

»Maya Schweizer. Even Closer«

2022 HAP Grieshaber Prize, awarded by VG Bild-Kunst



Deutscher
Künstlerbund e.V.

Opening: Wednesday, 18 January 2023, 6 pm
Brief greetings: Albert Weis, Executive Chairman, Deutscher Künstlerbund
Dr. Anke Schierholz, Legal Counsel, VG Bild-Kunst
Prof. Monika Brandmeier, Executive Spokeswoman,
Stiftung Kunstfonds
Words of welcome: Dr. Andreas Görgen,
Head of Department to the Federal Government
Commissioner for Culture and the Media
Introductory talk: Franciska Zólyom, Director, Leipzig Museum for
Contemporary Art
Exhibition runs: 19 January–6 April 2023
Hours of opening: Tuesday–Friday | 2–6 pm and by appointment
Location: Deutscher Künstlerbund
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Vorstand
Sandra Becker
María Linares, Sprecherin
Philip Kojo Metz
Cornelia Röbler, Sprecherin
Albert Weis

Pressemitteilung

Deutscher Künstlerbund presents the exhibition »Even Closer« by Maya Schweizer, 2022 winner of the HAP Grieshaber Prize awarded by VG Bild-Kunst. Schweizer's film and textile works explore the relationship between subjective and collective remembrance.

In the window at the Künstlerbund, the artist has placed a piece of cloth embroidered with fragments of text. The words seem to be taken from dialogues or stories, and their emotional depth opens up a wide range of associations. The exhibition centres on a curtain installation made specially for the Künstlerbund space, showing a selection of Schweizer's experimental films. Voices and Shells, made in 2020 for a show at Villa Stuck, takes the viewer into Munich's sewage system, as if exploring the city's subconscious. Water gurgles through the darkness, we hear a whispering voice, while images of Nazi architecture, fluttering pamphlets in the university courtyard and flames recall the »White Rose« resistance group and the book burnings. In the films L'étoile de mer (2019) and Insolite (2019), too, ghosts of the past, suggestive sound collages, and shapes from nature are intermingled, while A Tall Tale (2017) evokes phantoms from literary and cinematic history like Edgar Allan Poe and Orson Wells. In Schweizer's works, memory always appears fragmentary, fluid and precarious. Her films do not allow us to come to rest – which is the source of their poetical and political impact.

In total, the exhibition features four films and two textile works.

Maya Schweizer (born 1976 in Paris) studied art and art history in Aix-en-Provence, at the Academy of Fine Arts Leipzig (HGB) and at Berlin's University of the Arts (UdK), where she graduated from the master class of Lothar Baumgarten in 2007. Her works have been shown in many solo and group shows internationally.

As one of Germany's most richly endowed art prizes (25,000 euros), the HAP Grieshaber Prize has been awarded since 1999 for outstanding achievements in contemporary art. Previous winners include Rosa Barba, Gert & Uwe Tobias, Özlem Günyol & Mustafa Kunt, and Sergio Zavallos. Since 2003, the annual exhibition of the winner's work has been hosted by the Deutscher Künstlerbund.

The prize money for the HAP Grieshaber Prize is provided by Stiftung Kulturwerk, the cultural organization of VG Bild-Kunst, using funds held back in accordance with the agency's plans for copyright payments. The prize is thus a mark of recognition for artists from artists.

VG Bild-Kunst and Stiftung Kunstfonds in cooperation with Deutscher Künstlerbund



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