



Press Release

Frankfurt am Main, March 6, 2024

Yasmil Raymond is stepping down as Rector of the Städelschule and Director of Portikus

Dr. Ina Hartwig, Chair of the University Council, announced today that Yasmil Raymond will end her tenure as Rector of the Städelschule and Director of Portikus at the end of July 2024.

In a statement on behalf of the University Council, Hartwig said: "As the first non-European and first female Rector of the Städelschule and Director of Portikus, Yasmil Raymond came to the institution with a keen sense of its great potential. She swiftly managed the transition to the state of Hesse and helped steer the institution during the COVID-19-pandemic. In addition, she focused on diversifying the exhibitions at Portikus and expanding the curriculum and programs at the Städelschule to provide young artists with in-depth learning experiences. We are deeply grateful to Yasmil for her inspiring leadership and commitment to art and artists."

During her tenure, Raymond has achieved many milestones at both Städelschule and Portikus. In addition to conceiving and implementing the first long-range plan for the Städelschule, she was responsible for leading an innovative exhibition program at Portikus and developing a fundraising strategic plan.

Yasmil Raymond strengthened the international profile of the Städelschule by establishing contacts with artists, architects, and curators from South America, the Antilles, the Middle East and Southeast Asia and, together with the faculty, promoting existing initiatives in West Africa, Asia and the United States.

During her tenure, Städelschule's commitment to artistic innovation was rethought and she increased the interdisciplinarity cooperation and integrated pressing issues such as ecology and sustainability to the curriculum. Raymond raised the proportion of women visiting professors and staff. In her role she was responsible for expanding and diversifying research initiatives such as the Frankfurt Prototype and organizing the restaging of Gasthof. Raymond also taught seminars in Curatorial Studies and was able to strengthen the academic partnership with Goethe University, which, among other things, increased the graduation rate of all students. Under Raymond's leadership, the pioneering initiative to digitalize Städelschule's archival holdings between 1920 and 1950 was set in motion and many of these successes were achieved by securing funding from public and private sources under her leadership. At Portikus, Raymond curated the solo exhibition of works by Jochen Lempert and its accompanying publication *Paare / Pairs* designed by Roger Willems from Roma Publications.

Statement

"I am stepping down at a time when, for the first time, the Städelschule and Portikus are financially stable and have a solid team and exceptional staff," says Raymond. "I am confident that the new Rector will build on the strong commitment to equality, equity and the spirit of collaboration that has characterized my tenure."

Raymond would like to focus on her curatorial work again in the future.

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