

27 August 2025
Press information

Salzburg International Summer Academy of Fine Arts
Résumé 2025
21 July–30 August 2025

+++++SAVE THE DATE+++++

Friday 29 August 2025, 4-8 pm, Hohensalzburg Fortress

Final presentation by seven classes:

Adriana Bustos (drawing), **Walter Bruno Brix** (stitching), **Louisa Elderton** (art criticism, writing), **Matylda Krzykowski** (curating, scenography, installation, performance), **Christian Macketanz** (painting), **Pascal Petignat** (photography) and **Urbanthinktank_next** (architecture)

Friday 29 August 2025, 9 pm–1 am, Stadtgalerie Zwergelgartenpavillon
Music sets by **Lynn Mayya** and **anders** in co-operation with Salzburg Club Commission

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In 2025, a total of **301 students** from **51 different nations** enrolled in courses, including **130 scholarship places**. There were **301 regular applications** for courses, and **591 scholarship applications**. Some **3,300 visitors** attended the public events.

One of this summer's highlights was the time capsule created in **Christian Kosmas Mayer's** class. It contains art-works by the students, and in a performative action at the end of the course it was buried for 50 years in Hohensalzburg Fortress.

After a gap of years, a course in comics was directed by German-American artist **Elizabeth Pich**, whose comic-reading with **Stefanie Sargnagel** as part of the events programme was a novel and highly entertaining experience for many visitors, due to the live soundtrack.

A further novel highlight was **Walter Bruno Brix's** class, devoted to stitching and embroidery. The students' very diverse textile projects once again demonstrated the artistic creativity that can be evoked by what are seen as more traditional materials and techniques.

The motto of this year's programme of courses and events was *Diversity of the Future*. A variety of techniques and discursive questions were examined. **Hannah Tilson** and **Otis Blease**, and later **Rossen**

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Daskalov taught a wide variety of printing techniques. **Irina Nakhova** concentrated on nude painting, while **Curtis Talwst Santiago** and **Christian Macketanz** devoted their attention to a freer style of painting, focusing on story-telling and strengthening the sense of community. Within the art of drawing, **Adriana Bustos** shared how to convey one's own thoughts pictorially on paper. **Sarker Protick's** course was occupied with longer photographic projects, while **Pascal Petignat**, with guest lecturer **Sophie Thun**, encouraged students to experiment mainly with analogue techniques and processes. **Pablo Martínez-Zárata** also experimented with film, video and immersive installations. **Matylda Krzykowski** demonstrated strategic improvisation, and visitors to the Fortress were frequently greeted by a group dancing or painting in the courtyard. In her performance course, **Ofri Cnaani** taught how to deal with possible futures, and **Julie Hayward's** students created miniature worlds to enable better visualisation of large-format installations. In the class directed by **Thalia Hoffman** and **Manar Zuabi**, artistic treatment of topics of displacement and uprooting formed a basis for discussion and creative ideas. In the Untersberg quarry, stone was the protagonist in **Neha Choksi's** course, serving as both stage and material for the sculptors and performers. British writer and art critic **Louisa Elderton** dealt with writing about art in the age of AI.

Finally, the architecture class directed by **Urbanthinktank_next** developed ideas for a more sustainable and diverse future in Salzburg. This course, with 17 students of 12 different nationalities brought a fresh perspective to urban planning issues. In addition, the presence of the participants and the Studio Mobil as an "open classroom" at the Zwergelgartenpavillon increased the visibility of the Summer Academy in the town.

Exhibitions

Again this year, three collaborative exhibitions were held, starting with the students of the architecture class **Urbanthinktank_next**, who presented their *100 Ideas for Salzburg* in the **Stadtgalerie Zwergelgartenpavillon**. The exhibition was completed with students' projects from the course, shown at the final exhibition in the Fortress.

In the **kura-t kunstraum trakt**haus, printing class teachers **Hannah Tilson** and **Otis Blease** showed their first joint presentation, *Bridge | Brücke*. It was particularly gratifying that a further co-operation with **Fotohof**, entitled *Shadows in the Sky*, was realised with **Sarker Protick** from Dhaka.

Discursive accompanying programme

Besides the exhibitions, a variety of artist talks, lectures, readings and discussions were held in collaboration with Salzburg institutions. Guests

were **Paul Feigelfeld**, **Lilli Hollein**, **Senka Ibrišimbegović**, **Nika Neelova**, **Stefanie Sargnagel** and **Valentina Seidel**.

Sunset Kino

The three film screenings in collaboration with the **Salzburger Kunstverein** were once again a great success. **Ofri Cnaani** and **Pablo Martínez-Zárate** showed works of their own, the latter even with live music. **Sophie Thun** and **Pascal Petignat** curated a programme of short films from the archives of Sixpackfilm, focusing on the subject of the portal, the theme of the course.

Open Studios

The teachers and their students from the art classes invited visitors to tours, film presentations, performances and conversations. Many people took advantage of this opportunity to visit **Hohensalzburg Fortress** or the **Untersberg quarry** and to experience for themselves the unique ambience in these exceptional places.

Music Sets

On three Fridays, the Zwergelgartenpavillon was transformed into a centre of contemporary club culture. Besides the internationally famous DJs **Chadee** (Munich), **Kahlory** (Paris), **Antonia XM** (Vienna) and **Lynn Mayya** (Linz), two spots were put out for tender, in co-operation with the **Salzburg Club Commission**, and awarded to **manamonD** and **anders**, integrating the local scene.

Documentation

Photographers **Helena Kalleitner** and **Mira Turba** documented this year's Summer Academy. An overview will be available shortly on our Instagram channel: <https://www.instagram.com/summeracademy.at/>

The discursive accompanying programme, documented live by **Killer Media Production**, is available on our YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/user/SummerAcadOfFineArts>

Further facts and figures

18 courses in Hohensalzburg Fortress, with Walter Bruno Brix, Adriana Bustos, Ofri Cnaani, Rossen Daskalov, Louisa Elderton, Julie Hayward, Thalia Hoffman / Manar Zuabi, Matylda Krzykowski, Christian Macketanz, Pablo Martínez-Zárate, Christian Kosmas Mayer, Irina Nakhova, Pascal Petignat, Elizabeth Pich, Sarker Protick, Curtis Talwst Santiago, Hannah Tilson / Otis Blease and Urbanthinktank_next.

One course in the Untersberg quarry in Fürstenbrunn with Neha Choksi

Sponsors and patrons include the Province of Salzburg / Department of Culture, Federal Ministry for Housing, Arts, Culture, Media and Sport (BMWKMS); Culture fund of the Town of Salzburg; ERSTE Foundation; American Austrian Foundation (AAF); zt: Chamber of Civil Engineers, die Zurich Academy of Arts; Free State of Bavaria; Vienna University of Applied Arts; Münster Academy of Art; Kingston University/London; Society of Friends of the Leipzig Academy of Fine Arts; Dresden University of Fine Arts; Haifa University; Province of Vorarlberg; and members and patrons of die of the Society of Friends of the Salzburg International Academy of Fine Arts.

Co-operation partners

Hohensalzburg Fortress, Fotohof, kura-t kunstraum traklhaus, Marmor Kiefer GmbH, Museum der Moderne Salzburg, Salzburg Club Commission, Salzburg Kunstverein and Stadtgalerien Salzburg, Stiegl private brewery and Trumer private brewery

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