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Press Release
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Arts & Crafts Days: 24th Zeughausmesse hosted at KühlhausBerlin 12th -15th November 2020

Expect to see an exhibition of stylish hats, one-of-a-kind ceramics, extraordinary jewellery, luminous glass objects, imaginative bags, unique furniture and exceptional light design at Zeughausmesse 2020. These works of decorative arts and crafts are developed, designed and carefully hand-crafted by the exhibiting artists. This year's Zeughausmesse, taking place from the 12th to the 15th of November 2020, will be hosted at KühlhausBerlin. The craft fair's usual home location – the central Zeughaus courtyard at the German Historical Museum in Berlin – is currently undergoing extensive renovations.

More than 100 Exhibitors and 2 Special Exhibits

The decorative arts fair will be held on four storeys at KühlhausBerlin, taking advantage of the spacious modern industrial-style interior. This will allow for more than 100 curated exhibiting artists to showcase current tendencies in the field of decorative art and design, and sell their work directly to the public. In addition, two special exhibitions will be presented - one by Haus Brandenburg, as well as one by HAWK Hochschule für Angewandte Wissenschaft und Kunst Hildesheim/Holzminde/Göttingen.

Haus Brandenburg is an initiative founded by a group of students of the Fachhochschule Potsdam, combining traditional craft and design with the development of new local and sustainable products. Collaborations between Brandenburg's craft workshops and local artisan businesses are encouraged, giving birth to unique design objects. The project's aim is to support and sustain traditional product-oriented craftsmanship and artisanal trades that are culturally significant in the area. This exhibit – Haus Brandenburg's first collection – will show a selection of furniture prototypes and interior design objects.

What makes diverse start-ups more successful? In what way can Hildesheim aim to be elected Germany's cultural capital of the year 2025? How can students learn despite limitations dictated by the Corona virus? These are just some questions and topics that students at the HAWK's design faculty explore and attempt to answer. In this special exhibit, the faculty will present a

variety of projects from the departments of Advertising Design, Branding Design, Digital Environments, Colour Design, Graphic Design, Interior Design, Lighting Design, Metal Design und Product Design.

Birgit Borstelmann's art object "Maulheld" has been chosen for this year's Zeughausmesse poster. A goldsmith by training, the Hamburg artist creates unique mechanical objects crafted from everyday found items, pieces of metal and custom-carved wooden mechanical constructions. She creates a wild, imaginary pantheon of fantasy creatures with flowery names. Inspired by the traditional craft of toymaking, these creatures come to life as gears and cranks turn to move their different parts, allowing them to talk, wave, roll or walk. Visitors will be able to explore her visual world at Zeughausmesse 2020.

About 60 of the 100+ exhibitors chosen to participate this year have their studios in Berlin or Brandenburg. 5 exhibitors are international guests from Denmark, France, Italy, Latvia and the Netherlands, while 27 exhibiting artists will show their creations at Zeughausmesse for the first time this year.

Decorative Arts & Crafts in Berlin

Zeughausmesse has established itself as one of Germany's leading decorative arts and craft shows. Together with the *Museum of Decorative Arts* and *Direktorenhaus Berlin*, it has become one of three significant platforms sustaining the landscape of decorative arts in Berlin. The lack of support for decorative arts and crafts appears to question whether art should be allowed to have an inherently technique/craft-based component. Zeughausmesse as an important voice for the decorative arts is not financially supported by the state; according to current policies it seems to be either too commercial or not close enough to the conventionally elevated fine arts to fit an existing funding category. However, thanks to the ongoing support of event locations such as the German Historical Museum and this year's host, KühlhausBerlin, Zeughausmesse remains *the* mayor winter event for the decorative arts and crafts in Berlin. Dr. Klaus Lederer, Mayor and Senator for Culture and Europe of the federal land of Berlin, supports the Zeughausmesse as patron. As every year, the fair is organized by Berufsverband Angewandte Kunst Berlin/Brandenburg e.V. (Decorative Arts Association Berlin-Brandenburg).

Awards for Decorative Arts & Crafts

Berliner Volksbank has continually donated awards for decorative arts and crafts since 2004. A jury consisting of museum directors, gallerists, university professors, journalists, artists and other experts usually chooses 4 artists among all exhibitors who have distinguished themselves uniquely in their work. Such an award often serves as an important milestone in an artist's career development.

An overview of exhibition dates:

**Arts & Crafts Days: 24th Zeughausmesse hosted at KühlhausBerlin
12th -15th November 2020**

Dates

12th – 15th November 2020

Location

KühlhausBerlin
Luckenwalder Straße 3, 10963 Berlin

Opening Times

Thursday, 12th of November 2020, 14:00 to 18:00
Friday, 13th of November 2020, 10:00 to 18:00
Saturday, 14th of November 2020, 10:00 to 21:00
Sunday, 15th of November 2020, 10:00 to 18:00

Entrance Fees Zeughausmesse

8.00 € for adults, 4.00 € for discounted tickets, and children/adolescents under 18 free of charge. Discounts apply to the following groups of people: Scholars and students (only upon producing valid identification documents issued by their respective institutions), unemployed individuals, federal voluntary service participants (Bundesfreiwilligendienst), holders of a Berlin Pass, as well as disabled persons (with 50% or more MdE according to German law).

Open entrance-free evening the 14th of November from 18:00 to 21:00.

Organizer Contact Details

Berufsverband Angewandte Kunst Berlin-Brandenburg e.V.

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