



## Press release of 15<sup>th</sup> June 2018

Dresden / International: Contemporary Art

# STATEMENT by OSTRALE Biennale Director Andrea Hilger on the repeated question about a "clear commitment to the venue in Dresden":

"We have to secure the already achieved dimensions and quality of OSTRALE as well as its further professionalization and development, with a corresponding budget and with suitable premises. That is existential.

In this regard, very contradictory statements have reached us from the city of Dresden. According to media reports from the 13<sup>th</sup> of June 2018, on one hand, the refurbishment of the "Futterställe" was not included in the city planning, although it was actually the city council itself that has formerly decided that it should be done. The Cultural Mayor, however, has announced weeks ago and recently again a proposal for the renovation.

Above all, we received an eviction notice sent by a municipal company. And **this is the only fact that we** currently know.

For weeks now, we have been dismantling under duress everything, that we have created at the area over the years.

We can not make a 'clear commitment' in the complex situation described above. On the other hand we have been missing for a long time concrete, binding statements on the OSTRALE Biennale from the city of Dresden, especially a city council decision, which does not seem to have entered into force, even after 19 months.

<u>The "City of Modernity" Chemnitz, on the other hand, has given us very interesting signals, combined</u> <u>with concrete, coherent and convincing proposals, which, if the local city council agrees to them, would</u> <u>mean our clear decision for Chemnitz</u>. However, there is still openness for constructive discussions from our side in every direction. Naturally, we can only decide in favor of a location that offers a suitable perspective in a binding and committed way."

Current dates:

3<sup>rd</sup> July to 23<sup>rd</sup> September: <u>Artist in Residence</u> program 17<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>th</sup> September 2018: Presentation of results and workshops

The OSTRALE Biennale 2019 will enter its 12<sup>th</sup> season as OSTRALE from 28<sup>th</sup> June to 29<sup>th</sup> September 2019 under the guiding idea of "-ism".

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

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