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Great solidarity could enable city-wide, decentralised exhibition in Dresden

Dresden. For the first time, several well-known institutions have announced that they will open their houses so that the OSTRALE Biennale 2019 can take place in the cityscape of Dresden. In addition to these premises, including the Messe Dresden, the Goethe-Institut and the Ausländerrat, public open spaces will also be used. Visitors and advertisers can thus expect a "city-wide collection of great contemporary art". The upcoming exhibition has already been put together by an international team of eight curators. As one of the largest temporary exhibitions of contemporary art in Germany and Europe, the organisers of the OSTRALE Biennale eagerly await the upcoming budget decisions of the city council and the cultural committee. Without an increase in funding, it will not be possible to stage the OSTRALE Biennale 2019 without being held at a different venue.

The interim decentralised solution was sought after the historical feed stables were closed to the public by the authorities and a new, fixed location for the OSTRALE Biennale in Dresden could not yet be determined. For the coming event in summer 2019, the city had offered the use of the Messe Dresden, which the OSTRALE Zentrum für zeitgenössische Künste wants to use as the core of a decentralised exhibition. The "Network Culture", in which the independent scene of the city is bundled, passed on the call of the OSTRALE organisers offering additional space achieving a broad resonance beyond the Dresden cultural scene. Among the Dresden institutions in which the OSTRALE Biennale 2019 could be experienced on an interim basis are the Goethe-Institut, the Foreigners' Council, Raskolnikow, Project Theatre, the Loschwitz Fire Station and the TMA Akademie Hellerau. There are also plans to use various open spaces in the city, such as Dresden's main railway station.

The opening and main exhibition of OSTRALE are to take place at Messe Dresden, provided that an agreement on feasible conditions is reached. For scheduling reasons, the fair could only be used for visitor traffic to the art show during the summer holidays. *"By using the decentralised premises of our partners in the city, we can nevertheless also show parts of the exhibition outside the summer holidays. We are pleased to be able to invite the last 400 school classes to visit our exhibition of contemporary arts every year,"* says Andrea Hilger, director of the OSTRALE Biennale.

Furthermore, the OSTRALE Biennale hopes to be able to use at least the outside area of the feeding stables in the Dresden Ostragehege for the exhibition and other artistic activities with public traffic. Discussions are currently underway with the owner.

The interim solution will entail immense additional personnel and financial expenditure for the biennial organisers, owing also to the short set-up and dismantling times. Concrete assistance in the areas of financing, advertising, personnel, technology, art education, supervision and support, exhibition assistants in the set-up and dismantling as well as transport solutions are welcome.

OSTRALE

Biennale for Contemporary Art

ENDORSED

by



OSTRALE.freunde

Curators OSTRALE Biennale 2019:

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