

nimmer satt?

GESELLSCHAFT
OHNE WACHSTUM
DENKEN

Can a society without growth be envisaged?

The group exhibition “Nimmersatt?” in Münster focuses on the future

Münster (Iwl). The exhibition “Nimmersatt? Gesellschaft ohne Wachstum denken” (27.11. – 27.2.22) opens in Münster on Friday (26.11.). Together, the Kunsthalle Münster, the LWL-Museum für Kunst und Kultur and Westfälischer Kunstverein will focus on the influence of human action on the environment.

At three venues in Münster a total of 25 international artists will present works in different media and raise the question of what might take the place of the existing economic and social models in the future. In three rounds of talks on the opening day (26.11.), experts and artists will speak about themes such as responsibility, abundance or capital. Admission on that day is free of charge at all three venues from 10 am to 10 pm.

The almost 30 works of art on show make reference to current crises, social inequality, climate change, illness, war, refugee movements, xenophobia and the attendant developments. The works ask which other options exist apart from growth. In the view of the curators Merle Radtke (Kunsthalle Münster), Kristina Scepaniski (Westfälischer Kunstverein) and Marianne Wagner (LWL-Museum für Kunst und Kultur), growth is finite and based on social inequality and on the exploitation of human beings and the environment.

This means that it is imperative to abandon existing thought patterns, shake off familiar behaviors and question the legitimacy of the dogma of “more and more”. The exhibition will include video installations, drawings, photographs and sculptures, along with works in the

public domain. In addition to a series of works on loan, the venues will feature several new productions that emerged in dialogue with the curators and are being shown here for the first time.

As asserted by LWL-Director Matthias Löb: "The exhibition takes up one of the themes of our time, maybe the most important of our time. Art does not want to provide ready-made answers, but it can break open familiar ways of seeing and free our minds to think about the future in a new way."

This is the first time that the three venues have been involved in a joint exhibition project. Markus Lewe, Lord Mayor of the City of Münster, sees the strength of the project in this cooperation: "As we can only deal with today's problems together, I am delighted that the three important institutions for contemporary art, namely, the Kunsthalle Münster, the LWL-Museum für Kunst und Kultur and Westfälischer Kunstverein, have come together in order to jointly explore the issue of how we want to live in the future."

The exhibition project is being subsidized by the Federal Cultural Foundation, the Ministry of Culture and Science of the State of North-Rhine-Westphalia, the Kunststiftung NRW (Art Foundation NRW), the Art Mentor Foundation Lucerne, and Trampoline, an association supporting the French art scene.

Works and Themes

In the Kunsthalle Münster, the American-Lebanese artist Marwa Arsanios (*1978) addresses the theme of land use rights and seeds in her video trilogy *Who Is Afraid of Ideology?* (2017/2019/2020). Through Arsanios' films the curator Merle Radtke directs our gaze at initiatives in Iraq, Northern Syria and Colombia: "The artist shows how women are demanding the right to land and, in their struggle for economic independence, are forming a very direct relationship with nature. With the idea of local empowerment, for example, the trilogy presents a possibility of not leaving the debate about seeds and their ownership in the hands of transnational concerns." Another work on show at the Kunsthalle Münster is the expansive installation *Comrades in Extinction* (2021) by Radha D'Souza (*1953) and Jonas Staal (*1981). This work emerged in the context of the Court for Intergenerational Climate Crimes. The

author, lawyer and activist and the fine artist thus speak for those non-human actors that no longer have a voice, as it were. The animals depicted are victims of crimes by states and international companies and testify to a capitalism based on exploitation and environmental destruction.

The artist Georges Adéagbo (*1942) from Benin forms concrete links with Münster in his newly-produced installation at the LWL-Museum für Kunst und Kultur. In it he brings found objects and panel paintings which he commissions from artists in Benin into a dialogue with objects from local junk shops in Münster. "The resulting relationship between the artefacts illustrates cultural exchange," so the curator Marianne Wagner, "and makes a plea for the recognition of different cultural roots, in place of the sovereign claim of the global north. Adéagbos' work also proposes learning from each other and abandoning cliché notions and hierarchies in favor of cooperation among equals." With her sculpture and performance the Czech artist Eva Kotátková (*1982) creates a space where empathy plays a major role: as a force through which people can act and understand the world, so Wagner. During the course of the exhibition performers will activate the work several times and develop it further.

In front of the entrance to Westfälischer Kunstverein a sculpture by the French artist Anita Molinero (*1953) made of plastic containers highlights our treatment of raw materials and the cycles this involves. "The materials that stand for the 21st century are not the traditional ones associated with the appearance of sculptures, namely, marble or bronze," says the curator Kristina Scepanski, "instead, rubbish plays that role. While the former materials stand for longevity, the features of rubbish, industrial products and synthetically-produced materials are highly problematic. The artist Anna McCarthy (*1981) created her installation *The Human Fountain* specifically for this exhibition. It is devoted to the motif of "vanquishing the summit" – literally and metaphorically – and places human megalomania in relation to nature and time.

In addition to guided tours with the curators and art education offers, the exhibition will be accompanied by a varied program of events. In a reading group the participants will discuss different political theories from the fields of feminism, Marxism and conservatism, as well as thoughts about ecology. The discussion series *Less is More, Architektur des positive*

Verzichts“ by the Association of German Architects (BD), as well as the “film talks“ will offer scope for discussions and exchanges of views and ideas with experts.

The obligation to wear a mask and the so-called 2G rule apply when visiting the exhibitions and taking part in the accompany program.

The accompanying book with contributions by, among others, Priya Basil, Agnes Denes, Raul Walch, Tim Rieniets, Irmi Seidl & Angelika Zahrnt, will be published by Distanz Verlag (24 Euro). The book launch takes place on 16.12. after the Reading Group event (6 – 8 pm) in Westfälischer Kunstverein.

Press material (photos, catalogue etc.):



bit.ly/nimmersatt_presse

Artists in the exhibition:

Kunsthalle Münster:

Marwa Arsanios (*1978 in Washington DC, USA, lives and works in Beirut)
Alice Creischer (*1960 in Gerolstein, Germany, lives and works in Berlin)
Elke Marhöfer (*1967 in Adenau/Eifel, Germany, lives and works in Berlin and Sicily, Italy)
Lerato Shadi (born in Mahikeng, South Africa, lives and works in Berlin)
Andreas Siekmann (*1961 in Hamm, Germany, lives and works in Berlin)
Radha D'Souza (*1953 in Bommopalayam, Tamil Nadu, India, lives and works in London, England) and Jonas Staal (*1981 in Zwolle, The Netherlands, lives and works in Rotterdam)

LWL-Museum für Kunst und Kultur:

Georges Adéagbo (*1942 in Cotonou, Dahomey, Benin, lives and works in Hamburg und Benin)
Andrea Bowers (*1965 in Ohio, USA, lives and works in Los Angeles)
Alice Creischer (*1960 in Gerolstein, Germany, lives and works in Berlin)
Thirza Cuthand (*1978 in Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada, lives and works in Toronto)
Cao Fei (*1978 in Guangzhou, China, lives and works in Beijing)
Nina Fischer & Maroan el Sani (*1965 in Emden & *1966 in Duisburg, Germany, leben und arbeiten in Berlin)
Johan Grimonprez (*1962 in Roeselare, Belgium, lives and works in Brussels, Greece and New York City)
Christine & Irene Hohenbüchler (beide *1964 in Vienna, leben und arbeiten in Vienna)
Eva Koťátková (*1982 in Prague, lives and works in Pragu
Andreas Siekmann (*1961 in Hamm, Germany, lives and works in Berlin)
e)

Westfälischer Kunstverein:

Mathis Altmann (*1987 in München, lives and works in Berlin)
Karrabing Film Collective (2008 gegründet, Northern Territory, Australia)
Anna McCarthy (*1981 in München, lives and works in München)
Anita Molinero (*1953 in Floriac, France, lives and works in Paris)
Maria D. Rapicavoli (*1976 in Catania, Italy, lives and works in New York, USA)
Sophie Utikal (*1987 in Tallahassee, Florida, USA, lives and works in Berlin)

Public domain:

Anita Molinero (*1953 in Floriac, France, lives and works in Paris)
Matt Mullican (*1951 in Santa Monica, California, USA, lives and works in Berlin und New York)
Raul Walch (*1980 in Frankfurt am Main, Germany, lives and works in Berlin)

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