



Mission Statement Kunst Halle Sankt Gallen

The Kunst Halle Sankt Gallen was founded in 1985 as a non-profit-making association with the aim of supporting and communicating contemporary art. Its governing body and its aims have constantly remained the same. However, over the course of its development Kunst Halle Sankt Gallen has gained a special position: it can be described as the smallest of the larger Swiss contemporary art institutions or, vice versa, as the largest of the smaller exhibition venues. Contradictory possibilities, expectations and emotions consequently meet and mix in the Kunst Halle.

We are a place for the production and exhibition of contemporary art and artistic experiments. Our overall interest and declared aim is, with solo and group exhibitions, to serve as a platform for the works of artists who are relevant in the current discourse. On the one hand we want to help them in the realisation of new productions and, on the other, to present and communicate their artistic approach adequately to our public.

Furthermore, we see it as our task to provide artistic stimuli, to contribute to the international networking of the Swiss art scene, to publish catalogues and artists' books and generally to communicate contemporary art with workshops for school classes, talks, guided tours and other activities. At the same time we do not forget our more immediate surroundings: the Kunst Halle aims to master the balancing act between local needs and global ambitions by integrating into our projects the city and region of St. Gallen with their specific resources as content, context and starting point.

In everyday working life the Kunst Halle is generous and respectful to staff, artists, members, visitors, sponsors and other partners. We want to deal responsibly not only with people but also with available resources and the environment. Furthermore, we reject any kind of discriminatory statements and actions but nevertheless retain artistic freedom at all times.

The aim of Kunst Halle Sankt Gallen's programme is to propagate an open concept of art, provide insights into the production of the younger artist generation and examine current and relevant aesthetic, social and political phenomena. The Kunst Halle sees itself as a dynamic institution which reacts quickly and is in a state of constant transformation. We thus stay close to the present. We are convinced that art is an important tool both for the celebration and questioning of complex relationships: we see this complexity as an opportunity with which we want to confront our public and ourselves.

Giovanni Carmine, 7 February 2010