

## Biennale for Contemporary Art

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## New Base in Übigau

The OSTRALE Centre for Contemporary Art leaves Ostragehege and moves to the vicinity of Schloss Übigau – from there, exhibitions and projects in Rijeka, Kampala and Nairobi as well as the next OSTRALE Biennale in Dresden will be prepared – a new building for the Dresden exhibition in the summer of 2021 is yet to be found

Dresden. After the city-owned lands in the Ostragehege have largely been sold, the OSTRALE now also leaves its office location at the "Erlwein'schen Futterställen". Only a few storage and functional facilities will be still in use there. Director Andrea Hilger says: "Since 2007, with the OSTRALE, we have revived the Ostragehege, which was largely brownfield at the time, and thus contributed to the successful marketing of the properties there." With the former studio of Prof. Eberhard Bosslet (Rethelstraße 45, Dresden-Übigau) the OSTRALE - Centre for Contemporary Arts has now rented a new base for offices, warehouses and workshops as well as for smaller events. From here, the team is first preparing its exhibition of contemporary arts in the European Capital of Culture 2020 Rijeka/Croatia and projects in Kampala/Uganda and Nairobi/Kenya. In Dresden itself, the next OSTRALE Biennale will take place as scheduled from 01.07. to 03.10.2021.

"We are looking forward to 'reviving' an empty building in Dresden with international art in the summer of 2021. With the historical tobacco factory f6, which USD Immobilien kindly 'lended us' before converting it into a residential building, this worked out wonderfully", says Andrea Hilger. "As 'venue pioneers', we want to continue in the future to present a carefully curated show of international contemporary art at places in Dresden where art would otherwise not be so strongly represented. For this, we will again need around 6,000 square meters of buildings plus open-air grounds", says the Biennale Director.

## 2020: Biennale interim year with shows in Rijeka, Kampala and Nairobi

Emina Višnić, Director of Rijeka 2020, announces: "The OSTRALE has already enriched several European Capital of Culture programmes in recent years, as in Pécs (Hungary, 2010), Wroclaw (Poland, 2016), Valletta (Malta, 2018) and other partner cities. This time, in Rijeka, under the title 'Watergate', it will integrate its current concept '-ism' into our three main themes 'Work, Migration and Water'.". The presentation in Rijeka will not be the only OSTRALE tour abroad in 2020. Antka Hofmann, one of the curators of the OSTRALE Biennale: "With our project 'WomanIsm' we will make guest appearances in Uganda and Kenya, working together with exciting partners such as the Goethe Centre in Kampala and the Circle Art Gallery in Nairobi". WomanIsm is supported by the TURN Fund of the German Federal Cultural Foundation and by the "ifa" Institute for Foreign Cultural Relations.

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The OSTRALE Biennale is one of the largest temporary exhibitions of contemporary art in Germany with over 300 works of art by around 180 artists from over 34 nations at its latest edition. It is not a sales exhibition per se, which gives it the freedom to discuss socially relevant topics away from market developments. The guiding principles of the OSTRALE, such as peaceful coexistence, acceptance of the stranger/unknown, respectful interaction, religious diversity and internationality are reflected in the exhibitions. The team of the OSTRALE Centre for Contemporary Arts has already organized several large-scale events contributing to the contemporary art programmes of European Capitals of Culture, such as 2010 in Pécs, 2016 in Wroclaw and 2018 in Valletta/Malta. In the European Capital of Culture 2020 Rijeka/Croatia, the OSTRALE will also contribute by shaping parts of the programme.

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