

KÜNSTLERHAUS BETHANIEN

P R E S S R E L E A S E

Berlin, 22nd February 2018

Dear Colleagues,

We are pleased to invite you to the opening of the following exhibition:

Falkenrot Prize 2018
JANA GUNSTHEIMER
Luft nach oben

Opening: THURSDAY, 1ST MARCH 2018
Showroom at Kottbusser Straße 10

Exhibition: 2ND MARCH – 25TH MARCH 2018
Tuesday – Sunday, 2 – 7 pm

ATELIERS UND BÜROS: Kohlfurter Straße 41-43 · 10999 Berlin · SCHAURAUM: Kottbusser Straße 10

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RECHTSFORM: Künstlerhaus Bethanien GmbH · SITZ: Berlin · AG Charlottenburg

GESCHÄFTSFÜHRUNG: Christoph Tannert · Andrea Boche · HANDELSREGISTER: HRG 8089

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The **Falkenrot Prize** was initiated in 2005 and is being presented for the twelfth time this year. It is awarded to international artists whose work is particularly likely to set innovative standards in current contemporary art.

The Falkenrot Prize winner in 2018 is artist JANA GUNSTHEIMER (*1974), who lives in Jena. The prize is awarded annually by Künstlerhaus Bethanien and encompasses a show of work by the respective prizewinner in the institution's exhibition space; this is accompanied by a comprehensive catalogue.

Previous prizewinners have been Seo (2005), Maik Wolf (2006), Sven Drühl (2007), Torben Giehler (2008), Tony Matelli (2011), Slawomir Elsner (2012), Maki Na Kamura (2013), Michaela Meise (2014), Peter Krauskopf (2015), Gregor Hildebrandt (2016) and Andreas Schmitt (2017).

Jana Gunstheimer's artistic practice exploits our world as an endless reservoir of undiscovered possibilities, tracking down its hidden and mysterious aspects. In her works reality becomes a conglomeration of labyrinthine rooms and fantastic stories.

"Detached from the simulation-fixated mainstream, our prizewinner Jana Gunstheimer projects her own dark universe of innovative pictorial ideas by means of subtle associations and radical perceptual shifts in the field of art history. From the perspective of the ethnologist, she allows compelling pictorial realities to emerge, which cunningly break open the old scheme of construction and deconstruction and so help to overcome a vital aspect of academic inertia." (Christoph Tannert)

JANA GUNSTHEIMER, born in Zwickau, lives and works in Jena. She studied ethnology and art history at the University of Leipzig and fine art at Burg Giebichenstein College of Art in Halle/ Saale.

Gunstheimer has already received several recognized prizes and grants (incl. Villa Massimo, 2010), and in 2016 she was appointed Professor of Experimental Painting and Drawing (a permanent posting) at the Bauhaus University Weimar.

Detailed information about Jana Gunstheimer's biography and artistic oeuvre can be found at:
www.janagunstheimer.de

Particular thanks for their contributions to the realisation of the exhibition at Künstlerhaus Bethanien are due to Michael Schultz, Berlin and the lenders, Galerie Conrads, Düsseldorf, Peter Metzger and Rainer Weckop.

With kind support from the Senate Department for Culture and Europe – Department of Culture.

A comprehensive **catalogue** is being prepared to mark the award of the Falkenrot Prize 2018 to Jana Gunstheimer, which will include a photographic documentation of the exhibition in Künstlerhaus Bethanien.

The press office of Künstlerhaus Bethanien is always happy to provide further information and illustrative material. | presse@bethanien.de