

KUNSTVEREIN BIELEFELD

KUNSTVEREIN

BIELEFELD

ÖFFNUNGSZEITEN
Do-So, 12:00-18:00
Mo-Mi, nach Vereinbarung

An: Von:

Bielefeld, 11.01.2024

Katharina Klang and Victoria Tarak appointed new directors of the Kunstverein Bielefeld

At the turn of the year, Katharina Klang and Victoria Tarak will take over the direction of the Kunstverein Bielefeld. With their appointment, the Kunstverein is opting for dual leadership for the first time. With Katharina Klang and Victoria Tarak two excellent and widely experienced curators from the Rhineland region are following the successful years under the direction of Nadine Droste and the interim directorship of Oriane Durand.

The selection committee, consisting of the representatives of the Board of trustees and the external advisors Dr. Jule Hillgärtner (Director, Kunstverein Braunschweig) and Dr. Stephanie Weber (Curator of Contemporary Art, Lenbachhaus, Munich), was convinced by the extensive application concept of the two curators, which is based on interdisciplinary curatorial formats, the inclusion of non-Western perspectives and polyphonic empowerment.

"We seek to conceive the Kunstverein Bielefeld as a shared, situated and interconnected space of opportunity and thus continue to strengthen the institution's international reputation."

With the election of the dual leadership, the Kunstverein is pursuing an innovative path, positioning itself to current discourses on collectivity and contributing to the revision of work processes in the art world. Here, for the new directors, questions of sustainability are linked to the strengthening of collective care.

The future work of the two directors at the Kunstverein will be expressed through a diversity-sensitive program. Alongside international artistic positions and collaborations, the directors will emphasize local encounters that forge links to the site-specific characteristics of the city of Bielefeld in the areas of education, pedagogy and care.

The program of the two directors Katharina Klang and Victoria Tarak will begin in May 2024.

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About Katharina Klang

Katharina Klang was the founding director of the Philara Collection in Düsseldorf, which she directed until June 2022. As well as developing the collection's representation and its program, she was responsible for curating over forty exhibitions, including solo exhibitions by Nevin Aladağ (2018), Nora Turato (2020) and Alex Wissel (2020). Her exhibition *Adjustable Monuments* (2022) with Black Quantum Futurism, Danielle Brathwaite-Shirley and Zuzanna Czebatul, among others, was dedicated to cultures of memory and its revision in public space. As a freelance curator, she has realized exhibitions at Mouches Volantes in Cologne and the National Gallery Kosovo in Pristina, among others. In 2021 she was appointed to the board of the Nan Hoover Foundation. In addition to her curatorial work, Katharina Klang has held teaching positions at the Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf at the Institute for Media and Cultural Studies. This summer, she will become the artistic director for this year's edition of the International Lantz Sculpture Park in Düsseldorf.

About Victoria Tarak

Victoria Tarak is a curator, lecturer and researcher who has worked for self-initiated projects and for various art institutions in the past. Her projects describe discursive formats that combine different artistic fields and collaborative working methods. Within her curatorial practice, she negotiates questions of performativity, narration and situatedness from the sensibility of migrant intersectional experience. In the past she worked at Kunstverein für die Rheinlande und Westfalen, Museum Ludwig, Tanzhaus NRW, Philara Collection, Simultanhalle - Raum für zeitgenössische Kunst, among others. As co-editor, she published a thematic volume on collectivity in art for the magazine KUNSTFORUM International in 2022.

Since 2021 she has held teaching positions at Heinrich Heine University and Düsseldorf University of Applied Sciences. She recently returned from Rio de Janeiro as part of a travel grant from the Goethe-Institut. During her stay, she realized workshops and lectures in academic, educational and artistic contexts such as at the Universidade do Estado do Rio de Janeiro and researched contemporary art production in Brazil.

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About Kunstverein Bielefeld

The Kunstverein Bielefeld was founded in 1929 with the purpose of supporting art and encourage its dissemination. The work of the Kunstverein relies on the active civic commitment of its members, which now number almost one nine hundred. The program focuses on art's critical force, and consciously relates to current discourses. In addition to solo exhibitions, thematic presentations play a central role, organized in cooperation with international and regional partners. The goal is to turn the Kunstverein into a location for contemporary aesthetic experiment, creating a space where art can reflect on the challenges and changing conditions of our shared lives. Against this backdrop, we invite the public to discover the work of young international artists, to discuss images of contemporary society, and to continually reassess the ideas of contemporary art.

Photo Credits: Aimilia Theofilopoulos

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