

Press release

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Press briefing on 31 January at 10 am  
Kunstraum Traklhaus, Waagplatz 1a, 5020 Salzburg

Internationale Sommerakademie  
für bildende Kunst Salzburg

Postfach 527, 5010 Salzburg, Austria  
T +43 662 842 113  
office@summeracademy.at  
www.summeracademy.at

Bankverbindung:  
Hypo Salzburg Marke  
der RLB OÖE  
IBAN AT31 3400 0711 0441 7408  
BIC RZOOAT2L

Salzburg, 31 January 2025

2025 course programme  
21 July – 30 August 2025

### Diversity of the Future

The Salzburg International Summer Academy of Fine Arts presents the current course programme entitled **Diversity of the Future**. Here, spaces are opened up to provide teachers and students with a place where they can devote themselves fully to their diverse artistic work and thinking. The motto is intended to foster hope in times of uncertainty and to explore possible futures. **20 courses** will be held in the two locations: **Hohensalzburg Fortress** and the **Untersberg quarry**.

The following teachers are invited:

**Fahim Amir** (writing / philosophy), **Walter Bruno Brix** (stitching / installation), **Adriana Bustos** (drawing), **Neha Choksi** (sculpture / installation / performance), **Ofri Cnaani** (performance / installation), **Rossen Daskalov** (printmaking), **Julie Hayward** (installation / model-making / sculpture/ drawing), **Thalia Hoffman / Manar Zuabi** (video / performance / mixed media), **Matylda Krzykowski** (curating / scenography / theatre / exhibition), **Christian Macketanz** (painting), **Pablo Martínez-Zarate** (expanded cinema / film / video), **Christian Kosmas Mayer** (sculpture/ installation / mixed media / drawing), **Irina Nakhova** (painting / drawing), **Pascal Petignat** (photography), **Elizabeth Pich** (comics / drawing), **Sarker Protick** (photography), **Curtis Talwst Santiago** (painting), **Hannah Tilson / Otis Blease** (printmaking) and **Urbanthinktank\_next** (architecture)

### Re-thinking the future

How does artistic praxis change if we try to take the future into account – what if the viewers of our works are not even born yet? **Christian Kosmas Mayer** poses this question in his course and aims to create a time capsule. **Ofri Cnaani** devotes her attention to performative and speculative methods for re-imagining shared spaces – intended for a future which can be possible, plausible or even absurd. **Thalia Hoffman** and **Manar Zuabi** wish to accompany artists who feel dislocated and uprooted, on an artistic way "home".

The design-architecture collective **Urbanthinktank\_next** – consisting of Hubert Klumpner, Michael Walczak, Anne Graupner and Diego Ceresuela-Wiesmann – develops *100 Ideas for a Performative City*, seeking and redesigning potential places for impressive displays of all dimensions, thus creating shared spaces for co-existence.

### **Material and technology**

In two courses (one- and two-week), **Fahim Amir** examines writing as a handicraft. The one-week course focuses on the practice of writing to explore the non-human. The two-week course explores writing as thinking and research, with a focus on how animals are represented in philosophy and/or art.

At the centre of the course directed by **Walter Bruno Brix** is the use of traditional techniques in artistic practice. He concentrates on stitching and how to use various textiles. In the stone quarry, **Neha Choksi** will teach how to work in stone and Untersberg marble – with stone not only as material but also as protagonist. The theme of **Irina Nakhova's** course is nude painting and drawing – one of the oldest and most appealing artistic genres. **Rossen Daskalov** teaches the expressive directness of etching as well as various intaglio printing techniques. The drawing course taught by **Adriana Bustos** is entitled *Drawing Your Mind*.

### **Scenography and design**

With **Julie Hayward**, students can achieve a precise idea and visualisation of their works, through a process from drawing to model and implementation. Scenography is the main theme for **Matylda Krzykowski**, who combines curating exhibitions with orchestrating art and spatial elements.

### **Story-telling**

The medium of comics combines all manner of visual and textual resources. **Elizabeth Pich** shows how fascinating stories can be told through refined narration and visual dramaturgy. By including communal activities in his painting course, **Curtis Talwst Santiago** combines collective learning and teaching.

**Christian Macketanz** teaches how an authentic contemporary story can be represented in a painting, and asks whether today it is still able to touch people's emotions. Story-telling also plays a role for **Sarker Protick**, whose course entitled *Pictures from Home* concentrates on extended photography projects and series.

### **Room for experiment**

**Pablo Martínez-Zarate's** course is devoted to expanded cinema, opening up plenty of space for various forms of moving pictures and offering room for experimentation. These are also components of **Pascal Petignat's**

course in analogue photography – an invitation to leave the familiar behind and explore the unknown.

Experiment is also welcomed by **Hannah Tilson** and **Otis Blease**, who aim to abandon traditional boundaries of printmaking, focusing on patterns that are to be found everywhere in works throughout art history.

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### **Looking ahead to the 2025 programme of events and co-operations**

This year sees once again a wide range of co-operations with local art institutions.

Teachers **Hannah Tilson** and **Otis Blease**, in collaboration with the **Grafische Werkstatt im Traklhaus**, will hold an exhibition in the **Kunstraum Traklhaus**. The work of photographer and Summer Academy teacher **Sarker Protick** is represented with an exhibition in the **Fotohof**, and the design-architecture collective **Urbanthinktank\_next** will take over the **Zwergelgartenpavillon der Stadtgalerien**.

In addition, three film-screenings will be held in collaboration with the **Salzburger Kunstverein**, as well as an evening with artist **Christian Kosmas Mayer** in the **Museum der Moderne Salzburg**.

During the **Open Studios**, the final exhibitions held by the various courses will be open to the public in Hohensalzburg Fortress and the Untersberg quarry.

The detailed programme of events will be announced in spring 2025.

### **International Summer Academy of Fine Arts since 1953**

The International Summer Academy of Fine Arts in Hohensalzburg Fortress, founded in 1953 by the famous Austrian artist **Oskar Kokoschka** (1886-1980) as a "School of Seeing", is the oldest of its kind in Europe. Currently, the 20 courses are attended by some 300 participants from around 50 different countries, making the Academy an international place for the lively exchange of creative and artistic ideas.

The Academy offers:

- an open application procedure for anyone interested
- no qualifications required
- a unique opportunity to study with outstanding international artists, curators, collectives, art educators, researchers and writers
- an extensive scholarship programme
- room for students to devote themselves exclusively to the artistic process or the development of ideas, and at the same time to learn about and reflect on art and its discourses
- courses based on both personal support and group discussion
- a unique historical setting amid an Alpine landscape
- a wide-ranging programme of events with cultural partners in Salzburg
- access to art literature and journals

## Facts and figures

### Duration

21 July - 30 August 2025

### 20 courses

19 courses are held in Hohensalzburg Fortress, and one in the Untersberg quarry in Fürstenbrunn.

### Teaching artists, curators, critics

Fahim Amir, Walter Bruno Brix, Adriana Bustos, Neha Choksi, Ofri Cnaani, Rossen Daskalov, Julie Hayward, Thalia Hoffman / Manar Zuabi, Matylda Krzykowski, Christian Macketanz, Pablo Martínez-Zarate, Christian Kosmas Mayer, Irina Nakhova, Pascal Petignat, Elizabeth Pich, Sarker Protick, Curtis Talwst Santiago, Hannah Tilson / Otis Blease and Urbanthinktank\_next

### Scholarships

#### Closing date for applications: 1 April 2025

The Summer Academy offers numerous scholarships, most of which cover the course fees, while a few include travel and accommodation costs.

Scholarships are awarded by an independent jury of experts.

- The **Society of Friends** awards scholarships for which anyone may apply. These cover the fees for one Summer Academy course.
- The **Cultural fund of the Town of Salzburg** awards scholarships for which anyone may apply. These cover the fees for one Summer Academy course.
- The **Federal Ministry of the Arts, Culture, the Civil Service and Sport** awards scholarships for art students from the following countries: Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Georgia, Croatia, North Macedonia, Moldavia, Montenegro, Romania, Russia, Serbia and Ukraine. They include fees for one course, 200 Euros travel expenses and accommodation costs of 190 Euros per week.
- The **Province of Salzburg** awards "solidarity scholarships" for which refugees or asylum seekers may apply. They include fees for one course, travel and accommodation expenses and a daily allowance.

- The **Province of Salzburg** awards scholarships for gifted students in the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades of general secondary schools, as well as students of vocational schools, and for Salzburg-based students of art and architecture. These cover the fees for one Summer Academy course.
- The **zt: Federal Chamber of Architects and Chartered Engineering Consultants** awards scholarships for the architecture course, covering the course fees.

**Further awarding bodies** (applications to be sent directly to the awarding body):

ERSTE Foundation

American Austrian Foundation

Vienna University of Applied Arts

Kingston School of Art, London

Münster Academy of Art

Zurich University of the Arts

Friends of the Leipzig Academy of Fine Arts

Free State of Bavaria

Province of Vorarlberg

### **Regular application**

#### **Closing date: 1 May 2025**

Application is open to all, since no qualifications are required. Each course director will decide, on the basis of work and documents submitted, on acceptance of applicants. All applications received by 1 May will be treated equally. Later applications will be accepted according to capacity, and processed in the order in which they are received.

#### **Course fees**

One-week course: 410 Euro (reduced: 320 Euro)

Two-week course: 670 Euro (reduced: 495 Euro)

Three-week course (sculpture, architecture): 890 Euro (reduced: 635 Euro)

Reduced fees apply to students, social welfare recipients and members of the Society of Friends of the Summer Academy.

#### **Patrons**

Province of Salzburg; Town of Salzburg; Federal Ministry of the Arts, Culture, the Civil Service and Sport (BMKOES)

## Sponsors

Cultural fund of the Town of Salzburg; Society of Friends of the International Summer Academy of Fine Arts; ERSTE Foundation; American Austrian Foundation (AAF/Seebacher Prize for Fine Arts); zt: Federal Chamber of Architects and Chartered Engineering Consultants; Province of Vorarlberg; Zurich University of the Arts; Vienna University of Applied Arts; Munich Academy of Fine Arts; Nuremberg Academy of Fine Arts; Münster Academy of Art; Kingston University, London; Friends of the Leipzig Academy of Fine Arts; Hohensalzburg Fortress; Marmor Kiefer

## For further press and photo material, please contact:

Simone Rudolph

E-mail: [presse@summeracademy.at](mailto:presse@summeracademy.at)

Telephone: +43 (0)662 842113-14

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