



IAC Office
Musée Ariana
10 avenue de la Paix
CH-1202 Geneva
Switzerland

Application for a Membership in the International Academy of Ceramics

Dear Sir or Madam,

The Werkschule – Werkstatt für Kunst und Kulturarbeit e.V. has been working as an institution for fine and applied arts in Oldenburg since 1984. The primary working focus is ceramics.

-In this field of work we offer a wide range of continuous seminars and education for adults.

- We carry out projects in sociocultural fields with a focus on ceramics, for example in psychiatries, with unaccompanied minor refugees or in the course of a "Seniorenkunstwerkstatt" (art workshop for seniors), sometimes with very old people.

- We organize exhibitions within the facilities of our in-house "Kunstforum", recently with Fritz Roßmann and Andreas Hinder

- We also organize the International Ceramics Fair Oldenburg:

The INTERNATIONAL CERAMICS FAIR OLDENBURG are a well-recognized venue for the international ceramics scene and as a meeting point for renowned masters, it is one of the most important platforms for international ceramic arts and is unique in North Germany. The event features a high-quality program, including the ceramics market, special exhibitions, artist's portraits, and most notably the award ceremonies for several trade prizes. Every year, more than 60.000 visitors come to Oldenburg to take part in the event.

The ceramic market around the Oldenburg Castle with its open air gallery of ceramic art is the heart and center of the event. Selected from 350 applicants by an expert jury, 125 ceramists, designers and ceramics workshops from all over Germany and on average 12 other countries (Europe, Asia, America), present their works.

Among the other highlights of the International Ceramic Fairs are the special exhibitions in the baroque ambience of the nearby Oldenburg Castle. They provide fascinating insights into current movements in contemporary ceramics.

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- In the exhibition "brandnew – brandneu", exhibitors of the market present their newest works. This exhibition is exclusive to the market weekend. With the "Detlef-Schmidt-Wilkens Keramikpreis", a Jury awards three prizes for outstanding works in the categories: innovation, function, and surface.
- The visitors of the exhibition can also participate in the vote for the audience award
- The solo exhibition of last year's winner of the prize awarded by the European journal NEUE KERAMIK will be opened in the State Museum in the castle on Friday evening before the market opens.
- This year's prize "Preis der NEUE(n) Keramik" for outstanding achievements in contemporary ceramics is awarded for the eighth time – also by an expert panel. Besides the prize money, each awardee receives a grant for a study visit at one of the international places to study ceramics as well as a 6-week solo exhibition in the Oldenburg State Museum for Art and cultural history in the following year. This year's award winner and exhibitor is Rachel Wood (GB).
- Every year the Werkschule invites two outstanding and in this country rarely shown figures of international ceramics for the presentation workshop CERAMIST'S PORTRAIT. Here you can experience them and their work at first hand. An exhibition displaying works of the invited artists can be seen in the special exhibition in the State Museum for Art and Cultural History on both market days. This year's guests: Sasha Wardell (UK) and Tomoko Konno (Japan).


Former guests and topics were, among others:

2016 - Lut Lalemann (B) and Johannes Nagel (D),
 2015 - Marc Leuthold and Martin McWilliam
 2014 - "Türkei-Begegnungen" ("Turkish encounters")
 2013 - Chieko Katsumata and Seung-Ho Yang
 2012 - Rafa Pérez and John Higgins
 2011 - Jane Perryman, Arnold Annen and Violette Fassbeander
 2010 - Shozo Michikawa and Regina Heinz
 2009 - Rebecca Meader and Sangwoo Kim
 2008 - Peter Beard and Ashraf Hanna
 2007 - Yoshimi Futamura und Yuk Kan Yeung
 2006 - Hans and Birgitte Börjeson
 2005 - Rita Ternes and Thomas Naethe
 2004 - Svend Bayer and Martin McWilliam
 2003 - Karin Bablok and Thomas Jan König
 2002 - Kap Sun Hwang and Si Sook Kang

The natural and self-set functions of the Werkschule e.V. include dealing with questions in contemporary ceramics as well as promoting the discourse. It is equally natural that the Werkschule will continue to support the ceramic arts. It appears to us, that in order to achieve this, an IAC membership is a key tool (besides the honor attached to it).

We hereby apply for a membership in the IAC-AIC and we look forward to your positive response.

Oldenburg, May 19, 2017


 Wolfgang Heppner
 (Director)