



## Belvedere/21er Haus

# BC21 ART AWARD 2017

Judith Fegerl – Anja Ronacher – Toni Schmale – Anne Speier

**Exhibition: 20 September to 19 November 2017**

**For the sixth time, the Boston Consulting Group (BCG) and the Belvedere grant the BC21 Art Award, which has a value of 20,000 euros. Works by the four nominated artists are on view in an exhibition at the 21er Haus from 20 September to 19 November 2017. An international jury will decide the laureate at the beginning of October.**

In March 2017, artists Judith Fegerl (born 1977), Anja Ronacher (born 1979), Toni Schmale (born 1980), and Anne Speier (born 1977), all living and working in Vienna, were nominated for this year's **BC21 Boston Consulting & Belvedere Contemporary Art Award**.

'It's my great pleasure to be able to present the highly esteemed and most generous privately endowed art prize in Austria, the BC21 Art Award,' said Stella Rollig, CEO and artistic director of the Belvedere and the 21er Haus, who added, 'I appreciate the successful collaboration between the Belvedere and the BCG as a model for supporting up-and-coming young artists. Especially in economically challenging times, this cannot always be taken for granted.'

With this award the **Boston Consulting Group**, an international management consulting firm, supports the fundamental role art has as a catalyst for societal change. Dr Antonella Mei-Pochtler, senior partner at BCG, is convinced that 'in times of rampant change more than ever, art assumes an admonitory and enlightening role. Art questions boundaries and broadens the horizon. This is what we need now more than ever.'

As curator Luisa Ziaja points out, experience of the past few years has shown that the winners are not the only benefactors from this initiative. Ultimately, all nominated artists are afforded a wider reception via the exhibition, its catalogue, and their exposure to an international jury.

The BC21 Art Award of 20,000 euros was launched in 2007 by the Boston Consulting Group and the Belvedere and is awarded to artists under the age of 40 living and working in Austria. The prize winners to date have been Nilbar Güres (2015), Anna Witt (2013), Lucie Stahl (2011), Nadim Vardag (2009), and Constantin Luser (2007).

This year's **nomination jury** consists of Séamus Kealy (Director, Salzburger Kunstverein), Simone Menegoi (curator and author, based in Milan), Cosima Rainer (Director, Galerie der Stadt Schwaz), and Vivien Trommer (curator and author, based in Frankfurt am Main). The jury members each chose one artist independently of one another.

The laureate will be chosen at the beginning of October 2017 by the **selection jury**, which consists of Marius Babias (Director, Neuer Berliner Kunstverein), Zdenka Badovinac (Director, Moderna Galerija, Ljubljana), Francesco Manacorda (Artistic Director, V-A-C Foundation), and Stella Rollig (CEO and artistic director, Belvedere and 21er Haus).

# 21



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**The press release and high-quality press images are available for download at the following link:**  
[http://bit.ly/21erHaus\\_BC21\\_Press](http://bit.ly/21erHaus_BC21_Press)

## Nominated Artists

### Judith Fegerl



Judith Fegerl's artistic practice testifies to her interest in overlapping physics and physique, science, art, and life. In her sculptures and installations, she repeatedly introduces and initiates physical, chemical, and, in particular, electrical processes. The artist allows for materials and their specific properties to encounter each other and react with each other. In their reduced, clear aesthetics, Fegerl's works focus on the material and its inherent qualities. At the same time, they emphatically tell stories about our life and the systems on which it depends, about the relationship between bodies and machines, about energy, construction, and destruction.

#### Statement of jury member Simone Menegoi:

'Would it be going too far to say that from this standpoint, in its relationship with the body (and through the body, with architecture), Fegerl's work forges a dialogue with an artistic tradition that is intrinsically Viennese? Even in this dematerialized, abstract sense, even when seemingly absent, the body—in Fegerl's work—is more present, more troubling than ever.'

#### **Biography**

Born 1977 in Vienna, lives and works in Vienna

<http://judithfegerl.net>

#### **EDUCATION**

1998–2006	Academy of Fine Arts Vienna
1999–2004	University of Applied Arts Vienna
1995–1999	Vienna University of Economics and Business

#### **SOLO EXHIBITIONS (Selection)**

2017	<i>in charge</i> , Taxispalais Kunsthalle Tirol, Innsbruck <i>Göttweiger Hofkapelle</i> , Landesgalerie Niederösterreich, Krems
2016	<i>non-specific charged ones</i> , Galerie Hubert Winter, Vienna
2013	<i>phasenraum</i> , Museion, Bolzano <i>cauter</i> , Statement Art Basel, Basel <i>Spannungsbilder</i> , Galerie Z, Hard

- 2012 *current reconstruction*, Galerie Hubert Winter, Vienna  
 2011 *lazy eight*, heldart, Berlin  
 2010 *self*, Kunstraum Niederösterreich, Vienna  
*revers*, Künstlerhaus Passagegalerie, Vienna  
 2008 *simulating intelligence*, Kunsthalle Wien, projectwall, Vienna  
 2005 *gargoyle extensions*, Bétonsalon, Paris  
*tracks and traces*, Kunstraum Auto, Vienna

#### GROUP EXHIBITIONS (Selection)

- 2017 *Interval in Space*, Fundaziun NAIRS, Scuol  
 2016 *Judith Fegerl/Christoph Weber*, Kunstverein Leipzig, Leipzig  
*The Promise of Total Automation*, Kunsthalle Wien, Vienna  
*Die Sprache der Dinge*, 21er Haus, Vienna  
 2015 *White Noise*, Kunsthaus Glarus, Glarus  
*Non Profit. Nutzlose Nutzbarkeiten jenseits von Nutzen*, Kunstverein  
 Friedrichshafen and Zeppelin Museum, Friedrichshafen  
 2014 *What Marcel Duchamp Taught Me*, Fine Art Society, London  
 2013 *Icebreaker Lenin*, Moscow Biennial Special Project, Murmansk  
 2012 III. Moscow Biennial for Young Art, Moscow

#### AWARDS, GRANTS, RESIDENCIES

- 2015 Prize of the Province of Tyrol (competition for graphic design)  
 2013 Prize for competition Maritimes Sicherheitszentrum Cuxhaven  
 2010 Alexander Reznikov Award for Fine Arts  
 State scholarship  
 2009/10 Artist in Residence, ISCP, New York  
 2008 Artist in Residence, CPH AIR, Copenhagen  
 Anerkennungspreis für bildende Kunst Niederösterreich

#### COLLECTIONS (Selection)

- Artothek des Bundes, Vienna  
 Belvedere, Vienna  
 Landesgalerie Linz – Oberösterreichisches Landesmuseum, Linz  
 Landesmuseum Tirol, Innsbruck  
 Lentos Museum für Gegenwartskunst, Linz  
 Murderme Collection, London  
 Collection of the Province of Lower Austria, St. Pölten

#### PUBLICATIONS (Selection)

- Nina Tabassomi (ed.), *Judith Fegerl – in charge*, Taxispalais Kunsthalle Tirol, Innsbruck 2017  
*Judith Fegerl – phasenraum*, with texts by Letizia Ragaglia and Georgia Holz, Museion, Bozen, Bolzano 2013  
*Judith Fegerl – #64 hot-wired*, with a text by Francesco Stocchi, Galerie Hubert Winter, Wien, Vienna 2013  
*David Komary, Coprime*, Galerie Stadtpark, Krems, Krems 2011, pp. 15–31  
*Judith Fegerl – self*, Kunstraum Niederoesterreich, Wien, Vienna 2010

**Anja Ronacher**

Anja Ronacher has a passion for things that are not from our time. They have been mined from the depths of the earth and now sit in museum showcases where they bear witness to rituals unknown to us. The focus is mainly on vessels that may have been instruments of conjuring and magic, but may also have been part of ordinary daily life. Ronacher always photographs these objects in their present museum context, in their contemporary appearance. During the exposure, the artist subjects each motif to the same method of masking. In the resulting photograph, the object emerges from deep blackness that leaves its exact form largely concealed. Ronacher's photographs tell of the unknown, the un-namable, of becoming and fading away, and everything that is beyond our reason and established knowledge.

Statement of jury member Séamus Kealy:

'Anja Ronacher's analogue photographs may appear almost anachronistic today when everything is digital. At root, is the artist's attempt to take objects out of their museum context and return them--in her words--to ritual, to art, to non-knowledge, to older forms of knowledge; to an inner experience grounded neither in existence nor rationality.'

**Biography**

Born 1979 in Abtenau, Salzburg, lives and works in Vienna  
<http://www.anjaronacher.com>

**EDUCATION**

2006–2008	Royal College of Art, London, MA Photography
2004	Estonian Academy of Arts, Tallinn
1999–2005	University of Applied Arts Vienna

**SOLO EXHIBITIONS (Selection)**

2016	<i>The Open</i> , Salzburger Kunstverein, Salzburg
2014	<i>Stimme</i> , Galerie Krinzinger, Vienna <i>Immateriality and Matter</i> , Ve.sch, Vienna
2013	<i>Void</i> , 21er Raum, 21er Haus, Vienna

**GROUP EXHIBITIONS (Selection)**

- 2017 *Icon*, Galerie Krinzinger, Vienna  
*Kardinal König Kunstpreis*, Kunstraum St. Virgil, Salzburg
- Ist Eros der eben jetzt von mir beobachtete Planet?*, Kunstverein Goldberg, Goldberg
- Air 2016*, Krinzinger Projekte, Vienna
- 2016 *56. Annale: Brdo 1976–2016*, Istrian Assembly Hall, Poreč  
*The People's Cinema*, Salzburger Kunstverein, Salzburg  
*Frauengeschichten*, Krinzinger Projekte, Vienna
- 2015 *Das Anliegen*, Salzburger Kunstverein, Salzburg  
*Flirting with Strangers*, 21er Haus, Vienna  
*Bamako Encounters*, National Museum of Mali  
*Still*, Galerie foto-forum, Bolzano
- 2014 *Kunstpreis des Landes*, Galerie im Traklhaus, Salzburg
- 2013 *The Collection #3*, 21er Haus, Vienna  
*Hannes Böck, Anja Ronacher*, Blackbridge Offspace, Beijing  
*Ephemeral Self – Finite Projections*, Galerie NTK, Prague  
*PHOTOS*, 21er Haus, Vienna
- 2012 *Air Hungary*, Krinzinger Projekte, Vienna
- 2011 *Dienstag Abend. Anja Ronacher & Robert Gruber*, Ve.sch, Vienna
- 2010 *Sweet Anticipation*, Salzburger Kunstverein, Salzburg  
*Bodycodes*, Museum der Moderne, Salzburg
- 2009 *Right Here, Right Now*, Fotohof, Salzburg
- 2008 **Show RCA**, Royal College of Art, London
- 2007 *Kinoskipos*, Screening, Hadspen Garden

**AWARDS, GRANTS, RESIDENCIES (Selection)**

- 2017 Atelier Mexico, Province of Salzburg
- 2016 Kuberton Residency, Galerie Krinzinger  
Scholarship Photography, Province of Salzburg
- 2015 Förderpreis, Province of Salzburg  
Atelier Beijing, BKA
- 2014 Atelier Berlin, Province of Salzburg  
Atelier Rome, bm:ukk
- 2012 AIR Hungary, Galerie Krinzinger  
Atelier Beijing, Province of Salzburg  
State scholarship Photography, bm:ukk
- 2011 Atelier London, bm:ukk

**COLLECTIONS**

- Belvedere, Vienna  
Fotosammlung des Bundes  
Collection of the Province of Salzburg



**PUBLICATIONS**

Agnes Husslein-Arco/Severin Dünser (eds.), *21er Raum*, 21er Haus, Vienna 2016

*Rencontres de Bamako*, Ministère de la Culture, de l'Artisanat et du Tourisme du Mali, Institut Français, Heidelberg 2015

Agnes Husslein-Arco/Severin Dünser/Luisa Ziaja (eds.), *Flirting with Strangers*, 21er Haus, Vienna 2015

*Eikon. Zeitschrift für Fotografie und Medienkunst*, no 89/2, Vienna 2015

Peter Weiermair (ed.), *Still. Das Stilleben in der zeitgenössischen Photographie*, NÖ Art, St. Pölten 2015

Streulicht, no 4, *Photography – Touch*, Vienna 2014

**Toni Schmale**

Toni Schmale's sculptures are charged with a libidinous, fetishistic air; the artist has described them as "machines that have desire in them." The artist's preferred materials are metal and concrete. With the utmost precision, she makes these into objects that can be interpreted as abstractions of everyday items, exercise machines or fetish objects, and whose suggestive titles set sexual connotations, an imaginary game between desire and discipline, power and submission in motion. At the same time, the focus is always on an exciting destabilization of learned social and aesthetic categories.

Statement of jury member Vivien Trommer:

'Ultimately, it seems apparent that Toni Schmale unites the formal principles of Minimal Art with the narratives of critical Postmodernism, giving rise to an oeuvre that has earned the right to be called 'Postmodern Minimalism.'

**Biography**

Born 1980 in Hamburg, lives and works in Vienna

<http://www.christinekoeniggalerie.com/kuenstler-details/items/schmale.67.html>

**EDUCATION**

2003–2009	Academy of Fine Arts Leipzig (Media Art, Helmut Mark)
2009–2013	Academy of Fine Arts Vienna (Performative Art, Carola Dertnig; Performative Art – Sculpture, Monica Bonvicini)

**SOLO EXHIBITIONS (Selection)**

2017	<i>Toni Schmale</i> , Secession, Vienna <i>the good enough mother</i> , BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Art, Gateshead
2015	<i>TONI SCHMALE SUPEREGO</i> , nGbK, Berlin <i>feuerbock</i> , Neuer Kunstverein, Vienna
2014	<i>streckbank martha</i> , One Work Gallery, Vienna
2012	<i>fisting</i> , L'Ocean Licker, Vienna



**GROUP EXHIBITIONS (Selection)**

- 2017            *Specular Windows. Reflections on the Self and the Wider World*,  
21er Haus, Vienna  
*Work it, feel it!*, Kunsthalle Wien, Vienna  
*Oh... Jakob Lena Knebl und die mumok Sammlung*, mumok, Vienna
- 2016            *Bingo*, ASPN Galerie, Leipzig  
*The Pleasure of Love*, 56th October Salon, Belgrade Biennale, Belgrade
- 2015            *In the Still of the Night*, KÖR, Esterhazypark, Vienna  
*The School of Kyiv*, Kyiv Biennale, Kiev  
*Self-Timer Stories*, MUSAC, León
- 2014            *A TIME FOR DREAMS*, Moscow International Biennale for Young Art, Moscow  
Museum, Moscow
- 2013            *is my territory*, Christine Koenig Galerie, Vienna
- 2006            *Das achte Feld – Geschlechter, Leben und Begehren in der Kunst seit 1960*,  
Museum Ludwig, Cologne

**AWARDS, GRANTS, RESIDENCIES**

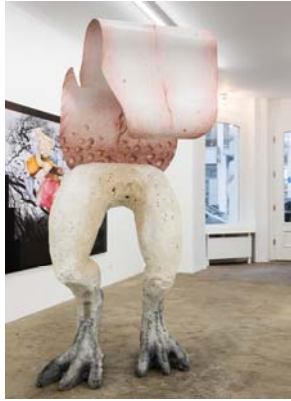
- 2017            BALTIC Artists' Award
- 2015            Start-Stipendium, BMUKK
- 2013            Prize of the Academy of Fine Arts, Vienna  
Scholarship, Lenikus Collection, Vienna
- 2011            Birgit-Jürgenssen-Preis

**COLLECTIONS (Selection)**

- Finstral Collection, Bolzano  
Artothek des Bundes, Vienna  
Private collections in Austria and Germany

**PUBLICATIONS (Selection)**

- 'Toni Schmale', in: *The Cultural Centre of Belgrade (ed.)*, 56th October Salon. *The Pleasure of Love*, Belgrade 2016, pp. 220–223
- RealismusStudio/nGbK Berlin (ed.), *Toni Schmale Superego*, with Texts by Silvia Eiblmayr, Christin Lahr and Stefanie Seibold, Berlin 2015
- Christiane Erharter, 'Toni Schmale,' in: Felicitas Thun-Hohenstein/Österreichisches Bundeskanzleramt (ed.), *Self-Timer Stories*, Vienna 2015, pp. 194–197
- Toni Schmale, in: *Black Pages 53*, Vienna 201
- Linda Klösel, 'Toni Schmale, ' in: Academy of Fine Arts Vienna (ed.), *Birgit-Jürgenssen-Preis 2004–2013*, Vienna 2013, pp. 64–77

**Anne Speier**

Anne Speier works at the intersection between sculpture and painting. In her collages and installations, fantastical hybrid figures and materials meet, criticize, and comment on each other. Thus, a dialogue develops around personal and societal conditions. Speier's creatures – dinosaur legs, with thin tongues – are testimony to her enjoyment of freely combining motifs, genres, techniques, contents, and contexts, attempting to grasp the contemporary. Anne Speier focuses on the here and now, not only in art but in the world itself, and on the societal structures and forms of subjectivization it produces.

Statement of jury member Cosima Rainer:

'In Anne Speier's installations, structures of power and desire are affectively charged, as well as hysterically overdrawn and dealt with in newly invented allegorical constellations and spatial installations. For her, the art space is an open 'construction site,' in which narrative interventions occur spatially, sculpturally, as well as meaningfully. '

**Biography**

Born 1977 in Frankfurt / Main, lives and works in Vienna

<http://www.silberkuppe.org/anne-speier-cv>

**EDUCATION**

2004–2008 Städelshule Frankfurt / Main  
1999–2004 University of Applied Arts Vienna

**SOLO EXHIBITIONS (Selection)**

2017 *Wild*, Galerie Meyer Kainer, Vienna  
2016 *wellwellwell*, Wien (with Judy Fiskin)  
2015 *Feeling the Contemporary*, Silberkuppe, Berlin  
*Seeing the Contemporary*, Galerie der Stadt Schwaz, Tyrol  
*Smuggeler*, Neue Alte Brücke, Frankfurt / Main  
2014 *Lurk-Hive Balance*, What Pipeline, Detroit  
*Two Parks*, Vilma Gold, London (with Philipp Timischl)  
*The Composing Rooms*, Berlin  
2013 *Identity Entity 2*, HHDM, Vienna  
2012 *Identity Entity 1*, Pro Choice, Vienna

- 2010 *Vertical Panel Discussion*, Silberkuppe, Berlin  
*Spoonology*, Pro Choice, Vienna
- 2007 *Romantizitäten der Beobachter*, Ritter&Staiff, Frankfurt / Main

#### GROUP EXHIBITIONS (Selection)

- 2017 *Pink Moon Pink Wind*, MAVRA, Paros  
*Oh... Jakob Lena Knebl und die mumok Sammlung*, mumok, Vienna  
*Tasting Esterhazy*, Esterhazy Palace, Eisenstadt
- 2016 *Belong Anywhere*, Garret Grimoire, Vienna  
*Ein Schelm, wer Böses dabei denkt*, Künstlerhaus Bremen  
*Fantasie*, Halle für Kunst Lüneburg  
*The Squatter*, Gaudel de Stampa, Paris
- 2015 *The Funnies*, MOT International, Brussels  
*Curated by\_Veit Loers*, Galerie Elisabeth & Klaus Thoman, Vienna  
*Joyful Limitations 2*, Black Bridge Off, Beijing  
*Kim Gordon, Constanze Schweiger, Anne Speier*, Pinacoteca, Vienna  
*Sweating as Distribution*, Treize, Paris  
*Was die Wange röthet ...*, Kerstin Engholm Galerie, Vienna
- 2014 *Joyful Limitations 1*, Black Bridge Off, Beijing
- 2013 *Reproduction*, What Pipeline, Detroit  
*Vertical Club*, Bortolami, New York  
*Prisma Pavillion*, Kunsthau Bethanien, Berlin  
*Celluloid Brushes*, Ludlow 38, New York
- 2012 *Celluloid Brushes*, Isabella Bortolozzi, Berlin
- 2011 *Celluloid Brushes*, Etablissement d'en Face, Brussels
- 2009 *Bulletinboard Blvd*, Pro Choice, Vienna  
*Angst*, Adam-Opel-Haus, Rüsselsheim
- 2008 *Boxer*, Literaturhaus, Frankfurt / Main  
*Sammlung Rausch – Hotel Marienbad*, Kunst-Werke, Berlin  
*Schwarz und Weiss Ausstellung*, Neue Alte Brücke, Frankfurt / Main  
*Hit the Road Jack*, Absolventenausstellung Städelmuseum, Frankfurt / Main

#### AWARDS, GRANTS, RESIDENCIES

- 2014 Scholarship programme of the Cultural Foundation of Hesse (Hessische Kulturstiftung)
- 2008 BBK Atelierstipendium Berlin  
 Scholarship Joan Mitchell Foundation, Atlantic Center for the Arts, Florida
- 2004 Scholarship bmukk, Austria

#### PUBLICATIONS

- Manfred Hermes, 'Nicht ganz gemäß der Zeit', in: *Texte zur Kunst*, no 101, March 2016
- Helen Sumpter, 'Anne Speier', in: *Art Review*, Vol. 68. yr., no 1, January & February 2016
- Kelsey Lee Jones, 'Feeling the Ceiling', in: *Glamcult Independent Style Paper*, no 117, 2016
- Saim Demircan, 'Anne Speier – watch and learn', in: *frieze d/e*, no 18, March/April 2015
- Edith Schlocker, 'Anne Speier', in: *Tiroler Tageszeitung*, 6.7.2015
- Christoph Schütte, 'Neue Alte Brücke: Anne Speier und David Leonard', in: *FAZ*, 2015
- Jennifer Junkermeier, 'Tangled connections – a review of Anne Speier at What Pipeline', in: *∞ mile – a journal of art + culture(s) in Detroit*, Issue 10, October 2014
- Helen Sumpter, 'Four Fair Highlights', in: *Art Review*, no 64, 2014

# 21

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BostonConsulting &  
BelvedereContemporary  
Art Award 2017

## Catalogue

### **BC21 Art Award 2017**

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## General Information

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<b>Duration</b>	20 September to 19 November 2017
<b>Award Ceremony</b>	Beginning of October 2017
<b>Location</b>	21er Haus
<b>Participating Artists</b>	Judith Fegerl, Anja Ronacher, Toni Schmale, Anne Speier
<b>Curator</b>	Luisa Ziaja
<b>Contact</b>	21er Haus, Schweizergarten Arsenalstraße 1, 1030 Vienna T +43 (01) 795 57-0
<b>Opening Hours</b>	Wednesday and Friday 11am-9pm Thursday, Saturday, and Sunday 11am-6pm Open on public holidays
<b>Tickets</b>	General admission   7 euros 21er Haus annual ticket   21 euros Reduced   5.50 euros Children and youth to age 18   free
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