



To the Press

Milo Rau
«Warum Kunst?»

17 November – 18 December 2022

Late Night Opening: Thursday, 17 November 2022, 10 p.m.
Press Release: On request

The Kunst Halle Sankt Gallen is pleased to present the exhibition «Warum Kunst?» (engl. «Why art?») by Milo Rau. The show looks back on 15 years of art and activism by the theatre director and author who grew up in St.Gallen. His activities and projects range from the controversial action *City of Change* advocating for the introduction of voting rights for foreigners in St.Gallen, to the people's trials in Moscow and Zurich. He has also opened a film school in Mosul/IQ and last year created the film *Das Neue Evangelium*, a contemporary reimagining of the Passion of the Christ. Prompted by Rau's work, the exhibition poses fundamental questions: How does radical, socially engaged art operate? Is a global, transnational art possible? What are microecologies? Can art change the world, or: why art at all?

The exhibition will feature video and film works, installations, and archival materials, placing different projects in relation to one another. This will give the audience a deeper insight into Rau's visual laboratory, artistic thinking and political activism. Familiar but also new and surprising aspects of Rau's work can be experienced in the exhibition.

On 17 November, 2022 Milo Rau will receive the Great Culture Prize of the St.Gallen Kulturstiftung, the highest cultural award granted by the Canton of St.Gallen. The prize honors "his diverse, internationally renowned, significant and courageous works". The Kunst Halle is very pleased to offer another platform to present his groundbreaking artistic practice.

Milo Rau was born 1977 in Berne and studied sociology, Romance languages and literature and German studies in Paris, Berlin and Zurich, among others with Pierre Bourdieu and Tzvetan Todorov. Since 2002, he has presented more than 50 plays, films, books and actions in over 30 countries. In 2007 he founded the International Institute of Political Murder (IIPM), and since the season of 2018/19 Milo Rau has acted as the artistic director of NTGent. Rau has received numerous awards, such as the International Theatre Institute's World Theatre Day Prize in 2016, the youngest artist ever to receive this award, and the Saarbrücken Poetics Lectureship for Drama in 2017. His plays and films have won critics' awards in over ten countries. In 2018, Milo Rau received the European Theatre Prize for his complete works.

Events and Educational Programme:

Late Night Opening

Thursday, 17 November 2022, 10 p.m. until late

Guided Tour on Tuesday

Tuesday, 22 November 2022, 6 p.m.
(afterwards **Introduction for Teachers**)

Guided Tour on Sunday

Sunday, 18 December 2022, 3 p.m.

Workshops for School Classes

From 23 November 2022 on, we are offering workshops in the exhibition.
See www.k9000.ch (Art Education/Workshops for School Classes)

High-resolution images can be found in the press kit on our website under Information/Press. For further questions please contact Céline Matter (matter@k9000.ch) or Giovanni Carmine (carmine@k9000.ch).

The Kunst Halle Sankt Gallen is supported by Stadt St.Gallen, Kulturförderung Kanton St.Gallen, Swisslos, Susanne und Martin Knechtli-Kradolfer-Stiftung, Ernst und Olga Gubler-Hablützel Stiftung, E. Fritz und Yvonne Hoffmann-Stiftung, Dr. Georg und Josi Guggenheim-Stiftung, Martel AG and Kulturförderung Appenzell Ausserrhoden.
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Opening times:
Tues to Fri 12 – 6 p.m.
Sat & Sun 11 a.m. – 5 p.m.