

Press Information O23, Nr. 1 / May 2022
for: Ostrale – Center for Contemporary Art

„Zerreißprobe / Stress Test“: Open Call published – OSTRALE Biennale O23 in preparation – Exhibitions in Budapest, Kaunas, Dresden and Tartu

Dresden. The OSTRALE Center for Contemporary Art has just published its Open Call inviting artists to submit works for the OSTRALE Biennale in 2023. The working title of O23 is "Zerreißprobe / Stress Test / social, human dilemma / checkmate / primordial hut". The OSTRALE Biennale will take place in Dresden from June 10 to October 1, 2023 – once again in the former canteen of the Robotron factory called Robotron-Kantine, a centrally located and recently unused pavilion of Eastern Modernism. Made available by the real estate company Gateway Real Estate, the building has been proved to be increasingly popular for contemporary art exhibitions since 2021. The OSTRALE Center plans to present a selection of the works on display after the Biennale as part of the European Capital of Culture 2024 in Tartu/Estonia. An exhibition of O21 works in Budapest just closed very successfully, and from July 1 to November 13 they will be presented again in frame of the program of the European Capital of Culture 2022 Kaunas/Lithuania.

Open Call – Applications for the O23 until 30. June

Applications for the OSTRALE Biennale 2023 will be accepted exclusively and online via the OSTRALE database until June 30, 2022. The explanatory text for the Open Call, all other information and the database access can be found here:
<https://ostrale.de/en/Archive/OSTRALE-O23.html>

Flowing Connections – Works from the O21 in Kaunas

As part of the project "Flowing Connections" co-funded by the Creative Europe Program of the European Union, parts of the OSTRALE Biennale O21 will be shown this year from 1.7.-13.11.22 in the program of the European Capital of Culture 2022 Kaunas/Lithuania.

Flowing Connections – Exhibition in Budapest with O21 artworks closes successfully

The corresponding exhibition in the unique exhibition venue of the Art Quarter Budapest (19.3.-22.5.22) came to an end on Sunday after a great success. Within the framework of the cultural cooperation project Flowing Connections, co-financed by the European Union, a selection of the artworks shown at the OSTRALE Biennale O21 had found a new home here for two months in the huge building complex of a former beer factory, which also houses the studios of many exciting new visual artists of Hungary.

The exhibition "Are you sure you want to leave?" was curated by Krisztian Kukla, the Hungarian member of the O21 international curatorial team, and featured 49 artists from 22 nations. Concerts, workshops, performances and guided tours accompanied the exhibition program, which, according to Krisztian Kukla, was considered one of the highlights of contemporary art events in the Hungarian capital at the beginning of 2022.

Video of the exhibition opening events: <https://vimeo.com/705401824>

Partners and sponsors of "Are you sure you want to leave?":

OSTRALE Center for Contemporary Art Dresden (Germany), Kaunas 2022 (Lithuania), slobodne veze (Croatia), Budapest Brand, Goethe Institut Budapest, Nemzeti Kulturális Alap, Austrian Cultural Forum Budapest. The exhibition was part of the cooperation project Flowing Connections, co-funded by the Creative Europe program of the European Union.

Flowing Connections: Abschluss Ende Oktober in Split

The "Flowing Connections" cooperation will be concluded in the last week of October in Split, Croatia, with a series of seminars on the cultural use of post-industrial built heritage and a public presentation of the project, which spanned over three years and four European countries.

Photos to be used free of charge (© Barnabás Neogrady-Kiss)

Artists and works from left to right:

Andrea Palašti: A Walk Through the Zoo

Glorija Lizde: F20.5

Hajnal Szolga: Traces of Survival Nr. 9; Curfew Nr. 2 / Nr. 3

Sandra Rosenstiel: Iactor

Xueying Wang: Echoes of Time

Michael Heindl: Hard-Headed Harmony

Predrag Pavić: Parachute / Paraplan

Neža Knez: For-Nothing

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 fundamental themes of the OSTRALE, such as peaceful coexistence, acceptance of the foreign or unknown, respectful interaction, religious diversity and internationality, as well as the call for sustainability, biodiversity and a 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 Capitals of Culture, such as in Pécs in 2010, in Wrocław in 2016, in Valletta/Malta in 2018, in Rijeka/Croatia (2020), where, however, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, it was only possible to be presented [digitally](#). 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 and OUT of OSTRALE exhibitions in Budapest (19.3.-22.5.2022), Split (1.6.-30.6.2022) and Kaunas (see above). These exhibitions will be 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 in Dresden.

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