

SOMMER— AKADEMIE im Zentrum Paul Klee

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Press Release

Sommerakademie im Zentrum Paul Klee 12. - 22. August 2015

Annual event with international reach

The Sommerakademie im Zentrum Paul Klee takes place every year during ten days in August. It is an annual international platform for contemporary art with themed workshops that fosters artistic productivity and reflection as well as the promotion of art. The Sommerakademie is special in that it enables an international group of artists, curators and art critics to explore fundamental questions and ideas together. It is tied neither to an artistic output nor a specific educational system. This allows the young Fellows to discover new avenues. The public is invited to attend the the public events.

The activities of the Sommerakademie im Zentrum Paul Klee are an integral part of the general concept of the Zentrum Paul Klee. The Sommerakademie im Zentrum Paul Klee represents the Cantonal Bank of Berne's BEKB | BCBE (Berner Kantonalbank AG) commitment to training.

Theme and Guest Curator

The Sommerakademie 2015 is guest curated by Egyptian curator Hassan Khan. He is an artist, musician and writer with projects across the globe. He lives in Cairo.

My first intuitive response to the invitation (by the Sommerakademie im Zentrum Paul Klee) was that I didn't want to come up with a totalizing theme, but rather to develop an approach. I want to engage with the Fellows directly through what the various (very diverse) guests would bring to the table. Rather than foreground one big statement that we all have to respond to, let's focus on what working with different approaches can potentially allow.

Interview Hassan Khan in SchwarzWeiss Nr. 2/2015

Theme "Teaser"

Over the span of ten days this meeting of minds, forum for questions, space of engagements and focus, this respite, this arena of distraction will aim to offer a gentle hook. Is it a smooth dissolve or a harsh cut? A melodic harmony or an atonal storm? Formal virtuosity or a wild ramble?



Ein Ausbildungsentagement
der Berner Kantonalbank AG



Sometimes we need to begin with questions and answers. What has been labelled early twentieth century modernism has never been digested or understood. So what kind of artist do you think you are? It is, sometimes for some people, important to trick ourselves. Who is it that speaks when you decide that something has value? Engagement and loss are real and possible. What is a context? Sometimes everything you know can be put into brackets.

What is value? Focusing on what one does can be incredibly rewarding. What kind of relationship do we hold to what surrounds us, to what we do and what we want? Capitalism does not exist. How can we know what is important and what merely greases the wheels of function? What do we do with the ever-evolving questions of form, function and content, the shadow of meaning that haunts us? How to determine a measure of good faith? How not to lose self-respect? What are the lessons of what we call art history, what are its limits and how is it being redefined by some of those who have engaged the beast?

Teaser is ten days spent within the relative comfort and pleasures of institutional support. Ten days of possible explorations, ego massages, and put downs. We will aim to produce different contexts and situations, to stare into the black holes of assumptions and to, sometimes, have a good time.

Jury, Nominators, Fellows and Speakers

This year the jury considered 113 applications of which 66 were nominations and 47 free submissions. National and international Nominators with a respected place in the art world as well as Alumni and former Guest Curators may nominate one artist, curator or art critic for the upcoming academy. The close connection of the applicant's work to the yearly theme is a decisive criterion for the selection of participants along with a professional attitude in the sense of autonomy and complexity. The twelve Fellows from many different countries reflect the Sommerakademie's international focus. Each year renowned international Speakers are invited to Bern to teach workshops and give lectures.

Members of the jury 2015

Dr. Jacqueline Burckhardt, Director Sommerakademie und jury chair

Hassan Khan, Guest Curator 2015

Giovanni Carmine, Board of Experts Sommerakademie

Andreas Fiedler, Board of Experts Sommerakademie

Sabina Lang, Board of Experts Sommerakademie

Prof. Dr. Beate Söntgen, Board of Experts Sommerakademie

Fellows 2015:



Antonina Baever
(Russia)



Bonnie Begusch
(USA / Austria)



Sacha Béraud
(France)



Clare Butcher
(Zimbabwe / South Africa)



Hannah Fitz
(Fitzpatrick)
(Ireland)



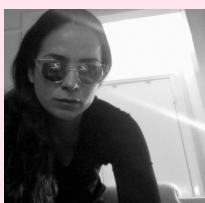
Ericka Florez
(Colombia)



Shahab Fotouhi
(Iran)



**Verónica Gerber
Bicecci**
(Mexico)



Patricia L Boyd
(Great Britain)



Tomás Maglione
(Argentina)



Crack Rodriguez
(San Salvador)



Martine Syms
(USA)

Speakers 2015:



Uriel Barthélemi (France)
Drummer, composer, electroacoustic musician
*Concert and dance performance: Souls' Landscapes:
Violence, magical superstructures and invisible guardians*
With dancers Entissar Al Hamdany und Salomon Baneck Asaro
(France)



Bassam El Baroni (Egypt)
Curator and theorist
Lecturer at the Dutch Art Institute, Arnhem
*Lecture: Composition vs. Model: Art and Subjectivity
in Generative Culture*



Tirdad Zolghadr (Switzerland / Iran)
Curator and writer
Lecturer at various colleges
Curator of the 5. Riwaq Biennale

For more detailed information about the Speakers and Fellows please visit
www.sommerakademie.zpk.org.

Integration into Bern as a cultural centre

The Sommerakademie places great importance on its local integration. In addition to our main partnership with the Zentrum Paul Klee we will collaborate with the Progr (Centre for Cultural Production), Münstergass-Buchhandlung and the Bern University of the Arts HKB.

Public programme

The opening ceremony takes place at the Zentrum Paul Klee in Bern. Further public events will be hosted at the Progr and the Münstergass-Buchhandlung. Entry to all events, which are held in English, is free.

During the opening ceremony Guest curator Hassan Khan will present the theme and the selected Fellows will introduce themselves. We look forward to welcoming you at the Zentrum Paul Klee!

14 August 2015

17.00 h

OPENING CEREMONY

Auditorium, Zentrum Paul Klee

Peter Fischer, Director Zentrum Paul Klee

Jacqueline Burckhardt, Director Sommerakademie

Hassan Khan, Guest Curator 2015

Presentations Fellows

Book Launch publication Sommerakademie 2014

Dinner with interventions at the Restaurant Schwellenmätteli, Bern

17 August 2015

19.30h

Münstergass-Buchhandlung

Lecture Bassam El Baroni

On the drawing board of a post-contemporary art

19. August 2015

21.00h

Courtyard of the Progr

Concert/Performance

Uriel Barthélémi with Entissar Al Hamdany and Salomon Baneck Asaro

Souls's Landscape: Violence, magical superstructures and invisible guardians

Production by Sharjah Art Foundation

Welcome to another exciting edition of the Sommerakademie!

For further information about the theme and the participants of the Sommerakademie 2015 as well as press material please visit:

www.sommerakademie.zpk.org