

PRESS RELEASE

AIR CONDITIONED – GRADUATES OF THE STÄDELSCHULE 2019

20 JUNE TO 14 JULY 2019

Städel Museum, exhibition annex, lower level

#airconditioned #staedelschule #staedel

Frankfurt am Main, 28 May 2019. Once again, the Städel Museum is presenting the graduates' exhibition of the Hochschule für Bildende Künste – Städelschule. Entitled "Air Conditioned", the show will feature artworks in various mediums and disciplines – among them painting, sculpture, installation and video – by altogether twenty graduates from 20 June to 14 July 2019. The works will address a broad spectrum of themes and discourses of contemporary art. The participating artists are Immanuel Birkert, Xenia Bond, Jakob Brugge, Harry Chapman, Olivia Coran, Edi Danartono, Onur Gökmen, Siri Hagberg, Stian Hansen, Helena Hasson, K-K, Valentina Knežević, Niwat Manatpiyalert, José Montealegre, Ivan Murzin, Max Negrelli, François Pisapia, Sóley Ragnarsdóttir, Kristin Reiman and Julian Tromp.

Air Conditioned

Air conditioning in the museum is omnipresent – invisible, neutral in taste and well-tempered, a formal and essential characteristic of a venue for the exhibition of objects. It regulates the temperature and humidity to extend the artworks' longevity. The interiors seem to elude the changes brought about by the weather, even the course of time itself. The graduates' exhibition "Air Conditioned" is bound to these common climatic conditions and thus calls attention to the underlying structures: just as an institution controls its rooms climatically, it also controls the subjects that move within those rooms.

In 1966–67, the artists' group Art & Language staged the important exhibition "The Air-Conditioning Show", in which empty gallery walls and an air-conditioning unit exposed the internal mechanisms of an institution. With a full awareness of that show, the Städel graduates are presenting works that take a stance on the mechanisms of art production. Within the context of the all-pervasive late capitalism, however, they cannot escape the institutional conditions or the silent impacts of the status quo. On the contrary, their works – like the air itself – are a composition of all those elements.

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The graduates studied in the classes of Monika Baer, Gerard Byrne, Peter Fischli, Nikolas Gambaroff, Douglas Gordon, Judith Hopf, Hassan Khan, Laure Prouvost, Tobias Rehberger, Willem de Rooij, Amy Sillman, Wu Tsang and Haegue Yang.

“We are delighted to host the Städelschule graduate’s exhibition again this year – it’s an opportunity for us to underscore the ties between the two institutions anew, entirely in keeping with the vision of our founder Johann Friedrich Städel. The show will offer the public insights into contemporary art production at one of the most renowned art academies. Certainly something to look forward to”, Städel Museum director Philipp Demandt comments.

And Philippe Pirotte, the rector of the Städelschule, reflects: “Contemporary art permits an encounter with the world that doesn’t exclude any possibilities. At the Städelschule, the chief concern is with digressive conversations that encourage, recognize and develop non-fundamentalist thought. In the act of making art, the point is not to understand, because there is no absolute truth. What is far more important is living and working with paradoxes, enigmas and contradictions.”

Within the framework of the exhibition, the Städelschule Portikus e.V. association will present the Graduates’ Award with a purse of 2,000 EUR. The members of this year’s jury are Martin Engler (Head of the Collection of Contemporary Art, Städel Museum), Anette Hans and Rebekka Seubert (Artistic Directors, Kunstverein Harburger Bahnhof, Hamburg), Julia Magnus (Städelschule Portikus e.V.) and Jenny Nachtigall (substitute professor of art theory, Städelschule). The award recipient will be announced at the opening on Tuesday, 19 June.

Air Conditioned. Graduates of the Städelschule 2019

Exhibition dates: 20 June – 14 July 2019

Location: Städel Museum, exhibition annex, lower level, Schaumainkai 63, 60596 Frankfurt am Main

Curators: Paula Kommos and Il-Jin Choi

Information:

www.staedelschule.de, kommunikation@staedelschule.de

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Framework programme:

Wed., 19 June, 8.30 pm: “Boing Bumm Kekak”, a sound performance by Edi Danartono

Wed., 19 June, 9.00 pm: Screening and reading of *LOVESICK LIVE* by François Pisapia and guests

Fri., 28 June, 7.00 pm: Screening and reading of *LOVESICK LIVE* by François Pisapia and guests

Thu., 4 July, 7.00 pm: Guided tour with the curators Il-Jin Choi and Paula Kommos

Fri., 5 July, 7.00 pm: Screening and reading of *LOVESICK LIVE* by François Pisapia and guests

Sun., 14 July, 2.00 pm: The graduates present the accompanying publication in the exhibition rooms.



Publication: A publication produced by the graduates will accompany the exhibition. It will contain photographic documentation of all works, individual contributions by the graduates and texts by Philippe Pirotte, Paula Kommos and Il-Jin Choi. The publication will come out at the close of the exhibition.

Social media: The Städel Museum is communicating the exhibition in social media with the hashtags #airconditioned, #staedelschule and #staedel.

Sponsors: Allen & Overy are once again sponsoring the Städel Schule graduates' exhibition.