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viennacontemporary

**Press Information**

Vienna, June 26, 2019

**viennacontemporary**  
**26–29 September 2019**  
**Marx Halle Vienna**

Surprising discoveries and new approaches to established positions in contemporary art await you at Austria's renowned art fair viennacontemporary this autumn. You will find the list of the participating galleries in a separate document.

Discover the contemporary art scene of Central and Eastern Europe, experience Vienna's lively gallery scene, and enjoy special highlights of numerous cooperating museums and cultural institutions. viennacontemporary offers the perfect opportunity to take a press trip to Vienna!

Expert Johanna Chromik, who took over the fair's artistic direction at the beginning of the year, encourages visitors to regard viennacontemporary as a place of collecting and exchanging, of contact and experience: *"Vienna is the stage of the fair, its protagonists – the gallery owners of all generations, the museums with their treasures and the art experts – are its heart."*

**New formats, special shows, and talks**

In the special shows of **ZONE1**, the art historian, curator, and author Fiona Liewehr will present positions of young artists who, through their education, work, or origin, have a local connection to Austria.

Participants include: **Thomas Geiger** | SPERLING, **Eva Kotatkova** | hunt kastner, **Luiza Margan** | Structura Gallery, **Markus Proschek** | SVIT, **Stefan Reiterer** | Galerie CRONE, **Titania Seidl** | Raum mit Licht, **Marina Sula** | Gabriele Senn Galerie, **Sophie Thun** | Sophie Tappeiner, **Julian Turner** | Filiale, **Marcin Zarzeka** | Galeria Dawid Radziszewski. ZONE1 is kindly supported by the Austrian Federal Chancellery.

Harald Krejci, art historian and chief curator of the Belvedere Museum, has been selected to curate a new format titled **Explorations**. Showcasing selected works created between 1945 and 1980, Krejci addresses our present and retrospective view of artistic approaches to the "states of the world".

The exhibition focuses on artists who responded to massive political and social changes following World War II and, borrowing from psychology, science, and linguistics, tried not only to depict but rather to "feel" their inner states.

Renger van den Heuvel, Managing Director of viennacontemporary, emphasizes the international position of the fair: *"Within the art fair market, which is dominated by global brands, "viennacontemporary has succeeded in establishing itself as the region's leading art fair through its distinct content and a keen focus on quality. Close cooperation with Viennese galleries and local art and cultural institutions is just as important as international artists, curators, gallery owners, and buyers."*

This year's **Focus** section will revolve around the question: "What is the understanding of a state that is not based on territory but in time?" Based on the phenomenon "NSK State in Time", curator Tevž Logar questions the notion that art is represented in the realm of a nation state.

Created as a conceptual art project in 1992 by the groups comprising the "Neue Slowenische Kunst" movement (NSK) in response to the political upheavals in Yugoslavia, the "NSK State in Time" without any territory is now the virtual home of over 15,000 citizens worldwide. The state provides citizens with rights of par-

ticipation that encourage open-ended actions, such as the formulation of their own constitution, currency, educational system, or popular culture.

In the current era of reassertion of fascism and xenophobia, the question of post-nationalism, as posed by the NSK State in Time, is as relevant today as it was when it was founded.

The current **Focus** presentation can be seen on the one hand as one of the NSK's open-ended actions directly addressing the mechanisms of the contemporary art system. On the other hand, the presentation revolves around a selection of artists who, through their work, reject the idea of boundaries and thus stimulate critical thinking on topics such as memory, history, and existing geopolitical paradigms.

This year's Focus presentation is kindly supported by the Igor Zabel Association for Culture and Theory and ERSTE Foundation.

*"We are happy to support viennacontemporary 2019 in the framework of our cultural engagement in Eastern and Southeastern Europe. As the leading banking group in the CEE region, it is our responsibility to support civil society and cultural development in the region. viennacontemporary with its outreach into unknown traditions and surprising practices of contemporary art in CEE is a fitting platform for these aspirations. For the creative people at George Labs of Erste Group, viennacontemporary is not only a way for representation but also a source of inspiration. A vivid and free art community is indispensable for modern democracies",* comments Boris Marte, Head of Erste Innovation HUB.

**Next?** is a series of conversations and discussions that take our current art world as their starting point and look into the future of art with critical skepticism and hope. What will producers and audiences expect from contemporary art in the foreseeable future? What kind of artworks could we create or view?

Do we need mega exhibitions? Can the art world achieve equality in all areas –and if so, how? As part of the fair's daily program, critic and journalist Kimberly Bradley brings together artists, international collectors, museum directors, gallery owners, art critics, and curators to speculate on the potentialities of art - in Vienna and beyond.

Dmitry Aksenov, chairman of the board of viennacontemporary: "The high quality of the participating galleries and constant experimentation with the best formats for showcasing contemporary art and culture are key aims of the fair. We are constantly looking for the most interesting opportunities for collaborations and partnerships so that viennacontemporary can succeed in staying relevant in the rapidly changing art environment."

## Partner events in the city

It's the autumn of art in Vienna - with viennacontemporary, Vienna is again positioned at the centre of the contemporary art scene. Due to the density of art and cultural institutions, the lively gallery and artist scene, and, not least, animated by numerous partner and satellite events, Austria's capital is the ideal place for inspiration and comprehensive art experiences. viennacontemporary is looking forward to the following partner events:

### **viennacontemporary x Artsy Galleries Breakfast**

Within the scope of curated by\_2019 and viennacontemporary, supported by Artsy, Viennese galleries will host special morning viewings for viennacontemporary audiences. Special exhibitions conceived by international curators will be accompanied by breakfast receptions on **Friday, 28 September from 10:00 am–12:00 pm.**

### **MQ x viennacontemporary**

Following the successful start of their cooperation last year, MuseumsQuartier Vienna continues its partnership with viennacontemporary in 2019, again represented at the fair with its own MQ Lounge. Additionally,

on **Saturday, 28th September**, scheduled activities as part of the exhibit 'Japan Unlimited', curated by Marcello Farabegoli, will take place at the frei\_raum Q21 exhibition space.

Also, once again the **Q21 viennacontemporary Artist-in-Residence Prize** in partnership with EIKON - International Magazine for Photography and Media Art will be awarded. The prize allows an artist to work and live for two months in a studio at the MuseumsQuartier complex. The artist, selected by a jury, also receives a 2,100.- euro bursary. The work produced by the artist over the residency period will be presented the following year at the Viennese international art fair, viennacontemporary. The winning artist will also be featured by EIKON magazine and given the opportunity to mount a solo show in the 'EIKON Schaufenster' in the Q21 showroom at MuseumsQuartier.

The Q21 viennacontemporary Artist-in-Residence Prize for 2019 is awarded in the field of artistic photography and media art. Artists working in the medium of photography or in new media are invited to apply. On the jury panel are Elisabeth Hajek (Artistic Director, Q21 frei\_raum exhibition space and Director of the Q21 Artist-in-Residence Programme), Nela Eggenberger (Chief Editor, EIKON), and Marcello Farabegoli (freelance curator), and Johanna Chromik (Artistic Director viennacontemporary).

### **curated by\_2019: Circulation**

Since its foundation more than ten years ago, the curated by\_ gallery festival has evolved into a central, vital contemporary art event that – supported by selected galleries based in Vienna – has become an international calling card for the city. The main theme set each year, the international outlook of the festival reflected by the choice of curators, the unusual format as a festival, and the collaboration of galleries make curated by\_ a unique contemporary art project of international reach.

**Festival dates:** 13 September–12 October 2019

### **VIENNA DESIGN WEEK**

VIENNA DESIGN WEEK is Austria's largest curated design festival and has been taking place in Vienna since 2007. For ten days each Autumn, VIENNA DESIGN WEEK proves that Vienna is a "City Full of Design". Overlooked corners of the city turn into stages for design - critical and playful approaches, entry-level communication and professional discourse explore new perspectives on the objects that surround us. and manufacturing processes are often revealed in experimental ways specific to their location.

**Festival dates:** 26 September–6 October 2019

### **Vienna Humanities Festival x viennacontemporary x ERSTE Foundation**

**27 September | 7:00 pm | Social Networks or Social Nightmares?** | Globe Wien, Marx Halle

Three of the world's leading thinkers/critics/activists of the electronic age come together to debate our digital future: Roger McNamee, an early advisor to Facebook's founder Mark Zuckerberg and book author (Zucked, 2019); Evgeny Morozov, perhaps the first prominent thinker to warn about the dangers of the digital age (The Net Delusion: The Dark Side of Internet Freedom, 2011) and Max Schrems, an Austrian lawyer - turned world-wide celebrity for launching the first successful legal challenge against Facebook for privacy violations.

### **Humanities Festival**

The Vienna Humanities Festival was launched in 2016 by Time to Talk, Wien Museum, and IWM.

In the last week of September, for the fourth consecutive year, the festival will be conveying inspiring new ideas in the humanities to a broad audience and will be highlighting Vienna as a truly international city in which talents from all over the world are welcome. This year's festival theme is "Hope and Hopelessness".

**Festival dates:** 26 September–29 September 2019

**Sponsors and partners viennacontemporary 2019**

**Main partner:** Erste Group

**Partners:** RDI Group, BDO, Aksenov Family Foundation, Romanian Cultural Institute Vienna, The Vienna Tourist Board, MuseumsQuartier Wien, Austrian Airlines, illy, INVESTER United Benefits, AENEA, Hey-U.

**With kind support of:** Austrian Federal Chancellery, Municipal Department 7 – Cultural Affairs of the City of Vienna, Vienna Business Agency.

**Partners VIP Program:** Albertina, Belvedere 21, frei\_raum Q21, Jewish Museum Vienna, Kunsthalle Wien, KUNST HAUS WIEN, Kunsthistorisches Museum Wien, LEOPOLD MUSEUM, Lower Belvedere, MAK – Austrian Museum of Applied Arts, mumok – Museum moderner Kunst Stiftung Ludwig Wien, Neuer Kunstverein Wien, Secession

**Strategic media partners:** Die Presse, Ö1, Parnass

**Online partner:** Artsy

**Media partners:** Aesthetica, ArtFacts.Net, artmagazine.cc, Artprice, Camera Austria, Collectors Agenda, Contemporary Lynx, C/O VIENNA MAGAZINE, EIKON, Flash Art International, frieze, Larry's List, METROPOLE – Vienna in English, Monopol – Magazin für Kunst und Leben, Mousse, springerin, TEXTE ZUR KUNST, The Art Gorgeous, uppers & downers, Vellum Magazine, Vienna Art Review, Widewalls

**Members of the admission committee:**

Ursula Krinzinger, Galerie Krinzinger, Vienna  
Emanuel Layr, Galerie Emanuel Layr, Vienna  
Nikolaus Oberhuber, KOW Berlin, Berlin  
Margit Valko, Kisterem, Budapest  
Laura Windhager, Gianni Manhattan, Vienna

**Fair dates 2019–2022:** 26–29 September **2019** | 24–27 September **2020** | 23–26 September **2021** | 22–25 September **2022**

**viennacontemporary**

**26–29 September 2019**

**Marx Halle Vienna**

**Karl-Farkas-Gasse 19, 1030 Vienna**

**Opening hours:**

Thursday, 26 September 2019, Vernissage: 4:00 pm–8:00 pm  
Friday, 27 September 2019: 12:00 pm–7:00 pm  
Saturday, 28 September 2019: 11:00 am–7:00 pm  
Sunday, 29 September 2019: 11:00 am–6:00 pm

**Tickets & prices:**

Day Ticket full price: 19.00 euro  
3 Days Ticket: 35.00 euro  
Day Ticket reduced: 12.50 euro, for students, seniors, Ö1 Club with valid ID  
Day Ticket online: 12.50 euro, available on [www.viennacontemporary.at](http://www.viennacontemporary.at)  
3 Days Ticket online: 30.00 euro

**Free entrance:**

For children and teenagers under 14 years  
For students with a valid student ID after 4:00 pm

**Vernissage Card: 39.00 euro**

Limited number of cards, pre-sale available till 26 September 2019, [www.viennacontemporary.at](http://www.viennacontemporary.at)  
Card valid for one-time access to the Vernissage on 26 September 2019, 4:00-8:00 pm.

**Public transport:**

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

**Information:**

[www.viennacontemporary.at](http://www.viennacontemporary.at)  
[www.viennacontemporarymag.com](http://www.viennacontemporarymag.com)  
[www.facebook.com/viennacontemporary](https://www.facebook.com/viennacontemporary)  
[www.instagram.com/viennacontemporary](https://www.instagram.com/viennacontemporary)

**Press Conference**

Tuesday, 10 September 2019

10:00 am at the Museumsquartier, Baroque Suite A  
Museumsplatz 1, 1070 Vienna

**Press Preview:** Thursday, 26 September 2019, 10:00 am — 2:00 pm  
accompanied by special guided tours (please check the schedule in the press section of our website for further information)

Marx Halle  
Karl-Farkas-Gasse 19, 1030 Vienna

You can pick up your press pass for viennacontemporary at our **Press Center**, which will be open from **9:00 am on 26 September** during the regular opening hours of the fair.

**Press viennacontemporary DE:**

a b c works  
Ana Berlin  
+43 660 47 53 818  
[press@viennacontemporary.at](mailto:press@viennacontemporary.at)

**Press viennacontemporary International**

Kristina Kulakova  
+43 680 333 56 77  
[kulakova@viennacontemporary.at](mailto:kulakova@viennacontemporary.at)

**Press download:**

[www.viennacontemporary.at/en/press](http://www.viennacontemporary.at/en/press)

**Accreditations until 18 September 2019:**

[www.viennacontemporary.at/en/press-accreditation](http://www.viennacontemporary.at/en/press-accreditation)