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Last-Minute Change: New Location and Special Promotion - Node Burst? **Securing the OSTRALE Biennale 2019 in Dresden within reach**

Dresden. From 11 June to 1 September, the OSTRALE international exhibition of contemporary art will take place for the 12th time in Dresden. Once again, OSTRALE promises to be a lively, versatile and valuable event, where the work of artists in residence from different parts of the world can be experienced directly and where performances, workshops, seminars and educational tours for hundreds of school classes complement the exhibition. The planning currently includes up to 130 artists from 38 countries and over 290 works of art at six exhibition venues in Dresden.

For the first time, the event cannot take place in the historical feed stables in Dresden's Osragehege. The administration had suggested Messe Dresden as a substitute venue. However, in addition to the costs for the technical equipment of the empty exhibition hall, this would also have meant considerable rental and ancillary rental costs. According to preliminary consultations, these would probably not have been taken over by the city - and would have far exceeded OSTRALE's budget.

For this reason, the OSTRALE management has now decided to take advantage of an alternative solution provided at short notice by the OSTRALE.freunde Circle of Friends: **This summer the OSTRALE Biennale will use parts of the historic tobacco factory f6 in Striesen.** The change of the building permit is currently being examined together with the responsible authorities. Together with the special funding of 150,000 euros currently requested by the city council in view of the elimination of the feed stables, this would ensure that the OSTRALE Biennale 2019 in Dresden will take place. This would close the coverage gap between the calculated costs, the entrance fees and the previously promised subsidies (European Social Fund, Funds Turn of the Federal Cultural Foundation, Institutional Funding by the City of Dresden and Aktion Mensch).

Annekatriin Klepsch, Deputy Commissioner for Culture and Tourism, City of Dresden: *"After the well-known problems and detours, it is gratifying that Ostrale can now take place in Dresden this year. With the former f6 cigarette factory, there is a new, interesting place for art, very close to the Technical Collections, and other places where art can be presented in a decentralised manner this year. It would be a trend-setting signal, if the city council decides to help enable Ostrale to take place this year with a further promotion at a value of 150.000 euro in this year. It would be a positive sign above all in the interest of the visitors, the numerous school classes, art lovers in the city and last but not least the art tourists".*

OSTRALE Biennale Director Andrea Hilger: *"Enormously gratefully we take the opportunity of using the former office building of the historic tobacco factory f6 as the main area of our decentralised OSTRALE Biennale this year. We hope to be able to use the exciting basements as well as the 2nd and 3rd floors. Together with the responsible authorities, we are currently determining the exact areas for which a change in the building permit is possible - the extent of use will then depend on this determination."*

OSTRALE

Biennale für zeitgenössische Kunst

12. INTERNATIONALE AUSSTELLUNG

The OSTRALE Biennale is the third largest exhibition of contemporary art in Germany. It is not a sales exhibition as such giving it the freedom to discuss socially relevant and off the beaten track topics. The guiding principles of OSTRALE, such as peaceful coexistence, acceptance of the stranger/unknown, respectful treatment, religious diversity and internationalism are reflected in the exhibitions.

Sponsoring: BplusL Infra Log GmbH, Heinrichsthaler Milchwerke GmbH, Schneider + Partner GmbH, Spedition Detmers Transport GmbH, USD Immobilien Dresden GmbH

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