

Preview Programme 2022

2.12.2021



FOTO WIEN 2022
09.03. - 27.03.2022

KUNST HAUS WIEN



SUSAN MEISELAS. Mediations.
Closes 13. 02. 2022



WHEN THE WIND BLOWS
12. 03. - 28. 08. 2022



UNSEEN PLACES. Gregor Sailer

15. 09. 2022 – 12. 02. 2023

KUNST HAUS WIEN Garage

TREE AND SOIL. Antoinette de Jong & Robert Knoth

Closes 13. 02. 2022

BINSEKT. Christina Zurfluh & Bernhard Frue

07. 04 – 05.06.2022

TEACH NATURE

16.06.– 02.10.2022

WE LOVE OUR CUSTOMERS. Stefanie Moshammer

13.10.2022 – 19.2.2023

REVIEW AND PREVIEW 2022

Austrian photographer, Elfie Semotan's exhibition *Posture and Pose* ranks among KUNST HAUS WIEN's most successful. This retrospective was a resounding success with both critics and public. Thanks to a varied supporting programme, it has been possible to tempt local people back to the museum, no small feat during the ebb and flow of the pandemic.

Vienna's largest photo festival FOTO WIEN has had to be postponed due to the epidemiological situation until March 2022, when it will open in the new festival centre in Atelier Augarten on the 9th of March. The *Mediations* exhibition by renowned American photographer Susan Meiselas

opened in September and is continuing until 13th February 2022, alongside *Tree and Soil* from Antoinette de Jong & Robert Knoth, which presents the devastation of the Fukushima nuclear disaster.

In the coming year, nature and ecology will provide the conceptual framework for the exhibitions *Wenn der Wind weht* (When the Wind Blows) and *Unseen Places* at KUNST HAUS WIEN. As the first Green Museum awarded the Austrian Ecolabel, KUNST HAUS WIEN is placing greater focus upon current views on climate change, thus raising awareness and contributing to public discourse on the issue.

FOTO WIEN 2022

09.03. – 27.03.2022

Press event 9.3.2022, 10 am Atelier Augarten

In 2022 for the second time, KUNST HAUS WIEN will be organising and curating the FOTO WIEN festival, which takes place from 9th to 27th of March. Thanks to FOTO WIEN, Vienna will become a photography heartland for three weeks, with more than 160 exhibitions and 300 events.

Museums, galleries, art universities and exhibition spaces will present the latest photography projects, while the festival will be enriched by a programme of symposia, talks, photo critiques, studio visits and guided tours across the city.

At the heart of the festival: the new Festival Centre at Atelier Augarten; this is a place to meet, share and discuss the photographs, amid a plethora of exhibitions, workshops and highlights of the festival programme.

This year's festival will be shaped by two themes:

Women Photographers in Focus will shine the spotlight on outstanding work by women photographers and help increase the visibility of their achievements. **Rethinking Nature** takes the key role played by photography in making us aware of landscape and places it centre stage. Many artists have contributed to our understanding of the current environmental situation, and exploited photography's potential to reflect upon the all-important relationship between human beings and the natural world.

Photo books take pride of place at the Festival Centre, with a photo book exhibition, the Photo Book Market and the Photo Book Award.

The festival's event programme illustrates the diversity of the photographic works exhibited and takes the current discourse to the next level. For example, the Symposium *Wie hältst Du's mit dem Material? Vom Umgang mit Fotografien* (What do you think of the material? How to handle photographs) addresses how the use of digital media has changed the way the photographic medium is approached, will run from the 18th to the 20th of March. The star-studded podium discussion will be analysing the significance of photography in Austria and defining what is going to be necessary for this art form going forward.

Among the 160 programme partners, there are institutional spaces such as museums, galleries and exhibition spaces, as well as projects in the public realm. These diverse exhibitions are dedicated not only to art photography, but also to documentation-related, documentary and fashion photography.

FOTO WIEN is a member of the European Month of Photography (EMOP), an umbrella event for festivals of photography in Berlin, Lisbon, Luxembourg and Paris. EMOP aims to strengthen international networks on the photography scene and to bolster the exchange of information and experience at the European level. The fruits of this joint project will be on show at the Festival Centre: work by artists nominated for the EMPO Trend Award and a slide show presenting work from over 100 photographers.

WHEN THE WIND BLOWS

12.03. - 28.08.2022

Press event 11.3.2022, 10 am

Air envelopes the earth like a membrane; essential for life and ever-present. It is the binding element between places; the carrier of scent and sound. Despite our being surrounded unceasingly by air, this invisible mixture of gases remains hidden from human awareness.

We draw our first breath at birth and our last as we die. In the course of a lifetime, we breathe 300 million litres of air in and out with an average of 17 breaths per minute. Through this process, there is an exchange of millions of air molecules which have been in existence for millions of years. In this exhibition, the video *Breathing in / Breathing out* by Marina Abramovic & Ulay (1977) presents the circulation of the breath from the mouth of the other.

The relationship between ourselves and the invisible element air is many faceted. The artworks in this exhibition explore not only the theme of air's living energy, but also its dangers: storms, air pollution and climate change. For some time, scientists have been working on the assumption that more fierce hurricanes are being fostered by climate change, since a warmer planets means warmer oceans. The retreat of the polar ice caps plays a major role. Also problematic is the fact that even while storms are increasing in intensity, the speed of their forward movement has a tendency to decrease: a fatal combination since slow moving storms have more time to wreak destruction on the earth below. Humanity is threatened with increasing frequency by extreme weather events, such as downpours, drought, heat waves and storms.

But when the wind drops that brings its own dangers: we are becalmed. Gentle breezes, tempestuous hurricanes, clouds chasing each other across the sky and the whirring of wind turbines. Humans use the power of the wind, yet fear it. Wind stands for fresh air, coolness, but at the same time for air pollution and destruction. With the installation *Your Windy Corner* (1994), Ólafur Elíasson arranged small fans in a vertical line, so that the draft created could be felt throughout the exhibition.

Twenty artists from Austria and abroad make visible the invisible element of breath, air and wind in various ways: Hoda Afshar, Bigert & Bergström, Julius von Bismarck, Ólafur Elíasson, Karin Fisslthaler, Ana Grilc, Isabelle Ha Eav, Jana Hartmann, Ayumi Ishii, Sophie Jung, Sjoerd Knibbeler, Ulrike Königshofer, Eduardo Leal, Emily Parsons-Lord, Peter Piller, Werner Reiterer, Roman Signer, Lydia Simon, Ulay & Marina Abramović, Susan Walsh

When the Wind Blows is a joint project with the University of Applied Arts Vienna. There is a publication on the exhibition as part of the series of books *Edition Angewandte* from De Gruyter publishers and the exhibition is accompanied by a series of diverse supporting events and lectures at KUNST HAUS WIEN and the University of Applied Arts Vienna.

Curators: Verena Kaspar-Eisert (Kunst Haus Wien) and Liddy Scheffknecht (University of Applied Arts Vienna)

UNSEEN PLACES

Gregor Sailer

16.09.2022 - 12.02.2023

Press event 15.9.2022, 10 am

Inaccessible landscapes, sealed off zones and restricted military areas: in his work, Gregor Sailer presents surreal architecture found on the peripheries of human civilisation. As an artist, he is interested in changes to the landscape arising from construction and the complex political, military and economic implications of architecture. This has led him to the inhospitable ends of the earth, into Potemkin villages and to places beyond the reach of most. Sailer's photographs are devoid of people, with buildings often appearing sculpture-like. Be it climate change, political conflict or an excessive need for a feeling of security – Sailer's pictures lay bare the dynamics causing these places to exist. The *Polar Silk Road* series tackles economic exploitation of the Arctic region and territorial claims of adjoining states. The consequences are geopolitical tension and the development of the military installations and research stations on which Sailer shines a spotlight in this project.

KUNST HAUS WIEN is presenting this art photographer's first large-scale exhibition in Austria. Sailer's photographs open the doors to a world of fakes, copies and backdrops, calling into question these absurd aberrations in today's society. The long-running project, *Closed Cities* examines such urban environments in Algeria/Western Sahara, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Chile, Qatar and Russia. In *The Potemkin Village*, Sailer presents military training areas in the USA and Europe, faithfully detailed replicas in China of European cities, and towns in Sweden where vehicles are tested.

Gregor Sailer's works require months of research and the endurance of extreme conditions, such as minus 50-degree weather in the Arctic. Born in 1980, this Tyrolean artist has won a number of awards and his photographs have appeared in countless publications and exhibitions, as well as being well represented in publicly-owned and private collections.

Curator: Verena Kaspar-Eisert

KUNST HAUS WIEN Garage

BINSEKT

Christina Zurfluh and Bernhard Frue

07. 04 - 05.06.2022

Press event 06.04.2022, 10 am

Provoked by the all-present insectageddon, these two artists have turned their lenses upon the lives of insects in and around urban spaces. What they observe reflects human beings' reactions upon meeting the various insects: from the resoundingly joyful to disgust or phobia. Monoculture and pesticides are driving insects out of rural spaces, while dormant, brownfield sites in towns and cities provide them with a temporary refuge.

Curator: Margaretha Sandhofer

TEACH NATURE

16.06. - 02.10.2022

Press event 15.6.2022, 10 am

For this group exhibition Teach Nature, art students under the tutorship of Mona Hahn and Heimo Zobernig have tackled the importance of nature in producing art. During two long semesters in lockdown, these young artists visited Austria's six national parks (Donau-Auen, Kalkalpen, Hohe Tauern, Neusiedler-See, Thayatal, Gesäuse), and following discussions with the park rangers, they have created vivid translations of their impressions in these works.

An exhibition in cooperation with the Academy of Fine Arts Vienna

Curators: Mona Hahn and Heimo Zobernig

WE LOVE OUR CUSTOMERS

Stefanie Moshammer

13.10.2022 - 19.2.2023

Press event 12.10.2022, 10 am

For her series of photographs *We Love Our Customers* Stefanie Moshammer has documented the abundance of clothing in our world today. At a time when in the fashion world greater attention is being paid to sustainability than ever before, Moshammer positions clothing as a space-specific installation, while linking it to her photographs. The works place fast fashion in the cross hairs and poses critical questions about the impact of this kind of production and consumption on our every day lives, while parodying our consumer culture.

Curator: Sophie Haslinger

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