*foundationClass

Summer School 2021

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What is *fC?



An important goal of the *foundationClass is to support you in reconstructing (lost) works, images, materials, portfolios and documents and to create a strong portfolio for the application to a German art or design university.

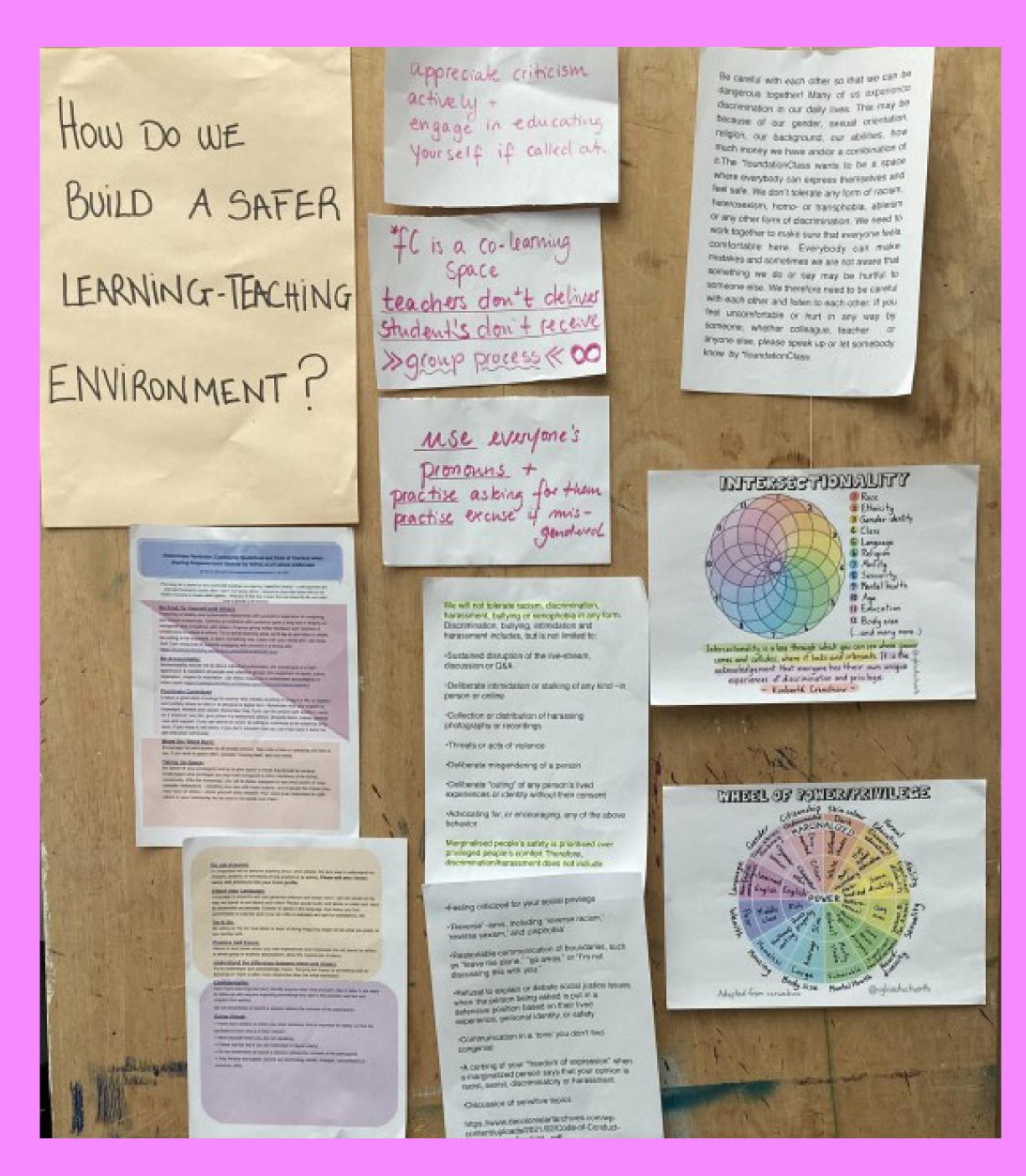
The study programme consists of lectures, workshops and excursions led by professional artists, designers, academics and activists who have themselves or their families migrated to Germany. Together with you, we want to formulate art histories that include the global South/East and your experiences without using labels like "refugee" or "migrant". In the *foundationClass, we focus on solidary encounters and learning and teaching at eye level. The *foundationClass wants to create a critical place within the weißensee kunsthochschule, where knowledge and artistic and design practices are not consumed, but dominant views are questioned. The *foundationClass is embedded in the subject area of artistic-design fundamentals. We strive for collective processes, make exhibitions and inscribe ourselves from the margins of society into the Western white art and design landscape.

The programme starts in July 2021 with a summer school and runs until the beginning of 2022, during which time you will be enrolled as a guest student at weißensee kunsthochschule berlin.

The project *foundationClass was initiated in 2016 by Prof. Ulf Aminde and built up together with Miriam Schickler. Meanwhile, the *foundationClass comprises a community of more than 150 people. We are students, teachers, tutors and fans with and without experience of racism. WE are a group of individuals.

The *foundationClass is funded by the Berlin Quality and Innovation Offensive of the Senate Chancellery for Science and Research and the Welcome and Integra funding programmes of the German Academic Exchange Service.

Community Agreements



foundationClass is a space of many, for many. The asterisk () is a space holder for more, for beyond the meanings of the words foundation and Class. It's an open door. What is the foundation? More open doors for aspiring and established artists and designer who want to be part of art education in Germany. The foundation is built for people who experience rac-ism, identify as BIPoC or have experience of flight and migration. It's a platform for fighters and survivors. Class is spelled with a capital C to highlight the equal amount of learning and teaching everyone does who takes part in *foundationClass - as teacher, student, alumni, tutor, coteacher, orga or guest. We focus on open doors for everyone, we don't police who feels invited. If you know this is your space, come on in friend!

With open doors for all of us who are structurally oppressed and recognised last by this society we have the job to take matters into our own hands and create comfort for all of us as much as possible. But STOP #nomorewonderland. There is the wish for *foundationClass to be a safer space but if the expectations are not met, then this can destroy us. Let us not promise too much and talk less about a wonderland, but encourage us to learn to be brave and open about problems, hard truths and what resources we really have. Let's be brave to-gether to learn how to keep ourselves safe(r).

*foundationClass mission for right now:

- · Create a space where students can learn about art and design, share artistic practice and build a portfolio to apply to art and design school
- · Connect students to positions, institutions and organisations that provide or support an entry to German art and design academia and career
- · Support further transformation and growth of the existing *foundationClass collective, which is showcasing artworks and collaborate with others outside *foundationClass
- · Respect and honour everyone's humanity in the space like using people's chosen pro-noun, reflecting before reacting when being called out, centering the most marginal-ised voices among us
- · Create a guideline for guests we want to invite to *foundationClass teaching
- · Provide a wide network of artists, institutions, activists and initiatives who critically engage with the predominantly white art and culture industry
- · Respect the Emergency Button in any moment of our meetings "everything stops for 5 minutes"
- · Develop ourselves within group building processes and include everyone(s) who en-gages in our environment (i.eg. in workshops and/or mediation)

*foundationClass vision for the future:

- · An intersectional, critical anti-hetero-patriarchal and antiracist free art school class that has measures and resources to takle discrimination based on your income and status, your bodysize, look and ability, racialisation, origin, religion, sexuality or gender.
- · A space that is healing for body mind and soul and provides space for constructive conflict solution and permanent mediated guidance
- · A traumainformed teaching and learning environment that centers somatic experiences
- · All students that come to *foundationClass should, if they want to, be 100% support-ed to find a spot at an art or design academy. We want to further increase the already high rate of successful applications.
- · All students that come to *foundationClass, who don't get accepted in higher education, should be 100% supported in pursuing other, positive paths for themselves.
- · Providing an empowering method for (anonymous) feedback from students and teachers
- · An emotionally caring and motivating teaching & mentorship
- · A teaching environment where it's ok to not please each others expectations at any price but to also question and challenge them
- · A space, where we honour our rituals of connection by showing up and trying on. Regular meetings, grounding exercises and hanging out together.

LOVE THIS:

- Forgive mistakes = make an effort to learn & to learn to apologize
- · Ask for and use everyone's chosen pronouns + break the norm, cis friends and kindly also name your pronouns
- · Practice becoming more aware of our own privilege and being accountable
- · Transparency and Sharing talk about it if something happened that you feel alone with, let's start a process together
- · Respect other people's boundaries + be aware of everyone in the space
- · Focus on transition & release shake it off, leave the room, connect with mother earth if you feel overwhelmed in a moment
- · We have an emergency button-system. Feel free to use it in moments of discomfort and we will all take a 5 minute break without having to explain why
- · Everything is voluntarily, you always have the option to say 'no'
- · Translate into other languages that help everyone understand
- · Speak the language that is most comfortable to you, try to help with translation
- · One Step forward / One step back if you always talk, try to give others more space, if you are always silent, engage more
- · Zoom Meetings: Enter Name and Pronoun in your profile, if you want to; Use your camera, if you can; Mute yourself if you are not talking; No photographs or recordings without consent
- · Practise consent No means no! Maybe means no too! A yes can change be sure and check again!

DON'T LIKE THIS

- · Please do not guess someone' identity based on their presentation or their name. Do not only identifiy those of us who are non-normative, for example non-heterosexuals non-Cis people.
- · In a teaching environment we do not underline perceived weaknesses or lack of talent and discourage people's aims, "talent" is a buzz word
- · No interruptions when someone talks + don't judge what you hear
- · Don't reproduce and uphold power structures, instead try reflecting them collectively
- · Kindly don't take other's pictures or film without consent + don't post anything on so-cial media about *foundationClass without consent
- · Reverse Racism, reverse Sexism is a No too.

Further Reading:

https://www.facinghistory.org/resource-library/invitation-brave-space

https://commonslibrary.org/the-intertwine-charter-goingbeyond-anti-discrimination-and-towards-pro-active-change-towelcome-others/

https://twitter.com/ontspecialneeds/ status/1303065038882836488

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D9Ihs241zeg

Orientation Days

The "Orientation Days" will already take place before the Summer School starts.

They take place in the form of preparatory workshops in which basic skills relating painting and drawing are taught.

The Orientation Days will support you and all of us to find a smooth entry into the Summer School.



Date: June 30th
Time: 1.45 – 6 PM

Location: *foundationClass

& Grundlagen space

With Nadira Husain



Drawing is a useful and necessary skill for any field of study, be it film, design or fine art.

Learning to draw takes time and requires a regular practice and strong commitment.

In this workshop we will try to understand why drawing is so important, what it can be used for and how we can use it to express our ideas. Basic tips and methods will be passed on through exercises.

We will initiate a drawing diary project that will accompany you throughout the summer school to encourage and support your drawing practice.



Date: July 7th

Time: 1.45 – 6 PM

Location: *foundationClass

& Grundlagen space

With Nadira Husain

Part II: Painting Cooking Workshop

You want to work with colors and paint but you don't have much experience in this field? In this workshop you will experiment and get familiar with the painting material: For example, how to use a brush, mix colors, prepare the canvas or paper. You will learn more about the differences between oil and water based colors, how to work with acrylics, water colors, ink, oil pastels, soft pastels. You will also learn how to handle the material and practice using the brush. This course is very technical with simple exercises to familiarize yourself with the medium of painting.

Artistic

Workshops



Date: July 13th, 19th, 26th / August 2nd

Time: 1.45 – 6 PM

Location: *foundationClass

& Grundlagen space

With Nadira Husain

Confluence - Expanded painting

This course will support you in developing your pictural practice. You will be encouraged to examine your own personal narratives and work with them in the broad contexts in which painting exists.

Although painting is often a solitary activity, it develops in relation to the world around us. We will focus on the relational aspects of painting. We will raise questions such as how the formal elements of painting interact with each other, how painting can be understood in relation to its surroundings, what is the relationship between the artist and the viewer and what does gaze means, or from what art historical and socio-political contexts painting evolves.

In addition to focusing on the production of new works, the course will support you to acquire critical tools to talk about your artworks.



Seminar

Date: July 14th, 15th, 16th

Time: 1.45 - 6 PM Location: Kunsthalle

With Rena Onat

Whose art history?*

Whose art history?The discipline of art history even today almost exclusively represents white male artists from (west-)european countries. Artist of Color, Black artists, artists from outside of Europe have largely been ignored by art history. What are mechanisms of exclusion that are at work within the art world? What is "eurocentrism"? What is the white gaze in art? How are Black people and people of color being represented in art and visual culture? In the seminar we will engage with artwork and theory, that critically challenge art_history.We will look at many examples and have discussions. One of our focusses this yearwill be on Orientalism in art. I believe, that engaging with history and theory gives us a better understanding of our current situation. Art can also be a means of empowerment for Blacks and People of Color. How do Black artists and artists of color use art to tell their own stories, to create alternative representations and to criticize racism within the art context? Within the seminar, you are also invited to present your own art and creative projects or introduce other examples.* The term People of Color is a self-chosen term by and for people who experience racism.



Date: July 21st, 22nd Time: 10 AM - 5 PM

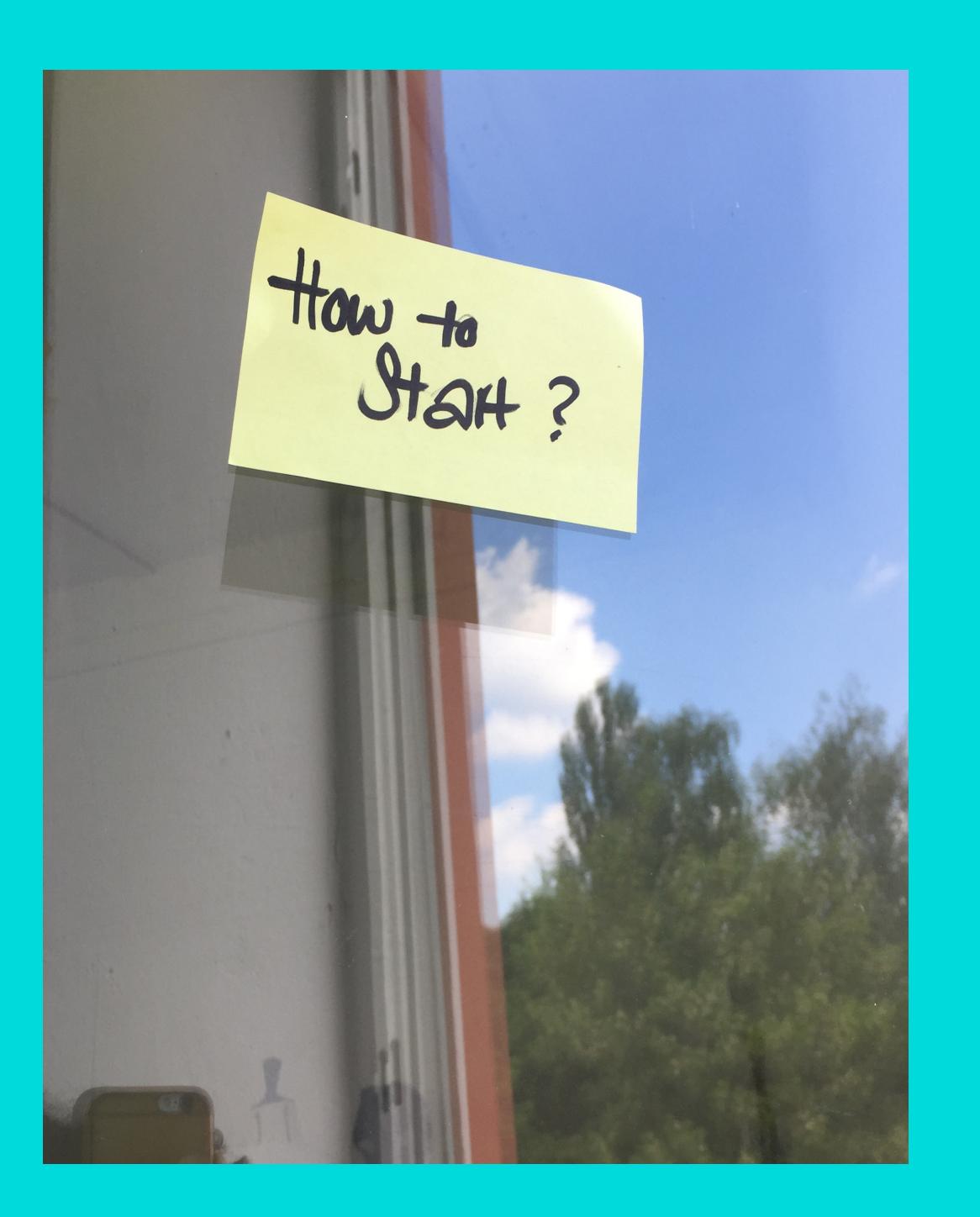
ocation: Silkscreen printing workshop khb

Vith Louise Dubrigny

Introduction to Silkscreen

During this two-day workshop you will have the opportunity to learn about silkscreen printing. This technical workshop takes place in the university's silkscreen printing work shop. Silkscreen printing as well as other printing techniques will allow you to reflect on the seriality of a work and will enrich your technical experiences. If you enjoy the experience you could continue to develop further personal projects with the support of the silk screen printing workshop during the winter semester.

Thank you!



Workshop

Date: July 19th, 26th / August 2nd

Time: 10 AM - 1 PM

Location: *foundationClass

& Grundlagen space

With Mariama Sow

How to start? Methods of Design and Artistic Research

In this workshop we will discover and discuss different tools and methods of research, that we use in our art&design practices. There will be two workshops about the questions of: How to create an idea for an artistic project? Where to get inspiration from? How to collect, document and transform material of research into an idea or concept? How to research and how to visualize the process of research?

In the first workshop we will discuss our personal interests, perspectives and methods of our design/artistic practices and discover different possibilities of entrances and inspirations, such as theory, visual material, experiences, stories, urgencies, emotions, etc.In the second workshop we will try out different forms of visualizing the concept and the process of research through: moodboards, mindmaps, collections, collages, text, sketches etc.The workshops have the aim of giving different ideas on how to start a project or work and wants to support in finding individual working methods and languages to express an artistic idea.

(Especially in design studies it is important to be able to express the process of research of your works)



Date: July 20th, 28th / August 6th, 7th

Time: 1.45 - 6 PM

Location: Kunsthalle

With Khaled Mzher & Mohamad Halbouni



Workshop

Date: July 23rd, 27th, 29th / August 3rd

Time: 1.45 - 6 PM

Location: *foundationClass

& Grundlagen space

With Krishan Rajapakshe

Film Workshop

This workshop will give a general introduction to the medium film, especially analogue filming and the short film format. In the workshop we will explore the differences between theatre and cinema and the relations between movement and images.

Each participant will be working together with the aim to produce a 5-10 minutes portrait film of a person or a place: Starting from preparation and development, filming, editing and finalising and ending with a screening. The four days workshop will each be divided into 1,5 hours inputs and 3,5 hours group work focussing on your projects.

Cooking up Resistances

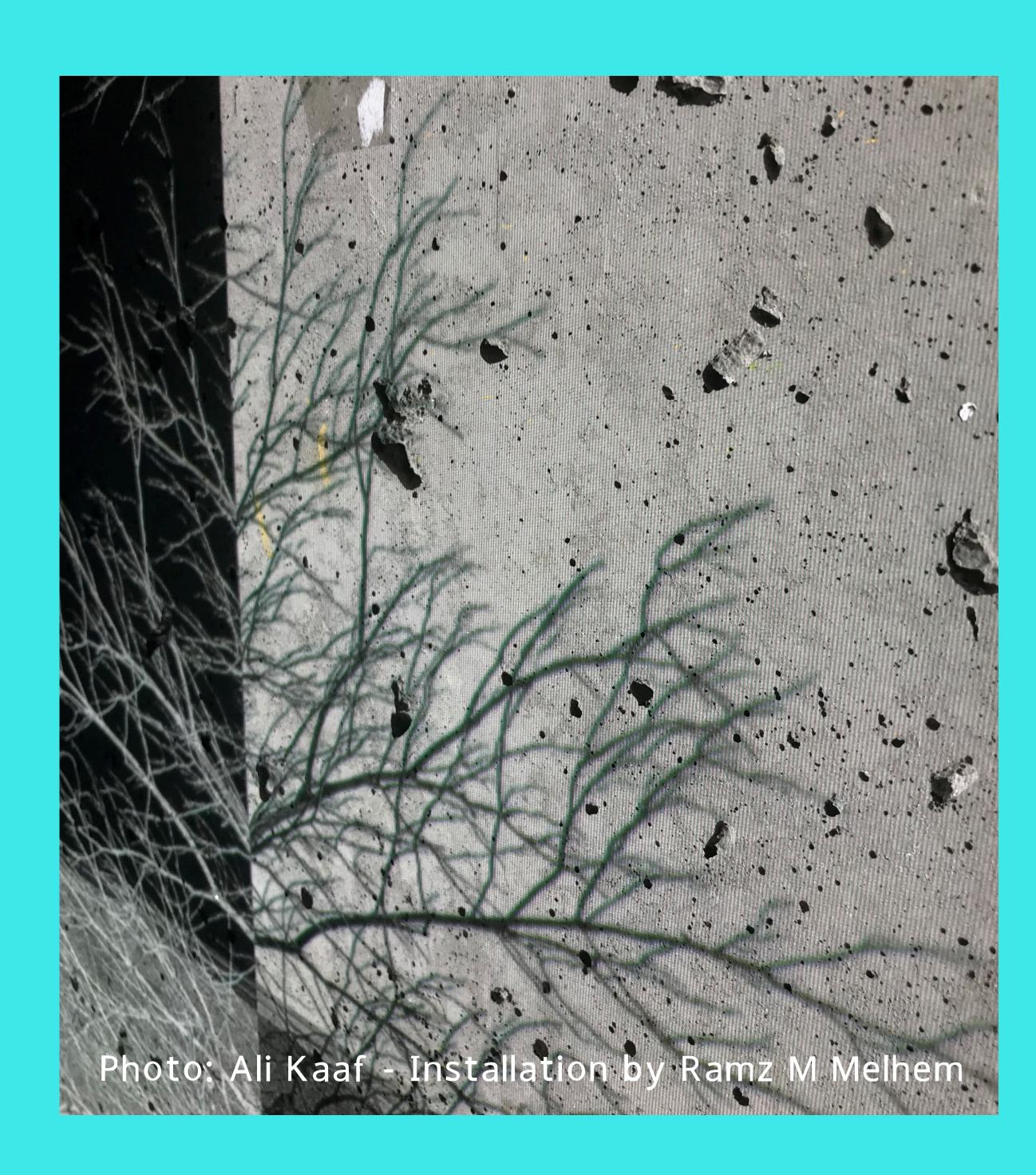
Cooking is a designing process. It refers to similar methods and senses.

Is designing a graphic story comparable to a garlic curry?

Or is creating a design campaign like making a Hyderabadi biriyani?

Can making a coconut salad be compared with composing a poster?

Cooking is a method, which needs the correct ingredients and timing. Not all ingredients go well together. It needs time to find your own mix and taste, just like practicing design methods does. Every design is a process. A poster, a graphic novel, an illustration or a story all of them need time and the right components to grow well. Cooking is creating identities and carrying them all over the place whereever we are going. Design too. When identities are suppressed or not having enough space, this can turn into resistance. Like cooking can. Like design can. The workshop will look closer at patterns, colours, textures, shapes and their identities of cooking and transform into design practices.



Date: August 4th, 5th, 11th, 12th

Time: 1.45 - 6 PM

Location: *foundationClass

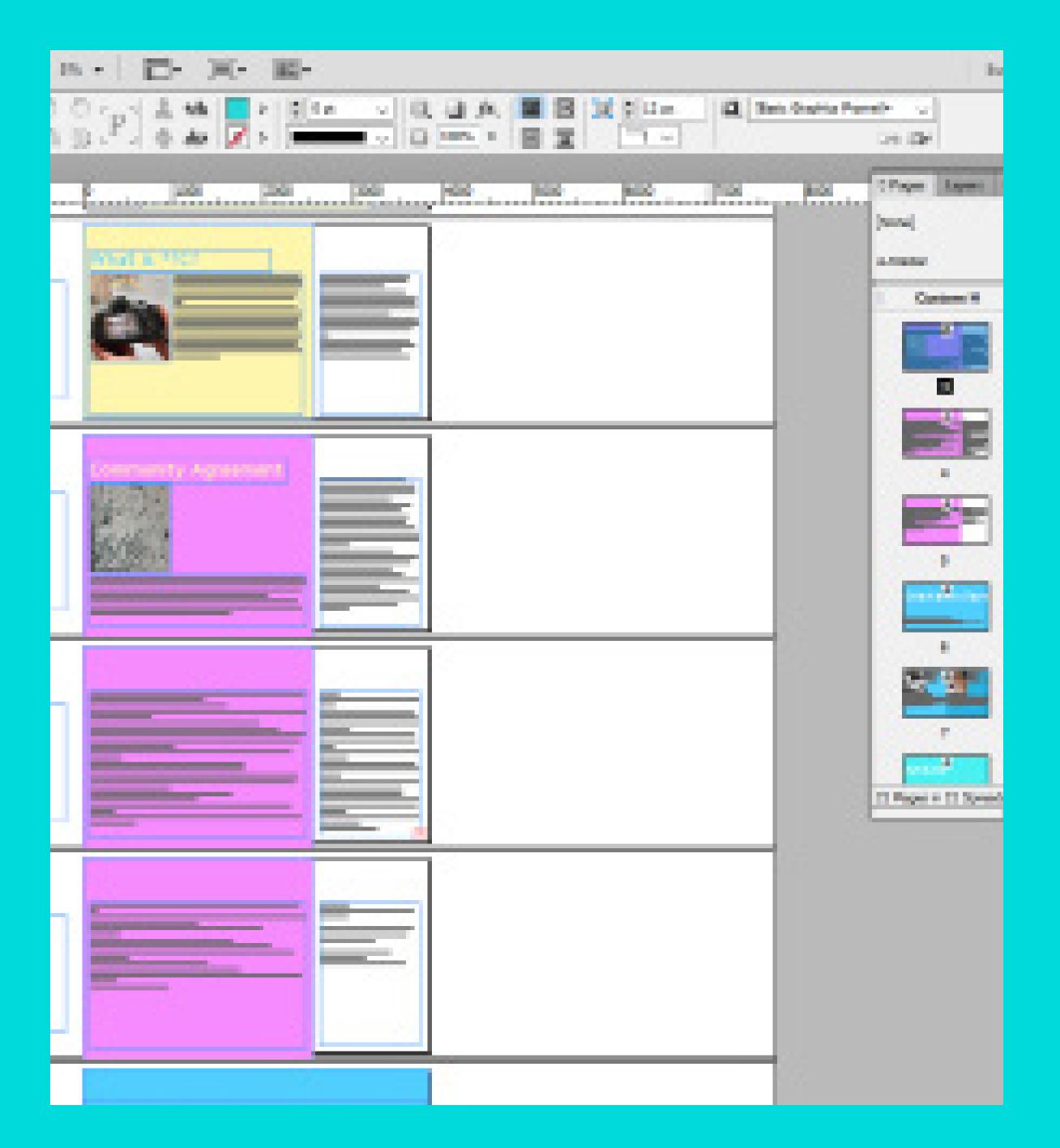
& Grundlagen space

With Ali Kaaf

Aritistic expression in space 3 dimensional models and 2 dimensional images

This workshop explores different approaches to visual expression in the space.

Students will learn how to develop artistic processes and strategies of translating personal experience into visual form(s). They will realise their concepts in a 3-dimensional model and then translate their results into 2-dimensional images.



Individual support by appointment Date: July 20th, 27th / August 3rd

Time: by appointment

Location: *foundationClass

& Grundlagen space

With Mohamad Halbouni & Mariama Sow

Software support

Mariama and Mohamed will be in the *foundationClass space every Tuesday by appointment to support you in using softwares like InDesign, Photoshop, Illustrator, Première and others.

Empowerment

WORKShops



HangOut - FLINTA* Space with Yemisi Babatola

Date & Time: July 15th, 27th / August 2, from 6 PM

Location: Kunsthalle

With Yemisi Babatola

Empowerment HangOut for FLINTA* - Women Lesbians Inter Trans Asexual *fC members who want to meet and exchange. This is a space only for FLINTA*. Why FLINTA* and not "only" women? Because we recognise that there are other genders beyond "man" and "woman" and we welcome everyone to empower themselves in a space without cis-men.



Workshop - Gender & Language

Date & Time: July 14th, 9.30 AM - 1 PM

Location: Kunsthalle max. 15-20 participants

With Rafia Gross & Sheikha Shahnaz

Empowerment and reflection space on the topics: How can I address my fellow human beings in a gender-sensitive way? What is gender anyway? What does privilege mean and how can I deal with it well? Together with Sheikha and Rafia from Gladt e.V. we will address these and many more questions. Gladt e.V. is an association that does intersectional educational work from a queer PoC perspective.

Workshop - Political Theatre & Bodywork

Date and Time: July 28th, 9.30 AM - 1 PM

Location: Kunsthalle max. 7-10 participants With Sebastian Fleary

Photo: Yemisi Babatola

Empowerment workshop with theatre-pedagogical methods (improtheatre & theatre of the oppressed). We will use body-centred methods to enter into holistic communication and positioning with ourselves, with each other and with political relations.

How can I as an artist find a clear stance and position? What do I stand for? Where are you? Where am I? How can I listen better to the signals of my body?

collective

Spaces



Free Studio

Date & time: ongoing, during the free times between the workshops Location: *foundationClass & Grundlagen space

The summer school offers fixed workshops but also "Free Studio time" to work on your own and self-organised. To apply to an art, design or film university, you will need to develop your own practice, which means to be able to generate ideas and realize them. In the free studio time, you will be able to continue working on a project you have started in a workshop, complete an assignment, or just experiment.

The Free Studio time is also a collective space where you can get to know and interact with the other participants of the *foundationClass 2021

Film evenings

Date & time: July 16th, 23rd / August 6th, from 6 PM each

Location: Kunsthalle

With Mohamad Halbouni

Film evenings take place fridays after the workshops. We will meet in Kunsthalle with snacks and drinks to watch films and discuss them. You are also invited to bring your own films and video works or works that you would like to share with the group. The aim of this activity is to get a little bit of inspiration, practice presenting and discussing artworks in an art class.



Portfolio Day

Date & time: August 9th, 1.45 - 6 PM

Location: Kunsthalle

With *foundationClass team

How can a portfolio look like? What does it contain? How do I apply for an art, design or film school?

What are the requirements & deadlines? In this workshop, we will do some research together and explore the different steps of your application to an art, design or film school. The *foundationClass team and former *foundationClass participants (who are now students and/or working artists) will share their knowledge, experiences with you.

In this workshop, we will do some research together and explore the different steps of your application to an art, design or film school. The *foundationClass team and former *foundationClass participants (who are now students and/or working artists) will share their knowledge, experiences and answer questions.

Exhibition

Date & time: August 12th installation, 13th presentation, all day

Location: Kunsthalle

With the support of Mariama Sow, Mohamad Halbouni & Nadira Husain

We will end the summer school with celebrating our work(s). After a full month of workshops and studio practice, you will be able to exhibit an artwork, a draft of your portfolio or sketches of a project. Basically anything that seems relevant to your practice and that has been produced during the Summer School.

The conceptualization of your project as well as its realization will occur while following the program. This will help you to bring together the inputs you will receive with your own artistic or design practice. This project can be produced during the workshops and the Free Studio time. The exhibition will be the closing celebration of the summer school. The second part of *foundationClass starts in September.

Timetable

The following coursec are basic and we ask you to attend them all: Introduction Day, Gender & Language Workshop, Art History seminar, Portfolio Day and Exhibition. Additionally, we ask you to choose a minimum of three artistic workshops. And of course - always gladly more!

The reason for this guideline is, that we try to create a common knowledge base as a group and to initiate/develop strong artistic practices. We see your participation in the above courses as a prerequisite to continue working together in the second half of *foundationClass 2021.

Gender & Language

Workshop with Rafia Shahnaz & Sheikha Gross

9.30 AM - 1 PM Kunsthalle

Introduction Day

Welcome with everyone

12 - 6 PM

*fC + Grundlagen space

Confluence

Expanded Painting Workshop with Nadira

1.45 - 6 PM

*fC + Grundlagen space

Whose art history?

Theory Workshop with Rena Onat

1.45 - 6 PM Kunsthalle

Whose art history?

Whose art history?

Theory Workshop with Rena Onat

1.45 - 6 PM Kunsthalle

HangOut

FLINTA* Space with Yemisi Babatola

6 PM - open Kunsthalle

Film Screening

with Mohamad Halbouni

6PM - open

Monday, July 19th.

Tuesday, July 20th.

Wednesday, July 21st. Thursday, July 22nd.

Friday, July 23rd.

How to start?

esign Research Workshop with Mariama Sow

9.30 AM - 1 PM fC + Grundlagen space

Introduction to technical equipment

with Mohammad Halbouni

:10 AM - 1 PM *fC + Grundlagen space

Silkscreen

Workshop

with Nadira Husain & Mariama Sow

10 AM - 5 PM Silkscreen Workshop

Silkscreen

Workshop

with Nadira Husain & Mariama Sow

10 AM - 5 PM Silkscreen Workshop

Confluence

Expanded Painting

Workshop

with Nadira Husain

1.45 - 6 PM

*fC + Grundlagen space

Cooking up Resistances

Workshop

with Krishan Rajapakshe

1.45 - 6 PM

*fC + Grundlagen space

Film Screening

with Mohamad Halbouni

How to start?

Design Research Workshop with Mariama Sow

9.30 AM - 1 PM

*fC + Grundlagen space

Software Support

with Mariama Sow & Mohamad Halbouni

(by appointment)

*fC + Grundlagen space

Political Theatre & Bodywork

Worskhop with Sebastian

9.30 AM - 1 PM Kunsthalle Free studio

Grundlagen space

9.30 AM Grundlagen space

Free studio

Open

Confluence

Expanded Painting

Workshop with Nadira

1.45 - 6 PM

*fC + Grundlagen space

Cooking up

Resistances

Workshop
with Krishan Rajapakshe

1.45 - 6 PM

*fC + Grundlagen space

ilm

Workshop

with Khaled Mzher & Mohamad Halbouni

1.45 - 6 PM

Kunsthalle

Cooking up Resistances

Workshop with Krishan Rajapakshe

1.45 - 6 PM

*fC + Grundlagen space

Savvy Contemporary

& Picnic

Excursion with everyone

time to be confirmed Savvy Contemporary

HangOut

FLINTA* Space with Yemisi Babatola

6 PM - open

Kunsthalle

Tuesday, August 3rd

Wednesday, August 4th

Thursday, August 5th

Friday, August 6th

How to start?

Design Research Workshop with Mariama Sow

9.30 AM - 1 PM *fC + Grundlagen space

Software Support

with Mariama Sow & Mohamad Halbouni

(by appointment)

*fC + Grundlagen space

Free studio

open

Free studio

Free studio

Open open space

AM - open space

*fC + Grundlagen space

Confluence

Expanded Painting

Workshop

with Nadira Husain

1.45- 6 PM

*fC + Grundlagen space

Cooking up

Resistances

Workshop with Krishan Rajapakshe

1.45 - 6 PM

*fC + Grundlagen space

Artistic expression

in space

workshop with Ali Kaaf

1.45 - 6 PM

*fC + Grundlagen space

Artistic expression

in space

Workshop
with Ali Kaaf

1.45 - 6 PM

*fC + Grundlagen space

'ilm

Workshop

with Khaled Mzher & Mohama Halbouni

1.45 - 6 PM

HangOut

FLINTA* Space with Yemisi Babatola

6 PM - open Kunsthalle

Film Screening

with Mohamad Halbouni

6 PM - open

Kunsthalle

Monday, August 9th

Tuesday, August 10th

Wednesday, August 11th

Thursday, August 12th Friday, August 13th

Portiono Day

Applying & studying at an art, design or film school _ How? Where? What?

1.45 - 6 PM Kunsthalle

Artistic expression in space

Workshop with Ali Kaaf

1.45 - 6 PM

*fC + Grundlagen space

Artistic expression in space

Workshop with Ali Kaaf

1.45 - 6 PM

*fC + Grundlagen space

Exhibition

Installation

with everyone

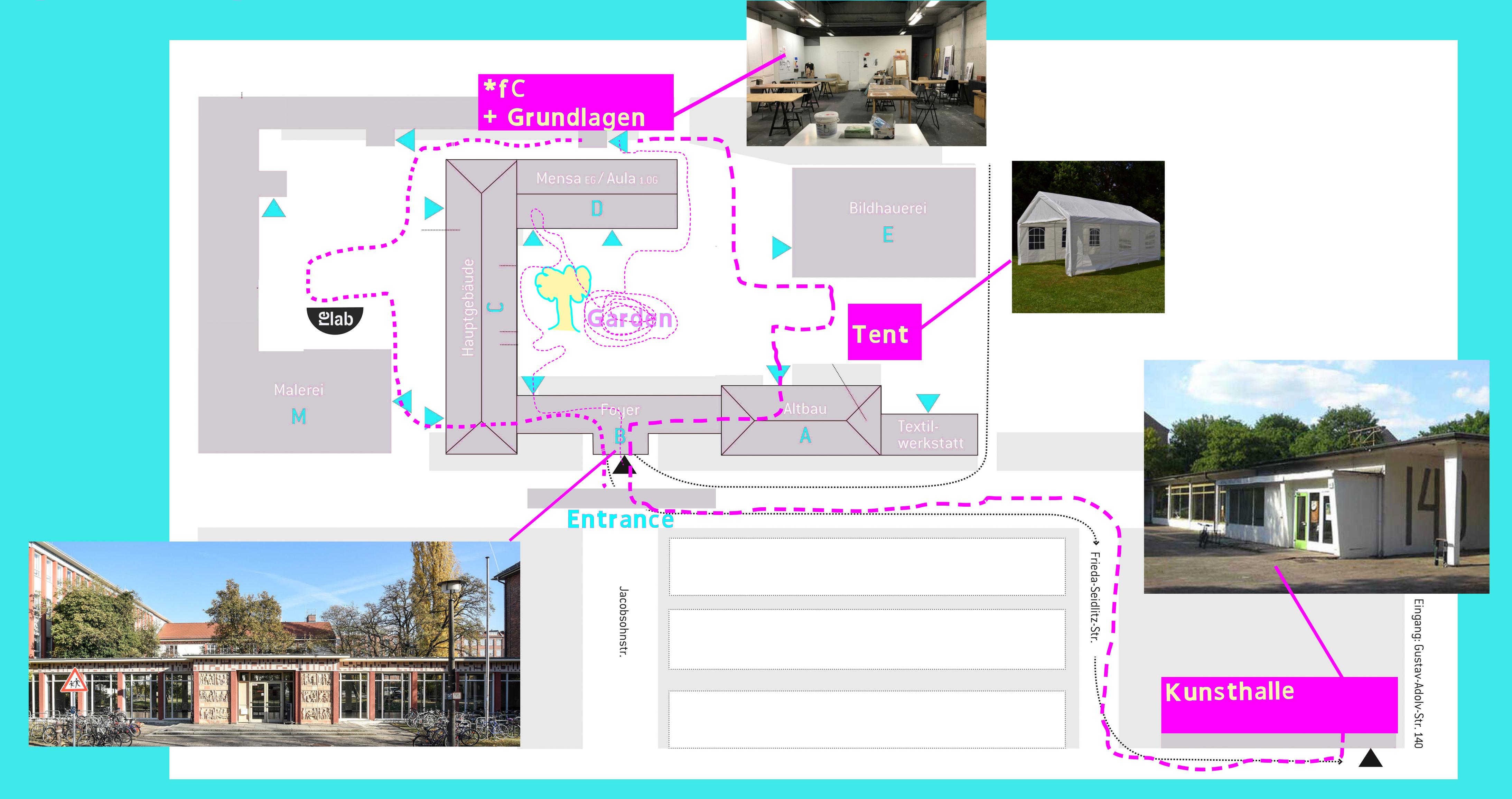
9.30 AM - open Kunsthalle

Exhibition Opening

with everyone

9.30 AM -open Kunsthalle

Spaceplan



Glossary

Pronouns

Pronouns are there to describe the gender of a person and, most importantly, it is choosen to describe oneself. Pronouns, like gender, move on a spectrum. There are many pronouns besides 'he' and 'she'. It's also fun to try out new ones. Especially for queer people, it's often a liberation. It is very important to take people's chosen pronouns seriously and to respect them. https://gender.wikia.org/wiki/Pronouns

Empowerment

Empowerment stands for self_strengthening and can include anything from access to resources, to self-acknowledgement and sharing skills or knowledge. The focus is not on being empowered from the outside but on recognising one's own strength. Empowerment is seen in the context of different systems of oppression as a tool to support people with experiences of discrimination and to reduce unequal access. For some it is important that empowerment spaces are offered by people who have also experienced discrimination themselves.

Racism

Racism is the linking of prejudice with institutional power. Contrary to (comfortable) popular opinion, a 'dislike' or 'malice' towards people or groups of people is not a prerequisite for racism. Racism is not a personal or political 'attitude' but an institutionalised system in which social, economic, political and cultural relations work for white supremacy. Racism is a global group privilege that consistently favours white people and their interests. "Individual participation in racism occurs when the objective result of a behaviour reinforces that relationship; regardless of whether there is a subjective intention behind it." Racism is white supremacy.

Aus: Noah Sow "Wie Rassismus aus Wörtern Spricht"

Spellings

The colon (:), underscore (_) and asterisk (*) in texts are placeholders for content that a word cannot express. In German, the generic masculine is linguistically normalised. However, this excludes quite a lot of people. That's why we write 'gegendert', so instead of Künstler, we write Künstler*innen and verbalise a pause to also linguistically reflect the reality of gender diversity. All ways of writing have the same goal, but they are influenced by different currents. We use the gender asterisk established in queer communities.

Awareness

Stands for mindfulness or attention. With a mindful attitude, I am aware of my own actions as much as possible and understand that they affect my environment. For example, in mindful spaces it is important to distinguish between impact and intent. If your actions have affected a person, it is not important at first what your intention was. This also makes it much easier to deal responsibly with violations and boundary crossings. In order to deal well with each other in spaces or at events, there are awareness concepts or mindfulness agreements.

BIPoC

BIPoC stands for Black, Indigenous, and People of Colour. BIPoC is an alliance term, naming some of many political and activist self-designations. It is an umbrella term by and for people who themselves experience different forms of racism and want to relate their experience within this social hierarchy.

See:

http://www.migrationsrat.de/glossar/bipoc/

http://platzfuerdiversitaet.org/1/glossar.html

https://diversity-arts-culture.berlin/diversity-arts-culture/woerterbuch

& Contact

Mohamad Halbouni (he, him, his)

My name is Mohamad Halbouni currently studying sculpture at weißensee kunsthochschule berlin. I am one of the tutors/co-teachers in *foundationClass since 2019 and I am interested in time based media.

Mariama Sow (she, her, hers)

My name is Mariama, currently i am studying fashion design at weißensee kunsthochschule berlin and work as a freelance costume designer. In my work i'm interested in political aspects of clothing in the context of empowerment and representation of black bodies. As a tutor/co-teacher in the *foundationclass summerschool i can offer support and advice from a design and student perspective.

Josefine Gindorf (she, her, hers or no pronouns)

Josefine studies stage and costume design at weißensee kunsthochschule berlin. Josefine is a co-teacher/tutor in *foundationClass since 2018 and on maternity leave until August 2021.

Ali Kaaf (he/him/his)

In 1998, Ali graduated in Fine Arts from the Institut des Beaux-Arts in Beirut. From 2000-2005, he studied fine arts at the University of the Arts in Berlin. In 2011, he led workshops titled "FragileStrength" at the Yellowstone Art Museum in Billings, Montana. Ali has held a teaching position in the *foundationClass at weißensee kunstochschule berlin since 2016. Ali lives and works in Berlin.

Khaled Mzher (he, him, his)

Khaled was born in Damascus in May 1984. He graduated from the Institute of Dramatic Arts in Damascus in 2007. Between 2009-2011 Khaled attended the directing department at the National Polish Film, Television and Theatre School in Lodz (PWSFTViT). Since 2012, Khaled studies at the directing department at the German Film and Television Academy in Berlin. Khaled teaches in *foundationClass since end of 2019.

Rena Onat (she, her, hers)

Rena is a gender equality officer (Frauen*beauftragte) and an art and media scholar.

She has just finished her doctoral thesis on artworks by QTIBIPoC artists in the German context highlighting expressions of queer of color critique in and through art and visual culture. Rena is teaching in *foundationClass since 2018. She is a turkish-german femme of color who likes horses.

Krishan Rajapakshe (no pronouns)

I am Krishan Rajapakshe. Dealing with pronouns is a continuous, complex process and right now I just prefer "Krishan". I am a designer and visual artist, illustrator and design educator. I am using designs as my political push, art practice and move. I am trying to keep aware and conscious about what is burning over our skin. And the design is my healing practice as well.

Nadira Husain (she, her, hers)

I am Nadira Husain. I am an Indian-french visual artist and an art educator. Through my expanded practice of painting, I am searching for a visual language that can embodied cultures of migration. I am involved with *foundationClass since 2017.

Yemisi Babatola (no pronouns, they + them)

I am involved with *foundationClass as member of the orga team and the empowerment commissioner of weißensee kunsthochschule berlin since October 2020. I define empowerment as holding spaces for people on the margins to discover themselves and their own power. Outside I am engaged with different grassroots projects by and for Queer BIPoC and Black people.

Katharina Kersten (she/her/hers)

I am Katharina and, except for a one-year break for parental leave,mI've been part of the *foundationClass organising team since 2017. I am white and from that perspective, I try to (un-)learn and to support awareness/ transformation at the weißensee kunsthochschule berlin and in my surroundings. For some years now I am engaged in a feminist street theatre group.

Ulf Aminde (he/him/his)

My name is Ulf, I position myself as white and am not in the *foundationClass anymore since April 2021. However, I support the orga team and teach a professorship in the FoundationYear department. The *foundationClass is supported by this department as much as possible. I am always available if you are looking for contact in any department or other teachers : aminde@kh-berlin.de

We see questions as a chance to get and stay in conversation with you and to learn from each other. So we are always happy listen to your questions, feedback, ideas and critics regarding *foundationClass 2021. We can provide concrete advice on *foundationClass teaching and coordination, weißensee kunsthochschule berlin and other study programs, the application process, scholarships, support with social-legal bureaucracy (for example Ausländerbehörde, BAMF, BAföG-Amt and Job Center). We can make connections to various empowerment spaces, refer to a network of lawyers or legal counseling organisations and can help to find mental (and physical) health support.

"We" are Yemisi and Katharina, the Orga-Team of *foundationClass.

You can reach us as follows:

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