

Press Release

6 October 2016

Uncertain States. Artistic Strategies in States of Emergency

Exhibition and Special Events Programme

Opening Weekend with Volker Koepp, Michael Krüger, Norman Manea, Jeanine Meerapfel, Jochen Oltmer, Ingo Schulze, Serhij Zhadan, et al.

14–16 October 2016, discussions, lectures, music

Press Event: Thursday, 13 October 2016, 11 am

On Friday, 14 October, Akademie President **Jeanine Meerapfel** will open the exhibition *Uncertain States. Artistic Strategies in States of Emergency*. *Uncertain States* turns the Akademie der Künste's artistic focus on current political, societal and individual upheavals and uncertainties. It also commences the three-month special events programme accompanying the exhibition.

In his lecture at the opening, "Exil und Kreativität", Romanian author **Norman Manea** addresses the ambivalence of existential experiences of flight. In 1986 he left Romania for political reasons; today he lives and works in New York. The percussionist **Mohammad Reza Mortazavi**, born in 1978 in Isfahan (Iran), came to Germany at age 22. He'll play the tombak (goblet drum) at the opening events.

On Saturday, 15 October, the Ukrainian writer and musician **Serhij Zhadan**, in conversation with **Ingo Schulze**, will introduce his new book *Warum ich nicht im Netz bin*, in which he assembles "poetry and prose from the war". Afterwards, he will perform together with the eight member **Ska Punk Band Sobaky v Kosmosi** from Kharkiv as a singer and songwriter.

On Sunday, 16 October, the **lecture series DISKURSE** will begin. Twelve well-known representatives from migration research, political science, sociology, philosophy and visual arts studies will dedicate themselves to central questions affecting the present. Migration researcher **Jochen Oltmer**, from the Institut für Migrationsforschung und Interkulturelle Studien (IMIS) at the University of Osnabrück, will open the sessions with a talk on "Migration und Flucht: Die Vergangenheit der Gegenwart".

On 16 October, there will also be an artists' talk with **Norman Manea**, the filmmaker **Volker Koepp** and the author **Michael Krüger** about Manea's essay collection *Wir sind alle im Exil* and Koepp's film *Dieses Jahr in Czernowitz*, in which the filmmaker accompanies émigrés and their children on their return to Chernivtsi, their native city.

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In the **exhibition** past experiences of flight and exile between 1933 and 1945 provide a framework for analysing and coming to terms with current states of emergency. Select objects and documents from the Akademie der Künste archives – by **Walter Benjamin, Bertolt Brecht, Valeska Gert, Lea Grundig, Heinrich Mann, Bruno Taut, Kurt Tucholsky** and others – correspond with contemporary artworks by **Francis Alÿs, Ayşe Erkmen, William Forsythe, Mona Hatoum, Isaac Julien, Sigalit Landau, Nasan Tur, Micha Ullman**, et al.

Opening Programme

Friday, 14 Oct., 7 pm

Opening

With Jeanine Meerapfel and Johannes Odenthal

Lecture: Norman Manea, "Exil und Kreativität"

Music: Mohammad Reza Mortazavi, Tombak

Saturday, 15 Oct., 5 pm

Serhij Zhadan, *Warum ich nicht im Netz bin*

Book premiere and discussion with Serhij Zhadan and Ingo Schulze

Saturday, 15 Oct., 9 pm

Zhadan i Sobaky v Kosmosi

Concert: Ska Punk from Ukraine

Sunday, 16 Oct., 12 noon

DISKURSE. Migration und Flucht: Die Vergangenheit der Gegenwart

Lecture: Jochen Oltmer

Sunday, 16 Oct., 5 pm

Wir sind alle im Exil

Artists' Talk with Norman Manea and Volker Koepp. Moderation: Michael Krüger.

Film clips: *Dieses Jahr in Czernowitz* (Volker Koepp, D 2004)

Events in German

The complete programme online: www.adk.de/uncertain-states

Press material: www.adk.de/de/presse/pressematerial.htm

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15 October 2016 – 15 January 2017

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