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## Program and Cooperations 2019

10 years Kunsthalle – a reason to celebrate! Since 2009 the Kunsthalle Giessen has been presenting current trends and positions in contemporary art in the town hall.

As a venue for temporary exhibitions without its own permanent collection, it presents four exhibitions a year in a 400 m<sup>2</sup> space. The Kunsthalle's role is to convey contemporary art in a variety of ways that inspire the public to engage with it, while at the same time addressing social discourse.

To mark the anniversary, the theme for 2019 will be *cooperations*.

### Exhibition

**Uwe Henneken**

***Always Returning***

The work of Berlin-based artist Uwe Henneken visualises mental states and shows transitions between different levels of consciousness. For this purpose he often chooses landscapes as a motif, whose palette varies between garish, luminous and gloomy tones. His particular aesthetic is reminiscent of dream journeys that, in some places, glide into spiritual spheres. A circular or oval vortex recurs as a leitmotif in his paintings and objects in differing variations. Through his work, Uwe Henneken enables a glimpse into another dimension. He reveals paths and depths into the unknown where deserted in-between places and mythological entities can be found. Temporal and spatial parameters are blurred in favour of an individual world view that seems to have emerged directly from Uwe Henneken's inner being. The exhibition *Always Returning* will feature work produced over the past few years in addition to new large-format pieces that have been developed especially for the Kunsthalle Gießen and will be presented here for the first time.

Opening: Friday, 15.03.2019

Duration: 16.03.2019 – 19.03.2019

10 JAHRE 10 YEARS  
KUNSTHALLE GIESSEN

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Berliner Platz 1  
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kunsthalle@giessen.de  
kunsthalle-giessen.de

## Exhibition

**Katja Stuke + Oliver Sieber**

### *Sequence as a Dialogue*

For the exhibition *Sequence as a Dialogue*, Katja Stuke and Oliver Sieber will present multi-part photographic and video pieces from their joint body of work entitled *Japanese Lesson*. The two Düsseldorf-based artists have been travelling regularly to Japan since 2005, photographing and researching. In their body of work *Japanese Lessons* they use their own methods to explore the visual culture of the country. By taking photographic walks through cities, recording everyday observations and engaging with subculture, activism, media, and art they trace Japan's past and present. Additionally, the Kunsthalle will present work taken from individual projects by the respective artists. All of the exhibited works are connected by questions of identity and individual freedom. A special feature of the exhibition will be the extensive collection of specifically developed artists' publications such as zines or photo books, drafts and unique pieces that will be exhibited completely for the first time in the form of an installation. In this way, the artistic process through collaboration, photographing and editing and the various manifestations of photography itself are addressed thematically. At the same time, it shows the spectrum of photographic techniques and presentations.

Opening: Friday, 07.06.2019

Duration: 08.06.2019–18.08.2019

## Exhibition / Performance Festival

### *IN / BETWEEN*

**In cooperation with Neuer Kunstverein Gießen e. V. and Institut für Angewandte Theaterwissenschaft**

Together with the Neue Kunstverein and the Institute for Applied Theatre Studies, the Kunsthalle Giessen organises a two-day performance festival. This project marks the very first cooperation between three institutions that are dedicated to various formats of contemporary art. Over the course of two days, a series of acclaimed performance artists will be given a platform.

Opening: Saturday, 24.08.2019

Duration: Saturday, 24.08.2019 and Sunday, 25.08.2019

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## Exhibition

### Matthew Cowan

#### In cooperation with Oberhessisches Museum

The New Zealand artist Matthew Cowan explores European customs and the role that they play today in his photographs, videos, installations and performances. He also traces the present way of dealing with the past in various historical and folklore museums. Therefore on the occasion of Matthew Cowan's solo exhibition at the Kunsthalle, the New Zealand artist will have a special guest presentation at the Oberhessisches Museum. One inspiration behind his solo exhibition at the Kunsthalle is the research visit to New Zealand made by Ernst Dieffenbach, a native of Giessen, whose visit was commissioned by the British New Zealand Company in 1939.

Opening: 06.09.2019

Duration: 07.09.2019–17.11.2019

## Exhibition

### FORT

#### In cooperation with Hessische Kulturstiftung

For the first time, an exhibition will be dedicated to the female scholarship holders of the Cultural Foundation of Hesse. The Kunsthalle Giessen will present the artist duo FORT, that was part of the scholarship, founded in 1992, in 2015 / 2016. With their large-scale installations, Jenny Kropp and Alberta Niemann focus on the mechanisms of consumer society and of the art market.

Eröffnung: 06.12.2019

Duration: 07.12.2019–16.02.2020

Each exhibition at the Kunsthalle Giessen is accompanied by a varied programme of events and educational opportunities. More information about the current programme can be found on the Kunsthalle website, Facebook and Instagram or via our newsletter.

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## Further Cooperations

Reading in German

by Hermann Beil

**Thomas Bernhard: Alte Meister. Komödie**

In Cooperation with Hein-Heckroth-Gesellschaft Gießen e. V.

The cooperation between the Kunsthalle Giessen and the Hein-Heckroth-Gesellschaft Giessen e.V. can be characterised by the observation of art. The exhibition *Staying with the Pictures* by Tobias Hantmann can be seen at the Kunsthalle, whereas the novel *Alte Meister* focuses its attention on an observation of the works of art at the Kunsthistorisches Museum Wien. The dramaturg, director and recitator Hermann Beil will read from Thomas Bernhard's work *Alte Meister* on the 30th anniversary of his death. The author gave the 1985 novel the subtitle Comedy. The basic premise itself is comedic: for over thirty years, the music critic Reger has been sitting, every second morning, in front of Tintoretto's painting *Portrait of a White-bearded Man* at the Kunsthistorisches Museum Wien. There he perfected his contemplation of art. This consisted of studying every work of art that was considered complete until its faults came to light.

Friday, 15.02.2019

6pm, guided tour in German through the exhibition *Staying with the Pictures* by Tobias Hantmann

7pm, German Reading

No prior registration necessary

Free entrance

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Choreographies by dancers

## DE\_KONSTRUKTIONEN

### Four choreographic-performative Interventions

In cooperation with Stadttheater Gießen / Tanzcompagnie Gießen

Over the course of the year, the Tanzcompagnie develops choreographies that relate to the Kunsthalle. During the periods between the installation and disassembly of the exhibitions, the dancers respond to this particular situation at the Kunsthalle that would otherwise remain hidden from visitors. Their response is processed into four independently conceived performative interventions.

Wednesdays 20.02. + 22.05. + 21.08. + 20.11., 18 Uhr

Dancers: Julie de Meulemeester, Magdalena Stoyanova, Marine Henry, Chiara Zincone, Léo Vendelli, Gleidson Vigne + t.b.a.

No prior registration necessary

Free entrance

Reading in German

## by Nico Bleutge

in cooperation with Literarischs Zentrum Gießen e. V.

In cooperation with the Kunsthalle, the Literarische Zentrum Giessen organises a reading with Nico Bleutge in the exhibition by New Zealand artist Matthew Cowan. The works of poet, essayist and literary critic Nico Bleutge explore the border zones of text image and music. He is currently completing a scholarship at the German Academy Villa Massimo in Rome, which brings together artists from various disciplines. A connection is formed between the visual arts and literature, the specific aura of the exhibited works and the reading by Nico Bleutge.

Thursday, 14.11.2019

7pm, reading in the Kunsthalle