

OPEN CALL

Think outside the box, leave your own bubble, and get out of your comfort zone. This should not only apply to the formation of political opinions and the view of the world, but also to the way we look at and consume art.

Our idea to conceive an exhibition that does just that and presents artists who do not conform to the "common" art market ideal turned into quite the sobering experience. Where can you find these artists? Even if nowadays it is suggested that everyone can generate visibility without hurdles via social media, we seem to only see the same thing, don't we? Diversity gets lost in the personal algorithm.

We gaze into the mirror asking it:

mirror, mirror

...what do we not see and where do we find it?

...who decides what we see and why?

...what does diversity mean?

...who belongs and who doesn't? ...

Our world is changing, social patterns are on the move and are breaking down. But in the realm of visual arts, the system sometimes seems strangely frozen. Hardly any other area of society appears to so many to be as exclusive and elitist as this sector, while – ironically enough – it aims to distinguish itself from other fields by promoting diversity, openness and equality. Is that true?! How equal and open can a system be that lives on competitions, prizes, grants and project funding? A system that constantly has to fight for its social relevance and that, despite all its supposed freedom, is still somehow required to perform a function? Education, age, gender, origin, network, prizes, ...the list of factors that reduce success is long.

Based on all these observations and questions, we would like to develop an exhibition that holds up a mirror to us, that offers space for self-reflection and at the same time allows for the beautiful and the joyful, that reveals new perspectives and brings the unseen into the light. Our project can only be an attempt, after all, we too are products of the system and in the end a selection is always made somehow. In the best case, we aim to engage in conversation, change perspectives, step out of our respective comfort zones.

We ask artists:

What are your experiences? Do you feel seen? Who are you missing and what? What moves you, what do you want to show us? What does diversity mean? What do you see? ...and what not?...

Who can apply?

We cordially invite artists of all genres - regardless of degree, education, vita, age, origin or gender - who feel addressed by these questions or have already dealt with parts of them in their work. We don't require any CV from you, we are interested in what made you apply, why this call for entries appealed to you and what you want to show us.

You read the announcement and immediately thought of a friend or someone you follow on social media? Feel free to forward our call for applications or send us an application in which you tell us why the person in question fits our concept and how we can reach them via mail/social media. We think competition is not always the best, we know the danger of networking, but we also believe in the positive side of networking. After all, how are we supposed to get out of our own bubble if we don't connect with others?

What else do you need to know?

The exhibition will take place in Hamburg in a vacant space starting at the end of August. There will be no participation fees!

We are trying to cover as many costs as possible [and provide fair compensation]. However, due to the current state of planning, we will not be able to give exact numbers until a later date. We will communicate any new info and updates transparently to you at any time.

How to apply?

Please send us a PDF file (max. size 3 MB) with the following components:

1. Please answer the following questions in complete sentences (500-2000 characters):
Why did the call for applications appeal to you? What interests you about the questions?
2. Short description of your (already finished) work or concept idea // The work of the person you are recommending to us
3. Images of a work you would like to show or those that give us an insight into your general way of working or the recommended person's way of working. Please also include the usual details of the work, especially material and size.
4. Contact information: Name, city of residence, email address and phone number.

Please send us your applications by 02/28/2022 to: bewerbung@daskurativ.de

More about us:

www.daskurativ.de