

Residence NRW⁺ 2026/2027



Residence NRW⁺:

The Residence NRW⁺ fellowship programme is aimed at particularly talented young artists in the field of contemporary visual art. It has been affiliated with the Kunsthalle Münster since 2020 and will enter its sixth round in 2026/2027. Eight residency scholarships have been awarded again for the period from October 1, 2026, to September 30, 2027. Four artists and four curators will live and work in the residence building in Münster for twelve and six months, respectively.

Out of more than 200 applications the four twelve-month scholarships for visual artists go to Antonia Alessia Virginia Beeskow, Christi Knak Tschaikowskaja, Donja Nasser and Peter Maria Volkhardt.

The four six-month scholarships for curators go to Deiara Semeco Kouto, Katia Leonelli, Kristina Miller and Inga Charlotte Thiele. All of them have developed their curatorial practice in numerous independent projects and in collaboration with exhibition institutions. Deiara Semeco Kouto and Katia Leonelli are fellowship holders of the Swiss cultural foundation Pro Helvetia.

The fellowship:

Residence NRW⁺ is aimed at visual artists and curators with ties to the federal state of North Rhine-Westphalia, as well as curators from Switzerland. Four artists and two curators are always present at the residence at the same time. Living and working together enables an intense exchange between them. The grant is not dependent on a concrete project but offers the best possible conditions for further development in the respective field of work. With its four core programme elements—exchange, practice, support, and networking—it provides a framework for twelve or six months to reflect on and deepen one's practice, refine approaches, or try out new things. A monthly allowance of 1,500 euros (as well as a production cost subsidy of 200 euros per month for the artists) is intended to assist in this process.

The residence building is provided to the artists and curators by the City of Münster free of charge. A professional with many years of expertise accompanies the scholarship period and is the contact person for all content-related matters. This includes

advising on applications, exhibition preparations, studio visits, and supporting the projects of curators and artists implemented as part of the programme. Excursions, workshops, and specialist meetings offer opportunities for networking.

Alongside the four artists, two curators will also be present—Deiara Semeco Kouto and Kristina Miller for the first six months until end of March 2027, and Katia Leonelli and Inga Charlotte Thiele for the following six months until end of September 2027. During their stay, the curators will form a German-Swiss working duo. Each duo is invited to develop and implement two projects in the museums and art associations in North Rhine-Westphalia that cooperate with Residence NRW+. One of the four projects during the scholarship year is always reserved for an exhibition by the four artists. Cooperation partners for the period 2026/2027 are, the Museum Schloss Moyland, Bedburg-Hau and Linienstraße Düsseldorf, the Josef Albers Museum. Quadrat, Bottrop and Neue Galerie Gladbeck, where the exhibition of the artists participating in the programme will take place.

Since 2020, the cooperation partners for the exhibitions of Residence NRW+ have been the among others Kunsthaus NRW Kornelimünster, Aachen, the Marta Herford, the Museum Kurhaus Kleve, the Westfälischer Kunstverein together with the LWL-Museum für Kunst und Kultur in Münster, the Kunstverein Bielefeld, the Dortmunder Kunstverein, the Kunstmuseum Bochum, the Kunsthalle Münster, the Museum Morsbroich in Leverkusen, the Kunsthalle Recklinghausen, the Leopold-Hoesch-Museum in Düren, the Museum Goch, the Kunsthalle Bielefeld, the Kunstmuseum Gelsenkirchen, the Clemens Sels Museum in Neuss, and the NAK Neuer Aachener Kunstverein.

The Ministry of Culture and Science of the German state of North Rhine-Westphalia, the Kunststiftung NRW, and the Swiss Arts Council Pro Helvetia are once again generously supporting Residence NRW+ as funding partners in this round.

The property:

The architectural ensemble in Hoppengarten is a central and prominent production location for Münster's art and culture scene, where local, national, and international cultural figures come together. The property, which was specially renovated for the scholarship programme, is located in the former Heerde-Kolleg, which comprises a total of seven buildings and was built according to the plans of Münster architect Harald Deilmann. From 1965 to the end of the 1970s, it was used as a Catholic college, after which it became the property of the City of Münster. Building 32, whose renovation began in August 2022 and was completed in the summer of 2023, houses the artists of Residence NRW+ for twelve months and the curators for six months. The artists each have a workroom with a separate bedroom at their disposal. The curators each have a living room / bedroom and a shared office. All rooms have basic functional furniture and are equipped with their own bathroom. The kitchen and living room are shared.

Artists:

Antonia Alessia Virginia Beeskow (born 1992 in Düsseldorf) studied archaeology at the University of Cologne and Applied Theatre Studies at Justus Liebig University Giessen (2013–2022); she also pursued a second master's degree in Sound and Reality at the Institute for Music and Media Düsseldorf in 2021. She is a recipient of the 2023 North Rhine-Westphalia Advancement Award in the music category. Her audio piece *Ecce Sigh! Siren calls, still I feel the same* won the Karl Sczuka Advancement Award in 2024. Her recent radio production *rocococorecore* received an honorable mention from the jury of the European Broadcasting Union's Prix Palma Ars Acustica. As an artist, sound designer, and performer, Beeskow works across disciplines—including radio drama, sound art, performance, dance, and theatre—in both German-speaking regions and internationally. Her work engages with sampling, hauntology, archival culture, and the narrative potential of sound material. She experiments with processes of disappearance and recurrence, as well as the affirmative impact of and relationship between sound and emotion. Her works have recently been presented at the Dortmunder U, ZKM Karlsruhe, Kunsthalle Düsseldorf, and FFT Düsseldorf. Alongside her solo artistic projects, Beeskow actively seeks exchange and collaboration with artists across various disciplines. Together with Lilli Lake, she works under the name UH HUH HER on projects such as exhibitions for Urbane Künste Ruhr and the Kunstverein Nürnberg. She also creates sound environments for and with artists including Cristiana Cott-Negoescu, Ketavan Gavasheli, Magdalena Mitterhofer & Shade Thérét, and Olga

Hohmann, as well as curators Linnea Semmerling, Alicia Holthausen, and Juliane Hoffmanns. In addition, Beeskow works as a freelance lecturer in sound art and field recording, holding teaching positions at institutions including the Zurich University of the Arts, Justus Liebig University Giessen, and the Weltkulturen Museum Frankfurt. She also hosts the radio show / 'an.tɪn/ *séance tapes* on Callshop Radio.

Christi Knak Tschaikowskaja (born in 1990 in Karaganda, Kazakhstan, raised in Nettel, Germany) lives and works in Düsseldorf. Christi is a painter, performance artist and filmmaker, currently studying in Prof. Kati Heck's class at the Düsseldorf Art Academy. Previously, Christi completed her degree with a diploma at the Academy of Media Arts in Cologne. For the past four years, Christi has been working with the mixed-abled performance collective creature freedom and created a collective-touch project in a shared flat for people with dementia. Alongside her performative gestures, her drawings and paintings emerge as a kind of body scores. Her works emerge as an internalisation and externalisation of human relationships, which are understood in their creature-like form and depicted as such. Social dynamics take on animal forms, whereby the animal here is one that suffers under human oppression. Overall, organic patterns of attraction are depicted: masses, movements, and tenderness in between. Her most recent performances include *barrier [creature freedom as utopia]*, Rheintreppe Düsseldorf, *Oecophyllas gemeinsamer Faden*, Malkasten Kunstverein, Düsseldorf, and the performance in public space *Wasserwesen*, Kunstpallast Düsseldorf as part of GROSSE. In 2025, Christi was awarded the travel grant from the Düsseldorf Art Association and the Stadtparkasse Düsseldorf. In 2021, the performance *Queer fashion show the manifold gender* was developed as a collective project and presented at the Kunsthalle Düsseldorf. Christi's performances have been supported by the Düsseldorf Cultural Office, the Cologne Cultural Office, the NRW Diversity Fund, the Düsseldorf Arts Commission and the DaKu Fund.

Donja Nasser is a German-Egyptian-Afghan artist. Her work provokes critical reflections on the intertwined histories and narratives that shape our understanding of (gender) identity, trauma, and disruption. She focuses on the reactivation of materials sourced from museums, archives and communities, for instance seeking to initiate dialogue about the impact of colonialism and the imperative of restitution and reparation, while remaining attentive to the fragility and ambiguity of memory. She studied at the Kunstakademie Düsseldorf, the Kunstakademie Münster and TU Dortmund with Mariana Castillo Deball, Peter Piller and Gregor Schneider. Her work has received numerous awards, including the Chargesheimer Stipendium for media art in Cologne, Foam New Talent in Amsterdam and the Van Bommel Award in Venlo. Her projects have been presented in various exhibitions for example at Kunstmuseum Bochum, Photoforum Pasquart in Biel, Museum of Contemporary Art in Zagreb, Mönchehaus Museum Goslar and MANIFESTA Ruhr, curated by Leonie Herweg and René Block.

Peter Maria Volkhardt (born 1997 in Aachen) lives and works in Cologne. His work lies at the intersection of video, performance, drawing, text and film, and he understands history as a gateway to present-day possibilities. He explores the points at which contemporary forms of historical consciousness manifest in language, imagery and social conditions. In his practice, he approaches these moments by disrupting clear, quasi-documentary starting points through an associative and improvisational process. He works both individually and within collectives, including the artist group Kollektiv des Guten Willens. In 2026, he presented the exhibition *Aufbruch 500 – drei Projektionen für Münster* with Kollektiv des Guten Willens at the Krameramts Haus in Münster. In 2024, he and Max Wigger opened the exhibition *Choose Your Donkey* at the Volksbankforum in Münster. He has participated in several group exhibitions including *Gyumri Art Week* in Gyumri (2026), *Junge Nacht* at the Kunstpallast in Düsseldorf (2025), *Off the Timeline* at Project Space on the Inside in Amsterdam (2024), *Love Letters #1* at Mujuryoku Sessions in Tokyo (2023), and the Muzyka w Starych Balicach Festival in Krakow (2023). His screenings and performances have taken place at the Julia Stoschek Foundation (*Flatten the Curve*, 2025); the Förderverein für Aktuelle Kunst Münster (*Digital Dream Utopia*, 2024); daodac during Art Weekend in Zurich (*Straight Outta Münster*, 2024); and the Theater im Pumpenhaus (*Kultur und Emotion im Kapitalistischen Realismus*, 2021). In addition, the play *Der Schlachtenberg und der Tod der Millennial Left* will have its world premiere at the Theater im Pumpenhaus in October 2026, which he is directing as part of the Kollektiv des Guten Willens.

Curators:

Deiara Semeco Kouto is a curator and researcher whose practice spans contemporary art, curatorial research, and decolonial approaches. She has worked in the Curatorial and Outreach Department at Gropius Bau and at Dekoloniale Erinnerungskultur in der Stadt. She is currently Program Curator at Städelschule. From 2023 to 2025, she co-curated the exhibitions *Unseen Reconstructions*, *An Elusive Elsewhere*, and *Embodied Surfaces* at La Rada, as well as *On Connection* during Berlin Art Week in 2024. In 2026, she developed the research project *Mapping Unspoken Echoes* for the Belluard Bollwerk International Festival in Fribourg, Switzerland, and co-curated the symposium *Relationalitis: Conditions of Interdependence* at Städelschule. She is a PhD candidate at Leuphana University Lüneburg. Her research focuses on the production of narratives, Afro-diasporic political identity, and the global contemporary art system.

Katia Leonelli works as a curator and writer. Trained in philosophy and art history, she has been part of the curatorial teams of several cultural institutions in Switzerland, such as the Abbatale de Bellelay (2025), Plattform (2023–26), and the artist-run space one gee in fog (2019–22). In parallel, she has carried out her curatorial work across numerous Swiss art spaces, including La Rada (Locarno, 2023), Lokal- Int (Bienne, 2023–26), Bad Posture (Lausanne, 2024), and Smallville (Neuchâtel, 2025). She is regularly commissioned to write theoretical, critical, and artistic texts by a wide range of clients including public entities, galleries, art centres, and individual artists, both in Switzerland and internationally. Between 2024 and 2026, at the request of Thomas Hirschhorn, she held an experimental role as an observer and critic during the preparation and execution of his monumental installation *Pavillon Simone Weil* at the Pavillon Sicli in Geneva. She is currently working on a theoretical publication related to this project. Katia Leonelli has led and assisted theoretical workshops in visual arts at HEAD – Genève. She currently teaches art history in the graphic design programme at the CFP Arts in Geneva.

Kristina Miller (born 1992) uses curatorial practice to address social realities and engages with scenes and aesthetically charged contexts in which political and ideological ideas manifest themselves. She is currently exploring simultaneity as a curatorial gesture and examining how live images and real time shift constructions of time and space in contemporary art exhibitions. As part of the curatorial residency at Dialogfelder, Chemnitz, she most recently focused on processes of transformation in East and West Germany. In 2025, she received a one-year fellowship for curation at the Akademie Schloss Solitude, Stuttgart. Previously, Miller has realised and accompanied exhibitions with ZK/U – Center for Art and Urbanistics, Berlin, the mumok – Museum of Modern Art, Vienna, and documenta, Kassel. She worked at Studio Julian Charrière and is the studio manager of Studio Zuzanna Czebatul. Miller writes texts, including exhibition reviews as well as research- and theory-based essays. She studied sociology at the University of Vienna and Spatial Strategies at the Weißensee Academy of Art, Berlin. She lives and works in Berlin.

Inga Charlotte Thiele is a writer, curator, and bookseller, living in Vienna. Her curatorial work focuses on language- and text-based artistic practices. She regularly holds writing workshops centered on collaborative writing and textual experimentation. Her own writing, often accompanied by illustrations, explores the materiality of language, its rigidity and resilience, and attends to the bodies that write and read. Since 2023, she has been directing Prosopopoeia, an exhibition space, book shop and programme dedicated to artistic explorations of language and text in Vienna. She studied Art History, Philosophy, and French at Heinrich-Heine-University Düsseldorf and at the Kunstakademie Düsseldorf, where she co-organized the discursive space Café Sparta. In 2022, she completed her master's degree in Critical Studies at the Academy of Fine Arts Vienna. At Prosopopoeia, Thiele curated exhibitions by, among others, JJJJJJerome Ellis, Jihye Rhii, Amelia Etlinger, and Ethan Assouline. Events featured Allison Grimaldi Donahue, Sam Dolbear, Cecilia Bien, Sophia Rohwetter, and Miriam Stoney, among others. Other projects and exhibitions include – 2026: *Where are you in the day? あなたは一日の中のどこにいる*, Lavender Opener Chair, Tokyo, JP; *Where you are in the day*, soda, Kyoto, JP; 2025: *Reader, my neck is your neck.*; *Burn The Diaries*, *Read Them Out Loud*, Kunsthalle Wien; 2024: *Dear Know-It-All*, *How Did Sentences Come to Exist?*, Tanzquartier Wien; Radio as Social

Sculpture w/ Cashmere Radio, Melbourne/Naarm and Sydney/Eora, AUS; 2023: *Glancing to the Right of Antares in Medium Blue, Intuit Cosmic Allurement*, Fat Vampire Press, Berlin; *Eavesdropping*, Scherben, Berlin.

Further information: <https://www.residencenrw.de/en/>

Press images: <https://www.kunsthalle-muenster.de/de/presse/bilder/>

Residence NRW⁺

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