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#artcologne

NEW POSITIONS at ART COLOGNE 2023

++ 20 outstanding artistic positions in the sponsorship booths at this year's ART COLOGNE ++

The 56th edition of ART COLOGNE is starting in only a few days. In addition to a high quality exhibition of around 170 galleries and dealers from around the world and various special events, the NEW POSITIONS booths will be presented at ART COLOGNE from 16 to 19 November 2023. The most convincing NEW POSITIONS were nominated by a trade jury consisting of Anja Casser - Director of the Badischer Kunstverein in Karlsruhe, Nadine Droste - Director of the Kunstverein Bielefeld, Krist Gruijthuijsen - Director of KW Institute for Contemporary Art in Berlin and Thomas Scheibitz - artist and professor at the Kunstakademie Düsseldorf.

The 20 NEW POSITIONS at ART COLOGNE 2023 are
(in alphabetical order of artists)

Galerie Anke Schmidt is presenting an artist who was born in Germany and lives in New York and Montreal with **Rey Akdogan**. "Subtractions" are what she calls her current objects and installations, which occupy themselves with a phenomenon of human perception: that which is considered important and interesting is focused on, while that in the background is only perceived unconsciously and becomes fuzzy. Akdogan examines these backgrounds and presents individual elements from them which restore their significance and develop new relationships through a kind of collage technique of layering and combining.

In its sponsorship booth, the **Christine König Galerie** from Vienna is presenting paintings and objects by the artist **Rimma Arslanov**, who was born in Tajikistan in 1978. She lives in Düsseldorf and was honoured last year with the sponsorship award for artists of the Academy for Media Arts Cologne. In her dreamlike visual worlds and installations, Arslanov shows everyday things like curtains or furniture, which are joined by elements from a surreally alienated world. These interventions disrupt the linear and apparently clear and create theatrical, mysterious scenarios.

The Swiss artist **Céline Ducrot**, born in 1992, studied painting in Leipzig and will be shown by **Kadel Wilborn**. She remains completely true to the analogue panel painting and works with the airbrush. The figures in her paintings pursue - solo or in small groups - everyday activities: we see them doing sports, inhaling, cutting their hair, in the sauna. Seemingly familiar situations slip away into the surreal, the uncertain. Things and actors appear cool and hermetic. She also works as an illustrator for print media, for which she won a Swiss design award in 2018.



ART COLOGNE
16.11. - 19.11.2023
artcologne.com

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Galerie Friese from Berlin presents the youngest artist of the sponsorship programme. **Ambra Durante** was born in 2000 in Genoa and has lived in Berlin since 2007. In 2020, she published her graphic novel "Black Box Blues" with Wallstein Verlag - a story about the reason to mourn for life and how this can nonetheless help us move forward. The artist draws on any material: on canvas, card, shopping bags, shooting targets. She uses whatever she has at hand for her both simple and complex pictorial stories.

The artist **Marta Dyachenko** is presented by **Dittrich & Schlechtriem**. She was born in 1990 in Kiev, studied architecture and fine arts with a focus on sculpture at the University of the Arts in Berlin, where she also lives. In her installations, she often works with model-like sculptures in the landscape. The focus of her work is on the relationship of nature and human being and the societally constructed look at landscape and urban spaces. In 2021 she received the Bernhard Heiliger Scholarship with a subsequent exhibition in the Kunsthaus Dahlem.

Galerie Ernst Hilger presents the painter **Sophie Esslinger**. She was born in 1996 in Linz and, following a programme of studies in literature and art in Vienna, currently studies painting at the Kunstakademie Düsseldorf. She looks at painting as an artistic means and examines the field of tension of its formal possibilities and limits. Her works show a rapid, gestural and expansive application of paint with defined contours and open up pictorial spaces that extend far beyond that shown in the painting.

Jonas Fahrenberger can be seen with **Galerie Nagel Draxler**. Fahrenberger was born in 1995 and has been studying since 2015 at the University of Art and Design in Offenbach. The artist creates objects and collages that fixate and critically question fragments of daily life in a mix of flamboyant motifs and loud slogans. Longing and promises of happiness are as much central themes of his art as failure. The scratch ticket as chance and fizzled out dream finds its thematic parallels in the gleaming facades of the skyscrapers of Frankfurt, the reflections of which are only auspicious glimmers of light.

The Austrian painter **Eiko Gröschl** is being presented by the Viennese **Charim Galerie**. He was born in 1992 in Graz and completed his studies at the Academy of Arts in Vienna with Erwin Bohatsch, where he also lives. Gröschl gathers first impressions for his seemingly poetic and dreamlike works while exploring the city of Vienna and its environs. Individual elements of his observations become the starting points for the landscape scenes. Sometimes a human figure, plants or a fragment of architecture appear. The painting surfaces are rough, scratched and opaque and appear to originate from another time.

Galerie Christian Lethert presents the Swiss artist **Roman Gysin**. He was born in 1984 in Möhlin and lives in Zurich. Gysin questions conventional patterns of perception with his sculptural works. The decoration, the uncanny, the fetish, the everyday and the inconspicuous - all these moments can be found in his wall works, sculptures and installations. The fascination for decorative phenomena in everyday life that the artist encounters in his research and documents with photographs

provides the starting point for his works.

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Simon Herkner with **Galerie Elisabeth & Reinhard Hauff** was born in 1986 and completed his studies at the Stuttgart State Academy of Art and Design with Reto Boller. He examines the formal possibilities of sculpture at the intersections of object, sculpture and installation. In the process he uses both industrially produced blanks and used materials from scrap yards and construction sites as well as products of consumer culture like clothing, accessories and packaging. Signs of usage of all kinds on the shining surfaces of metal and PVC or on cartons are used deliberately. The act of setting up and staging the space ensembles itself, in which Herkner also experiments with sound and music, is of essential importance for his installation works.

Galerie Guido W. Baudach is introducing **Erwin Kneihsl**. He was born in 1952 in Vienna, worked for many years in Berlin and now lives in Vienna again. Kneihsl has already been active as an artist since the mid-1970s and has had numerous exhibitions in Germany, but is only known to very few people. His oeuvre today mainly consists of photographic works. These are, with only a few exceptions, black and white, exclusively analogue and made by hand. They are unique pieces both in terms of the photography and the production of the prints. His subjects have remained consistent throughout the years: dolls, architecture, motifs from nature. In their formal reduction, they develop an emblematic character that allows them to appear very current.

Arthur Löwen was born in 1987 in Orsk, Russia. He completed his studies in painting in Braunschweig with Walter Dahn. His paintings pass through various stages in the process of origination. The artist thus applies thin coats of paint on the front of the canvas, which are then covered by a last, contrasting coat. He then covers the image carrier with an absorbent cloth while this is still damp. He subsequently continues to work on this. Löwen also always addresses the act of painting itself as a theme, uses language as an additional artistic method and understands painting as formation, and not as a genre. Arthur Löwen is being presented by the **Galerie fiebach, minninger** from Cologne.

Irina Orjovan, represented by **COSAR**, was born in 1988 in the Republic of Moldova and, following stations at art academies in Turin and Rome, graduated from the Munich academy in a master class of Gregor Hildebrandt. She was presented with the Bayerischer Kunstförderpreis (Bavarian Art Sponsorship Award) in 2020. Her paintings and sculptures possess a stringent, emblematic language of form that is underlined by subtle colour contrasts. Orjovan makes use of technical profiles, such as French curves, and constructs open, sometimes seemingly architectural structures. This results in minimalist compositions that evoke space situations.

Michèle Pagel was born in 1985 in Werdau. She studied sculpture at the Academy of Fine Arts in Leipzig, at the Università di Brera in Milan and at the Academy of Fine Arts Vienna. Pagel's sculptures and objects appear like fossils of societal discourses, like positive relics, mementoes and documents of complex developments. Executed in ceramic, steel and concrete, the sculptures create allegories for events from the past, which are given new life as found pieces and reveal their effect. Michèle Pagel

is being presented by the Vienna gallery **Meyer*Kainer**.

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Natalie Paneng was born in 1996 in Johannesburg and completed a programme of theatre arts studies. The artist works multimedially with sound, design, fashion and with the patterns and narratives of her South African culture of origin. She stages spaces, situations, actions and identities, in which reality and virtuality mix and to which she herself reacts self-assuredly and impressively. The works of Natalie Paneng are presented by the **Galerie Eigen & Art**.

Jonas Roßmeißl, born in 1995 in Erlangen, studied at the Academy of Fine Arts in Leipzig, where he lives and works. Roßmeißl uses digital imaging processes for his material and form-related sculptures. He is one of those artists for whom an intensive phase of research, almost scientific exploration and the appropriation of technologies are the prerequisites for artistic work. His complex stagings of objects and sculptures call for preoccupation - a quick photo captures nothing here, and he therefore already prohibits snapshots with a jammer. Roßmeißel is being presented by **Klemm's** from Berlin.

The sculptor **Ulrike Schulze**, born in 1985 in Cologne, is showing delicately coloured sculptures with **VAN HORN** that resist the immediate comprehension of their form. They must be viewed from all sides and are nonetheless never entirely clear. The artist refers to the principles of the creation of these sculptures as a "letting go" and a "precise loss of control". Correspondingly, the objects demand that viewers take time and show a willingness to engage.

Galerie Jahn und Jahn is presenting **Gülbin Ünlü**. The artist studied at the Academy of Fine Arts as of 2012 with, among others, Markus Oehlen and completed her studies in 2018 with a prize-winning diploma project. In 2021, she was presented with the Munich Scholarship for Fine Arts, in 2022 with the Munich Sponsorship Award for Fine Arts and in 2023 the Bayerischer Kunstförderpreis (Bavarian Art Sponsorship Award). In her works, the artist unfolds an image cosmos that she herself refers to as "Post-Sci-Fi-Orient". Using artificial intelligence, the most varied art-historical traditions are linked with pop culture references and autobiographical contexts to form fictional narrations. Ünlü uses fragments and motifs from a variety of meaning contexts and seemingly contradictory realities and weaves these into a complex yarn of the present.

The painter **Lisa Vlaemminck**, born in 1992 and represented by **Galerie rodolphe janssen**, was trained at the Royal Academy of Fine Arts in Ghent, where she graduated in 2015. In her colourful works, she creates bizarrely mysterious still lifes that are populated by objects, life forms and plants. These being-like things thereby appear to act both in microscopically small, multiply enlarged spaces as well as in such with cosmic dimensions.

Sinta Werner, born in 1977, studied painting at the Kunsthochschule Berlin Weißensee, graduated from Goldsmiths College in London and the Berlin University of the Arts in master classes. The focus of her work is on the geometric rationalism of functionally characterised modern architecture. In her works, she examines the relationships between two and three-dimensionality, reality and image, physical

presence and projection and the interlocking of virtual and real space. In her photo collages, installations and sculptures, she irritates and deceives the eye of the beholder through doubling, through the construction of illusory spaces or the use of mirrors. Sinta Werner is being shown by alexander levy.

19 of the total of 20 sponsor booths are in Hall 11.2, the sponsor booth for Sophie Esslinger with Galerie Ernst Hilger has been placed in Hall 11.1.

About NEW POSITIONS

The "Sponsorship programme for young artists NEW POSITIONS at ART COLOGNE" is sponsored by the Federal Government Commissioner for Culture and Media (BKM) on the basis of a decision of the German Bundestag with a project subsidy of 35,000 EUR.

This unique sponsorship programme of ART COLOGNE has existed since 1980. Since then, around 1,000 artists have been able to present their works of art to a broad audience in an area of 25 m².

This year too, the average age of the artists lies completely within the statistical midfield at 36, whereby this time both the youngest - Ambra Durante of Galerie Friese - and the oldest artist - Erwin Kneihsl with Guido Baudach - of the entire previous sponsorship programme should be noted. Women artists predominate this year in comparison with their male colleagues with a ratio of 13:7. Painting is traditionally the strongest represented genre. However, this year it is at the same level with object-like works, sculptures and installations. These are joined by works on paper and photography. The sponsor booths function like curated solo exhibitions, mostly encompassing several works, work groups or installations - in all media.

Worthy of emphasis is the commitment of the galleries: they dedicate themselves consistently over years to young, not yet established positions, or those positions of outstanding artistic quality that have not yet been recognised in the art market and help these find their way into the sponsorship programme again and again with their suggestions. Exemplary here are Eigen + Art (Berlin-Leipzig), fiebach minninger (Cologne), Galerie Friese (Berlin), Galerie Ernst Hilger (Vienna), Jahn & Jahn (Munich), Christine König Galerie (Vienna), Galerie Christian Lethert (Cologne), alexander levy (Berlin), Galerie Nagel Draxler (Cologne) and Van Horn (Düsseldorf).

The evaluations regularly carried out by the BVDG confirm one goal of the sponsorship programme: more than 80% of the sponsored artists are also still working together with their galleries three to five years later.

Note for editorial offices:

ART COLOGNE photos are available in our image database on the Internet at www.artcologne.com/imagedatabase in the "News" section.

Press information is available at: www.artcologne.com/Pressinformation

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