

Press information O21, Nr. 9 / 21. February 2021

Art / Culture / Dresden / Saxony

OSTRALE Center for Contemporary Art The OSTRALE Biennale O21 already in place – in a model

Dresden-Übigau. The international curatorial team of this year's OSTRALE Biennale is currently in Dresden putting together the exhibition that will be shown in the city of culture next summer (1 July to 3 October). A model (1:40) of the two floors of the former Robotron Kantine in the centre of Dresden, this year's main venue of the Biennale, was made especially for this purpose. In it, the curators position the artworks along an itinerary that not only follows the overall artistic concept, but also meets fire safety and pandemic requirements. The meeting of the curators from Lithuania, Croatia and Hungary is taking place under the strictest conditions imposed by the health authorities.

This year's Biennale presents works from all genres of contemporary art, also once again in the Bautzner Straße Memorial and for the first time in a location of the city's water cleaning facility Stadtentwässerung Dresden. A selection of the works will also be shown as part of the EU project "Flowing Connections" (FLOC), which starts with the OSTRALE Biennale in Dresden. In cooperation with Art Quarter Budapest (Hungary), Slobodne Veze (Croatia) and ECOC Office Kaunas 2022 (Lithuania), FLOC exhibitions are planned in Budapest, Rijeka/Split/Zagreb and Kaunas.

With the model, under the masks

(left to right):

OSTRALE-Director Andrea Hilger (3. left) with 2. representative Antka Hofmann (Germany), and curators Natasa Bodrozic (Croatia), Ivana Meštrov (Croatia), Patricija Gilyte (Lithuania), and Krisztián Kukla (Hungary)

Foto: PR



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The OSTRALE Biennale is one of the largest temporary exhibitions of contemporary art in Germany, with a recent total of over 300 artworks by approximately 180 artists from over 34 nations. 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, are reflected in the content of the exhibitions. The OSTRALE team has already designed large parts of the contemporary arts programme in European Capitals of Culture several times, such as in Pécs in 2010, in Wrocław in 2016, in Valletta/Malta in 2018 and most recently in the European Capital of Culture 2020 Rijeka/Croatia, where, however, only [digital](#) presentations were possible due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

In 2021-2022, the OSTRALE is involved in the project Flowing Connections (<https://vimeo.com/487428285>), which is co-funded by the Creative Europe Programme of the European Union. In cooperation 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,

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OSTRALE

Zentrum für zeitgenössische Kunst

complemented by an Artist in Residence programme and several workshops on digital cultural management, post-industrial cultural spaces, art education and the inclusion of people with disabilities.

F.d.R.d.A. Tobias Blaurock

blaurock markenkommunikation, Tobias Blaurock, Hechtstraße 30, 01097 Dresden, Tel. +49 351 210 98 71, Mobile +49 172 793 01 27, Fax +49 351 2078 15 33, blaurock@team-blaurock.de, www.blaurock-markenkommunikation.de

Ostrale – Center for Contemporary Art, Andrea Hilger, 1. Respresentative, Rethelstraße 45, 01139 Dresden, Tel. +49 351 653 37 63, post@ostrale.de, www.ostrale.de

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