



Press release O27, No. 2 / July 2026

Contemporary art / Exhibitions / Germany / Saxony / Dresden

On behalf of OSTRALE e.V., Friedrichstraße 33, 01067 Dresden

**OSTRALE Biennale – 16th International Exhibition of Contemporary Art
from 5 June to 3 October 2027**

OSTRALE Biennale O27 attracts strong international participation – the public jury session, taking place from 28 to 30 July 2026, will decide on the exhibits.

Dresden: The OSTRALE Biennale O27 has recorded a high level of submissions for the 16th International Exhibition of Contemporary Art in 2027, reflecting global participation. Artists from numerous countries have submitted works, concepts and artistic positions, thereby once again impressively underlining the international significance and reach of OSTRALE.

The submitted works reflect a wide variety of themes and media.

“We are absolutely delighted with this positive response and feel more convinced than ever that the conceptual framework ‘**Article FIVE – Freedom of Opinion, Art and Science**’ captures the spirit of the times and, through its social relevance, provides a strong frame of reference for the OSTRALE Biennale 2027,” said **Andrea Hilger, Chair of the Board and Artistic Director of OSTRALE.**

At the heart of the Biennale lies the question of the human being as both an individual and a social actor: how can art, in the face of current global challenges, provide guidance, sharpen perceptions and create spaces for dialogue? The curatorial concept views art as a space for exchange, reflection and freedom, and invites visitors to reflect on responsibility, memory, diversity, democracy and social cohesion.

Public jury session offers insights into the selection process

Which of the numerous submissions, alongside the invited works, will ultimately form part of the OSTRALE Biennale O27 will be decided during a public jury session from **28 to**

30 July 2026. Visitors will have the rare opportunity to witness the selection process first-hand and gain an insight into the jury's discussions and decision-making.

The event offers a unique glimpse behind the scenes of exhibition planning and curation, and allows visitors to experience the dialogue surrounding contemporary art first-hand.

The jury comprises curators **Andrea Hilger**, **Dr Veronika Kotoucova-Krülle** and **Dr Martin Müller**, as well as the **two** jury members **Juliane Vowinckel** and **Detlef Schweiger**.

Public jury session

Date: 28–30 July 2026

Time: 10.00–18.00 each day

Venue: Schneider + Partner Beratergruppe, Lortzingstraße 37, 01307 Dresden

Attendance is free of charge and is only possible upon prior registration at **post@ostrale.de**.

Andrea Hilger; born in 1970 in Leipzig, Germany; artist, event organiser, curator



© Tobias Blaurock

2007: Founder and Director of OSTRALE – Centre for Contemporary Art; 1997: Founded TANZart Dresden; 2001: Founded HILLUMINATION – Lighting + Stage Design; since 1999, member and board member of Tanzbühne Dresden e.V.; in 1999, dancer at numerous opera houses in Germany, including, to this day, the Semperoper Dresden; since 2000, set and costume designer at numerous theatres in Germany, such as Kiel Opera, Cottbus State Theatre, Coburg State Theatre, etc.; 2009 Recipient of the City of Dresden's Support Award; 2017 Restructuring of OSTRALE into the OSTRALE Biennale – an international exhibition of contemporary art in Dresden. Curator both in Germany and abroad; has toured with 'Out of OSTRALE' since 2010 in numerous European countries as well as in Africa. Helped shape the programme for several European Capitals of Culture.

Dr Veronika Krülle Kotoučová; born in 1985 in Prague, Czech Republic; art historian, curator, research assistant at OSTRALE



© Tobias Blaurock

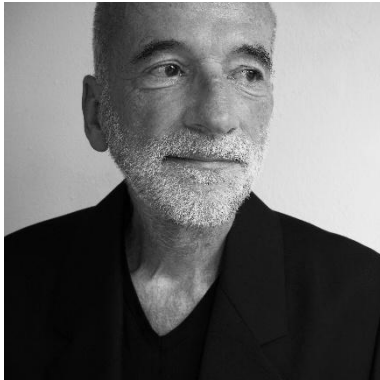
Veronika Krülle Kotoučová holds a PhD in art history from the Institute of Art History at Charles University in Prague. Her research focuses on German-Czech cultural and artistic relations during the first half of the 20th century. Since January 2023, she has been working as an art historian and curator for OSTRALE e.V. In addition, she works as a cultural manager and curator of contemporary art on numerous projects, particularly German-Czech ones, including at the Řehlovice Cultural Centre and the Gotické dvojče Gallery in Litoměřice.

Juliane Vowinckel; born in Halle, Germany; artist, cultural geographer, curator, art educator



She studied cultural geography, biological anthropology and modern history in Freiburg and Stockholm. Her years of artistic travels took her to California, amongst other places. She has been back in Germany since 2018 and now lives in Dresden. Her work – installations, photography, painting and performance – centres on landscape change and the relationship between humans and nature, and has been exhibited in places including California, Rome, Prague, Berlin, Braunschweig and Dresden. Collaborations are a central part of her practice. Since 2026, she has also been the artistic director of Galerie Raskolnikow e.V.

Dr Martin Müller; born *1961 in Emmerich, Germany; painter, designer, curator



He studied art history, philosophy and German language and literature at the University of Cologne. In 1993, Müller was awarded his doctorate under the supervision of the eminent art collector, patron and museum founder Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. mult. Peter Ludwig. His doctoral thesis was a theoretical study of the work of Joseph Beuys. From 1993 to 2007, Müller was the founding director of the interdisciplinary museum PAN kunstforum in Emmerich. From 2008 to 2011, he was Professor of Contemporary Art at the University of Derby, England. From 2009 to 2012, he served as artistic director of OSTRALE in Dresden, alongside Andrea Hilger. In 2009, he co-founded the art college project 'IAM international art moves' with Anne Müller and has been active internationally as a visiting professor and lecturer since 2008. As a curator, Müller has organised more than 150 international exhibitions since 1993. He exhibits his large-format works internationally as a painter and has lived in Brandenburg an der Havel since 2019.

Detlef Schweiger; born *1958 in Düsseldorf, Germany; artist, curator, organiser



Spent his childhood and youth in Dresden, 1979–84: studied art education, design theory, painting and graphic art at the Humboldt University of Berlin; has lived and worked as a freelance artist in Dresden-Loschwitz since 1986, Künstlerhaus Dresden. Crossover artist: painting, printmaking, drawing, collage, photography, objects, sculpture, installation, video, art in architecture and public spaces, sound performance, author, editor, curator, festival director, project manager, numerous honorary positions, exhibitions worldwide, works in public and private collections, guest fellowships and awards, 2015 Dresden Art and Science Prize Gallery representation: Galerie FLOX Dresden <http://schweigwerk.de/>

The jury meeting is supported by:

gefördert durch
die Landeshauptstadt
Dresden



Dresden.
Dietz & Co.

SCHNEIDER
PARTNER
Beratergruppe

 **Ostächsische
Sparkasse Dresden**

Background

OSTRALE e.V. acts as the organising body and platform for the OSTRALE Biennale, as well as providing a base for artist-in-residence programmes, exhibition and event series, and educational and outreach initiatives.

OSTRALE was founded in 2007 and is now one of the most significant international exhibitions of contemporary art in Germany. Since 2017, the biennial has taken place every two years; previously, it was held annually. The participating artists come from across Europe and beyond.

The focus is on artistic explorations of socially relevant issues, presented in a diverse range of media and discursive formats. Instead of the traditional 'white cube' concept, OSTRALE has, since its inception, utilised vacant industrial and existing buildings, thereby setting an example for the sustainable repurposing of existing architectural structures and for highlighting the lack of cultural spaces.

Since 2021, the OSTRALE Biennale has been held in the robotron canteen, a unique example of East German modernist architecture in Dresden.

OSTRALE expressly does not see itself as a sales exhibition. This independence enables socially relevant topics to be openly discussed and artistically reflected upon, beyond the confines of the art market.

OSTRALE e.V.: Andrea Hilger, Chairperson, Postal address: Friedrichstraße 33, 01067 Dresden, Tel. +49 351 653 3763, post@ostrale.de, www.ostrale.de

OSTRALE Biennale O27: The venues for OSTRALE 2027 will be spread across various locations in Dresden and in public spaces. The exhibition venues will be published in due course at www.ostrale.de.

Press contact

Beate Hasenzahl

presse@ostrale.de

Follow us

Instagram OSTRALE (@ostrale_dresden)

Facebook OSTRALE Dresden | Dresden | Facebook



Die OSTRALE wird gefördert durch die Landeshauptstadt Dresden und den Freistaat Sachsen. Diese Maßnahme wird mitfinanziert durch Steuermittel auf der Grundlage des vom Sächsischen Landtag beschlossenen Haushaltes.