

Press Information O21, Nr. 17 / 15. September 2021

21.000 visitors so far

Latest news: Catalogue and Program

- Already more than 21.000 visitors / only open until 3.10.
- OSTRALE Center presents its current Biennale-Catalogue, artist **Gabrielė Gervickaitė (Lithuania)** presents her newest installation **tot he public (Friday, 17.9., 17:00 o'clock)**
- „alles könnte anders sein“ – Artist talk with **Sandra Rosenstiel and Hanne Lange (Friday, 24.9.)**

Dresden. The OSTRALE Center for Contemporary Art is pleased to announce that this year's Biennale, despite the pandemic conditions, has already had more than 21,000 visitors. *"The number continues to develop very dynamically, as we have to close for this year on October 3, after all"* reports director Andrea Hilger.

The 384-page exhibition catalogue will be available from Friday at the exhibition box office in the Robotron-Kantine (Zinzendorfstraße) and at the OSTRALE.Basis (Rethelstraße 45), which is open to the public free of charge, at a price of 25 euros. It documents the 557 works of 138 artists from 34 nations, including descriptions of the works and all photographs taken in the exhibition. The catalog will be presented to the interested public on Friday at 5 p.m. in the OSTRALE.Basis, where several smaller exhibitions of various artists will be on view as part of the Biennale.

At the same time, the Lithuanian artist Gabrielė Gervickaitė will also open her exhibition container here, in which she has been creating the series "body as an archival container vs mechanisms of control" in drawings as well as with paper, adhesive foil and spray paint since September 1 and condensing it into a complex installation.

OSTRALE.Basis: A discussion with Hanne Lange and Sandra Rosenstiel

Among other things, the exhibition "alles könnte anders sein" ("everything could be different") with works by Hanne Lange and Sandra Rosenstiel is also on show at the venue. Both will be on site a week later, on Friday, Sept. 24 at 5 p.m., for an artist talk (impulse lecture: Su-Ran Sichling, moderated by Anna Schinzel). *"The objects by Hanne Lange and Sandra Rosenstiel make us stumble and interrupt our usual ways of seeing. The artworks offer us the freedom to unfold our own thoughts and invite us to investigate further"* promises Ostrale director Andrea Hilger. The "meet the artists" at the OSTRALE.Basis is supported by the Stadtteilfonds Pieschen-Süd / Mickten with funds from the Stadtbezirksbeirat Pieschen as part of the project Zukunftsstadt Dresden.

The OSTRALE Biennale is taking place mainly in the Robotron-Kantine (Zinzendorfstraße, Dresden) until October 3. In addition, decentralized Biennale exhibitions also invite visitors to the sewage facility park of the Stadtentwässerung Dresden in Kaditz, to the Gedenkstätte Bautzner Straße memorial museum and until October 17 in the OSTRALE.Basis in Dresden Übigau (Rethelstraße 45). The OSTRALE.Basis is open Tuesdays to Saturdays from 12 to 18.00. Admission is free of charge. Visitors are asked to observe the current hygiene regulations.

Further informations:

Gabrielė Gervickaitė *1982 in LT | wohnt in LT

“body as an archival container vs mechanisms of control”

Series | Drawing, Collage | 259 x 605 x 243 cm | 2021

Paper, Adhesive foil, Laquer spray

The works for the container installation are created on site in Dresden. The artist's focus is always on people, their inner selves and the situations they have experienced. The container will function as a memory archive and house an installation, using various materials and text collages, as a meeting place for the revelation of human feelings and associative sensations. In Gervickaitė's artistic practice, biopolitics plays a special role. Thus, there will also be some references to the taboo social relationship between the body and mechanisms of biopolitics that keep the human body under control. Last but not least, she will address current specifics of the pandemic and question at what point human dignity is still preserved and at what point statistics and numbers already take over. The artist will pay special attention to the search of the body – medicine relationship, which she will analyse not only as a means of helping, but also as a means of control.

Robotron-Kantine: Tickets available at www.etix.com, 15 Euros, reduced price 10 Euro with VVK-Gebühr, open We-Fri (from 21. September: Tue-Fri) 10-19h, Sat-Sun 11-20h

Gedenkstätte Bautzner Straße: Mon-Sun 10-18h

Stadtentwässerung Dresden, Klärpark Kaditz: Tue, Thur, Sat: guided tours at 10h, 12h, 15h

OSTRALE.Basis, Übigau, Rethelstr. 45: Tue-Sat 12-18h

The OSTRALE Biennale is one of the major temporary exhibitions for contemporary arts in Germany. It is not a sales exhibition per se, which gives it the freedom to discuss socially relevant topics away from the market. The guiding principles of the OSTRALE, such as peaceful coexistence, acceptance of the foreign or unknown, respectful interaction, religious diversity and internationality, among others, are reflected in the content of the exhibitions. The OSTRALE team has already designed large parts of the contemporary arts program of European Capitals of Culture several times, such as in 2010 in Pécs, 2016 in Wrocław, 2018 in Valletta/Malta, in the Rijeka/Croatia (2020), where, however, due to the Covid-19 pandemic could only be presented digitally, and a presentation of a selection of OSTRALE works in the European Capital of Culture 2022 Kaunas/Lithuania follows. In 2021-2022, OSTRALE is a lead participant in the Flowing Connections project (<https://vimeo.com/487428285>), (<https://vimeo.com/544940287>) co-funded by the European Union's Creative Europe program. In collaboration with Art Quarter Budapest (Hungary), Slobodne Veze (Croatia) and ECOC Office Kaunas 2022 (Lithuania), the project includes the OSTRALE Biennale O21 in Dresden and OUT of OSTRALE exhibitions in Budapest, Rijeka, Split, Zagreb and Kaunas in 2022, complemented by an artist in residence program and several workshops on digital cultural management, post-industrial cultural spaces, art education and the inclusion of people with disabilities.

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