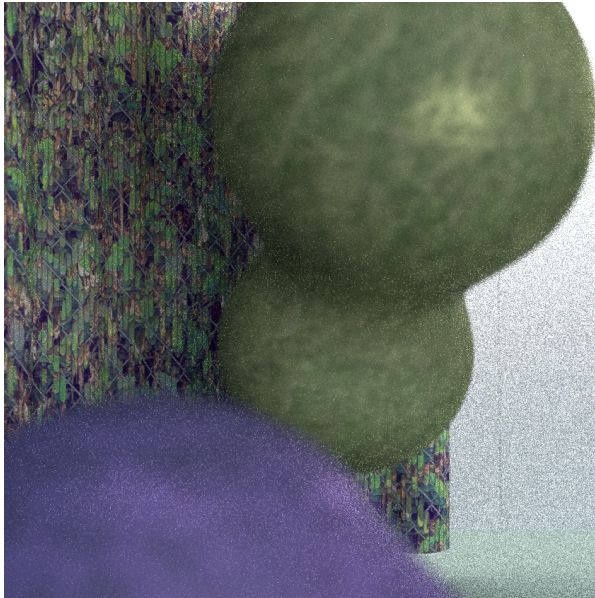


## PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release: March 15, 2022



### **Garage Exchange Vienna — Los Angeles *Cosmic Commissioner***

**Thursday, April 14 – Sunday, July 3, 2022**

#### **Mackey Apartments Garage Top**

1137 S. Cochran Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90019

#### **Opening Reception**

Thursday, April 14, 2022

6:00 - 8:00 PM

The MAK Center for Art and Architecture is pleased to present the nineteenth iteration of Garage Exchange Vienna — Los Angeles, *Cosmic Commissioner*. Vienna-based artists Hanakam & Schuller collaborate with Los Angeles architects Current Interests to develop a mise en scène for the Mackey Apartment's Garage Top Gallery. The underlying narrative of the exhibition is a satirical text by Victor Gruen from 1975. In this text, a cosmic commissioner meets various characters such as architects, urban planners and environmentalists on terra (earth). Reflecting on this text and its retro future imaginary, the gallery space gets re-rendered as an interior landscape of strangely specific surfaces, iridescent volumina, and muffled sounds.

*The planet is populated by billions of animal and plant life forms. Everything is very imaginatively and spiritually conceived and full of diversity in size, structure and color.*

*The actual object of my search, that living being which is called Homo sapiens, I did not get to see at the first moment. I will probably have to descend a little deeper to discover the alleged culprits.*

- Translated excerpt from Victor Gruen,  
*Ist Fortschritt ein Verbrechen?*, 1975

### **About the Artists**

**Hanakam & Schuller**, an artist duo that lives in Vienna, redesigns the rules of the fine arts for their own purposes and creates unconventional arrangements and new world designs in videos and objects.

Recent solo shows include Kunstraum Lakeside, Klagenfurt (A, 2019) and Muzej—Museo Lapidarium Novigrad (HR, 2019). Their video—animation *The Borgia Device (Second Day)* is part of the show ANTHROPOCENE ON HOLD — 20 artists address the impact of a global pandemic on arts ecosystems and earth's resilience and sustainability — by PCAI Polyeco Contemporary Art Initiative in Piraeus, Greece, curated by Kika Kyriakakou, accompanied by a catalogue with Hans Ulrich Obrist, Nadim Samman, Selina Nwulu (2020–21).

**Current Interests** is a Los Angeles based architectural design studio founded by Matthew Au and Mira Henry. As a creative collaboration, Current Interests' built work is grounded in notions of material specificity, color relationships, assembly details, and an engagement in critical cultural thinking. Matthew and Mira are design faculty at Southern California Institute for Architecture and have visiting faculty appointments at Princeton University and Harvard Graduate School of Design.

### **About Garage Exchange**

Garage Exchange seeks to foster relationships, conversations and collaborations in the arts between Los Angeles and Austria. In order to expand the cultural exchange at the core of the Artists and Architects-in-Residence program, The Austrian Federal Chancellery, and the MAK Center invite Austrian and Vienna-based alumni residents to collaborate with L.A. artists and architects of their choosing at the Garage Top at the Mackey Apartments for the Garage Exchange Vienna-Los Angeles exhibition series.

This exhibition series is made possible by The Austrian Federal Chancellery.

### **About the MAK Center for Art & Architecture**

The MAK Center for Art and Architecture is a multidisciplinary, experimental center for art and architecture that operates from a constellation of historic architectural sites and contemporary exhibition spaces. Offering a year-round schedule of exhibitions and events, the MAK Center presents programming that challenges conventional notions of architectural space and relationships between the creative arts. It is headquartered in the landmark Schindler House (R.M. Schindler, 1922) in West Hollywood; operates a residency program and exhibition space at the Mackey Apartments (R.M. Schindler, 1939) and runs more intimate programming at the Fitzpatrick-Leland House (R.M. Schindler, 1936) in Los Angeles. The MAK Center encourages exploration of practical and theoretical ideas in art and architecture by engaging the center's places, spaces, and histories. Its programming includes exhibitions, lectures, symposia, discussions, performances, music series, publication projects, salons, architecture tours, and new work commissions.

#### **For more information, visit:**

makcenter.org/  
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