

Press Release**based in Berlin**

8. Juni bis 24. Juli 2011
im Atelierhaus Monbijoupark
Eröffnung: 7. Juni 2011

From 8 June until 24 July 2011, *based in Berlin* will show works by some 80 artists who live and work in Berlin. The exhibition will cover the full range of contemporary art practices, from painting and drawing to sculpture, photography, film and video, text and performances to installations. A comprehensive programme of events featuring screenings, performances, live acts, workshops and debates will form an essential part of the exhibition. "We want to create a spatial and temporal concentration – to condense the many artistic activities and make them accessible to a wide audience," say the curators.

Since the fall of the Berlin Wall, the German capital has developed into one of the world's most important locations for contemporary art production. Berlin's reputation as a creative, cosmopolitan and dynamic city continues to attract many artists from both Germany and abroad. The title *based in Berlin* refers to the fact that Berlin enjoys great recognition all over the world as an artistic workplace. Many artists have made a conscious decision to live and work here. "However," as Fredi Fischli (one of the curators of *based in Berlin*) pointed out, "they often have their exhibitions elsewhere. It is important to us to make the artists visible here in the city."

The five curators **Angelique Campens, Fredi Fischli, Magdalena Magiera, Jakob Schillinger** and **Scott Cameron Weaver** have visited hundreds of Berlin-based artists in their studios since November 2010. They became aware of these artists through both active research and submissions to an open call. The decisive selection criteria were that the artists are primarily based in Berlin and are "emerging artists", meaning they appeared on the scene no more than five years ago. Many of the participating artists are developing new works for *based in Berlin* in dialogue with the curators. Production budgets are available for these works. The exhibition will not only show works by artists, but also project spaces, which will present their own programmes in sections within the exhibition. A series of discursive events and workshops will tackle and pursue the many questions that have already been raised in intense discussions with artists, institutions, project spaces, critics and curators. These questions include the situation and role of Berlin art institutions and the production conditions of Berlin-based artists, among many others.

This overview exhibition of contemporary art in Berlin is explicitly aimed at a wide audience. During their studio visits the curators became aware of the empty studio building at Monbijoupark in the Mitte district of Berlin, which is due for demolition, while they were visiting studios. The Mitte Council has provided the building at short notice for interim use until demolition. It is also available for use as a production space by the exhibiting artists until the opening. On from 8 June the studio building will become the central exhibition location, daily open from 12 pm to 12 am. The exhibition continues at KW Institute for Contemporary Art, Nationalgalerie im Hamburger Bahnhof – Museum für Gegenwart – Berlin, Neuer Berliner Kunstverein n.b.k. and the Berlinische Galerie – Landesmuseum für Moderne Kunst, Fotografie und Architektur.

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The Governing Mayor of Berlin, Klaus Wowereit, gave the impetus for the exhibition within the context of the debate on the establishment of a permanent art gallery in Berlin. The exhibition's advisors are international curators Klaus Biesenbach (New York), Christine Macel (Paris) and Hans Ulrich Obrist (London) who have selected the five young curators who are responsible for the exhibition concept and selection of the artists. Kulturprojekte Berlin is organising the project with the team of advisors and the five curators.

Further information www.basedinberlin.com
5 Mai 2011. subject to alterations

Press contact:

Susanne Kumar-Sinner, s.kumar@kulturprojekte-berlin.de, Tel. +49 – (0)30 - 247 49 835
Sarah Lachmann, s.lachmann@kulturprojekte-berlin.de, Tel. +49 – (0)30 - 247 49 713
Kulturprojekte Berlin GmbH, Klosterstr. 68, 10179 Berlin, www.kulturprojekte-berlin.de

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Fact sheet**Exhibition**

based in Berlin

80 artists, based in Berlin

from painting and drawing to sculpture, photography, film and video; from texts and performances to installations

Exhibition period

8 June 2011 to 24 July 2011

12 pm -12 am

Opening:

7 Juni 6 pm

Admission free**Central exhibition location**

Atelierhaus Monbijoupark

Oranienburgerstraße 77, 10178 Berlin

Further exhibition locations

KW Institute for Contemporary Art

Auguststraße 69, 10117 Berlin

Nationalgalerie im Hamburger Bahnhof – Museum for Contemporary Art – Berlin

Invalidenstraße 50-51, 10557 Berlin

Neuer Berliner Kunstverein n.b.k.

Chausseestraße 128-129, 10115 Berlin

Berlinische Galerie – State Museum of Modern Art, Photography, and Architecture

Alte Jakobstraße 124-128, 10969 Berlin

Comprehensive event and supporting programme

Available from May at www.basedinberlin.de

Curators

Angelique Campens

Fredi Fischli

Magdalena Magiera

Jakob Schillinger

Scott Cameron Weaver

Curatorial advisors

Klaus Biesenbach

Christine Macel

Hans Ulrich Obrist

Planning and organisation

Kulturprojekte Berlin GmbH

Profiles of the curators

Angelique Campens (1980) is a freelance curator and writer. Born in Belgium, she works for non-profit galleries and public art spaces and is an editor of *domusweb*. In 2007-2008, she was selected for the International Study Programme (ISP) at the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York. Campens curated the solo exhibition *after the fair* by Kasper Akhøj at Wiels, Brussels, and was a member of the curatorial team for the solo exhibition *Persona in Meno* in the Fondazione Sandretto Re Rebaudengo in Italy. She was a curatorial assistant at the Belgian Pavilion with the artist Jef Geys at the 2009 Venice Biennale. She curated a section at the 2009 Watou Art Festival with "Office" (Kersten Geers David van Severen) and Bureau Bas Smets and was a co-curator of *For Reasons of State* at The Kitchen, New York (2008). Angelique Campens holds an M.A. in art history from Ghent University and a master's degree in cultural management from the University of Antwerp.

Fredi Fischli (1986) is a freelance curator. He worked at Galerie Karma International in Zurich and was a curatorial assistant at various galleries, including Matthew Marks Gallery in New York and the Migros Museum of Contemporary Art in Zurich. He has curated numerous solo- and group exhibitions. Most recently, he founded and now runs the exhibition space Darsa Comfort, which is also in Zurich.

Magdalena Magiera (1978) is a freelance curator, an editor at the Berlin office of the art magazine *frieze* and a co-founder of the interview magazine *mono.kultur*. Born in Germany, she studied art in Poland and Canada. She was involved in the organisation of the first Lodz Biennale (2004). From 2006 to 2009, she played a leading role in the concept, organisation and management of the discursive project spaces e-flux, unitednationsplaza Berlin, unitednationsplaza Mexico City and The Building Berlin. In the summer of 2010, she co-organised and co-curated *Splace*, a temporary exhibition space in the Berlin TV Tower with Antje Majewski, Juliane Solmsdorf and Dirk Peuker.

Jakob Schillinger (1979) works as a freelance writer and curator and is currently based in Berlin. In 2008-2009, he was a Curatorial Fellow at the Whitney Museum of American Art's International Study Programme in New York. Prior to that, he was a curatorial assistant at the Vera List Center for Art and Politics at the New School in New York. He was recently a co-initiator of the experimental exhibition space Exhibition. He has written articles for catalogues and anthologies, as well as for specialist journals such as *Edit*, *Mousse* and *October*. Jakob Schillinger studied visual communication and art at the UdK Berlin and Cooper Union, New York. He has been a PhD candidate in art history at the HfG Karlsruhe since October 2009.

Scott Cameron Weaver (1981) studied art history and German. Born in the United States, he has lived in Berlin since 2003. Following many years of work for the Galerie NEU and the exhibition space Mehringdamm 72 in Berlin, among others, he is currently an assistant curator for modern and contemporary art at the Kunstmuseum Basel, the Museum of Contemporary Art.

Profiles of the advisors**Klaus Biesenbach, New York**

Klaus Biesenbach is Director of MoMA PS1 and Chief Curator at Large at The Museum of Modern Art. He co-founded KW (KUNST-WERKE) Institute for Contemporary Art in Berlin in 1991, and the Berlin Biennale in 1996, where he together with Nancy Spector and Hans Ulrich Obrist realized the exhibition *Berlin Berlin* which featured the, at the time, emerging art scene in Berlin. Biesenbach has organized or co-curated many solo and group exhibitions internationally, including *37 Rooms* (Berlin, 1992); *Club Berlin*, Venice Biennale (1995), *Nach Weimar* (Weimar, 1996); *Hybrid Workspace* at Documenta X (Kassel, 1997), Shanghai Biennale (2002), and several international museum touring exhibitions including *Henry Darger: Disasters of War* and *Andy Warhol: Motion Pictures*. At MoMA PS1, he co-organized *Greater New York* (2000, 2005, and 2010), and at MoMA he organized or installed large scale retrospectives of Marina Abramovic, Douglas Gordon, and the upcoming Francis Alys exhibition. He co-installed retrospectives of William Kentridge and Olafur Eliasson, and developed and realized monumental commissions by Pipilotti Rist and Doug Aitken.

Christine Macel, Paris

Christine Macel has been a Chief Curator of the Musée national d'art moderne – Centre Pompidou, Paris since 2000. As director of the department of création contemporaine and prospective she has curated many exhibitions, including *Raymond Hains*, *Sophie Calle*, *Philippe Parreno*, *Gabriel Orozco*, *Dionysiac*, *Airs de Paris* and *The Promises of the Past*. Along with Emma Lavigne, Christine Macel is developing the exhibition *Dance your life*, on the interaction between art and dance in the 20th and 21st centuries – which will open in November 2011. Christine Macel also works as an art critic for various magazines such as *artpress*, *Flash Art* and *Artforum*. In 2007, she published “Time taken, the work of time in the work of art” (Monografik/Centre Pompidou), an essay on contemporary art.

Hans Ulrich Obrist, London

Hans Ulrich Obrist is Co-director of the Serpentine Gallery in London. Prior to this he was Curator of the Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris from 2000 to 2006, as well as curator of Museum in progress, Vienna, from 1993 to 2000. Obrist has curated over 250 exhibitions since his first exhibition, the Kitchen show (*World Soup*) in 1991: 1994; *Take Me, I'm Yours*, 1995; *Manifesta 1*, 1996; *Laboratorium*, 1999; *Cities on the Move*, 1997; *Live/Life*, 1996; *Nuit Blanche*, 1998; 1st Berlin Biennale, 1998; *Utopia Station*, 2003; 2nd Guangzhou Triennale, 2005; *Dakar Biennale*, 2004; 1st & 2nd Moscow Biennale, 2005 and 2007; *Lyon Biennale*, 2007; *Yokohama Triennale*, 2008 and *Indian Highway*, 2008 - 2011. The Marathon series of public events was conceived by Hans Ulrich Obrist in Stuttgart in 2005. The first in the Serpentine series, the Interview Marathon in 2006, involved interviews with leading figures in contemporary culture over 24 hours, conducted by Obrist and architect Rem Koolhaas. This was followed by the Experiment Marathon, conceived by Obrist and artist Olafur Eliasson in 2007, which included 50 experiments by speakers across both arts and science, the Manifesto Marathon in 2008, the Poetry Marathon in 2009 and the Map Marathon in 2010. In March 2011, Obrist was awarded the Bard College Award for Curatorial Excellence.