

## Press Information

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February 2019

### NordArt 2019 at the Kunstwerk Carlshütte

Sometimes a colour and a certain brush stroke suffice to open up worlds. NordArt wishes its visitors these sudden moments of recognition and understanding of different perspectives also in 2019. The 21st edition of the large summer exhibition, opening on 1 June, will feature paintings, photographs, sculptures and installations by more than 200 artists from all over the world. Each artwork stands for itself and at the same time in dialogue with the others. This year's in-depth look is directed toward France.

In collaboration with curator Jérôme Cotinet-Aphaize, the country pavilion titled „Some of Us“ is dedicated to French female artists born between the late 1960s and early 1990s who have made a name for themselves in our neighbouring country and beyond in recent years. The exhibition aims to investigate the development across one generation of women, illuminating commonalities and examining what is typically French or perhaps Western. The Ambassador of the French Republic, H.E. Anne-Marie Descôtes, has taken over patronage of the National Pavilion.

The ACO Wagenremise building sets an important regional focus by zeroing in on the North German Realists, who joined forces 30 years ago and have long been a fixture in the art scene. In the fall of 1989, when the political landscape of Europe began to move, a circle of artists, inspired by Nikolaus Störtenbecker, started to look into new ways of painting and drawing directly in front of the object, thus conveying a very own signal.

NordArt will again be presenting new highlights from China in 2019. After Liu Ruowang's spectacular apes and Xu Bing's phoenixes, visitors can look forward to Noah's Garden by Deng Guoyuan and Babylonian by Xi Jianjun.

Once again there will be a show of selected works by contemporary Mongolian artists, to whom NordArt gave a major stage in 2015 and 2016. These pieces of art feed on animistic petroglyphs, Buddhist iconography, traditional painting, socialist realism and Western-influenced abstraction, which coalesce into a new, very unique style.

All prize winners of NordArt 2018 will be represented with new works this year. These include the three Public Choice Award winners Xiang Jing, Zhang Dali and Ekaterina Zacharova as well as Michal Gabriel, winner of the NordArt Prize sponsored by Hans-Julius and Johanna Ahlmann and endowed with 10,000 euros.

The **Kunstwerk Carlshütte** is a non-profit cultural initiative of the internationally active ACO Group and the towns of Büdelsdorf and Rendsburg, and a special venue for exhibitions, concerts, readings and film screenings. Its centrepiece is NordArt, one of the largest annual shows of contemporary art in Europe, which is redesigned annually by Chief Curator Wolfgang Gramm at this incomparable location, featuring the historic iron foundry and extensive old park area. The exhibition grounds include the huge aisles of the Carlshütte with their 22,000 square metres of floor space, the charming ACO Wagenremise building and an 80,000 square metres sculpture park. Around 3000 artists from 102 countries applied to participate in NordArt this year.

Since 2011, the Kunstwerk Carlshütte is also home to the Schleswig-Holstein Festival Orchestra. The rehearsal and concert room ACO Thormann Hall offers space for 1200 listeners. NordArt and Schleswig-Holstein Music Festival, both of which cultivate the worldwide network of artists, are also driving the crossover of fine arts and music. Since 2015, festival concerts have also taken place amidst NordArt.

Hosts at Kunstwerk Carlshütte are the entrepreneurial couple Hans-Julius and Johanna Ahlmann.

**NordArt 2019: 1 June to 13 October 2019** • Public Opening Ceremony on 1 June, 5pm • Opening Times: Tue-Sun 11am - 7pm  
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