

Zurich, April 2021

Press Release – CORONA CALL Competition and Exhibitions

In the wake of a competition with 683 participants, initiated by Visarte Switzerland, six exhibitions are to be held in 2021/2022, in all of Switzerland's linguistic regions. On the 17th of April, this exhibition series will open in Zurich.

During the first lockdown, between March and May 2020, artists were stuck in their studios, away from their public, as all exhibitions and shows had been cancelled. That was when Visarte and die zukunft kuratieren launched Corona Call, a competition for visual art addressing the crisis. It was meant as an incentive to explore the theme and as a means of providing perspective for the time after lockdown.

The call for entries very quickly generated a response that exceeded all expectations: There were 683 submitted projects, from which six prize winners and a shortlist of 39 works were selected by a jury consisting of Tobia Bezzola, Christoph Doswald (chair), Peter Fischer, Antonia Nessi, Maya Rochat and Una Szeemann. These submissions, which look into the conditions and sensitivities entailed by an exceptional time, the likes of which had never been experienced before, will now be exhibited in all parts of the country, in cooperation with local curators. Sending a positive signal in what continues to be a difficult time for the visual arts, Corona Call gives the crisis a face and enables a new level of discussion.

First exhibition: Corona Call Zurich

Kulturhaus Helferei and Wasserkirche

Curated by Ulrich Gerster & Klara Piza

Exhibition from 18/04 to 23/05/2021

Opening: Saturday, 17th of April 2021, 2–8 pm

At Kulturhaus Helferei and in the church Wasserkirche, the first selection of twelve artists will be exhibited. This encompasses large spatial installations, delicate drawings, photography and video works: artistic responses to the first lockdown that was – and reflections on a time that is still ongoing. One of Harald Naegeli's characters from the dance of death will also make a guest appearance.

Exhibiting artists: Beni Bischof, Aino Dudle, Julie Folly, Andreas Fürer / Sonjoi Nielsen / Yangzom Sharlhey, Clare Goodwin, Till Langschied, Luc Marelli, Nicolas Polli, Anna Rudolf, Hanga Séra, Sebastian Utzni and Gregor Vogel.

Subsequent exhibitions

- Kunstraum Kreuzlingen, 11/06 – 11/07/2021, curator: Sibylle Omlin
- Pop-Up Space Locarno, 31/07 – 15/08/2021, curator: Christoph Doswald
- M54 Basel, 03/09 – 19/09/2021, curator: Chantal Molleur
- Fondation Louis Moret, Distillerie Morand, Martigny, 12/03 – 08/04/2022, curator: Antonia Nessi

Shortlist

Beni Bischof; Bettina Carl; Aino Dudle; Alexandra Feusi; Julie Folly; Lilian Frei and Andreas Fischer; Pearlie Frisch, Joyo Taylor, M. Lohrum; Andreas Fürer, Sonjoi Nielsen, Yangzom Sharlhey; Catherine Gfeller; Clare Goodwin; Enrico Götte; Miroslaw Halaba; Andrea Heller; Barbara Hennig Marques and Olivia Lecomte; Jan Hofer; Parvez Imam; Till Langschied; Lee Lichtenstein; Luc Marelli; Manuel Market; Jon Merz; Rosanna Monteleone; Nikunja; Dawn Nilo; Anne-Chantal Pitteloud; Nicolas Polli; Anne-Claude Rigo; Denis Roueche; Ronja Römmelt; Anna Rudolf; Ursula Scherrer; Hanga Séra; Gregory Sugnaux; the Sporthorses and the Guggenheim Box; Sebastian Utzni; U5 Collective; Jana Vanecek; Gregor Vogel; Astrid Welburn

All works on the shortlist are documented in a hundred-page publication.

More information: <https://www.corona-call.visarte.ch>

Contact

Overall project: Visarte Switzerland, Professional Association for Visual Art

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Zurich exhibition: Kirchenkreis eins Altstadt

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