

Annual Report sculpture network 2012

Activities of the Organisation to Meet the Statutory Objectives

1. Program Development

“Stand up for Sculpture” is sculpture network’s motto. The goal is to bring artists, curators, institutions as well as art enthusiasts together and to create a platform for three-dimensional art in Europe. In keeping with this motto, sculpture network organised 18 individual events in 2012. Approximately 2,350 persons met within this context in conversation and in an exchange of ideas. By means of our written invitations, Newsletters and flyers at least 40,000 friends of the arts were kept abreast of our work in support of sculpture. In addition and above all, during the XI International Forum in Celle and on the occasion of the New Year’s Brunches ’12 and ’13 considerable PR work was accomplished. Our intentions are, through communication and programme development, to cultivate and foster a network of contacts, creating greater enthusiasm for art. This we achieve also through diverse social media, such as Facebook (5,839 fans), Xing (465 group members), and since 2012 Google+ and LinkedIn (200 followers each).

sculpture network New Year’s Brunch 2012 (nyb’12)

The third sculpture network’s New Year’s Brunch 2012 took place on January 15, 2012. On this day contemporary sculpture was celebrated in all over Europe. More than 2,000 artists, collectors, specialists and friends of the arts took advantage of this opportunity to discuss three-dimensional art with fellow enthusiasts, to discover new artists and their work, and to make fruitful contacts. At 38 different venues like artist studios, galleries, museums and other cultural institutions within 14 countries a signal went out for sculpture (in 2011: 800 participants at 23 venues in 9 different countries). Via Live-Stream participants could follow the event at other locations within Europe. Thus a feeling of “community” was conveyed within the sculpture groups. This was enabled by our sponsor, Vivicom.

The 38 hosts of the nyb’12 made their facilities available for this event and planned an attractive programme. We herewith express our heartfelt thanks to all of them. In his short address on this occasion, our Chairman Ralf Kirberg, emphasized the “self-igniting effect” of such an event, the need for discussion and the exchange of ideas, giving birth to incentives for new initiatives. For the first time - aside from the artists -, art collectors, museum representatives, galleries and other cultural institutions hosted this event in which interest is ever growing.

Sculpture Symposia

The programme format of a sculpture symposium, first introduced in 2011, was expanded in 2012. In El Arreciado, Spain from the 12th to the 15th of April 2012, a symposium of engaged artists took place on the topic “Working with New Wool”. Eight sculpture network members from six different nations participated in this symposium. On the final day the artists presented their work to the public. Over 100 visitors from the region accepted the invitation and admired the artistic wool sculptures and installations. The idea was developed and the event organised by Iraida Cano, the proprietor of the farm El Arreciado, together with our Spanish correspondent, Beatriz Blanch.

Members Group Exhibitions

This year two group exhibitions by members took place.

In Berlin 23 sculpture network members got together to organize a show on their own. The show, entitled “Sculpture - Work- Space: 23 Berlin Positions”, was on display from 28th of April to 6th of May 2012 in Berlin. The curator, Susanne Greinke, selected approximately 60 works of art for the show.

A 112-page color catalog was published in German by the Zimmer Verlag, Berlin for the exhibition with an introduction by the curator. Thanks to an extensive accompanying programme and a good response from the media, more than 1,600 visitors attended the show. The Berlin artist group was supported by the sculpture network Board member, Peter Fischer-Piel and the Berlin Correspondent, Paulina Tsvetanova. sculpture network headquarters in Pöcking assisted as consultants and made a small financial contribution.

The second exhibition under the title: “European Sculpture – Methods, Materials, Poetry” took place at the museum Edsvik Konsthall in Sweden from the 5th to the 27th of May, 2012. An independent jury, including, among others, the art dealer and sculpture network member, Robert Drees, selected 48 artists (23 of them were sculpture network members). Over 100 sculptures and installations were on display, curated by the Director of the museum, Ricardo Donoso. A 52-page catalog was published in English with color photographs. Over 1,400 people visited the show. The Edsvik Konsthall organised this exhibition in cooperation with sculpture network and the Swedish sculpture association, “skulpturförbundet”.

Member groups, whether they be groups of artists or institutions, join sculpture network temporarily in carrying out such projects. They offer their “Know-How”. sculpture network, with its many-faceted network, offers an effective basis for regional, national and European-wide resonance within the public and the media.

Sculpture Experiences

This year we were able to offer our members and others interested two exclusive art tours:

- Documenta (13), Kassel, Germany from the 5th to the 8th of June (40)
- Experience Northern Germany from the 25th to the 27th of September (20)

Dialogues

In 2012 our Regional Meetings were newly designated as “Dialogues”. This concept emphasizes the fact that personal dialogue and exchange in conjunction with and concerning art are the main objectives of these series of events.

Some 300 members and friends of sculpture network participated this year in our 11 Dialogues:

- Visit to studio of Martin Chirino, Madrid, Spain on 29 June (50)
- Visit to sculpture park Malans, Podium discussion and discourse with artist, Denis Perez in Pesmes, France on 8 July (50)
- Director’s tour and discourses with artists at Haus am Waldsee, Berlin, Germany on 3 August (30)
- Triannual Bad RagARTz: Discussions with sculpture network artists in Bad Ragaz, Switzerland on 18 August (30)
- Visit to Heinrich Bobst’s studio, Zurich, Switzerland on 17 September (20)
- Reina Sofia Museum: discussion with the restorer, Juan Antonio Sanchez, Madrid, Spain on 11 October (15)
- Studio visit with Ute Lechner and Hans Thurner, Chiemgau, Germany on 13 October (15)
- Visit to studio of Xavier Corberó, Barcelona, Spain on 27 October (20)
- Discussion with the curator, Anne Berk, on the exhibition “jenseits – beyond the body” in the World Art Hall, Düsseldorf, Germany on 3 November (15)
- Visit to the plaster moulding shop of the Berlin National Museum, Berlin, Germany on 23 November (30)
- Visit to studio of Sylvia Kummer and Johann Feilacher, Vienna, Austria on 25 November (20)

Interesting contacts and innovative projects have emerged from these meetings.

International Forum 2012

The XI International Forum under the title "The Future Shines – Light in Contemporary Art" took place in Celle and Hanover, Germany from 27 to 30 September 2012 under the direction of Hartmut Stielow. Some 100 artists, art mediators and art enthusiasts from 12 different nations participated. Well-known experts in art and science expanded on the topic of light art from an artistic, art historical and philosophical perspective. Within the comprehensive collection of the Art Museum Celle, light art could be experienced directly. In a parallel showroom sculptors and institutions presented their work and projects in catalogs, photographs, etc. In addition, 17 member artists displayed their work to the public in 1 ½ minutes presentations. Both presentations enhanced discussion and an exchange of ideas considerably.

The Forum was organised in conjunction with the Art Museum Celle with its Robert Simon collection. The event was sponsored by the Northern Saxony Foundation and the Rotary Club of Hanover.

2. Services

Approximately 7,000 visitors per month make use of information offered on our website.

Opportunities – Database: Members are able to find the latest calls for proposals, competitions and artist-in-residence programmes. Our research team selects relevant opportunities for sculptors from all offers published worldwide and displays them legibly on our website. In 2012 we published some 300 opportunities.

Artist Portfolios: All artists belonging to the network present themselves with their work and exhibitions. Members can contact the artists directly via e-mail or link to their personal websites for further information.

Members' Database: Visitors and members can search directly for interesting people and institutions in the various countries and take up contact with them.

Working Tips: This service was introduced in 2011 in the Newsletter under the designation "Worked Out" and now has its own space on the website. Our sculptor member HEX collects tips for work from members and publishes them there.

Service Provider Database: Approximately 160 service providers recommended by our members present themselves here. Unfortunately, this database introduced in 2010 has not been used as often as we had desired or as it actually deserves to be used. Enhancing this service is a major project in the coming year.

News Portal: Current trends and news are presented from the sculpture scene.

Calendar of Events: We offer our members and other interested persons an extensive overview with a wealth of information on sculpture exhibitions, art fairs, biennials, sculpture network events, seminars, courses, workshops, etc. in all of Europe. In 2012 more than 650 events were published.

Our **Newsletter** has established itself as an important instrument for dispersing information and for enhancing networking in a broad circle of readers. The Newsletter is received by approximately 13,000 interested parties in all of Europe in English, German and Spanish, thereby making an important contribution to practical cultural exchange.

Members

In 2012 sculpture network gained 155 new members. During the last three years the number of members has increased by 34.5%, with a total number of 967 at the end of 2012.

The **Members' Annual Meeting** 2012 was held in Celle on 30 September 2012 on the occasion of the International Forum held there. The annual financial statement, approved and rigidly cleared by Deloitte & Touche GmbH, was unanimously accepted. The Board was released and duties approved for 2012.

Staff and Volunteers

At present sculpture network has five coordinators who function as contact persons for our members in individual countries and regions, locally enhancing and developing the network.

- Beatriz Blanch in Spain
- Paulina Tsvetanova in Berlin, Germany
- Anne de Harlez for the Balearic Islands, Spain
- Anne Berk in the Netherlands
- Rainer Bolliger for Liechtenstein and Switzerland (until December)

Furthermore, we have a team of some ten active volunteers working in many different areas within the organisation.

In the Headquarters in Pöcking near Munich, the Chairman, Ralf Kirberg, along with Isabelle Henn and Sophie Schmidpeter, was assisted by Kirsi Rosin who completed a 5-month internship with sculpture network. Beatriz Blanch (Madrid) and Paulina Tsvetanova (Berlin) worked part-time for the organisation.

Board

As of 31 December 2012 the Board consists of the following persons:

- Ralf Kirberg, Chairman of the Board
- Hartmut Stielow, Vice-Chairman of the Board
- Peter Fischer-Piel
- Beata Smigla-Nowak
- Beatriz Blanch

At the Annual Members' meeting in Celle the Board received thanks and recognition by everyone for its considerable engagement, services and efforts extended during this year.

Finances

The financial status of sculpture network has developed positively, yet still does not cover the costs of the Headquarters in Pöcking (this is financed by Ralf Kirberg from another source). We were able to finance the extensive Programme 2012 through membership dues, and, as in the case of our event in Celle, through participation fees and the partial financial support of our cooperating partners and sponsors.

For further information we refer to our financial statement dated 31.12.2012. Administration costs remained at 4% of the total expenditures, at the same level as in the previous year. The bad news is that, in spite of our considerable efforts in sending reminders, loss through unpaid membership fees remained stable at 7% in 2012.

The realisation of our extensive programme was only possible thanks to the comprehensive voluntary efforts of our members and the Board which meet regularly. We herewith extend our heartfelt thanks to all of our supporters.

Charitable Status

The fiscal authorities in Berlin responsible for our organisation have confirmed our "charitable status" for the years following the founding of sculpture network until 2010, most recently on 19 October 2011. This decision cannot be challenged. Should there be no alteration in our statutory goals, there should be no change of status in the future.

Preview 2013 and 2014

Following the great success of the nyb'12 at the beginning of the year with some 2000 participants in 14 different countries, we again organised the sculpture network New Year's Brunch to take place on the third Sunday in January 2013. On January 20 once again many artists, friends of the arts and art mediators in all of Europe will convene to celebrate sculpture.

The International Forum will most likely take place in the Netherlands in fall.

Another important topic in our programme work in 2013 will be the extension and enhancement of the "Dialogues" series, to include further encounters at the local and regional levels.

The Sculpture Experience in 2013 will take us into Tuscany (IT), the source of marble.

Further plans are:

- Website: We are working on a relaunch of the website in the spring of 2013 with the intent to make it more user friendly, offering greater possibilities for the presentation of our members. In addition, we continue to expand on our offers of information and service through the website.
- Newsletter: New design and main editorial office under the direction of Amparo Lopez Corral as of the spring of 2013
- Network: Expansion of our European-wide cooperation with institutions and cultural organisations within the field of sculpture
- Membership Structure: We plan to increase our efforts in 2013 in gaining new friends of the arts and art mediators as members for our network, thus maintaining our interdisciplinary goals.

We are coming ever closer to achieving our goal of being the competence centre for sculpture within Europe.

Pöcking/ Germany, 15.03.2013

Ralf Kirberg
Chairman

Sophie Schmidpeter
Project Manager

Annual balance sculpture network 31.12.2012

Assets

| | | EUR |
|---|-----------|-------------------|
| A. Capital assets | | 61.985,69 |
| I. Intangible fixed assets | 54.547,89 | |
| Website | 45.817,01 | |
| Concepts, program work, brand, crm-software | 8.730,88 | |
| II. Fixed assets | 7.437,80 | |
| Office equipment | 1.323,55 | |
| Assets under construction | 6.114,25 | |
| B. Current assets | | 32.631,10 |
| I. Receivable & other assets | 1.277,00 | |
| II. Cash balance, deposits | 31.354,10 | |
| C. Accounts receivable and payable | | 8.141,17 |
| Total Assets | | 102.757,96 |

Liabilities

| | | EUR |
|---|-----------|-------------------|
| A. Equity | | 96.679,20 |
| I. Revenue Reserves | 94.500,00 | |
| II. Retained Earnings | 1.496,13 | |
| III. Profit for the year | 683,07 | |
| B. Liabilities | | 2.638,08 |
| I. Recieved advance payments | 30,00 | |
| II. Trade Payables | 2.058,71 | |
| III. Other Liabilities | 549,37 | |
| C. Accounts receivable and payable | | 3.440,68 |
| Total Liabilities | | 102.757,96 |

Berlin,08.04.2013

Executive Board

Ralf Kirberg

Hartmut Stielow