

LIA Report 2009

We would like to thank all patrons, institutions and friends of LIA for their kind support. Please see a small outline of this year program and a brief outlook for the year 2010.

Institutions

The Christoph Merian Foundation has just committed supporting LIA in 2009 and 2010. Our first institutional partner will then have sent artists for four years to Leipzig. Their last awardee, painter Ralph Bürgin, was visited twice by His Excellency Dr. Christian Blickenstorfer (Embassy of Switzerland, Berlin). We thank our new partner Fonds BKVB, Amsterdam, for their kind support. Dutch resident Naro Snackey has almost passed her residency. Three further artists have been awarded a six month residency at LIA. Both institutions have an elaborate jury selection.

Teaching Cooperations

LIA has assisted the funding of CULTUS, Freie Schule Eilenburg e.V. , a new private primary school. Future plans involve regular studio visits by primary school kids in 2010.

We will start a new cooperation between A-Level Art Classes of the International School Leipzig and LIA. Undergraduates plan to adopt international LIA artists, start language exchanges and guide through exhibitions and studios.

Furthermore we will continue in teaching cultural studies courses from the University from Leipzig and the TU Munich MBA course UnternehmerTUM about funding not-profit institutions and inform them about cultural work spheres on an international basis.

Development

2009 was a year of learning. Useful knowledge was gained during a visit to Villa Romana, the oldest German artist in residency program in Florence, as well as at the international res artis meeting in Warsaw, where two hundred guests reported about their experiences in the field of residencies. Since 2009 LIA is partner of the residency network res artis. The conference let to an invitation in 2010 to Schloss Solitude near Stuttgart, a well established interdisciplinary artist in residency program, pointing to our desire of working much more interdisciplinarily in the future.

Sister Cities

Herzliya (Israel) will become a new partner city of Leipzig. LIA has been invited to develop a cultural exchange program with Heryliza. To that aim LIA has reached a ccoperation agreement with the local artist in residency program directed by Varda Genossar. Israeli visual artist Etamar Beglikster who won second price of young contemporary art at the Israel Museum 2009 has been selected to work in Leipzig. He will be working and living in LIA from April to May 2010, focusing the Spring Gallery Tour on our new partner city exchange.

Lada Nakoneschna from Kiev has spent two further months in LIA after her visit with R.E.P. Group in 2008. She has spent a three months residency in Villa Waldberta in Munich and is currently working on a public project here in Leipzig. She has been invited to present her red carpet life performance during the Spring Gallery Tour 2010.

In September LIA hosted two Ethiopian visual artists, Mack Eshete and Henok Getachew, from Addis Abeba. Their exhibition was officially opened by His Excellencies the German and Ethiopian Ambassadors Dr. Claas Dieter Knoop and Mr. Kassahun Ayele as well as the Ethiopian States Minister of Culture and Tourism Mrs. Tadelech Dalacho.

LIA has been officially invited to the Biennale of Lyon end of December 2009. LIA and the City of Lyon are looking to set in place an artistic exchange program.

Interdisciplinarity

During the 125th jubilee of the Spinnerei we cooperated with the Mendelssohn House of Leipzig and opened with a Mendelssohn concert by Yuka Kobayashi on the grand piano, a show exhibiting four US-American artists from our long term partner the New York Academy of Art. James W. Seward (Consulate General of the United States, Leipzig) spoke about US-American/German cultural exchange.

In September 2010 we are looking forward to the Nietzsche Symposia organized by the University Library Albertina and a Spanish institution in Leipzig. LIA has been invited to participate to this symposia and will be looking to host a Spanish artist.

LIA Abroad

We would like to thank all supporters of LIA who made the exhibition Leipzig Calling in NYC possible, especially the City of Leipzig Office of Economic Growth and the German Consulate General NYC as well as the New York Academy of Art. LIA and local artists were presented. We wanted to demonstrate that exchanges in the field of visual arts between Leipzig and NYC are possible and fruitful. First artists of the New York Academy of Art were presented in June in LIA, then we exhibited international and Leipzig artists in NYC in September.

LIA in Leipzig

Inviting the political regulars` table of Leipzig, the English Leipzig magazine Zeitgeist, the Institute of Cultural Studies of the University of Leipzig and the International School to our exhibitions and open studios we try to built various bridges on the public side.

Neo Rauch and Christiane Baumgartner visited LIA and showed their studios in return. Gerd Harry Lybke (Gallery Eigen & Art) and Mexican Gallery owner Hilario Galguera hosting his own gallery here at the Spinnerei came for regular studio visits. This lead to fruitful partnerships such as former LIA resident Shonah Trescott now showing at Eigen & Art gallery. She has exhibited in a group show at Kunsthalle Rostock and will be presented in a solo show in Tokyo in 2010.

And last but not least LIA participated in Krautgarten (American readings) during the Leipzig book fair.

January 2010

We would cordially invite you to our Dutch focused Winter Gallery Tour on January 16th at 4 pm. Lex Ter Braak (Director Fonds BKVB) as well as Angelika Honsbeek (Cultural Attaché of the Royal Netherlands Embassy, Berlin) will speak about Dutch-German cultural exchange.

Kind regards and a creative New Year!

Yours sincerely,

Anna-Louise Kratzsch
LIA founder and director

