

HMKV Exhibitions 2019



Image credit: Nadja Buttendorf, „ROBOTRON - a tech opera“, 2018 © Nadja Buttendorf. In the exhibition „Computer Grrrls“, HMKV at Dortmunder U, 27 Oct 2018 – 24 Feb 2019

You can find pictures (300dpi) on HMKV's website: <http://www.hmkv.de/en/presse>
The password for the press area is: presse

Dear Madam, dear Sir, dear colleagues,

we would like to present you Hartware MedienKunstVerein (HMKV)'s 2019 exhibition programme. After our successful **Computer Grrrls** exhibition (on view until 24 February 2019), we will be presenting

The Alt-Right Complex – On Right-Wing Populism Online (30 March – 22 September 2019)

and

Artists + Agents – Performance Art & Secret Service in Eastern Europe (26 October 2019 – 23 February 2020).

In addition, the **HMKV Video of the Month** will present remarkable video productions by international artists in 2019 - each video will be presented from the 1st to the last day of a month. And **Dan Perjovschi's** giant wall drawing ***The Hard/er Drawing*** will be on view until April 2019.

Please find enclosed the press kit with detailed information (en/ger). Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely yours,

Dr. Inke Arns

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HMKV im Dortmunder U
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Hartware MedienKunstVerein

HMKV Exhibitions 2019

Dortmunder U, Level 3

until 24 February 2019

Computer Grrrls

Curated by Inke Arns & Marie Lechner

In coproduction with La Gaîté Lyrique, Paris

30 March – 22 September 2019 (opening: Friday, 29 March 2019)

The Alt-Right Complex – On Right-Wing Populism Online

Curated by Inke Arns

26 October 2019 – 23 February 2020 (opening: Friday, 25 October 2019)

Artists + Agents – Performance Art & Secret Service in Eastern Europe

Curated by Inke Arns, Kata Kasznahorkai and Sylvia Sasse

In cooperation with Zurich University

1 January – 31 December 2019

HMKV Video des Monats

Curated by Inke Arns

Dortmunder U, Levels 0-7

until April 2019

Dan Perjovschi: The Hard/er Drawing

Curated by Inke Arns

In cooperation with Dortmunder U

Travelling exhibitions

13 March – 14 July 2019

Computer Grrrls

Curated by Inke Arns & Marie Lechner

La Gaîté Lyrique, Paris

August – September 2019

Computer Grrrls

Curated by Inke Arns & Marie Lechner

MU, Eindhoven

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Hartware MedienKunstVerein

At a glance

In 2019 HMKV will present a total of five exhibitions at Dortmunder U: **Computer Grrrls**, **Dan Perjovschi: The Hard/er Drawing**, **The Alt-Right Complex**, **Artists+Agents** and the monthly changing **HMKV Video of the Month**.

The exhibition **Computer Grrrls** – on view until 24 February 2019 – brings together more than 20 international artistic positions that negotiate the complex relationship between women and technology – from the first human computers to the current revival of technofeminist movements. An illustrated timeline with over 200 entries cover these developments from the 18th century to the present. Invited are artists, hackers, makers and researchers who are working on how to think differently about technology: by questioning the gender bias in big data and Artificial Intelligence, promoting an open and diversified Internet, and designing utopian technologies. **A coproduction with La Gaîté Lyrique, Paris.**

Curated by Inke Arns, the international group exhibition **The Alt-Right Complex** will be on view from March to September 2019. It will address current right-wing populism that is using the Internet and social media in particular for dissemination. The twelve international artistic positions are accompanied by a publication with a critical glossary that explains the most important terms from the *Alt-Right* context. This exhibition takes place **in cooperation with Urbane Künste Ruhr (UKR).**

From October 2019, on the occasion of the "30th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall", the elaborately researched international group exhibition **Artists+Agents – Performance Art and Secret Services in Eastern Europe** will be on view. The exhibition focuses on the files that various intelligence agencies in Eastern Europe have gathered about performance art from the 1960s to the 1990s – in order to be able to better "infiltrate" and "disintegrate" them from within. However, in order to do this, the agents had to become performance artists themselves. The exhibition, developed **in cooperation with Zurich University**, is curated by Inke Arns, Kata Krasznahorkai and Sylvia Sasse.

In the vertical space of the Dortmunder U **The Hard/er Drawing by Dan Perjovschi** will be on view on all seven floors until April 2019. Installed for the 20th anniversary of HMKV in 2016 and updated in February 2018, the world's highest wall drawing by the Romanian artist (*1961) consists of ironic and self-deprecating black marker drawings based on precise observations of the international situation as well as the local context ("TRUMPUTIN", "MO = Half of MOMA", "Love me before I get fat"). In addition to this, HMKV also presents current video works by international artists in the series **HMKV Video of the Month** in 2019.

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Detailed information

Computer Grrrls

The exhibition **Cmptr Grrrlz** brings together more than 20 international artistic positions that negotiate the complex relationship between gender and technology in past and present. **Computer Grlz** deals with the link between women and technology – from the first human computers to the current revival of technofeminist movements. An illustrated timeline with over 200 entries covers these developments from the 18th century to the present. Invited are artists, hackers, makers and researchers who are working on how to think differently about technology: by questioning the gender bias in big data and Artificial Intelligence, promoting an open and diversified Internet, and designing utopian technologies. *Computer Grrrls* is an exhibition by HMKV (Hartware MedienKunstVerein), Dortmund (DE), developed in **coproduction with La Gaîté Lyrique, Paris (FR)**. The participating artists come from 16 countries: Australia, Canada, China, France, Germany, Greece, Iran, Italy, Mexico, the Netherlands, Russia, Switzerland, Turkey, the UK, USA, and Yugoslavia/Serbia. Following the exhibition at HMKV Dortmund, the project will move to **La Gaîté Lyrique in Paris (FR)** in the spring of 2019, and in summer 2019 to **MU in Eindhoven (NL)**. In all places there will be film screenings, tours with the curators, artist talks and experimental workshops.

The Alt-Right Complex

The alt-right, or alternative right, is a loosely connected and somewhat ill-defined grouping of white supremacists/white nationalists, white separatists, anti-Semites, neo-Nazis, neo-fascists, neo-Confederates, Holocaust deniers, conspiracy theorists and other far-right fringe hate groups, especially in the US. Alt-right beliefs have been described as isolationist, protectionist, anti-Semitic and white supremacist, frequently overlapping with neo-Nazism, identitarianism, xenophobia, and Islamophobia, anti-feminism, misogyny and homophobia, right-wing populism and the neoreactionary movement. The term drew considerable media attention and controversy during and after the 2016 United States presidential election. Curated by Inke Arns, the international group exhibition **The Alt-Right Complex** will be on view from March to September 2019. It will address current right-wing populism that is using the Internet and social media in particular for dissemination. The exhibition traces the development of a culture of transgression in online forums such as 4Chan and Tumblr to platforms of the alt-right movement as such, like Breitbart News. The artistic works deal with the character "PePe the frog" (a symbol of the supporters of Donald Trump), with vigilantes in the US, Steve Bannon and Breitbart News and look into the sinister connection between so-called Reich citizens and postmodern interiors of the 1980s. The exhibition looks at the broad field that spans between the one extreme (the NSU murders) and tendencies in the middle of society (right-wing populism). The twelve international artistic positions are accompanied by a publication with a critical glossary that explains the most important terms from the alt-right context. This exhibition takes place in **cooperation with Urbane Künste Ruhr (UKR)**.

Artists+Agents – Performance Art and Secret Services in Eastern Europe

From October 2019, on the occasion of the "30th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall", the elaborately researched international group exhibition **Artists + Agents - Performance Art in Eastern Europe** will be on view. The exhibition, developed in

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cooperation with Zurich University, will be curated by Inke Arns, Kata Krasznahorkai and Sylvia Sasse.

After 1990, many intelligence archives of the former Eastern Bloc countries were opened up for scientific research. This made it possible for the first time to examine the documentation of art through agents and the influence of the secret services on artistic work. Above all, the exhibition intends to show the interaction of intelligence actions and performance art in particular, which the totalitarian states of Eastern Europe were most afraid of.

The research for this project has shown that the intelligence files reveal little about the observed, but much more about the fears and strategies of the observers. These fears and strategies, which can be traced back to the tiniest details of these acts – narrative, verbiage, abbreviations, punctuation, and omissions – are not only of particular importance to the history of art, but also contribute to raising awareness of today's democratic societies for the dangers and warning signs of dictatorships. The intelligence reports document artistic activities, sometimes down to the smallest detail; they speak of the monitoring and "processing" ("destruction", "liquidation") of the art scene and reveal information about the active, operative intervention of the state in the artistic production. However, not only the artists used performative techniques; also the agents had to "perform" to gain relevant information about performance art.

To illustrate the relevance of these issues for the present, the 2019 exhibition will take place in the year which marks the 30th anniversary of the fall of the Iron Curtain. In the GDR, it was the democratic opposition (including many artists) who stormed the Stasi headquarters in 1989. In the run-up to the exhibition, extensive and targeted research was carried out in intelligence archives in Hungary, Poland, the Czech Republic, Romania and Germany. The exhibition will focus on examples from these countries from the years 1960-1990.

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