



Press release

Frankfurt am Main, April 13, 2021

Faculty summer semester 2021

The Städelschule is pleased to announce that artist and professor Haegue Yang has been appointed Vice-rector and will support our rector Yasmil Raymond with ideas and initiatives for the next three years, beginning in the summer semester of 2021. In this role, Yang will help ensure that the curriculum and public programs at Städelschule and Portikus remain innovative, inclusive, and uncompromising.

Christa Näher has been appointed Honorary Professor of the Städelschule.

“Christa Näher is recognized for her four-decade-long career as a painter, radical in her emphasis on mystical and fantastical narratives,” says Yang, “Näher was a professor at the Städelschule from 1987 to 2013, where her presence was characterized by her direct speech and daring openness in a rather male-dominated faculty at the time. As a student, I somehow understood the important role she played for many of us and how her presence was empowering.”

The faculty in summer semester will be joined by guest professors Tania Bruguera and Niklas Maak. Likewise, the Städelschule welcomes back from sabbatical Isabelle Graw, Professor of Art History and Art Theory. Graw who was awarded the Opus Magnum grant from the VW Foundation in 2018, and her most recent publications include *Three Case of Value Reflection: Ponge, Whitten, Banksy* (Sternberg Press, 2020) and *In Another World: Notes 2014-2017* (Sternberg Press, 2021).

VICE-RECTOR

Haegue Yang lives and works in Berlin and Seoul and has been a Professor of Fine Arts at the Städelschule since 2017. She is interested in how the formal and conceptual, as well as the narrative language in art, form an irresistible paradox in contemplating on and reflecting the conflicts and circumstances of our time. Yang’s recent work considers the ever-developing and overwhelming possibility of communications technology and questions the status of human beings and the nature of civilization, articulated through her language of mute abstraction, which is nothing but a lingering voice, murmuring an “identity of absence.” Recipient of the 2018 Wolfgang Hahn Prize, she held a survey exhibition at the Museum Ludwig in Cologne in the same year. Further solo exhibitions have been held at institutions worldwide including the Museum of Contemporary Art and Design, Manila (2020), Tate St Ives (2020), Art Gallery of Ontario, Toronto (2020), National Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art, Korea (2020); MO.CO. Panacée, Montpellier (2018); La Triennale di Milano (2018), and Centre Pompidou, Paris (2016). Yang’s work has been displayed in major international exhibitions including the 16th Istanbul Biennial (2019), the Liverpool Biennial (2018); the 21st Biennale of Sydney (2018); Sharjah Biennial 12 in the United Arab Emirates (2015); dOCUMENTA (13) in Kassel (2012), and the 53rd Venice Biennale (2009). Her work is included in permanent collections such as the Museum of Modern Art (MoMA), New York; M+, Hong Kong; National Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art, Korea; Tate, London; The Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York, and The Walker Art Center, Minneapolis.

einverständnis

HONORARY PROFESSOR

The artist **Christa Näher** studied with Martin Engelmann at the Hochschule der bildenden Künste in Berlin and was a master student of Marwan. From 1987 to 2013, she was the first female artist to hold the professorship of painting at Städelschule. Her paintings and drawings draw from the historical and self-experienced past. Existential fears, nightmares and feelings such as pain are processed in her artistic work. Her view of the dark and negative comes from a deep darkness which she came into the world with. Mixed creatures of animal and human, werewolves and centaurs are recurring motifs in Näher's paintings and, as mediators between the worlds, they relate to her conviction that nature is superior to humans. In the course of her artistic work, she has developed her own visual language, combining form and vision genuinely. The ambivalence of the living and the polarity of light and darkness form constants in her artistic works. Näher reaches deep into the collective consciousness of our time with her multilayered and enigmatic visual worlds. Thus, her rapturous paintings trigger existential emotions and forcefully show the viewers who they are. Näher was a participant in Documenta 9 (1992) and her work has been included in numerous exhibitions, nationally and internationally. Important solo exhibitions include: *Aus Deutschland...*, Museum of Art Lucerne (1984); Portikus, Frankfurt (1995); *Die Vertreibung der Mauren*, Galerie Bärbel Grässlin, Frankfurt (1999); *Nachgesang. Das Malwerk und das Schöne*, Kunstraum Innsbruck and Frankfurter Kunstverein (2001); Centro Andaluz de Arte Contemporáneo, Seville (2005); *Aus heiterem Himmel*, Kunstverein Konstanz (2017); *Schwarze Wanderung*, Kunstmuseum Bernau (20019). Her work was included in numerous group exhibitions, including: *Von Hier aus – Zwei Monate neue deutsche Kunst in Düsseldorf*, Messe Düsseldorf (1984); *Open Mind*, Museum van Hedendaagse Kunst, Gent (1989); *Refigured Painting: The German Image 1960-1988*, Toledo/Ohio, New York and Williamstown/Massachusetts and the Kunstmuseum Düsseldorf and the Schirn Kunsthalle, Frankfurt (1988/89); *Art from Köln*, Tate Gallery, Liverpool (1989); *Arbeiten auf Papier aus der Sammlung des Westfälischen Kunstvereins*, Westfälischer Kunstverein Münster (1996); *Einfühlung und Abstraktion – Die Moderne der Frauen in Deutschland*, Kunsthalle Bielefeld (2015/16) and *Die 80er – Figurative Malerei in der BRD*, Städel Museum, Frankfurt (2015/16). In 2019, Näher was awarded the Hans-Thoma-Preis by the State of Baden-Württemberg in recognition of her lifetime achievements as an artist.

VISITING GUEST PROFESSORS

The artist **Tania Bruguera** lives and works in Havana, Cuba. For over twenty years, she has developed time-based works and situations that engage with issues surrounding institutional power, borders, and migration. Deploying a wide range of media, which has included performance, film, sculpture, and teaching, Bruguera more recently has described her approach as *Arte Útil* (Useful Art) to underline her common interests in art and activism. In 2015, together with a group of fellow activists, she founded the *Instituto de Artivismo Hannah Arendt* (INSTAR). INSTAR will be part of the forthcoming documenta fifteen's lumbung network in 2022. Bruguera's work is in the permanent collections of the Museum of Modern Art (MoMA), New York, the Bronx Museum of the Arts, New York and the Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes de La Habana. She has participated in numerous international exhibitions including: documenta 11, Kassel (2002); Performa, New York (2015); the Venice Biennale (2001, 2005 and 2009); the Gwangju Biennial, South Korea (2000 and 2008), Istanbul Biennial (2003); the São Paulo Biennial (1996) and the Havana Biennale (1994) and has had exhibitions at major museums and art institutions in Europe and the United States, including MoMA PS1, New York (2018); Van Abbemuseum, Eindhoven (2013); Tate Modern, London (2012); Centre Pompidou, Paris (2010); The Museum of Modern Art, New York (2018); MoMA/PS1 (2003 and 2008); Kunsthalle Wien (2006); Museum MMK für Moderne Kunst, Frankfurt am Main (2003); KW, Berlin (2001) and Whitechapel Art Gallery, London (1994) among others. In 2021, Bruguera together with INSTAR received the Arnold Bode Prize.

staedelschule

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.

Niklas Maak's guest professorship for Architecture and Fine Arts in summer semester 2021 is generously made possible by Heinz und Gisela Friederichs Stiftung.

STÄDELSCHULE FACULTY

Professors

Monika Baer, Johan Bettum, Gerard Byrne, Daniel Birnbaum, Judith Hopf, Isabelle Graw, Hassan Khan, Philippe Pirotte, Tobias Rehberger, Yasmil Raymond, Willem de Rooij and Haegue Yang

Guest Professors

Tania Bruguera, Cyprien Gaillard, Ulrika Karlsson, Niklas Maak and Peter Trummer

Honorary Professors

Kasper König, Christa Näher and Wolfgang Tillmans

Guest Teachers

Katja Cheraneva, Josh Johnson and Peter Testa

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

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