



Presse Release

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## Faculty Summer Semester 2022

With the start of the summer semester 2022, the Städelschule would like to inform about the updates of its faculty, which will be complemented by the performing architect Benjamin Foerster-Baldenius as inaugural professor for cohabitation, the artist Keren Cytter as well as the scholar and curator Rahraw Omarzad as guest professors and Walid Raad as visiting artist. In addition, Niklas Maak, Sung Tieu as guest professors and Ayşe Güleç as visiting research fellow will remain with the faculty for another semester.

### PROFESSOR

**Benjamin Foerster-Baldenius** is a performing architect, a hybrid between space designer and situation maker. As such in 2021, he won the golden Lion at the Venice Architecture Biennial with his collective raumlaborberlin. His work stands emblematic for an approach to architecture and urbanity that manifests a radical turn from a practice that serves the real estate market and the building industry towards a practice that plays a lead role in all current struggles and debates around a changing climate, sustainability, shrinking material resources and creating futures with all lifeforms on this planet. Foerster-Baldenius strives for transdisciplinary approaches in learning, making, and doing, he is a brilliant researcher, networker, and charismatic fighter for new forms of resilient urban practice. With him Städelschule will install a laboratory for cohabitation with the city of Frankfurt as its first and foremost testing ground.

Foerster-Baldenius has studied architecture at TU and HdK Berlin and the Royal Danish Academy of Arts in Copenhagen. He plans, draws, and realizes installations and interventions in public space, makes scenographies, and dramaturgies for stages, squares and exhibitions and develops event and teaching formats. During the pandemic he realized, among other things, the construction of the *Sommerbau* for Künstlerhaus Mousonturm in Frankfurt and the *Third Space* for the Düsseldorfer Schauspielhaus as two temporary open spaces for analogue encounter.

He has won the Schelling Prize for Innovation in Architecture with his early work *Hotel Neustadt* and since then designed and produced, displayed, published, and performed worldwide with growing attention. He has been a Professor at the Academy of Art, Architecture and Design Prague (VSUP), the Folkwang University of Arts Essen, the Royal Academy of Arts in the Hague and has worked in teaching positions in many other European Universities. He is also the founder, dean, and board member of the Floating University an award-winning Nature/Culture learning Space in Berlin.

### GUEST PROFESSORS

**Keren Cytter** creates films, performances, drawings, and photographs on topics of social alienation, language representation, and the function of individuals in predetermined cultural systems through experimental modes of storytelling and human perception. Mostly characterized by a non-linear, cyclical logic, Cytter's films consist of multiple layers of images, conversation, monologue, and narration systematically composed to undermine linguistic conventions and traditional interpretation schemata. Recalling amateur home movies and video diaries, these montages of impressions, memories, and imaginings are poetic and self-referential in composition. Cytter creates intensified scenes drawn from everyday life in which the overwhelmingly artificial

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nature of the situations portrayed is echoed by the very means of their production of storytelling and human perception. Selected solo exhibitions include: Ludwig Forum Aachen (2022), Kunstmuseum Winterthur (2020), Center for Contemporary Art, Tel Aviv, and Museion Bolzano (both in 2019) Künstlerhaus - Halle für Kunst & Medien, Graz (2016) Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago (2015), the Kunsthal Charlottenborg and Copenhagen State of Concept Athens (both in 2014), Tate Modern Oil Tanks, London (2012), Stedelijk Museum Amsterdam and München Kunstverein (both in 2011), Kunsthaus Baselland, Muttenz, Moderna Museet, Stockholm, Hammer Museum, Los Angeles (all in 2010). Cytter was awarded the Guggenheim Fellowship in 2021. Cytter has also initiated several interdisciplinary art festivals such as *The Last Summer Fest* in Goethe-Institut Curatorial Residencies Ludlow 38, New York (2015) and many more, and is also the author of five novels. In 2008, Cytter also formed a dance company called D.I.E NOW (Dance International Europe NOW), consisting of 5 non-professional dancers, performing in different institutions across Europe and the US, such as the Tate Modern's Turbine Hall in London, The Kitchen in New York, Tramway in Glasgow, and Hebbel am Ufer in Berlin.

**Niklas Maak** studied Art History, Philosophy and Architecture in Hamburg and Paris and graduated with a PhD in philosophy on Paul Valéry and Le Corbusier in 1998. Since 2001, he has been the arts and architecture editor at the Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung. He taught architecture in Frankfurt, Nairobi and at Harvard and was a co-author and co-curator to Rem Koolhaas' research project *Countryside* and the eponymous exhibition at the Guggenheim Museum in New York (2020). He has received numerous awards for his work, among them the George F. Kennan Prize, the Henri-Nannen-Prize and the Bund Deutscher Architekten Prize. Among his latest publications are *Living complex. From Zombie City to the New Communal* (2015); *Eurotopians. Fragments of a different future* (2018); *Post-Familial Communes in Germany* (2015); *Worlds without Work: From Homo Ludens to UBI Urbanism* (2018) and the novel *Technophilia* (2020) which is currently being adapted as a TV series. Maak lives in Berlin and Frankfurt.

**Rahraw Omarzad** is an artist, independent curator, writer, and professor from Kabul, Afghanistan, working mainly with video and photography. He has taught Fine Arts at the University of Kabul for 20 years, before having to leave the country due to the assumption of power by the Taliban in 2021. In his broad range of cultural activities, Omarzad is committed to socio-political topics: He founded the CCAA Center for Contemporary Art Afghanistan including the Women's Center for the Arts, which is dedicated to teaching and promoting the advancement and empowerment of Afghan women artists and is also the founder of the Afghan art magazine, *Gahnama and Hunar*, amongst others. His artistic work focuses on the portraiture and reflection of Afghan society. Existing in the interspace between politics, war, and personal life, Omarzad's artistic and cultural activities have expressed a deep strength of resistance against inequalities, war as a political tool and an advocacy for peace, justice, and an open and democratic society. Rahraw Omarzad's video works have been exhibited worldwide, including Documenta 13, Kassel, and Tate Britain, London, 9. International Istanbul Biennial. His work can also be found in the permanent collection of the Asia Society Museum, New York. He received an IFA Scholarship in Germany 2006 and the CEC ArtsLink Projects Award in Washington D.C. 2012. He is also a member of AFI Art Film International curators, Whitechapel Gallery, London, and IKT International Association of Curators of Contemporary Art. He holds Fine Art degrees from the Kabul University and The Oslo National Academy of Fine Arts. Omarzad's current academic and curatorial involvement besides Städelschule includes work with the Castello di Rivoli contemporary art Museum, as well as the Accademia Albertina Art Academy, both in Turin.

# artists

**Sung Tieu** lives and works in Berlin. Using diverse artistic mediums ranging from installation, sound, video, text, sculpture, works on paper, photography, performance to public interventions, her practice explores the vast and evolving protection and control industries, still rooted in the logic of the Cold War.

She completed her BFA at the University of Fine Arts Hamburg, Germany, in 2013, and the Postgraduate Programme at the Royal Academy of Arts, London, in 2018. Recent solo exhibitions include *Multiboy*, GfZK Museum for Contemporary Art, Leipzig (2021); *What is your IxI?*, Emalin, London (2020); *Zugzwang*, Haus der Kunst, Munich (2020); and *In Cold Print*, Nottingham Contemporary (2020).

Current and recent group exhibitions have been held at Kunsthalle Basel (2021); 34th Bienal de São Paulo (2021); Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam (2021); Museion Museum of modern and contemporary art, Bolzano (2021); Hamburger Bahnhof Museum für Gegenwart, Berlin (2020); and GAMeC Gallery of Modern and Contemporary Art, Bergamo (2020). Forthcoming exhibitions will be held at Kunstmuseum Bonn (October 2021); Kunstverein Hannover (November 2021); Mudam Contemporary Art Museum of Luxembourg (2022), and Berlin Biennale (2022).

## VISITING RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP

**Ayşe Güleç** is an educator, author, curator, art mediator and research activist at the intersections of anti-racism, art, art education and migration. Since 2019, Güleç has been working as curator in the Artistic Team of documenta fifteen (2022). In 2021, she curated the exhibition *Offener Prozess*, shown in Stadtmuseum Jena, Neue Sächsische Galerie (Chemnitz), Maxim Gorki Theater (Berlin) and La Vallée (Brussels), amongst others. Previously, she was Head of the Art Education Department at the Museum MMK für Moderne Kunst, Frankfurt am Main. As Head of Community Liaison at documenta 14 (2017), she established interlocal connections between artists and socio-political contexts and built up the Society Friends of Halit. She was one of the initiators of the collective anti-racist movement that implemented the first NSU tribunal in 2017. She has been active against racism for many years and is part of the Kassel Initiative 6 April. From 1998 to 2016, Güleç worked as Head of the Education & Migration Department, at the socio-cultural centre Schlachthof in Kassel in the field of migration as well as local and European education, building various networks of collaboration. For dOCUMENTA (13) (2012) she was a consultant and member of the *Maybe Education* program as well as coordinating training of art mediators. In 2007 she developed the documenta 12 Advisory Board as a special form of mediation, becoming subsequently the board's spokesperson.

Güleç has given numerous workshops, seminars and talks on racism, contemporary art, art mediation and activism at Kamnagel, Hamburg, HKW Berlin, HKB Bern, Kunsthochschule Kassel amongst others. Publications (selection): *vermittlung vermitteln* (nGbK, 2020); *The Society of Friends of Halit. Migrant-Situated Knowledge and Affirmative Sabotage\** in *documenta studies #01* (2018); *fordern, überfordern und verweigern – Bild- und Raumpolitik(en) in der Migrationsgesellschaft* (Yılmaz-Günay, 2015); *Engaging Audiences, Opening Institutions Methods and Strategies in Gallery Education at documenta 12* in *Kunstvermittlung 1: Arbeit mit dem Publikum, Öffnung der Institution* (diaphanes, 2009).

Ayşe Güleç's Visiting Research Fellowship for the Fine Arts program at Städelschule and Curatorial Studies program at Goethe University is generously made possible by Hessisches Ministerium für Wissenschaft und Kunst with the QuiS21 funding program.

## VISITING ARTIST

**Walid Raad** is in part an artist and a professor of art at The Cooper Union. The list of exhibitions (good, bad, and mediocre ones); awards and grants (merited, not merited, grateful for, rejected and/or returned); education (some of it thought-provoking; some of it, less so); publications (He is fond of some of his books, but

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more so of the books of Jalal Toufic. You can find his here: [jalaltoufic.com](http://jalaltoufic.com)), can be found somewhere online.

## STÄDELSCHULE FACULTY

### **Professors**

Monika Baer, Daniel Birnbaum, Gerard Byrne, Benjamin Foerster-Baldenius, Judith Hopf, Isabelle Graw, Hassan Khan, Philippe Pirotte, Tobias Rehberger, Yasmin Raymond, Willem de Rooij and Haegue Yang

### **Guest Professors**

Keren Cytter, Niklas Maak, Rahraw Omarzad and Sung Tieu

### **Honorary Professors**

Kasper König, Christa Näher and Wolfgang Tillmans

### **Research Fellow**

Ayşe Güleç

### **Visiting Artist**

Walid Raad

### **Teachers**

Liberty Adrien and Carina Bukuts (Portikus), Eric Bell (Photo Lab), Alessandro Bertelle (3D Animation), Milena Büsch (Photo Lab), Anja Coymans (Print Workshop), Daniel Fort (Sound Studio), Jacqueline Jurt (Print Workshop), Yasuaki Kitagawa (Sculpture Workshop), Karl Kliem (Production Studio), Nino Pezzella (Nude Drawing), Harald Pridgar (Computer Workshops), Peymann Rahimi (Print Workshop), Bernhard Schreiner (Film- and Editing), Sebastian Stöhrer (Wood and Ceramics Workshop), Silke Wagner (Print Workshop), Wolfgang Winter (Sculpture Workshop) and Christian Zickler (Print Workshop)

Read more about the faculty of Städelschule: <https://staedelschule.de/en/information/teachers>

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