

25th International Studio Program of the ACC Galerie Weimar and the City of Weimar

Artists from around the world are invited to apply for 2019 for the theme:

"100 years of Bauhaus – on words and images and word-image art"

The Bauhaus, one of the most influential educational institutions of the 20th century and home of both fine and applied arts, as well as architecture and design, was founded in Weimar in 1919.

In 2019 we celebrate the various theoretical and design concepts and practices that the Bauhaus developed and encouraged during its few years of existence. The artists, as architects, performers, engineers, photographers, painters, musicians, writers – as builders of worlds – produced a comprehensive aesthetic renewal, spawning an enormous diversity of forms of expression and redefining modernity. From our perspective, it's not the unquestionably paramount importance of the Bauhaus to architecture and product design that is appealing, rather we want to make the lesser-known currents of the Bauhaus the starting point for the 25th International Studio Program of the ACC Galerie and the City of Weimar.

Let's talk about language! Spoken and written forms of representation and reflection play a special role in the works of many Bauhaus artists. Just as Paul Klee saw himself as a tightrope walker who takes "increased care about his balance", weighing "the gravity over here and over there", letters also dance and oscillate in works by, for example, Wassily Kandinsky, Benita Koch-Otte, Lou Scheper-Berkenkamp and Anni Albers. They searched playfully for the language of a new beginning, beyond tradition and the canon of Western art. Expression was re-thought in the service of a renewal of artistic practice. When one looks at the diaries of Oskar Schlemmer, Johannes Itten and others, the entries and notes can be seen as analytical resources, sketches or intermedia art. These notations represent an artistic practice of imagination and reflection within a frame of artistic production.

Starting with these examples, but not necessarily limited to Bauhaus typefaces and the Bauhaus period, the ACC Galerie and the City of Weimar hereby invite artists to explore the borderlands between visual art and written and spoken words, to transform words as image, as well as words with image, into new works of word-image art. The smallest footnote, a single stroke, a typographic rudiment, a marginal diary entry, a title of a work, signatures and collages, recorded phenomena of signs and symbols, digital codes and future texts or even primitive first scripts and predecessors from prehistoric times – all of these can serve as sources of inspiration and construction material, as well as – where appropriate – artist books, whether theoretical, autobiographical, or literary-oriented. Or even the huge echo chamber of the thousands of pieces of writing in libraries and archives that must often lead a forgotten existence. In this broad swathe we also hope for contributions in real multimedia or even startling single-media form.

Since, in this programmatic approach, words are conceptually not strictly distinguishable from their pictoriality, their graphic form, their pre-linguistic visuality, we can hardly exclude purely text-oriented project proposals – whether we call them artist's writings or literature. But certainly – and this will hardly be a surprise given the theme of the 25th International Studio Program of the ACC Galerie and the City of Weimar – we are interested in the aesthetic "how" of word-image art. We look forward to applications from artists from around the world who find this approach interesting and inspiring.

BASICS

A jury of international art specialists views the applications and chooses three artists who will live and work for four months each in the Municipal Studio Building of the City of Weimar. The artists also receive a stipend of 1000 Euros per month. The application period ends on Thursday, November 1, 2018.

ABOUT ACC GALERIE WEIMAR:

The non-profit organization ACC (Autonomous Cultural Center) originated in 1987, before the fall of the Berlin wall, when students occupied a derelict Renaissance building in the center of the town where Goethe (inevitably) had had his first residence in Weimar (1776/77). Shortly before the re-unification, ACC protagonists were able to secure the house with the aid of private sponsors. The institution now consists of a gallery and a café and offers a cultural program that includes theater, literature and lecture series. Between spring 1989 and 2018 the ACC organized and curated more than 250 exhibitions (roughly five per year) of international contemporary art, through which the gallery has become a center for international cooperation and exchange. Simultaneously, the ACC focuses on the achievement of local artists and inaugurated an international artist-in-residence program. The current space is comprised of two connected buildings with 400 square meters of space consisting of 20 rooms in five former apartments.

ABOUT THE HISTORY OF THE INTERNATIONAL STUDIO PROGRAM:

The "International Studio Program of the ACC Galerie and the City of Weimar" was founded in 1994. Annual themes of the program have been: "Allegories" (1995), "Fascis – Fascism and Fascination" (1996), "Kopf an Kopf – Head to Head – Tête à Tête" (1997), "Community – Society" (1998), "Close to the Skin" (1999), "Heart's Blood – Hand-Written Script" (2000), "The Measure of Things" (2001), "über MENSCHEN – The Future of the Human" (2002), "Origin – No Man's Land" (2003), "Irony is dead. Long live Irony!" (2004), "The Culture of Fear" (2005), "The Subversion of Standstill" (2006), "ON THE OUTSIDE" (2007), "On Indefiniteness" (2008), "Failed Art – The Art of Failure" (2009), "Beyond Desire" (2010), "On Dilettantism" (2011), "What Happened to God?" (2012), "With Criminal Energy" (2013), "The Politics and Pleasures of Food" (2014), "Does Humor Belong in Art?" (2015), "The Art of Simulation" (2016), "A Romance with Revolution" (2017), "Solidarity - Now More Than Ever" (2018). The 72 participants of the program have come from Argentina, Australia, Canada, China, Colombia, Croatia, Cuba, Belgium, Finland, Germany, Great Britain, Greece, Guatemala, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Macedonia, Nepal, The Netherlands, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, Portugal, Russia, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Uruguay, the United States, and Zimbabwe.

ACC WEIMAR STUDIO PROGRAM

ABOUT WEIMAR:

The city of Weimar has seen both the very best and the very worst of German history. On the one hand, Weimar has been home to renaissance art (Cranach), German classical literature and music (Goethe, Schiller, Bach, Liszt), Art Nouveau and Modernism (Henry van de Velde), the Weimar Bauhaus (Gropius, Kandinsky, Klee, Feininger, Moholy-Nagy, etc.) and other important intellectual figures including Herder and Nietzsche. On the other hand, Weimar was also a favored retreat of Hitler, and the former concentration camp of Buchenwald located nearby reminds residents and visitors alike of the darker side of human nature. Although Weimar lives largely in the shadow of this weighty past, the city is now looking towards the future. In 1999 Weimar became the European Capital of Culture.

CONDITIONS FOR APPLICATION / PARTICIPATION

SUPPORT BY THE CITY OF WEIMAR:

The City of Weimar pursues the following aims in its role as an initiator and partner of the International Studio Program: to combine financial support for artists with the presentation of contemporary art in the urban realm, to serve as a forum for artists and as a catalyst for encounter between them and to gain international recognition for the resulting activities. By these means, international cultural exchange is to be promoted and prejudices eliminated. The support provided includes the provision of a combination artist's studio/apartment in the Municipal Studio Building. Newly restored, the Studio Building is one of the oldest buildings of its kind in Germany. It contains 11 studios rented to different artists for limited timeperiods. The International Studio Program is supported by the State Chancellery of Thuringia.

STUDIO:

Located on the ground floor of the historical Municipal Studio Building, the studio is about a ten minute walk from the ACC Galerie Weimar in the town center. In addition to the visiting international artist, the well-lit studio building accommodates ten other Weimar artists. In its cellar, the Municipal Studio Building has a small printmaking workshop for etching, lino, and woodprinting, for which it provides basic tools. However, the studio (30 square meters/323 square feet) does not offer any other special equipment, such as photography, video, digital, etc. Images at www.acc-weimar.de/atelier/atelierhaus.html

ROOM AND BOARD:

Rent-free, furnished apartment on the ground floor of the Municipal Studio Building (30 square meters/323 square feet) with telephone/answering machine and DSL internet. Meals are available at ACC Café-Restaurant at a 30% discount.

PARTICIPATION:

Artists who would like to produce works of art in accordance with the outlined theme can apply. The jury will select three artists, each of whom will spend four months living and working in Weimar. Students' applications cannot be accepted.

EXHIBITION:

A selection of works produced during the residency period may be presented in a group exhibition in the following year. The ACC Galerie Weimar makes the final decision about the participation of the artists in the exhibition. A possible concept for the exhibition will be developed together with the artists. Where appropriate, works of art will be displayed in public spaces in Weimar to be agreed upon with the artists. It is intended that the artists are present during the preparation and for the opening of the exhibition.

WORK PERIODS:

February 1 – May 31, 2019

June 1 – September 30, 2019

October 1, 2019 – January 31, 2020

STIPEND:

The selected artists will receive a monthly stipend of 1000€. In order to receive the stipend the artists must live in Weimar during the work period. The artists are also expected to hold a lecture/talk at the ACC Galerie Weimar at the end of his/her stay in Weimar. In addition we offer free entry to public municipal institutions, such as the City History Museum, and to the museums of the Weimar Classic Foundation, such as the Weimar Art Collection, the Goethe National Museum, the Bauhaus Museum, the New Museum of Contemporary Art and the Duchess Anna Amalia Library. Participants are responsible for their own telephone bills and have to arrange for their own medical insurance. (One suggestion is to arrange insurance through www.mawista.com)

LANGUAGES:

English and German are the official languages of the International Studio Program. Participants should have a solid grasp of either English or German. The language of the jury meeting is English.

TRAVEL COSTS:

The participants must cover their own travel costs, although the program attempts to find additional funding in cooperation with the artists.

WHO CAN APPLY?

Individual artists from all over the world. There is no age restriction. Artist duos or collectives can apply too but the stipend will still be 1000€ per month for all participants and the studio can host max. 2 people.

Please note that the completed application must be submitted by Thursday, November 1, 2018 (UTC+01:00). The jury will meet mid November 2018. The decision of the jury is final and explanations for its selection will not be given. Applicants will be informed of the jury's decision by email soon after the jury meeting.

In case you have any questions feel free to e-mail our program's manager Knut Birkholz at [studioprogram \(at\) acc-weimar \(dot\) de](mailto:studioprogram@acc-weimar.de)