

SOMMER— AKADEMIE im Zentrum Paul Klee

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Press Release

*Sommerakademie im Zentrum Paul Klee
August 12 – 20, 2016*

with Guest Curator Thomas Hirschhorn



Annual Event with International Reach

The Sommerakademie im Zentrum Paul Klee is an international platform for contemporary art. Each year in August twelve artists and curators meet with a Guest Curator and Speakers from around the world. This year's programme takes place at the Kunsthalle Bern and is open to the public.

The Sommerakademie is special in that it enables 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.

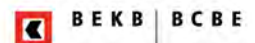
Theme and Guest Curator

This year's Guest Curator is Swiss artist Thomas Hirschhorn (*1957). Born in Bern, he lives and works in Paris. His work has been shown in numerous museums, galleries and international exhibitions, such as the Venice Biennale (1999 and 2015) and Documenta 11 (2002). In 2013 he showed his „Gramsci Monument“ in the Bronx (New York).

In 2006 Thomas Hirschhorn already participated in the first ever Sommerakademie as a Speaker.



Ein Ausbildungsentagement
der Berner Kantonalbank AG



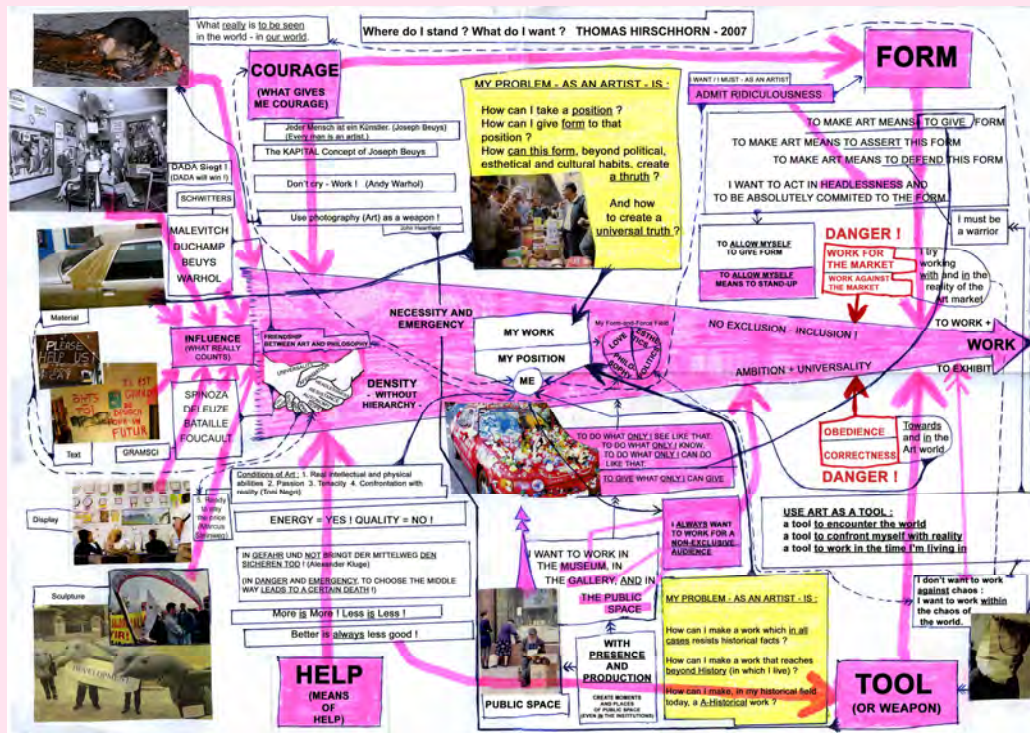
Theme: "Where do I stand? "What do I want?"

During his Academy Thomas Hirschhorn will ask the most important, fundamental and crucial questions that concern artists: "Where do I stand? "What do I want?".

Thomas Hirschhorn:

“Art is about having concerns, a problem, a mission. It’s about having a plan. The plan "Where do I stand? "What do I want?" is my plan. It shows my position. In my work, my art, with each of my pieces and each exhibition I want so show that I have a position. It’s about defining myself as an artist, to say what I really want.

The plan is the first step for a composition, a construction, for a sculpture. The plan is two-dimensional, I have to transform it to the third dimension. All my pieces are plans or collages – transferred to the third dimension.



Map by Thomas Hirschhorn, Courtesy the Artist, 2007

The question to myself, "Where do I stand? "What do I want?" contains the question to the Other: "Where do you stand? "What do you want?". That is what’s political about this question.”

Fellows

This year the Jury considered 148 applications of which 89 were nominations and 59 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.

Members of the Jury 2016:

Dr. Jacqueline Burckhardt, Director Sommerakademie and chair of the jury

Thomas Hirschhorn, Guest Curator 2016

Giovanni Carmine, Director Kunst Halle Sankt Gallen

Andreas Fiedler, Artistic Director KINDL - Zentrum für zeitgenössische Kunst in Berlin

Peter Fischer, Kunst & Kultur GmbH

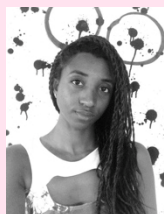
Sabina Lang, Artist

The following twelve Fellows from ten different countries were chosen for this year's Sommerakademie:

Fellows 2016:



Ovidiu Anton
(Romania)



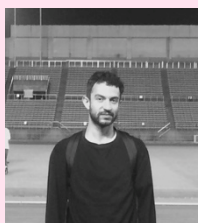
Lex Brown
(USA)



Justin Davy
(South Africa)



François Dey
(Switzerland)



Luis Garay
(Colombia)



Kevin Kemter
(Germany)



Sasha Kurmaz
(Ukraine)



Tiona Mc Clodden
(USA)



Eliana Otta
(Peru)



Tabita Rezaire
(France)



Angelica Teuta
(Colombia)



Wambui Kamiru
(Kenya)

For detailed CVs please visit www.sommerakademie.zpk.org

Academy Programme

**THE ENTIRE ACADEMY PROGRAMME IS FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
EVERYBODY IS WELCOME TO JOIN IN!**

Language: English

With each exhibition Thomas Hirschhorn reinforces his commitment to a non-exclusive public. Therefore all of this year's events at the Sommerakademie will be free of charge and open to the public.

The Opening Ceremony will take place at the Zentrum Paul Klee, the further programme at the Kunsthalle Bern. Thomas Hirschhorn has invited six members of local cultural institutions to talk about relevant topics in different locations.

OPENING CEREMONY SOMMERAKADEMIE 2016 AT THE ZENTRUM PAUL KLEE:

August 12, 2016, 17.00h, Auditorium Zentrum Paul Klee

Monument im Fruchtländ 3, Bern

Nina Zimmer, Artistic Director, Kunstmuseum Bern - Zentrum Paul Klee

Jacqueline Burckhardt, Director Sommerakademie

Thomas Hirschhorn, Guest Curator 2016

Presentation Fellows 2016

Book Launch Publication Sommerakademie 2015

EVENTS AT THE KUNSTHALLE BERN

August 12 – 20, 2016, 10.00 - 20.00h (except August 18, 2016)

Helvetiaplatz 1, Bern

Daily presentations and discussions by international Fellows and Speakers will take place at Kunsthalle Bern from 10.00 – 20.00h. Detailed information regarding the programme will follow nearer the date, please visit www.sommerakademie.zpk.org.

EVENTS AT LOCAL CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS

From **August 12 – 20, 2016** members of the local art scene will deliver lectures at different cultural institutions. For dates and places see below.

Speakers (for detailed CVs please visit www.sommerakademie.zpk.org)

International Speakers:

This year's Guest Curator Thomas Hirschhorn has selected the following three international Speakers. They will be present for the whole duration of the Academy and will lead one or more events (workshops, lectures, etc.) at the Kunsthalle Bern. The full programme will be available online nearer the date.



Tania Bruguera (Havanna / New York)

Installations and performance artist.
Lives and works in Havanna and New York



Yasmil Raymond (New York)

Curator, since July 2015 Yasmil has been working at the Department of Painting and Sculpture of the Museum of Modern Art, New York



Marcus Steinweg (Berlin)

Philosopher, lives and works in Berlin.
Lectureship at the University of Fine Arts of Hamburg and the University of the Arts Berlin

Local Speakers:

Thomas Hirschhorn has invited six members of local cultural institutions to talk about relevant subjects in different locations.



Dr. Michael Baumgartner

Director Collections, Exhibitions and Art, Zentrum Paul Klee

Lecture:

Paul Klee. I am a Painter.

August 14, 2016, 14.30h, Zentrum Paul Klee, Bern



Dr. Kathleen Bühler

Curator, Kunstmuseum Bern

Lecture:

The Meret Oppenheim Fountain in Bern

August 17, 2016, 10.00h, Meret Oppenheim Fountain,
Waisenhausplatz Bern



Valérie Knoll
Director Kunsthalle Bern

Lecture:
The Police likes to know where You are
August 12, 2016, 12.00h, Kunsthalle Bern



Hans Rudolf Reust
Professor for Design und Visual Arts, Bern University of the Arts

Lecture:
Art gets specific. An Artschool as a Moment of Decision
August 16, 2016, 18.00h, Hochschule der Künste Bern



Dr. Reto Sorg
Director Robert Walser-Zentrum

Lecture:
On This Earth I Stand: This is my Point of View. Robert Walser's Theory of Relativity
August 15, 2016, 18.00h, Robert Walser-Zentrum, Bern



Hilar Stadler
Director Adolf Wölfli-Stiftung

Lecture:
Adolf Wölfli (1864-1930) - Writer, Poet, Draftsman, Composer
August 19, 2016, 14.00h, Adolf Wölfli-Stiftung, Kunstmuseum Bern

We look forward to welcoming you to the 11th edition of the Sommerakademie and to seeing you at our events!

For further information about the theme and the participants of the Sommerakademie 2016 please see:

www.sommerakademie.zpk.org

Do not hesitate to contact us regarding further press material.

The activities of the Sommerakademie are an integral part of the basic general concept of the Zentrum Paul Klee, and represent the Cantonal Bank of Berne's BEKB (Berner Kantonalbank) commitment to training.