

belvedere

BELVEDERE
ART
AWARD

2022

VENDOME

Vienna, 28 November 2022

BELVEDERE ART AWARD

Robert Gabris wins the Belvedere Art Award 2022

A new biennial prize for contemporary art was awarded by Vendome Projects and the Belvedere on Monday, November 28, 2022. The prize is endowed with 20,000 euros.

JURY STATEMENT:

The selection of Robert Gabris was made for the artist's impressively focused and engaged body of work. He draws intensively on his background in the Roma community, while constantly questioning the limits of identities imposed on individuals and groups from the outside. His art scrutinizes the condition of the human body, exploring its edges and forms in relation to queerness, more-than-human life, and multiple marginalizations. His visual language ranges from precise drawings to prose poems to layered sculptural combinations that revel in complexity while engaging diverse publics. His experimental drawings serve as a way to resist exclusion and racism while always remaining fluid and open to interpretation. The jury is also impressed by his commitment to community engagement and acknowledges the emotional labor that this requires. The jury is delighted to give this award to Robert Gabris unanimously and wishes him a joyful and successful exhibition at Belvedere 21 in September 2023.

This year's nomination jury, consisting of Mirela Baciak (Curator, steirischer herbst, Graz), Katharina Brandl (Head of Visual Arts, Pro Helvetia, Zurich), Neda Hosseinyar (President of the Austrian Association of Women Artists, VBKÖ), Luca Lo Pinto (Artistic Director, MUSEO MACRO, Rome), and Ivana Pilić (Co-Director, D/Arts, Vienna), nominated a total of nine artists: **Rawan Almukhtar, Robert Gabris, Sophie Gogl, Julia S. Goodman, Claudia Lomoschitz, Pouran Parvizi, Marlies Pöschl, Huda Takriti, and Sophie Thun.**

An international jury selected Robert Gabris as the winner on November 28. This year's selection jury constituents were Elena Agudio (Artistic Co-director, SAVVY Contemporary, Berlin/designated Director, Villa Romana, Florence), Charles Esche (Director, Van Abbemuseum, Eindhoven), Mahret Ifeoma Kupka (Senior Curator, Museum of Applied Arts, Frankfurt am Main; founding member of the Neue Deutsche Museumsmacher*innen), Stella Rollig (General Director, Belvedere), and Felicitas Thun-Hohenstein (initiator, Belvedere Art Award; Professor, Academy of Fine Arts Vienna).

The festive award ceremony was held on November 28 at the Belvedere 21. Following a spoken-word performance by Esra Özmen/EsRAP, the nominated artists were introduced and the award winner announced. After the jury's statement and laudation, 150 guests from the art and culture spheres attended the reception with music from DJ JOIE DE FILLE.

In addition to a monetary prize of 20,000 euros, Robert Gabris will receive a solo exhibition with an accompanying publication. The solo show will take place from 7 September 2023 to 18 February 2024 at the Belvedere 21.

BELVEDERE ART AWARD

The Belvedere Art Award was launched in 2022 as a collaborative effort between Vendome Projects and the Belvedere. This biennial art award seeks to reflect forward-looking dynamics in society and contemporary art. Advancing an inclusive, queer-feminist, diversity-oriented approach, the initiative was informed by current discourses and an awareness of the manifold exclusionary practices demonstrated by museums and exhibitions, not least of which is how and to whom awards are allocated. Local and international experts will determine the prize winner: in a two-stage selection process, each of the five nomination jury members will identify two emerging artists with a connection to Austria. A five-member selection jury will then determine the winner of the award. Neither age, gender, nor nationality play a role in the selection process. In addition to the prize money, the award winner will receive a solo exhibition at the Belvedere 21 and an accompanying publication.

<https://www.belvedere.at/en/belvedere-art-award>

VENDOME PROJECTS

Vendomeprojects.art is an initiative of the Vendome Management GmbH group and is dedicated to the promotion of contemporary art, artists, institutions, and projects with an inclusive, queer-feminist orientation that favors diversity and looks toward the future. It reflects current dynamics in society and contemporary art and participates in the ensuing discourse. Based in Vienna, vendomeprojects.art is progressively growing its own art collection with a focus on queer-feminist perspectives in art that will be presented to the public in various formats. Michael Koschier and Felicitas Thun-Hohenstein are the founders of vendomeprojects.art. Their shared passion for art and topical societal discourse has led them to concretize their commitment and share it with the public.

www.vendomeprojects.art

SHORT BIOS

NOMINATED ARTISTS 2022

RAWAN ALMUKHTAR

Born in Baghdad, Iraq, in 1991, he studied painting at the Institute of Fine Arts, University of Baghdad (2011–15) and drawing at the Academy of Fine Arts Vienna (since 2018). In 2022, his paintings were shown at the Künstlerhaus (*Return on Art*) as part of the Wienwoche 2022 festival, and at mumok, where his short film *Mukhtar* was also shown. Other exhibitions: *Deframing Postmigration* at Atelier Mukhtar (2021), *Rundgang* at the Academy of Fine Arts Vienna (2020, 2019), *Raumschiff Linz* (2020). In 2022, his queer-feminist works were displayed in Vienna in the WUK foyer and the Dschungel Wien. Other political works and performances were presented in 2020 at Spektakel, Vienna, and Brunnenpassage, Vienna, as well as in public spaces (in front of UNO City, Vienna, 2019). In 2015, Almkhtar was runner-up for the Iraqi Fine Artists Association (IFAA) Ishtar Award. In 2021, he received the kultūr gemma! Working Scholarship from the City of Vienna.

ROBERT GABRIS

Born in 1986 in Hnúšťa, Slovakia, he studied costume and stage design at the Academy of Performing Arts in Bratislava (2006–10) and stage design at the Academy of Fine Arts in Vienna (2010–14). Selected solo exhibitions: *Strabag Kunstform*, Vienna, AT (2021); *Villa Romana*, Florence, IT (2021); *Bunker del Castello di Udine*, Udine, IT (2017); *Collective by Pure*, Shanghai, CN (2015). In terms of group exhibitions, his work has been shown at *documenta fifteen* in Kassel (as part of the Off Biennale Budapest), DE; at *rotor* in Graz, AT; *Künstlerhaus Vienna*, AT; *Tent Rotterdam*, NL; *Württembergischer Kunstverein* in Stuttgart, DE; *the Bergen Assembly*, NO; *transit* in Budapest, HU; *Landesgalerie Eisenstadt*, AT; and *Wien Museum*, AT, among others. Gabris has been an artist-in-residence at *MeetFactory*, Prague, CZ (2022); at *K.A.I.R. – Košice Artist in Residence*, SK (2021); and at *Villa Romana*, Florence, IT (2020), among others. He has been awarded the following prizes: *Jindřich Chalupecký Award*, Brno, CZ (2021); *Recognition Award*, *Strabag Art Award*, Vienna, AT (2021).

SOPHIE GOGL

Born 1992 in Kitzbühel, AT, she studied painting and animation at the University of Applied Arts Vienna (2012–17). Selected solo exhibitions: *Tongewölbe25*, Ingolstadt, DE (2021); *KOW*, Berlin, DE (2021); *Strabag Kunstforum*, Vienna, AT (2021); *MAK*, Vienna, AT (2020); *Galerie der Stadt Schwaz*, Schwaz, AT (2020); *Zeller van Almsick*, Vienna, AT (2019, 2018); *Galerie Crone*, Vienna, AT (2016). In terms of group exhibitions, her work has been shown at *Francis Irv*, New York, USA; *Kunsthalle Friart*, Fribourg, CH; *Kunsthalle Bern*, Bern, CH; *Neuer Kunstverein Wien*, Vienna, AT; *Tre Kronor*, Stockholm, SE; *Universitätsgalerie im Heiligenkreuzerhof*, Vienna, AT; and *Nottingham Biennale*, Nottingham, UK.

JULIA S. GOODMAN

Born in 1987 in New York, USA, she studied Fine Arts at New York University (2005–09) and Temple University in Rome (2008). She studied Contextual Painting and Object Sculpture at the Academy of Fine Arts Vienna (2015–20). Selected solo exhibitions: Zeller van Almsick, Vienna, AT (2022); Zahorian & van Espen, Bratislava, SK (2020); Elektro Gönner, Vienna, AT (2020); The Lipstick Building, New York, USA (2013). In terms of group exhibitions, her work has been shown at Raum mit Licht, Vienna, AT; Haus Wien, on the beach near Sydney, AU; at LLLLL Vienna, AT; at Galerie 5020, Salzburg, AT; at VBKÖ, Vienna, AT; and at the Athens Museum of Queer Arts, GR. She has been an artist-in-residence at Spread Art, Detroit, USA (2017); the Vermont Studio Center, Johnson, Vermont, USA (2015); and the Red Gate Gallery, Beijing, CN (2014). Goodman has received the following awards: City of Vienna Appreciation Award, Vienna, AT (2020); Shortlist, Kunsthalle Wien Award, Vienna, AT (2020); Artist Grant, Vermont Studio Center, Johnson, Vermont, USA (2015).

CLAUDIA LOMOSCHITZ

Born in 1987 in Vienna, she studied Art and Communication and Contextual Design (2008–14) at the Academy of Fine Arts Vienna, where she is currently working on her dissertation. She studied abroad at The School of Walls and Space, Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts, Copenhagen (2012–13), and earned an MA in Performance Studies from the University of Hamburg (2018). Since 2015, she has been a university assistant at the Academy of Fine Arts Vienna. Her performative works have been shown at Wienwoche, Kunstraum Niederösterreich, Tanzquartier Wien, brut Wien, Szene Salzburg, Schaltzentrale Kraftwerk, Hamburg, Belvedere 21, Vienna, and VBKÖ, Vienna, among others. Lomoschitz has been artist-in-residence at Medienfrische, Bsclabs, Tyrol, AT (2022); APAP in Vienna/Salzburg/Berlin (2019); Voltahalle Basel, CH (2018); and emancipa(t/ss)ionsfrugten in Copenhagen, DK (2014), among others.

POURAN PARVIZI

Born in Bushehr, Iran, in 1989, she studied cellular and molecular biology and genetics at Azad University in Arsenjan, Iran (2008–12); fashion at Dibagaran Art School in Shiras, Iran (2012–13); and fashion, design, and textiles at Höhere Bundeslehranstalt für Mode, Herbststraße, Vienna (2016–18). Since 2019, she has been studying fashion design at the University of Applied Arts Vienna. Her collections and work have been shown at Design Week Prague, Prague, CZ (2022); the Angewandte Festival, Vienna, AT (2022); Knize & Comp., Vienna, AT (2021); Desiderio N°1, Vienna, AT (2020); and MQ Fashion Week, Vienna, AT (2018), among others. Parvizi was a finalist for kùltùř gemma!, a grant from the City of Vienna for the Promotion of Migrant Artistic Work, Vienna, AT (2022), and received an Achievement Scholarship from the University of Applied Arts Vienna, AT (2021).

MARLIES PÖSCHL

Born 1982 in Salzburg, she studied Art and Communicative Practice at the University of Applied Arts Vienna and German Philology at the University of Vienna (2010), as well as Art and Digital Media at the Academy of Fine Arts Vienna (2014). She served as chair of The Golden Pixel Cooperative from 2015 to

2022. She currently teaches as an assistant professor in the Department of Art and Digital Media at the Academy of Fine Arts Vienna. Selected solo exhibitions: Kunstverein Ludwigshafen, Ludwigshafen, DE (2022); Salzburger Kunstverein, Salzburg, AT (2021); CAC Brétigny, Brétigny-sur-Orge, FR (2018); Galerie 5020, Salzburg, AT (2016); MUSA, Vienna, AT (2016). She has been an artist-in-residence at Akademie Schloss Solitude, Stuttgart, DE (2021); Red Gate Gallery, Beijing, CN (2020); Cité Internationale des Arts Paris, FR (2020); CAC, Centre d'Art contemporain Brétigny, Paris, FR (2018); and National Theatre Academy, Shanghai, CN (2014), among others. Pöschl's awards include the following: Promotion Award for Fine Arts from the City of Vienna, AT (2021); Diagonale Prize for Innovative Cinema (with The Golden Pixel Cooperative), Graz, AT (2021); Promotion Award from the Region of Salzburg and the Salzburg Art Association, Salzburg, AT (2019).

HUDA TAKRITI

Born in 1990 in Damascus, Syria, she studied painting at the Faculty of Fine Arts, Damascus University (2008–12); art and digital media at the Academy of Fine Arts Vienna (2019–21); and at the TransArts Department of the University of Applied Arts Vienna (2016–20). As of 2022, she is a Ph.D student at the Academy of Fine Arts Vienna in the Ph.D in Practice program. Selected solo exhibitions: Kunsthalle Vienna, AT (2020); Afro-Asian Institute, Graz, AT (2017). In group exhibitions, her work has been shown in Austria at mumok, Vienna; Universitätsgalerie im Heiligenkreuzerhof, Vienna; and Kunstraum Lakeside, Klagenfurt, as well as at Stiftung Mercator Essen/Berlin, DE (2020, 2019), among others. Of her numerous fellowships and residencies, some include: Otte1, Künstlerhaus Eckernförde, Eckernförde, DE (2023); The Camargo Foundation, Cassis, FR (2023); and WHW Akademija, Zagreb, HR (2022). Takriti has been awarded the following prizes: Vordemberge-Gildewart Award (2022); Kunsthalle Wien Prize (2020).

SOPHIE THUN

Born in 1985 in Frankfurt am Main, Germany, she studied art and photography at the Academy of Fine Arts Krakow (2004–10) and at the Academy of Fine Arts Vienna (2010–17). Selected solo exhibitions: Kunstverein Hildesheim, Hildesheim, DE (2022); Kunststiftung DZ BANK, Art Foyer, Frankfurt am Main, DE (2021); Kim? Contemporary Art Centre, Riga, LV (2021); Secession, Vienna, AT (2020); Camera Austria, Graz, AT (2019); Kunstraum München, Munich, DE (2018). Her work has been shown in group exhibitions at Kunsthalle Bratislava, SK; Smart Museum of Art, Chicago, USA; MUSEO MACRO, Rome, IT; Kunstforum Vienna, AT; and Austrian Cultural Forum Berlin, DE, among others. Thun has been awarded the following prizes: Outstanding Artist Award from the Federal Ministry of Arts, Culture, Public Service and Sports, Vienna, AT (2021); DZ BANK Art Fellowship – Photography (2019); Start-up Fellowship, Federal Ministry of Arts, Culture, Public Service, and Sports, Vienna, AT (2018).

Further information is available for download at: belvedere.at/en/press

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