



viennacontemporary

Press information

Vienna, 20 September 2017

viennacontemporary

21 – 24 September 2017

Marx Halle Vienna

viennacontemporary opens at Marx Halle with more than 110 galleries from East and West, five special presentations, Talks with international art experts, guided tours and a Family program, as well as numerous collateral events around Vienna.

More than **110** galleries and institutions from **27** countries will present the works of over 500 artists, and a wide range of additional information on the contemporary art scene, at the Viennese Marx Halle from 21 to 24 September. In 2017, viennacontemporary again offers an extensive program with solo exhibitions of young and established artists in the special programs **ZONE1** and **Solo & Sculpture**, a comprehensive retrospective of the development of the Hungarian art scene in the special presentation **Focus: Hungary**, and fascinating insights into the shows of selected Finish, Danish and Swedish galleries in **Nordic Highlights. Cinema** will again present movies and videos by Austrian and international artists on the subject of **my own little happiness** and the accompanying events such as the talks and discussions in **Talks** (details in accompanying document), and the art-education program with the **guided tours** and **Family** on selected subjects provides an enjoyable and uncomplicated access to art for all age groups (details page 4).

"This year we are opening viennacontemporary at Marx Halle for the third time, and I am happy to announce many new developments. In the gallery sector all important Austrian galleries are represented. Significant young as well as established galleries from east and west are presenting their program. The curators of the special programs have selected exiting, compelling artistic positions, including emerging artists as well as trend-setting representatives of an older generation. Thanks to our extensive services we are happy to welcome even more international art collectors in Vienna. Adding the Talks program, in which art collectors, curators and art critics will discuss current issues of the art scene, and the educational program for all art lovers viennacontemporary has developed not only into a highlight for Vienna, but also into an internationally well recognized art fair," Christina Steinbrecher-Pfandt, Artistic Director viennacontemporary, sums up this year's focus of Austria's biggest international art fair.

"viennacontemporary is a success story that no one thought possible in Vienna before. We will do our utmost to further develop the art fair and strengthen our ties to the City of Vienna's art and creative scene. Our parallel program, involving all leading cultural institutions in Vienna, the great events of our partners during the fair week and the first VC CultTech Hackathon show that our intention of an intense cooperation is well received and executed. We will further strengthen this collaboration and extend it to Vienna's startup scene an technology sector," Dmitry Aksenov, Chairman of the board of viennacontemporary, outlines the plans for the near future of viennacontemporary.

"Our great sponsors and partners enable us to turn viennacontemporary into a comprehensive experience for our visitors: first and foremost the Erste Group and JP Immobilien, the Austrian Federal Chancellery, Federal Ministry for Europe, Integration and Foreign Affairs, the Hungarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, the Romanian Cultural Institute, and all partners that take care of the pleasant ambiance and excellent culinary offers at Marx Halle," Renger van den Heuvel, Managing Director viennacontemporary, thanks the companies and institutions supporting viennacontemporary for their dedication.

viennacontemporary fair week – collateral events no to miss

The importance of viennacontemporary for the Viennese art scene is underlined by the multifaceted events during the fair offering a broader view on the contemporary art scene. The events range from gallery events like **curated by_vienna 2017** to **Parallel Vienna** and cross-disciplinary events linking art with science and tech, like the first **VC CultTech Hackathon** co-organized by PIONEERS and the second part of the series **“Art & Science – Bridging Two Cultures”** in cooperation with IMBA. (more information page 4)

Special presentations

ZONE1: Solo presentations of young Austrian artists. Featuring ten positions of artists below 40, who were born or educated in Austria, this year's **ZONE1** selection brings together precise solo showcases to form a multilayered presentation of contemporary artworks. Ranging from self-optimization, information, and data transfer on the internet, matter as information storage for human civilization, over expanding the notion of painting and strategies of its spatial experience, to the basic conditions of artistic creation and the political and sociological dimensions of art, the selected artists' projects and works focus on a wide array of different media and topics.

The artists and galleries: **Peter Jellitsch**, Galerie Clemens Gunzer (CH/AT) | **Maria Anwander and Ruben Aubrecht**, Galerie Lisi Hämmerle (AT) | **Sarah Pichlkostner**, Galerie Hubert Winter (AT) | **Flora Hauser**, Galerie Meyer Kainer (AT) | **Florian Schmidt**, Philipp von Rosen Galerie (DE) | **Theresa Eipeldauer**, KROBATH (AT) | **Thilo Jenssen**, KOENIG2 (AT) | **Kay Walkowiak**, Zeller van Almsick (AT) | **Christian Falsnaes**, PSM (DE) | **Samuel Schaab**, untold contemporary (AT)

Solo & Sculpture: Sculpture is this years' focus

With the presentation of high-quality sculptures by renowned international artists, **Solo & Sculpture**, curated by **Miguel Wandschneider**, has a new topic. Sculpture has been an extremely fertile ground for art to fulfill its potential of destabilizing and disrupting habitual modes of perceiving and experiencing things. Sculpture functions here as an operative principle that enables to highlight and cluster together a number of significant artistic positions, without laying claim to any unnecessary conceptual or historicist alibi. All the artists gathered together in this section explore in their work the primacy of the object and its inescapable materiality over meaning. Experience prevails over interpretation.

The artists and galleries: **Werner Feiersinger** (AT), Galerie Martin Janda (AT) | **Koenraad Dedobbeleer** (BE), Gesellschaft für projektive Ästhetik vormals Georg Kargl Fine Arts (AT) | **Bruno Gironcoli** (AT), Galerie Krinzinger (AT) | **Michael E. Smith** (US), KOW (DE) | **Belén Uriel** (ES), Galeria Madragoa (PT) | **Joëlle Tuerlinckx** (BE), Galerie nächst St. Stephan Rosemarie Schwarzwälder (AT) | **Ana Santos** (PT), Galeria Quadrado Azul (PT) | **Alexandre Estrela** (PT), Travesia Cuatro (ES) | **Suchan Kinoshita** (JP), Galerie Nadja Vilenne (BE)

Focus: Hungary

Two-Way Movement

The special presentation is conceived by three galleries, Budapest acb Gallery, Kisterem and Vintage Gallery. The Hungarian art historian and critic **József Mélyi** is acting as curator. With kind support of the Federal Ministry for Europe, Integration and Foreign Affairs and the Hungarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

The exhibition focuses on artists from the seventies, who opened up new possibilities within the Hungarian neo-avant-garde at the time of the stiffening that followed the brief phase of relative approach towards the West. The devices they resorted to were usually ones that embodied a break with classical media: action, conceptual photography, mail art, etc. The exhibition introduces artists of this period, who – working outside the confines of the official art scene – typically sought a connection with global tendencies of contemporary art. They were often labelled by the ruling power as “existentialist”, and in the early seventies, they either chose emigration (Tamás Szentjóbby) or alternative, inner paths (Tibor Hajas). Additionally, the exhibition features some examples of artistic tendencies to illustrate the direction of the new ideas that consolidated by the middle of the decade. Presenting a selection from approximately a decade of Hungarian art, the exhibition's theme is first of all the dichotomy of “outside and inside” as well as the possibilities available to, and the paths sought by, the artists of the age. The corpus of the exhibition is a selection from the collections of three private galleries in Budapest. The exhibited artists and artist groups include: Gábor Attalai | Imre Bak | Miklós Erdély | Árpád fenyvesi Tóth | Ferenc Ficzek | György Galántai | Tibor Gáyor | B. István Gellér | Tibor Hajas | Károly Hopp-Halász | Tamás Hencze | György Jovánovics | Károly Kismányoky

| Klára Kuchta | Katalin Ladik | Ferenc Lantos | Dóra Maurer | Vera Molnar | István Nádler | Sándor Pinczehelyi | Tamás Szentjóby | Kálmán Szijártó | Bálint Szombathy | Endre Tót | Péter Türk | János Vető

Nordic Highlights: Northern European art at viennacontemporary

Already last year, visitors were very enthusiastic about the special **Nordic Highlights** presentation. Selected galleries from Finland, Denmark, and Sweden present both international art as well as specific positions of the young and established generations from the rich artistic field of the Nordic countries. The galleries are: Galerie Mikael Andersen (DK) | Galleri Bo Bjerggaard (DK) | Cecilia Hillström Gallery (SE) | Gallery Taik Persons (DE/FI)

Film and video presentations 2017

As part of the **Cinema** program, curator **Olaf Stüber** presents films and videos of Austrian and international artists that were submitted by the galleries participating in viennacontemporary. The selected films and videos will be shown as part of a daily program with fixed starting times for the individual works. For viennacontemporary 2017, Stüber chose the theme of **my own little happiness**. The program brings together artists' films and video works exploring the subject of happiness and the search for the little moments of happiness – or centering around the failing search for happiness. **Cinema** is made possible with the kind support of the Austrian Federal Chancellery.

For the first time at viennacontemporary: the viennacontemporary Cinema prize in cooperation with mumok

For the first time at viennacontemporary, as part of the **Cinema** program, a prize will be awarded in cooperation with mumok – Museum moderner Kunst Stiftung Ludwig Wien, one of the most important institutions of contemporary art in Europe. For the first **viennacontemporary Cinema prize**, the video *Pre-Image (Blind as the Mother Tongue)*, 2017, by Hiwa K, born 1975 in Kurdistan, Northern Iraq, living in Berlin, was chosen. The 18 minute video was last shown at the Odeion at documenta 14 in Athens. The film by the winner will be presented at the mumok cinema, from 21 to 24 September.

The Artproof production grant for photography goes to Anu Vahtra (Chimera-Project Gallery)

In 2017, a top-class jury at viennacontemporary, consisting of Verena Kaspar-Eisert, Curator Kunsthaus Wien, Vienna, Ulrike Königshofer, Artist, Vienna (the winner of last year), Krister Rekkaro, Export Sales Manager and Partner, Artproof, Berlin and Moritz Stipsicz, Founder Phileas, Vienna, has chosen the artist **Anu Vahtra /Chimera-Project Gallery** as the recipient of the **Artproof production grant for photography** and three artists get an honorary mention: **Vendula Knopova** (GANDY GALLERY), **Anna Reivila** (Gallery Taik Persons) and **Kamen Stoyanov** (SARIEV Contemporary).

At the Artproof photo-print laboratory, artists can realize their visions in exactly the way they want to. In order to support young artists working with the medium of photography, Artproof has so far awarded production grants in Estonia (since 2012), Finland (since 2014), Germany, and at viennacontemporary (since 2016). The grant includes 5,000 euro worth of printing and framing services. In addition, a one week residency in Tallinn, Estonia, including flights and accommodation will be provided, so that the winner can oversee the production process. Artproof is an international art printing laboratory with locations in Tallinn, Stockholm, and Berlin. The enterprise stages more than 60 exhibitions a year for artists worldwide.

Talks program 2017

Art institutions in conversation: the Talks program of viennacontemporary

This year's Talks program **Borderline**, curated by **Kate Sutton**, focuses on the comprehensive changes that European cultural institutions face on a political, social, and cultural level as seen from the perspectives of artists, art historians, international collectors, museum directors, dealers, critics, and curators. This series of conversations, panel discussions and presentations will look at people and projects seizing on the sudden structural flexibility and working to push the borders of institutions from within: from collectors experimenting with different formats for patronage, to galleries testing out new models for commercial collaboration, to artists, curators, and critics weighing the moral and ethical implications of activism and critique within the larger infrastructure of the globalized art world.

In addition to **Talks: Borderline**, a number of independent talks are taking place as well as the Media

Talks! program at booth G10. The **Talks** takes place from Thursday, 21 September till Sunday, 24 September 2017 in the Talks Area.

Guided tours at viennacontemporary and special learning programs for children and their families

For 2017, viennacontemporary has further developed the tours program and now offers guided tours on special subjects. This way, visitors can gain in-depth knowledge about what is on offer at the art fair. All information on the **guided tours** in accompanying document.

Family 2017 – A37

With the Family program, viennacontemporary offers a playful approach to contemporary art for children from 3 to 12 years of age. In 2017, viennacontemporary is collaborating with Künstlerhaus, Association of Austrian Artists, which will offer its own special educational program for children and their families:

Experience Künstlerhaus – Enabling the encounter with artists and conveying the diversity of artistic production processes are the main objectives of Künstlerhaus. Their learning programs are realised in close collaboration with the artists of the Künstlerhaus Association and give the participants the unique opportunity to experience the creative world of art and culture first-hand. The international language of art acts as a medium to transfer skills and values, open new perspectives, and enable social networks.

www.k-haus.at

22 September 2017, 12:00–6:00 pm: **Collage & Assemblage**

23 September 2017, 12:00–6:00 pm: **From Trash to Treasure**

24 September 2017, 12:00–6:00 pm: **Fantasia – Utopia**

viennacontemporary fair week – collateral events not to miss

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Language in art: curated by_vienna in cooperation with viennacontemporary

In 2017, viennacontemporary is cooperating again with departure, the creative center of the Vienna Business Agency and its successful project **curated by_vienna**, in which Viennese contemporary art galleries and international curators have been working together since 2009. In 2017 curated by_vienna's motto is “image/reads/text”. In the most important Viennese galleries, 21 exhibitions conceived by international curators raise the question of the significance of language in contemporary art. The digitalization of all areas in life increasingly confronts us with a verbalization of images and the transformation of language into pictograms. The exhibitions question these trends and examine their relevance in current art production. www.curatedby.at

Parallel Vienna – a cooperation with Vienna's vibrant art scene.

For the fifth time, **Parallel Vienna** is presenting a mix of art fair, curated exhibition, gallery, and atelier. In the former „Sigmund Freud University“ at Schnirchgasse 9A in the third district of Vienna, the highly diverse protagonists of the vibrant Viennese art scene unite to form a platform for young creatives.

www.parallelvienna.com

VC CultTech Hackathon

Austria's first art and culture hackathon at the intersection of art and IT

The VC CultTech Hackathon is a hackathon taking place in the areas of art and culture. This means that instead of companies, art institutions are participating. International IT experts and startups are invited to solve problems for the participating art and cultural institutions through the use of technology. The VC CultTech Hackathon is organized by **VC Artevents** and **Pioneers Discover**, in cooperation with the **viennacontemporary, Vienna State Opera, Kunsthistorisches Museum, Wiener Festwochen, and the City of Vienna**, and is supported by Open Austria, Hotel InterContinental Vienna and the Aksenov Family Foundation. The Hackathon will take place from 19 – 21 September 2017 and will end with a freely

accessible closing event on 21 September 2017 at 4:00 pm, featuring presentations by the startups at the **viennacontemporary Talks Area**. Further information: www.viennacontemporary.at

„Art & Science – Bridging Two Cultures“ – A lecture series in cooperation with IMBA

The lecture series „**Art & Science – Bridging Two Cultures**“, an initiative by IMBA – Institute for Molekular Biotechnology and vc Artevents, was founded by Josef Penninger, scientific director of IMBA and Dmitry Aksenov, chairman of the board of viennacontemporary. In the second part of the lecture series, Peter Zinovieff, who prides himself in having owned the first private computer and who produced the first portable synthesizer with his company EMS already in 1971, will illustrate ideas and performances that have bridged the gap between technology, science and artistic expression, using slides, videos and musical examples as illustrations.

Dr. Peter Zinovieff: Please Make Me a Beautiful Composition , 22 September 2017, 2 pm, IMP Lecture Hall, Vienna Biocenter 1, 1030 Vienna

Erste Group again partner of viennacontemporary

“We see the partnership with viennacontemporary as an interesting complement to our cultural engagement in the countries of Eastern and Southeastern Europe. As one of the leading financial service providers in the CEE region, it is our responsibility to support civil society and cultural development in the region. viennacontemporary is a fitting platform for these aspirations,” explains **Peter Bosek**, Retail Banking board member, the Erste Group's decision to be a partner of viennacontemporary.

Culinary highlights at viennacontemporary

Also this year, viennacontemporary is offering a high end experience for all – not only in terms of art, talks and tours, but also with an impressive gastronomic offer, scoring with the best names of the Viennese restaurant scene. The Restaurants **Motto am Fluss**, **IKI** and **Zum Schwarzen Kameel**, take visitors on a sensory journey with delights, from Vienna's cosmopolitan cuisine over classic Japanese delicacies with a modern twist, onto unique creations illustrating the Viennese “Savoir-Vivre”. Culinary partner brands are **Vöslauer**, **illy**, **Campari** und **Henkell**.

Feeling comfortable at viennacontemporary

Thanks to longstanding partners **steininger.designers**, VIP Guests can relax in the exclusively designed Lounge. Stategic partner **JP Immobilien** will be represented with a presence of their own in the entrance area of the fair. Fragrances and products of **Aesop** will take care of cosmetic well-being. A pleasant and relaxed journey will be provided by mobility partner **Uber**.

Sponsors and partners viennacontemporary 2017

Main partner: Erste Group

Strategic partner: JP Real Estate Group

Partners: RDI.Group, Aksenov Family Foundation, steinger.designers, AON Fine Arts, Romanian Art Institute Vienna, BDO, Kunsttrans, Hey-U, illy, Vöslauer, Campari, Henkell, InterContinental, Artproof, mumok, Künstlerhaus - Association of Austrian Artists, Wien Tourismus, Austrian Airlines, Uber, Aesop, Wien Ticket

With kind support of: Austrian Federal Chancellery, Federal Ministry for Europe, Integration and Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Hungary

Partners VIP Program: 21er Haus – Museum for Contemporary Art, Albertina, departure – the creative center of the Vienna Business Agency, Jewish Museum Vienna, Kunsthalle Wien, LEOPOLD MUSEUM, MAK, mumok, Neuer Kunstverein Wien, frei_raum Q21, Secession, TBA21–Augarten, Parallel Vienna

Partner hotels: Hotel Sacher, The Guesthouse Vienna, Grand Ferdinand, Hotel Daniel Vienna

Catering partners: MOTTO, IKI Restaurant, Zum Schwarzen Kameel

Strategic media partners: Die Presse, Ö1, PARNASS, artnet News, The Artnewspaper Russia

Media partners: Aesthetica, Arterritory.com, ArtFacts.Net, Artmagazine, Artprice, Artprofil, ArtRabbit, Börsenkurier, Camera Austria, Collectors Agenda, C/O VIENNA MAGAZINE, Curators' Agenda, EIKON, exhibist, Flash Art International, frieze, Gallerytalk, global:artfair, Independent Collectors, Kunstinvestor, METROPOLE - Vienna in English, revista arta, Spike Art Quarterly, springerin, TEXTE ZUR KUNST, vernissage, Vienna Art Review, Widewalls

Members of the admission committee:

Miryam Charim, Charim Galerie, Vienna
Ursula Krinzinger, Galerie Krinzinger, Vienna
Emanuel Layr, Galerie Emanuel Layr, Vienna
Nikolaus Oberhuber, KOW Berlin, Berlin
Timothy Persons, Gallery Taik Persons, Berlin/Helsinki
Margit Valko, Kisterem, Budapest

viennacontemporary

21 – 24 September 2017

Marx Halle Vienna

Karl-Farkas-Gasse 19, 1030 Vienna

Opening hours:

Thursday, 21 September 2017: 11:00 am–7:00 pm

Friday, 22 September 2017: 11:00 am–7:00 pm

Saturday, 23 September 2017: 11:00 am–6:00 pm

Sunday, 24 September 2017: 11:00 am–6:00 pm

Tickets & prices:

Day Ticket full price: 15.00 euro

Day Ticket reduced: 9.00 euro, for students, seniors, Ö1 Club-members with valid ID

Day Ticket online: 9.00 euro, available from 31 May 2017, www.viennacontemporary.at

After Work Ticket: 9.00 euro, Thu/Fri from 3:00 pm

Free entrance:

For children and teenagers under 14
For students with a valid student ID after 3:00 pm

Vernissage Card: 35.00 euro

Limited number of 500 cards, available from 31 May to 20 September 2017, www.viennacontemporary.at
Card valid for one-time access to the Vernissage on 20 September 2017, 5:00–9:00 pm.

Public transport:

Tram: 71 (St. Marx), 18 (Viehmarktgasse or St. Marx)
Subway: U3 (Schlachthausgasse)
Bus: 74A (Viehmarktgasse)
Regional express: S7 (St. Marx)

Information:

www.viennacontemporary.at
www.viennacontemporarymag.com
www.facebook.com/viennacontemporary

For further inquiries:

Christina Steinbrecher-Pfandt, artistic director and spokesperson viennacontemporary
steinbrecherpfandt@viennacontemporary.at

Renger van den Heuvel, managing director and spokesperson viennacontemporary
vandenheuvel@viennacontemporary.at

Press viennacontemporary:

Christina Werner
Neulinggasse 19/Top 22, 1030 Vienna
+43 1 524 96 46 – 22
+43 (0) 681 840 77 88 6 (during the opening hours of the fair)
werner@kunstpresse.at

Press download: www.viennacontemporary.at/en/press

Press center

The viennacontemporary press center is located at the fair's entrance and is open during regular hours for the duration of the fair.

Press parking space

The parking garage is located at Hermine-Jursa-Gasse and is easily accessible via the Marianne-Hainisch-Gasse or Maria-Jacobi-Gasse. Upon presenting your press card (2017) or an editorial approbation by your editorial office, or your press ticket, we will exchange your parking card for a ticket to exit free of charge at the press center.

viennacontemporary 2018

27-30 September
26 September: Preview & Vernissage