

HELMHAUS ZÜRICH

14 July to 2 September 2018

CITY OF ZURICH WORK AND STUDIO GRANTS 2018

The annual Work and Studio Grants exhibition at Helmhaus Zürich provides a regular snapshot of the local art scene. This is where the themes, trends and theories of today's artists are showcased. This year's jury found that many of the works submitted took an earnest and consistent approach to the use of established visual syntax and media, lending them a thoroughly persuasive quality. An exploration of formal aesthetics was evident throughout, and although the artists' interpretations of socially and historically relevant issues tended to embrace documentary methods, they avoided taking an unsettling stance and did not include any explicitly political or participatory works. Even such topical themes as ecology, sustainability and the digital revolution impacting society and the visual world in equal measure do not appear to have been the foremost concerns in this year's crop of artistic production in Zurich. The exhibition also invites visitors to take a critical interest in the decisions made by the jury.

Each year, artists in the city of Zurich have the opportunity to apply for a work grant or a studio residency abroad. Eligible applicants must have been resident in the city of Zurich for at least two years. There is no age limit.

The application process consists of two stages. In the first round of adjudication, the jury draws up a shortlist based on the documentation and portfolios submitted by the applicants. The shortlisted applicants are then invited to take part in the second round of adjudication by presenting original works at Helmhaus Zürich. This year's jury comprises members of the Fine Arts Commission and two guest adjudicators who petition the Department of Culture to apportion the grants on the basis of these original works. The exhibition at Helmhaus Zürich presents the works of the shortlisted candidates.

This year's work grant amounts to CHF 18,000 for each artist. The allocation of a studio residency includes a monetary grant towards living costs abroad. In addition, an art mediation grant in the amount of CHF 10,000 is also awarded in recognition of the important role that authoritative and innovative presentation of contemporary and emerging art plays in promoting and supporting the arts and culture.

Work Grants 2018

Nicole Bachmann
Jean-Charles de Quillacq
Matthias Gabi
William Lutz
Alexandra Navratil
Karin Schwarzbek
Markus Weggenmann
Agnès Wyler
Simon Wyss

Studio Residencies 2018

Lynne Kouassi	Genoa
Julia Geröcs / Gabriel Studerus	Genoa
Gilles Jacot	Paris
Mathias Renner	Paris
Robert Steinberger	Kunming

Art Mediation Grant 2018

Aoife Rosenmeyer, born 1978 in Ireland

Jury members 2018

City of Zurich Fine Arts Commission:

Roland Roos (artist)

Sabine Rusterholz Petko (art historian and curator)

Sabine Schaschl (art historian and Director Museum Haus Konstruktiv, Zurich)

Guest adjudicators:

Jan Kiefer (artist, Basle)

Bärbel Küster (Professor, Institute of Art History, University of Zurich)

The exhibition was installed by Luigi Archetti (artist and President of the City of Zurich Fine Arts Commission) and Marcel van Eeden (artist and member of the City of Zurich Fine Arts Commission).

Coordination: Barbara Basting and Vanessa Gendre, Visual Arts Department of the City of Zurich; Simon Maurer, Daniel Morgenthaler and Peter Schneider, Helmhaus Zürich.