

# SOMMER — AKADEMIE im Zentrum Paul Klee

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Berne, August 2012

## *Press Release*

### *TIN SOLDIERS AND NIXON COMING*

Sommerakademie im Zentrum Paul Klee, 16th – 26th August 2012

#### Annual event with international resonance

The Sommerakademie im Zentrum Paul Klee takes place every year for ten days in August. As a platform for contemporary art with theme linked workshops, it promotes artistic production and reflection as well as communication. A particular feature of the Summer Academy is that there is no obligation to create. It is not tied to a specific training system but enables an international group of artists, curators and critics to focus their attention on fundamental questions and ideas.

This allows the young Fellows to try out new paths. The Summer Academy functions as a laboratory, whereby the Fellows can take a step back from their own work, to reflect and exchange with others.

The activities of the Sommerakademie are part of the overall concept of the Zentrum Paul Klee. The foundation Sommerakademie im Zentrum Paul Klee is an educational engagement of the BEKB BCBE (Berner Kantonalbank AG).

#### Theme

Under the title *TIN SOLDIERS AND NIXON COMING*, this year's Guest Curator together with the Fellows, intends to analyse the political stance of Marcel Duchamp (starting from his manuscript *Jura-Paris-Road* of 1912) and his interest in the military escalation of that time. The title is a quote from the song *Ohio* composed in 1970 by Neil Young, in which he criticises the shooting of four protesting students. This year's Sommerakademie will consider the relevance of Duchamp's abstract themes in relation to radical occurrences in recent global developments.

The Guest Curator lays additional emphasis on the culinary in her work and will integrate this theme together with *Cuisine sans frontières* [Cooking without borders] into the structure of the workshops. *Cuisine sans frontières* is present in various conflict areas, in order to guarantee food for the civil population.



Ein Ausbildungsentagement  
der Berner Kantonalbank AG



Beside this political aspect, which is central to this year's Sommerakademie, the engagement of *Cuisine sans frontières* is also about the integration of the communal meal into the artistic process.

### **Concept and leadership**

The Sommerakademie 2012 will be led by Guest Curator Marta Kuzma. She is a renowned curator, writer, lecturer and since 2005 also Director of the *Office for Contemporary Art Norway* (OCA). In addition Marta Kuzma is part of the curatorial team of documenta 13, which opened in Kassel in June 2012.

Further information under:

[www.oca.no/](http://www.oca.no/)

[www.d13.documenta.de/de/](http://www.d13.documenta.de/de/)

### **Jury, Nominators, Fellows and Speakers**

This year the Sommerakademie Jury evaluated 99 dossiers from which 72 were nominations and 27 individual applications. Nominators from Switzerland and abroad, who play a decisive role in the art world, as well as alumni and previous guest curators, have the possibility each year to propose an artist or a curator for the coming Summer Academy. Conclusive for the choice of the Fellows is their stringent reference to the year's theme as well as their professionalism in the sense of individuality and complexity. The twelve Fellows from nine different countries reflect the international orientation of the Sommerakademie. Every year the Sommerakademie invites prominent international Speakers to Berne, in order to direct workshops and give lectures.

#### **Jury members 2012:**

**Dr. Jacqueline Burckhardt** (Director of the Sommerakademie im Zentrum Paul Klee)

**Marta Kuzma** (Guest Curator Sommerakademie 2012).

**Sabina Lang** (Member of the Board of Experts Sommerakademie im Zentrum Paul Klee)

#### **Fellows 2012:**

**Burak Arikan** (Turkey)

**Eduardo Tomas Basualdo** (Argentina)

**Emily Verla Bovino** (USA)

**Luis da Silva** (Portugal)

**Övül Durmusoglu** (Turkey)

**Florian Graf** (Switzerland)

**Tamara Henderson** (Canada)

**Arturo Hernández Alcàzar** (Mexiko)

**Angie Keefer** (USA)

**Alex Klein** (USA)

**Mohau Modisakeng** (South Africa)

**Oriol Vilanova** (Spain)

### **Speakers 2012:**

**Peter Eeley** (Curator of the MoMA PS1 New York)

**Linus Elmes** (Curator, Director of the UKS (Unge Kunstneres Samfund) in Oslo)

**David Höner** (Chef, Journalist, Author and Founder of *Cuisine sans frontières*)

**Pablo Lafuente** (Author, Curator, Editor of the publishing and research organisation *Afterall*, London)

**James Leary** (Film maker and Lecturer, New York)

**Dirk Snauwaert** (Publisher and artistic Director of the WIELS Centre in Brussels)

### **Networking in the Bernese Cultural Environment**

The Sommerakademie attaches great importance to local networking and this year – besides collaborating with the main partner Zentrum Paul Klee – is also forming a partnership with the Art space / Kunstraum Oktogon, where the workshops of the Fellows as well as individual public events are taking place.

### **Public Events**

Besides the artists workshops during the Academy from 16th – 26th August 2012, a series of public talks and events has been developed for the Zentrum Paul Klee and the Art space / Kunstraum Oktogon.

Entry to all events is free.

Under [www.sommerakademie.zpk.org](http://www.sommerakademie.zpk.org) further information about the accompanying programme can be found.

Public events already planned:

**Opening of the Sommerakademie im Zentrum Paul Klee 2012,  
Friday, 17th August 2012**

**17:00 Auditorium, Zentrum Paul Klee**

**Peter Fischer, Director Zentrum Paul Klee**

**Jacqueline Burckhardt, Director Sommerakademie im Zentrum Paul Klee (SAK)**

**Marta Kuzma, Guest Curator SAK 2012**

**Introduction to the Academy theme**

**Presentations of the Fellows SAK 2012**

**Alumni SAK 2011**

**Book Launch of the publication SAK 2011**

**David Höner, President of the Non-Profit-Organisation Cuisine sans frontières**

**19:30 Museumsstrasse, Zentrum Paul Klee**

**Cuisine sans frontières (evening meal)**

Public evening lectures:

**Sunday, 19th August, 2012**

18:30 Kunstraum Oktogon

Lecture by Dirk Snauwaert

*On Jef Geys and 'After Army'*

**Monday, 20th August, 2012**

18:30 Kunstraum Oktogon

Lecture by Pablo Lafuente

*Social Machines*

We are pleased that you are interested in a further promising and innovative Summer Academy and wish you a warm welcome to our events.

Information on the theme, on participants of the Sommerakademie 2012 and photo material for media purpose is available on the website:

[www.sommerakademie.zpk.org](http://www.sommerakademie.zpk.org).