

Gefördert durch die <b>KULTURSTIFTUNG DES BUNDES</b>		Gefördert durch die Die Beauftragte der Bundesregierung für Kultur und Medien		<b>Andrzej Steinbach</b> 05.11.2022–05.03.2023		<b>OSNABRÜCK</b> DIE   FRIEDENSTADT	
<b>Forum DCCA</b> 25.06.2022–16.10.2022		Niedersächsisches Ministerium für Wissenschaft und Kultur		<b>Anna Haifisch</b> 25.06.2022–05.03.2023		Mit freundlicher Unterstützung der <b>Vereinte Volksbank eG</b>	
<b>Gabriella Hirst</b> 25.06.2022–05.03.2023		Gefördert durch die <b>bob:</b> Bundeszentrale für politische Bildung		<b>Cemile Sahin</b> 05.11.2022–05.03.2023		<b>Irène Mélix</b> 25.06.2022–05.03.2023	
Freunde der Kunsthalle Osnabrück e.V.		<b>Hannah Quinlan Rosie Hastings</b> 25.06.2022–16.10.2022				Ausstellungs- und Vermittlungsprogramm/ Exhibition and Art Mediation Programme	

# ROMANTICISM

**Gabriella Hirst**  
*Battlefield*  
 Kunsthalle Osnabrück, Osnabrück  
 June 25, 2022 – March 5, 2023

Against the backdrop of a global pandemic and a war in Ukraine, Kunsthalle Osnabrück sets out to explore the question: What's the current state of our hope and desire for love, identity and belonging? This year's theme "Romanticism" uses the eponymous art and literature movement as a distorting mirror with which to examine the current state of society. Sweeping across Germany and Europe, hardly any other movement has managed to shape such a strong collective feeling situated between departure, nostalgia and nationalism through aesthetic means. Set against the backdrop that is the museum's medieval architecture, the Kunsthalle wants to investigate whether the current sense of global turmoil has inspired a comeback of the visual and linguistic worlds of Romanticism. The exhibition programme of the annual theme includes solo exhibitions by the Forum Democratic Culture and Contemporary Art, Anna Haifisch, Gabriella Hirst, Irène Mélix, Cemile Sahin, Andrzej Steinbach, Hannah Quinlan & Rosie Hastings.

Gabriella Hirst is interested in gardening and cultivation as embedded with historic layers of conquest, on the one hand, and care, on the other. Her constantly expanding living and dying archive of plants reveals a complex history, reflected in the breeder's naming of plant varieties based on historical events. The installation *Battlefield*, conceived for the courtyard of the Kunsthalle Osnabrück, cites the construction of military drill formations and historical garden designs and focuses on plant cultivars as historical heritage and culture of remembrance. The approximately 200 plant varieties used have been named after famous battles, conquered territories, generals or weapons.

Through the compilation of the violent events in the plant names, which are conveyed via botanical signs, the flowers as objects are given an extended connotation or meaning, through which the visitor is offered a connection to the historical event and a reflection on our political present.

Gabriella Hirst (AU) lives and works in Berlin and London. She currently teaches as a visiting lecturer at the Royal College of Art, London. Her work is exhibited internationally, including at the Art Gallery of New South Wales (2021), Goethe Institut, London, CAC Vilnius (2020), or Focal Point Gallery, UK. She has received numerous awards and grants, including most recently the ACMI Ian Potter Moving Image Commission (2020). The exhibition at Kunsthalle Osnabrück will be the artist's first institutional solo show in Germany.



Gabriella Hirst, *Battlefield*, installation view  
Kunsthalle Osnabrück, 2022. Photo: Lucie  
Marsmann



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### Supporters:

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Kunsthalle Osnabrück, Hasemauer 1, 49074 Osnabrück  
Due to COVID-19, all information is subject to change –  
any changes will be published on our website

**Kunsthalle**

Di/Tue-So/Sun 11:00-18:00

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**Osnabrück**