

# O23 OSTRALE

Biennale für zeitgenössische Kunst

## Press Release

Dresden / Saxony / Lithuania / contemporary art

Nr. 5 / 7.10.2022

for: OSTRALE – Center for Contemporary Art

## OSTRALE-Show in Kaunas/Lithuania starts

### „Streams Upstream“ – OSTRALE Dresden presents a contemporary art exhibition in Kaunas (Lithuania), European Capital of Culture 2022.

Dresden, Kaunas/Lithuania (7.10.2022). The Central Post Office of the Lithuanian city of Kaunas will be the exhibition venue for a selection of artworks from the Dresden OSTRALE Biennale O21 in the next few weeks. The works will be shown in frame of the program of the European Capital of Culture 2022 from Wednesday (Oct. 5) until Nov. 13, 2022. The participation of the OSTRALE in contributing to the programs of European Capitals of Culture has already been a tradition since 2010.

The themes of constant movement, migration of animals and humans, their encounter with challenges and each other are interpreted by the exhibition artists. Each artist's perspective depends on the political and economic reality one comes from. This is an exhibition about globality and all the nowness, unfulfillments and subtexts of this multi-layered phenomenon.

Andrea Hilger, Director of the OSTRALE Biennale: „ Packages, letters or postcards that once found their way from senders to recipients in the mail distribution rooms and followed their own trajectories, sometimes reached their addressees and sometimes disappeared. The viewer can search for a message that is meant only for them, a message secretly transmitted by a stranger, encoded in the language of art, and at the same time feel how the walls of the Kaunas Central Post Office are covered with the passage of time, and open for a Breathturn.“

With the Out of OSTRALE event "Streams upstream" the OSTRALE Center concludes the series of the European cultural cooperation project "Flowing Connections". In cooperation with Art Quarter Budapest (Hungary), Slobodne Veze (Croatia) and ECOC Office Kaunas 2022 (Lithuania), the project included the OSTRALE Biennale O21 in Dresden (1.7.-3.10.2021) and exhibitions in Budapest (19.3.-22.5.2022), and Kaunas (see above), as well as a seminar week in Split (26-29.10.2022). These exhibitions were complemented by an artist-in-residence program and several workshops in all four partner countries on digital cultural management, post-industrial cultural spaces, art education, and the inclusion of people with disabilities.

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# OSTRALE

Zentrum für zeitgenössische Kunst

## „Streams upstream“

### Online here:

<https://kultura.kaunas.lt/renginys/sroves-nepasroviui-ostrale-siuolaikinio-meno-paroda/6668?prev=all>

**Curator:** Patricija Gilytė

**Architect:** Sigita Kundrotaitė-Savickė

**Curatorial Team of the OSTRALE-Biennale O21:** Nataša Bodrožić, Ivana Meštrov, Patricija Gilytė, Krisztián Kukla, Andrea Hilger, Antka Hofmann.

**Exhibiting artists:** Gabrielė Gervickaitė, Zsolt Ferenczy, Volker Kreidler, Seçkin Aydin, Nikita Kadan, Firoz Mahmud, Predrag Pavić, Gabriele Engelhardt, Jana Richenbachová, Farid Rasulov, Goran Škofić, Ivan Milenković, Philipp A. Schäfer, Daina Vanagaitė-Belžakienė, Toni Meštrović, Daniel Chong, Bronė Sofija Gideikaitė, Eszter Szabó, Michael Grudziecki.

**Exhibiting AIR-artists:** Gabrielė Gervickaitė, Anna Fabricius, KOLXOZ Collective.

**Partners:** Kaunas 2022 (Lithuania), OSTRALE – Center for Contemporary Art (Germany), Slobodne Veze (Croatia), Art Quarter Budapest (Hungary).

**Sponsors:** Kaunas 2022, Lithuanian Council of Culture. The exhibition is part of the Flowing Connections cooperation project, co-financed by the Creative Europe Program of the European Union.

**Producer:** VšĮ „Ars futuri“.

OSTRALE Centre for Contemporary Art organises exhibitions in non-traditional spaces, initially designed for purposes other than art. The transformation of these spaces gives an opportunity for new contexts. The history of the building and its past influences the experience of the visitors and creates associations and references that complement the artworks.

Already in 2010 in Pécs (Hungary), in 2016 in Wrocław (Poland), in 2018 in Valletta (Malta), and in 2020 in Rijeka (Croatia), the OSTRALE Center for Contemporary Art had made relevant contributions to the presentation of contemporary arts in European Capitals of Culture.

The next OSTRALE Biennale will take place from June 10 to October 1, 2023 – once again in a centrally located and recently vacant pavilion of Eastern Modernism in the center of Dresden: the former Robotron-Kantine. Made available by the real estate company Gateway Real Estate, the building has proven itself since 2021 to be an increasingly popular place for exhibitions of contemporary arts. Thus, the OSTRALE Center for Contemporary Art and the municipal Kunsthaus Dresden hope to establish the building as a permanent venue for contemporary arts in the cultural city of Dresden after a low-key renovation. The provisional conditions for the current temporary uses of the property were created by the OSTRALE Biennale team.

The OSTRALE Biennale is one of the major temporary exhibitions for contemporary arts in Germany. The guiding principles of the OSTRALE, such as peaceful coexistence, acceptance of the foreign or unknown, respectful interaction, religious diversity and internationality, and the sustainability, biodiversity and circular economy are reflected in the content of the exhibitions. The OSTRALE team often also designs large parts of the contemporary arts program of European European Capitals of Culture, such as in 2010 in Pécs (Hungary), 2016 in Wrocław (Poland), 2018 in Valletta (Malta), in Rijeka (Croatia) in 2020, where, however, the exhibition could only be presented **digitally** due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The presentation of a selection of OSTRALE works in the European Capital of Culture 2022 Kaunas/Lithuania follows (5.10.-13.11.2022). In 2021-2022, OSTRALE is the lead partner in the project Flowing Connections (<https://vimeo.com/487416772>), (<https://vimeo.com/544940287>) co-funded by the Creative Europe Program of the European Union. 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 (1.7.-3.10.2021)

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Media contact for ECOOC Kaunas here: <https://kaunas2022.eu/en/media/>

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