



# Kunsthalle Rostock

Press Release

## **ON WATER & PLANTS** **20 Artistic Positions on Sustainability**

**Vernissage:** September 30<sup>th</sup> 2022, 4pm at the Botanical Garden of the University of Rostock, at 6pm at the Kunsthalle Rostock

**Exhibition Dates:** October 1<sup>st</sup> to November 27<sup>th</sup> 2022

**Press Preview:** September 29<sup>th</sup> 2022, 11am

In cooperation with the Botanical Garden of the University of Rostock, the Kunsthalle Rostock is realizing an interdisciplinary exhibition project in which scientific research and art enter into dialogue.

Starting from the premise that water is the sine qua non for the existence of organic life, this project aims to strengthen the adequate use and appreciation of natural resources and wants to shed light on future potential adaptation strategies to climate change.

The focus of this exhibition is the study of “resurrection plants” that grow on rocks, especially in the tropics. These plants are able to survive long periods in a desiccated state. Botanists from Rostock (working group of Prof. Dr Stefan Porembski) research these desiccation-tolerant plants in Africa, Asia and South America. The goal is to transfer this ability to crop plants to make them more resistant to droughts. Due to human-induced climate change,

Plants with lower water requirements will also play a greater role in urban habitats in the future. Scientists and artists currently accompany this scenario and the associated future global demands on humanity, as well as the development of adaptation and solution strategies and will continue to do so in the future. Bodies of water drying out or wildfires will only be a few of the visible impacts that the predicted shortage of available water will have on the environment.

In the 18th and 19th centuries the imitation of nature played a major role in artistic representations whereas contemporary art is concerned with reproducing reality to illustrate current issues and as a guide to a more sustainable lifestyle in order to preserve the natural resources earth, air and water for future generations. The curator of the exhibition, Tereza de Arruda, invited 20 international artists whose artistic oeuvres deal with nature, natural elements and their symbiosis with humanity. They represent different cultures and ethnicities that, in their essence, follow a certain spirituality, mythology and methodology in their interaction with nature. The exhibited works are comprised of installations, objects, paintings, drawings, photographs, NFT's, Video installations and site-specific works by Eva & Adele, Francisco de

Almeida, Birgit Brenner, Caetano Dias, Jaider Esbell, José Gomes, Yuan Gong, HAP Grieshaber, Rhys Himsworth, Sandra Vásquez de la Horra, Han Seok Hyun, Ingar Krauss, Anna McCarthy, Giacomo Orth, Jina Park, Veronika Pfaffinger, Luzia Simons, Vivan Sundaram, Armarinhos Teixeira and Thomas Wrede.

Through a residency program, exhibitions and campaigns in the Kunsthalle Rostock as well as in the Botanical Garden Rostock, a dynamic and experimental platform will be created. Together with the Institute for Biosciences at the University of Rostock, artists and scientists will initiate an exchange of research, experiences and ambitions in the form of guided tours and discussions.

### **Art in the Botanical Garden Rostock**

The works of Armarinhos Teixeira proposes to identify areas in need of protection and conservation studies, linked to the emerging biomes and morphology. This is the intention of the sculpture Biological Station, installed in the Botanical Garden of the Rostock University, which will serve as a rescue station for local flora and fauna in the coming years. This will lead to the establishment of a human-made biological institution for the protection of biodiversity in the wake of nature. The realization of this project was made possible by *lade – Instituto ladê de Arte e Design* and ORION-E Sustainable Energy from São Paulo, Brazil.

### **Publication**

For this project, an exhibition newspaper will be released.

### **Accompanying Program**

11am

Artists talk *On Water & Plants*

Curator Tereza de Arruda conversing with the artists: José Gomes, Han Seok Hyun, Rhys Himsworth, Sandra Vásquez de la Horra, Ingar Krauss, Giacomo Orth, Jina Park, Veronika Pfaffinger, Armarinhos Teixeira, Thomas Wrede  
Schaudepot Kunsthalle Rostock

12.30pm

Performance *Super Supper* with Seok Hyun Han  
Gräsergarten of the Kunsthalle Rostock

Public tour through the exhibition

Every Thursday, 4pm

Private tour through the exhibition

With prior notice

Maximum of 20 people, 30,00€ fee

Contact us to book a tour:

+49 (0) 381 381-7002 or

[kunsthalle@rostock.de](mailto:kunsthalle@rostock.de)

Guided tours for school classes

Contact us to book a tour: +49 (0) 381 381-7002, Mo–Fr, 9am–10am

Information concerning further accompanying events is available at:

[www.kunsthallerostock.de](http://www.kunsthallerostock.de)

**Entrance**

10 EUR | 6 EUR reduced | Free for students of the University of Rostock (Kulturticket)

**Kunsthalle Rostock**

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**Opening hours**

Tuesday–Sunday, 11 am–6 pm

Mondays closed

**Cooperation**

The exhibition is realized in cooperation with the *Institute of Biosciences, Department of Botany* and the *Botanical Garden* of the University of Rostock

**Support**

The exhibition is supported by Nordwasser GmbH, Landesmarketing Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, Verwaltungsgesellschaft Lotto und Toto in Mecklenburg-Vorpommern mbH, ROSTOCK PORT GmbH, the association „Freunde der Kunsthalle Rostock e. V.“, Wall GmbH, Iade – Instituto Iadê de Arte e Design São Paulo, Brasilien, ORION-E Sustainable Energy, São Paulo, Brazil, the representatives of the Federal Commission for Culture and Media, within the program „NEUSTART KULTUR“, and the Stiftung Kunstfonds

Health partner: clinic Südstand Rostock

Culture partner: NDR Kultur

**Press preview**

A press preview takes place on Thursday, September 29, 2022, at 11am in the presence of Dr Uwe Neumann – director of the Kunsthalle Rostock, Tereza de Arruda – curator, Dr Dethardt Götze – curator in the Botanical Garden Rostock, Charlotte Berger – Organizer of *cabbage & turnips* as well as participating artists.

Please confirm your participation at: [kunsthalle@rostock.de](mailto:kunsthalle@rostock.de) or +49 (0) 381 / 3817000

**Press Contact**

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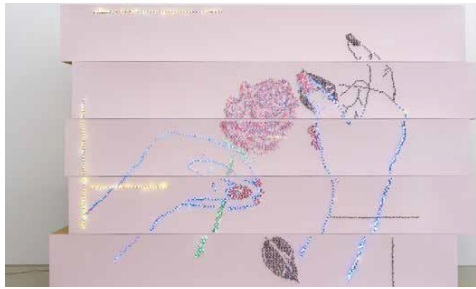
**Press material**

<https://www.kunsthallerostock.de/de/kunsthalle-rostock/presse>

user: journalist

password: pass4presse

**Selected Artworks:**



**Birgit Brenner**  
**Prediction, 2021**  
Pappe, LED-Lights, dipping varnish, glass paint,  
Two-piece  
210 × 290 × 30 cm  
Courtesy Galerie EIGEN + ART Leipzig/Berlin

Photo: Uwe Walter, Berlin  
© VG Bild-Kunst, Bonn 2022



**José Gomes**  
**Serie Firmitas – IVAB, 2022**  
Photo transfer, water color, ink and pencil on  
paper  
76 × 56 cm

Photo: José Gomes



**Luzia Simons**  
**Tendenz endlos (Detail), 2019–2022**  
Tapisserie with embroidery, polyester, cotton,  
wool, acryl  
284 × 280 cm

Photo: Studio Luzia Simons  
© VG Bild-Kunst, Bonn 2022



**Yuan Gong**  
**Scented Air · The Stroll, 2012–2018**  
Videoprojection  
Video-Still



**Jina Park**  
**In the Thundering Night, 2021**  
Egg tempera on canvas  
130 × 240 cm

Photo: Kichun Park



**EVA & ADELE**  
**Binz, 2020**  
**Photography**  
**275 x 366 cm**

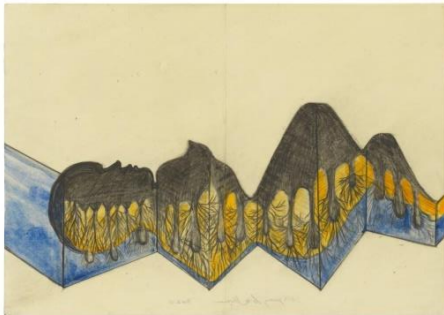
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**Jaider Esbell**  
**From the series *It Was Amazon*, 2016**  
**Facsimile**  
**31 × 43 cm**

**Galeria Jaider Esbell de Arte Indígena Contemporânea, Boa Vista, Brasilien**

© Jaider Esbell Estate



**Sandra Vásquez de la Horra**  
***Volver a ser Tierra*, 2020**  
**Watercolor on paper, waxed**  
**29,5 × 41,8 cm**

**Photo: Gunter Lepkowski**



**Seok Hyun Han**  
***SUPER-NATURAL*, 2011**  
**Site-specific installation made of green objects**  
**Installation view Aram Art Gallery, London**

**This installation will also be created for the exhibition in the Kunsthalle Rotsock.**