artworks in an open debate

seeing artistic heritage as a tool to

Preambula

National Art Museum of Ukraine is an institution that collects, preserves and popularizes Ukrainian art. The Museum should reclaim its background as a public institution by providing a comfortable space for leisure and edutainment, just as it provides the space for the contemplation of the artworks. By constructing a unified view on Ukrainian cultural, artistic and national identity, the Museum cultivates the sense of national dignity. The Museum aims at constructing a singular, majority-oriented narrative, focused on the elaboration of political consensus within society. The collection of the Museum is at core of its activity and represents the main achievements of arts development in a complete entity. The National Art Museum of Ukraine offers opportunities for deeper understanding of Ukrainian culture through art exhibitions, educational programme and guided tours.

National Art Museum of Ukraine confirms its role as a temple of art.
The Museum makes it real via:

being an institution that sees art as a self-sufficient value that needs not any further reflection

being passively supported by the state budget and sporadic private donations only

preserving a collection of masterpieces in a complete entity

seeing artistic heritage as the material to

revaluate historical narrative and rethink national identity in multiple directions
introducing an idea of a space provoking critical thinking

being able to learn from its audiences

seeing a museum exhibition as a proposal to reconsider conventions

creating a system of non-linear horizontal connections and initiatives inside the museum's staff

allowing museum workers act as citizens even in contradiction to the museum policy

going beyond the museum's physical space and material objecthood of the artworks
collaborating with other museums and communities to initiate and regulate structural changes

seeing visitors as participants of the museum life and actors of the museum community
introducing a space for experiment, research, ideas and situations

following public initiatives and proposals formulated by citizens

building a collection based on artworks, as well as unconventional formats of objects, and non-objects which mirror significant political and social processes in contemporary society

defending artists

construct a singular historic narrative with a sense of national dignity
introducing an idea of a comfortable museum as one with a cafe, easy navigation, wifi and other leisure facilities

imposing its authority and complete knowledge

considering a museum exhibition as a status-giving authority

imposing a hierarchical structure inside the museum's staff

shaping museum workers' position as strictly following the museum policy

being defined by the collection it owns and the walls of its building

solving the museum problems inside the institution internally

seeing visitors as passive consumers of suggested activities

focusing on collection of time-tested masterpieces

working with its internal staff only

expanding the collection based on conventional artistic mediums and formats

preserving the heritage of the past