

## **SPARK Art Fair: Curators- and Advisory-Board Takes Over Artistic Direction**

Vienna – After two internationally and nationally acclaimed exhibitions, SPARK Art Fair returns for its third edition from 23 to 26 March 2023. With a top-class Curators- and Advisory-Board, this year SPARK has a collaborative approach to artistic direction for the first time.

Preparations for this year's SPARK Art Fair Vienna are in full swing. From 23 to 26 March 2023, Vienna's MARX HALLE will once again be at the centre of the international art world - with the tried-and-tested, unique exhibition architecture for solo presentations, a significant number of national and international participants, including a high-profile line-up of exhibitors consisting of established and emerging artists and galleries. In contrast to previous years, this year's SPARK Art Fair Vienna takes its artistic direction from a curatorial and advisory board consisting of Sabine Breitwieser, Christoph Doswald, Jan Gustav Fiedler and Walter Seidl.

"We are deliberately following a new path with the curatorial and advisory board. With this new collaborative approach to artistic direction, we want to strengthen the quality and diversity of the fair and thus expand our reach and Vienna's status as an international cultural hotspot," says SPARK founder and MARX HALLE Managing Director, Herwig Ursin.

SPARK Art Fair will continue to focus on a variety of different art forms. This year's contemporary art fair will include works from the field of photography and on the theme of "Diversity", amongst others. In addition to this, SPARK Expanded will be enlarged in the third year of the art fair, creating a spatial extension of the exhibition architecture through large-scale sculptures and art installations.

**23–26/3/2023 / MARX HALLE**

KARL-FARKAS-GASSE 19, 1030 WIEN

**WWW.SPARK-ARTFAIR.COM**

## **ART DESPITE THE YEARS OF CRISIS**

"The past two years in particular have shown how important art is in times of crisis. The international art markets have not only withstood the turbulence but have experienced a real boom. Art fairs all over the world have reported record sales in these years of crisis. In this positive environment, SPARK Art Fair Vienna operates as a hotspot for contemporary art in Central Europe. We have earned this position since the beginning of 2020 despite adverse circumstances," explains Anton Imre, Managing Director of SPARK.

## **CURATORS- AND ADVISORY-BOARD**

The high-calibre curatorial and advisory board is a further step in this direction: Walter Seidl and Jan Gustav Fiedler will make up the board, alongside Sabine Breitwieser and Christoph Doswald, two curators from previous years of the SPARK Art Fair exhibition. Walter Seidl works as a curator, author, and artist for many years. He holds a doctorate in cultural studies, is on the board of "Camera Austria" in Graz and realized numerous exhibition projects throughout Europe, North America, and Japan. His artistic and curatorial work focuses on photography and lens-based media. Jan Gustav Fiedler works as a freelance curator for galleries, interim projects and museum formats in Berlin, Vienna, Leipzig, Belgrade, and Miami, among other places. In addition to projects such as the "Museum of Now" or the Monolog Gallery, Fiedler is involved in numerous international exhibition projects.

"SPARK Art Fair is regarded as a fair for innovative art which is designed with great precision and made accessible to the public within a clearly defined framework. Art as an investment has become increasingly important in recent years due to its concrete content and sense of longevity, which SPARK also stands for as Austria's leading art fair," explains Walter Seidl.

"The solo presentations of the exhibiting artists, which are unique in the international trade fair setting, in combination with the location's listed building and open exhibition architecture make SPARK an extraordinary art experience," says German curator Jan Gustav Fiedler.

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"For Austrian galleries and for Vienna itself as a city of art, a professional art fair is of great significance. Over the last two years, SPARK Art Fair has proven under difficult conditions that it could make an important contribution to galleries, with its innovative concept and professional approach," says the President of the Austrian Gallery Association, Martin Janda.

### **DIVERSE RANGE OF PARTICIPATING ARTISTS AND GALLERIES**

National, international, established, and up-and-coming: once again this year, a broad and distinguished range of participating artists will represent all facets of contemporary art in Vienna's MARX HALLE. Many Austrian galleries will take part, including Wienerroither & Kohlbacher with works by Andreas Reiter Raabe, GREGOR PODNAR with the artist Ariel Schlesinger, Galerie Ernst Hilger with works by Assunta Abdel Azim Mohamed as well as Galerie Krinzinger with works by Bernd Oppl. A prestigious selection of international galleries also contributes to the line-up of exhibitors at SPARK Art Fair. Among others, the Portuguese gallery kubikgallery with works by Sérgio Fernandes, the Slovakian exhibitor Prime Cut Contemporary Culture with the artist Mihael Milunovic as well as the Turkish gallery PILEVNELI with works by Refik Anadol and the Hungarian gallery Vintage Galeria with the artist Dora Maurer will be participating in the fair.

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**SPARK ART FAIR VIENNA 2023**

Opening / 23 March 2023

Press conference / 10am

Preview / 12pm – 5pm

Vernissage / 5pm – 12am

Exhibition Days / 24 – 26 March 2023

Opening Times / 11am – 7pm

[www.spark-artfair.com](http://www.spark-artfair.com)

Instagram / Facebook / Twitter

@sparkartfair / #sparkartfair

**LOCATION**

MARX HALLE / Karl-Farkas-Gasse 19, 1030 Vienna

**ARRIVAL BY PUBLIC TRANSPORT**

Underground/Subway U3: Station: Schlachthausgasse (exit: Schlachthausgasse) or Erdberg (exit: Nottendorfer Gasse)

Tram 18: Station: Viehmarktgasse or St. Marx / 71: St. Marx

Bus 74A: Station: Viehmarktgasse or St. Marx

Train S7: Station: St. Marx (direct connection to Vienna Airport)

**ENQUIRIES TO**

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**IMAGES**

[Fotos SPARK Art Fair](#)

Use: Editorial coverage of SPARK Art Fair Vienna

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