

Press release March 2016

new talents – biennale cologne

5th anniversary edition

May 21st to June 5, 2016

Opening: Saturday, May 21st, 2016, 4 pm (DEG – Deutsche Investitions-und Entwicklungsgesellschaft, Kämmergasse 22, 50676 Cologne)

Agrippa cultural quarter, am Neumarkt, Cologne

(central infopoint: hdak – Haus der Architektur Köln, Kubus am Josef-Haubrich-Hof)

This year, new talents – biennale cologne celebrates its fifth birthday. Young graduates from the areas of art, film, composition, choreography and design are celebrating with us: for them, the biennale offers an ideal and already established platform for the future. Every two years, over 50 artists from the region as well as national and international guests are presented in a two-week-long festival. In 2016 new talents cooperates with the Marrakech Biennale and Havana and is happy to welcome two Chinese participants.

Agrippa cultural quarter, Cologne | From underground car park to roof terrace

Ahead of the biennial is after the biennial: directly following the fourth edition of new talents in 2014 ateliers and arts academies were visited, concerts listened to, films viewed – and thus extraordinary positions observed closely. To be accepted for new talents an innovative concept is necessary, as well as graduating within the last four years.

Like in 2014, new talents is focusing on selected locations in the **Agrippa cultural quarter** at the Cologne Neumarkt: among them unusual exhibition-locations like shops, underground car parks, gardens or even offices, and also established cultural institutions.

Featured institutions include: KOLUMBA Kunstmuseum des Erzbistums Köln, Museum Schnütgen, Kunst-Station Sankt Peter and Kunsthaus Rhenania. This year additional institutions in Bonn will also take part.

The official opening of new talents will, like for the last edition, take place in the atrium of DEG – Deutsche Investitions-und Entwicklungsgesellschaft mbH.

Central infopoint is the hdak – Haus der Architektur on Josef-Haubrich-Hof.

With exhibitions, screenings, performances and talks, new talents offers a vibrant experimental ground to the artists and creatives, which becomes an interface between art and public.

Cologne – Marrakech – Havana – Shanghai

The fifth edition is characterized by international exchange. Right from the start it was a special concern to establish a network across borders. The first edition of new talents already featured artists from abroad among the participants. Additional invitations for further international artists were issued in the following years. In 2015, **id.newtalents, the international day of new talents**, was initiated, which takes place on May 21st each year and offers institutions the chance to present an up and coming artist (www.id-newtalents.com).

In 2016, new talents for the first time approached the Marrakech biennial to nominate two participants from Morocco: **Youssef Ouchra and Soukaina Joual (Morocco)**. Experts from Havana also chose two Cuban artists which participated in the 2015 Havana biennial: **Susana Pilar and Yuniior + Celia (Cuba)**. Within a tri-lateral framework, guests and two artists of new talents - biennale cologne are invited to participate in an exchange program in Marrakech and Cologne as well as the exhibition program of the biennials. This exchange will continue in 2017 in Havana. In addition, the works of two graduates of the China Academy of Art will be shown in Cologne: **Hu Weiyi and Wang Man (China)**.

On May 24th, the three directors of the biennials as well as international experts and artists will talk about the topic of “career entry opportunities for young artists in international comparison” in three discussion panels at a symposium at the DEG.

Concerts, art, film- and dance parcours: a first taste of the program

After the opening on Saturday, May 21st at 4 pm, new talents invites to a visit of the **arts parcours**. Works in indoor areas can be visited according to the opening hours. Large-format works can be seen at a house front on Alter Griechenmarkt (Julia Gruner) or an archway between Sankt Peter and St. Cäcilien (Roman Kochansky).

Sunday, May 22nd begins with a premiere of the ten composition commissions issued by new talents at the KOLUMBA Kunstmuseum and at Kunst-Station Sankt Peter (performing ensembles: MAM. Manufaktur für aktuelle Musik and hand werk – ensemble für neue Musik, presentation: Manos Tsangaris).

In addition to sculptural, installative and pictorial positions, performances and film can also be experiences during the two weeks of the biennial. On May 25 and 27, the **dance parcours** leads visitors on a urban expedition between Brüsseler Platz and the banks of the Rhine, while on the final festival weekend ten short and feature films are presented in a **film parcours** in the public space.

We will inform you about additional highlights in a timely manner. Press images for download can be found at

https://www.dropbox.com/sh/69x5vb4z5ac0sd1/AADmoi4FX2NEqANF8bpx256_a?dl=0

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