

## Annual report sculpture network 2019

### Activities of the association to achieve the goals set in the statute

Founded in 2004, sculpture network is Europe's leading platform for contemporary sculpture. Its aim is to actively promote and support sculpture and the networking of all individuals and institutions interested in three-dimensional art: artists, art educators, sculpture parks and museums, galleries, curators, collectors and art enthusiasts.

In addition to the frequent digital and editorial offerings, sculpture network's main focus lies on the personal encounter in an informal and open atmosphere. In order to live up to this goal, sculpture network organised fourteen events in a wide variety of formats in 2019 providing opportunity for the European sculpture scene to exchange and discuss ideas and experience art together. Numerous local and cross-border projects were initiated in the wake of these events and through the contacts established there. More than 6,000 people participated in the events organised in 2019.

With an approximate 1,000 members in 39 countries, sculpture network is present throughout the whole of Europe and by now has established an almost inexhaustible network of connections. This has made a positive difference in the acquisition of partners for events and cooperations.

Among the milestones of 2019 are **start** – the International Celebration of Contemporary Sculpture – which celebrated sculpture with more than 5,000 people in 73 locations in 21 European countries – two panel discussions of the "Sculpture Network Lab" format, three exciting art journeys and the local "event series" "sculpture network Dialogues". In 2019, eight Dialogues with a total of 100 artists and art lovers were realised (see Dialogues below).

Our information portal on the website [www.sculpture-network.org](http://www.sculpture-network.org) is thriving and constantly updated since the launch of our online magazine in 2018, and features informative, exciting and entertaining articles from the world of sculpture. Under the heading "Locations", visitors of the website will find more than 300 museums, sculpture parks, galleries, workshops and associations throughout Europe with a special focus on three-dimensional art. The website hence makes available a comprehensive pool for research and inspiration.

Furthermore, we were able to enter and continue marketing cooperations with several art fairs, major sculpture events and journals, which yielded advertising services, reduced or free admissions for our members as well as reading samples.

The expansion of our social media work was yet another goal set for 2019. Also here we have made great progress and are proud of our steadily growing community of fans and followers on various channels. Our Instagram counted over 9000 followers in 2019 and is overall received very positively. The beautiful pictures are worth a look! Additionally, we

supply information to our members and all fans of the three-dimensional sculpture on our Facebook page – with about 12000 fans – as well as on Twitter and LinkedIn.

These far-reaching and positive results for 2019 were made possible thanks to the ceaseless, voluntary efforts and support of the members, international coordinators, volunteers, the Board of directors as well as the staff members of the small team in our Munich office. We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who contributed and keeps to contribute tirelessly to the success of the association.

## 1. sculpture network events 2019

More than 5,000 people attended the fourteen events organised by sculpture network in 2019. Many renowned partners were secured for the events. These include internationally renowned artists, curators, art production facilities, private collections and museums.

### **14th International Celebration of Contemporary Sculpture – start '19**

On January 27, 2019 the 14th edition of the International Celebration of Contemporary Sculpture **start** took place. The theme of the 2019 event was "perspective matters". More than 5,000 artists, collectors, experts and art enthusiasts took the opportunity to discuss three-dimensional art with like-minded people, to discover new artists and their work and to establish new contacts. On this very day, contemporary sculpture was celebrated in no less than 73 locations in 21 countries. It sent out a signal for sculpture art.

It is particularly worth mentioning that hosts and guests alike benefited from the networking opportunities of this event, turning contacts and ideas into new initiatives and friendships. The event took place at very different locations: artists' studios, exhibition venues, galleries, sculpture workshops, foundries and other cultural institutions. This year, the festival again had an interactive Live-Photowall; via social media the visitors were able to upload live pictures and videos which were then on screens at all locations. It allowed all visitors to experience what was happening at the other venues and tied the different location together in a shared sense of belonging.

### **Lab**

The Sculpture Network Lab is a series of events launched in 2018 that addresses questions of creativity in a social context. In 2018, we have already organised two panels – in Munich and Amsterdam – to discuss and debate with experts and professionals from different branches, ranging from artists to philosophers, designers and architects.

#### Munich | MCBW

On March 12, 2019, the Sculpture Network Lab took place in the Hofspielhaus Munich as part of the MCBW under the heading "Impulses of Creativity in the Intersection between Art and Business". In this "special" issue of the Lab the following questions were addressed: How do entrepreneurs and artists deal with these challenges? How relevant are creative impulses for entrepreneurs and artists and what is creativity? Are we dealing with a common

intersection or a dividing line between the different branches? L'art pour l'art and profitability for the economy?

In a fishbowl format, representatives from the business and art sector discussed the creative impulses that shape their everyday lives – exactly because you need to be creative in many areas. The panelists were

- Charlotte Bufler (Chief Creative Officer *The Wunderwaffe*)
- Danjela Hüsam (Innovation Manager)
- Walter Kuhn (artist)
- Thomas Thiede (artist & cultural technician)
- and other professionals.

### Lab Zurich – trust confidently

On November 12, 2019, Sculpture Network Lab continued its series of investigative discussion in Zurich. During the hosted panels entitled "getrost vertrauen" (confidently trust), we asked artists, scientists, philosophers and others, about their findings concerning consolation and resulting perspectives for our society. What does one learn about closeness and trust when dealing with comfort? And what role does the personal attitude play in this context?

The initiators and hosts Eva Wolf and Angelika Hein-Hoefelmayer welcomed the following panelist at the Forum Karl der Große:

- Artist Jürgen Batscheider
- Theologian Dr. Andreas Losch
- Philosophen Suzan-Viola Renninger
- Director of the association "Dargebotene Hand" Franco Baumgartner
- Bibliothekarin Karin Schneuwly

### **Dialogues 3 countries – 8 events – 100 participants**

Dialogues are local events aimed at the general public. They offer new insights into the world of contemporary sculpture and a platform for dialogue and exchange to all professionals and private individuals interested in contemporary sculpture.

In 2019 about 100 people met at 8 events organised in Spain, Germany and the Netherlands.

The following sculpture network dialogues took place in 2019:

- May 10, 2019: Dialogue in Barcelona, Spain: Encuentro con el artista Sergi Aguilar y visita guiada a su estudio-taller
- May 25, 2019: Diálogo en Bajo Martín, Spain
- June 8, 2019: Dialogue in Leiden, Netherlands: Ten young sculptors
- July 6, 2019: Dialogue in Gehrden, Germany: Studio visit with Hartmut Stielow
- September 14, 2019: Dialogue in Amsterdam, Netherlands: Sculpture Biennial ArtZuid, guided tour by director Cintha van Heeswijck
- October 26, 2019: Dialogue in Barcelona, Spain: Visita guiada por el profesor Dr. Josep Roy a las esculturas alrededor de la Via Júlia Barcelona
- November 17, 2019: Dialogue in Polling: Dan Flavin – Last Minute | STOA 169

- November 30, 2019: Dialogue in Logroño, Spain: SCULTO, feria internacional de Escultura Contemporánea

## **sculpture network Experiences**

sculpture network Experiences are art journeys with a focus on the exploration and experience of contemporary three-dimensional art, garnished with regional culture and cuisine. In 2019, the journey continued to:

### Experience Barcelona

The art journey from March 28 to 31, 2019 took the participants to Barcelona on the track of sculpture and architecture. From Gaudi till present day, the capital of Catalonia is a place for artistic pilgrimage for lovers of art and architecture.

### Experience Venice Biennale June and August 2019

From June 27 to 30, and August 22 to 25, 2019, we went on an exclusive trip to Venice for the 58th International Art Exhibition "La Biennale di Venezia". The objective was to enjoy the summer and art in Northern Italy and to share with like-minded people the passion for contemporary three-dimensional art!

## **2. sculpture network website**

On the website [www.sculpture-network.org](http://www.sculpture-network.org), sculpture network offers a wide range of information about contemporary sculpture:

Every month our editorial team researches about 30 new international calls for entries for sculptors and publishes them in the filterable database on our website. Another central pillar of our editorial work is the events calendar, for which we research and publish all relevant sculpture exhibitions and art fairs throughout Europe. In 2019 we published more than 520 dates in our online calendar.

Thanks to the creative editorial work we were able to publish more than 60 articles in the magazine and newsletter. The interviews, exhibition reports, reviews and essays provide impressive insights into the range of three-dimensional artwork.

### **Artists' profiles: over 1000 artists from 58 nations**

Here, the artist members of sculpture network upload photos of their work, their curriculum vitae and exhibition dates. There are several filter options such as country, city and material to facilitate browsing through the long list of interesting artists. Gallery owners, curators and collectors use this database regularly to discover new artists.

### **Works of art: over 7,000 works**

Under this heading, the user can search and find works of art by the artists represented on our website. The site offers various filter options, e.g. by material, treatment, style and theme.

### **Locations: 300 locations for three-dimensional art**

Visitors of our website may find museums and parks specialising in sculpture, sculpture trails, galleries, open-air exhibitions, biennials and relevant publications throughout Europe. sculpture network members are highlighted. In addition, service providers from the following areas can be found here: foundries, art supply companies, quarries, model making companies, insurance companies, logistics companies, web service providers and graphic designers. Through our website, over 20 companies can offer their products and services to sculptors.

### **What's on: 520 published events**

Exhibitions, vernissages, workshops, conferences and art fairs – a unique and up-to-date source of information on sculpture-related events throughout Europe, researched and updated daily by our editorial team.

### **Opportunities (members only): 420 published calls for entries**

Some 420 new calls for entries were published in 2019 alone, with an average of 60 open calls, in this database. Our editorial team selects relevant tenders worldwide and updates the list regularly. The database can be filtered according to specific criteria: competitions, award ceremonies, artist-in-residency programmes, calls for entries for art in public spaces, etc.

## **3. sculpture network communication**

One of the main goals of sculpture network is to raise awareness of the uniqueness and social relevance of three-dimensional art and to increase the perception and acceptance of contemporary sculpture among the general public. Communication and public relations are therefore central pillars of our association's work.

We currently use the following channels to promote contemporary sculpture:

**Website** Ø 19,000 views per month (38,000 in January 2019!)

**Newsletter** approx. 17,000 subscribers (2 languages: German, English)

**Social Media** Over 20,000 fans and followers

**Direct mailings** approx. 90 mailings about our events and offers

**Press relations** Dispatch of press releases to our international press distribution list

**Cooperation with** 2 art fairs, 3 sculpture events and 2 publication houses

The expansion of our social media work was a main objective for our work in 2019. We have made great progress and are proud of our steadily growing community of fans and followers on various channels.

The Advent calendar was particularly well received. Each day, we presented an art work on our social media channels and in the sculpture network magazine. On each Sunday in Advent, we reported on special Christmas traditions of our team members. All members and friends of sculpture network as well as other interested parties were invited to contribute to

the making of the calendar. The Advent calendar in particular, but also other activities were received very positively and contributed to the dissemination of contemporary sculpture in social media.

#### 4. finances / legal status

The financial situation of sculpture network has changed significantly in 2019. For the first time, the association is operating at a loss.

The income from membership fees has decreased due to changes in the membership structure. Even more serious is the sharp drop of external funding due to a lack of large projects (e.g. an International Forum). However, due to the friendly support of the Waldemar-Bonsels-Foundation and its funding, we have been able to realise the projects **start**, Lab Munich/MCBW, Lab Zurich and the expansion of our editorial work.

With regard to expenditure, the association faced increasing personnel costs. Staff (especially management) previously provided free of charge by the Waldemar-Bonsel-Foundation had to be replaced by staff employed by the association during the course of the year. Additionally, and for the first time, cost for user and maintenance fees for new software (digital information portal, webpage, membership administration) have been incurred. However, due to the reserves built up from previous years, the losses for 2019 can be covered by the available funds.

In addition to the losses from current activities, the participations in Sculpture Network Service GmbH have been written down as the association poses the sole customer and thus the sole financier of Sculpture Network Service GmbH. Due to the effects of the ongoing Corona crisis, the economic prospects of the association and therefore also of Sculpture Network Service GmbH do not permit a positive development in the coming months and years.

It is expected, that there will be considerable economic effects on the association in 2020 and the following years. Members affected by the Corona crisis will not be able to pay their membership fees or might terminate their membership. The association will not be able to acquire the necessary number of new members to make up for the loss. With regard to our current and potential sponsors, the situation does not look any better. This reflects in reduced sponsorship and donations. Due to its organisation and structure, the association cannot profit from the numerous Corona aid packages issued by the public authorities in Germany and the EU.

As it has been since 2004, sculpture network was also supported in 2019 by the auditing company Deloitte, which audits the accounts and annual report of the association pro bono. We would like to express our sincere gratitude for the many years of their support.

## 5. members

With an approximate 1,000 members in 39 countries, sculpture network is present throughout the whole of Europe and beyond and by now has established an almost inexhaustible network of connections. This has made a positive difference in the acquisition of partners for events and cooperations.

As of December 31, 2019, the association has a total of 953 members in 39 nations. The members of our association are artists, institutions/organisations, service companies (products and services relevant to art and artists) and the friends of sculpture network. sculpture network was able to gain a total of 100 new members in 2019.

The association currently offers the following categories of membership:

### **Category Annual membership fee (in EUR)**

Artist 120,-

Artist (reduced, students) 80,-

Artist (partner association<sup>1</sup>) 80,-

Institutions 220,-

Service providers 220,-

Friends of sculpture network 150,-

## 6. employees and volunteers

In 2019 sculpture network was again largely supported by volunteers and part-time workers.

### **Employees**

In 2019, the following people were working for sculpture network in the office in Munich, Germany:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| ● Gerhard Feigl, Managing Director                      | part-time up to and including Oct. '19 – paid by third-party funds |
| ● Ilaria Specos, Event Organization & Projekt Manager   | full-time until mid Sept. '19 – paid by association funds          |
| ● Martina Fischer, Event Organization & Projekt Manager | full-time since mid Aug. '19 – paid by association funds           |
| ● Christina Benesch, Member Care & Fundraising          | full-time until Oct. '19 – paid by association funds               |
| ● Nina Gramüller, Member Care & Fundraising             | full-time since Nov. '19 – paid by association funds               |

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<sup>1</sup> Our partner associations are: skulpturforbundet (Sweden), NkvB (The Netherlands), Association of Finnish Sculptors



- Sophie Fendel, Marketing part-time until June '19 – paid by association funds
- Simone Kunz, Administration part-time up to and including Sep. '19 – paid by third-party funds
- Intern: Christina Benesch, Natalia Nedza, Katrin Krause, Antri Koumidou, Valerie Wahlroos each for max. 3 months – paid by association funds

### Freelance work for sculpture network in 2019

- Eva Wolf, Curator Sculpture Network Lab
- Amparo Lopez-Corral, Curator International Forum 2020
- Claudia Mörtel, until July '19, Accounting
- Sophie Peikert, from July '19, Accounting
- Elisabeth Pilhofer, Newsletter
- Christina Würtenberger, Opportunities
- Sophie Azzilona (born Glass), Calendar
- Claudia Thiel, Author
- Eva Daxl, Author

### Volunteers

sculpture network has a very active network of volunteer supporters:

- Angelika Hein-Hoefelmayr, Sculpture Network Lab
- Willy Hafner, Sculpture Network Lab
- Karlee Gailey, Krissi Velardy, Lauren Borlovan, Riley Saufrey, Aimee DuMont, Marina Fleck, Translations
- Chelsea McIntyre, Guest author

### Coordinators

Furthermore, sculpture network is supported by coordinators representing the organisation in Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Spain, Switzerland, Croatia and Australia. They organise the Dialogues event series in their respective region and are highly committed to sculpture network and its goals.

- Neus Bergua in Barcelona, Spain
- Anne Berk in the Netherlands
- Beatriz Carbonell in Logroño, Northern Spain
- Patricia Hoffmann in Berlin, Germany
- Stefanie Krome in Carrara, Italy
- Stefano Pesce in Ticino, Switzerland and Northern Italy
- Christiane Tureczek in Switzerland
- Michael Zwingmann in Hannover, Germany



- Nicola Valentini in Northern Italy
- Elly Buckley in Australia
- Marina Bauer in Croatia

We would like to take this opportunity to express our sincere gratitude to all volunteers.

## 7. board of directors

On December 31, 2019, the Board of directors consisted of the following members:

Executive Board - responsible for the budget and legal affairs of the association:

- Ralf Kirberg, Chairman
- Cornelia Hammans, Vice-Chairwoman
- Isabelle Henn
- Sabine Schaedle (appointed to the Board on September 12, 2019)
- Yke Prins (appointed to the Board on September 12, 2019)

### Curatorial Board

- Hartmut Stielow

sculpture network would like to take this opportunity to thank all members, donors, sponsors, supporters, volunteers, Board members, coordinators, employees and cooperation partners for their contribution.

Without their support sculpture network would not be possible.

Munich/ Germany August 2020

Otto E. Vogel, Cornelia Hammans, Isabelle Henn, Sabine Schaedle, Yke Prins  
Board of Directors