Press Release
November 18, 2019
Düsseldorf

Art Düsseldorf Impresses Exhibitors and Visitors with Its Third Edition

With around 40,000 visitors, the third edition of Art Düsseldorf came to a successful close. The fair’s concept of giving an overview of important positions in contemporary art with a compact presentation by around 100 top-class exhibitors met once again with resounding success. This year, the exhibition course was enriched by the participation of important private collections, which were a valuable contribution to the fair experience. Through partnerships with institutions, galleries, collectors and artists, the fair was able to present a rich program that offered visitors from Germany and abroad a unique art weekend in the Rhineland. The next edition of Art Düsseldorf will take place from November 13 to 15, 2020.

“The overall feedback from exhibitors has been positive: all the collectors from the Rhineland made their way to the fair, gallery owners reported excellent sales and promising new contacts. With the third edition, we have shown that we are increasing the quality of the fair year by year and that we impress our visitors with new partnerships regionally and internationally”.

Walter Gehlen, Director of Art Düsseldorf

The expectations of several gallery owners were even exceeded: “We are overwhelmed. Our entire booth was already sold out after the second day of the fair, so we had to have new works delivered from Frankfurt. For us, the participation was a complete success,” Parisa Bouchet, Parisa Kind, Frankfurt am Main.

International exhibitors also positioned their artists successfully. Piero Atchugarry sold the works of his Uruguayan artists. “We were very happy to be back at Art Düsseldorf 2019. All of the works of the three artists from Uruguay have been sold to local collections,” Piero Atchugarry, Piero Atchugarry Gallery, Miami. The Madrid-based gallery owner Juana de Aizpuru sold three works by Wolfgang Tillmans.

According to the profile of the fair, numerous galleries from the Benelux countries took part again this year. Quentin Grosjean, QG Gallery, Brussels: “We are very happy with the results. We had good collectors: local collectors from Düsseldorf and Cologne. Our focus was mainly on German artists, very abstract, Günther Förg, Imi Knoebel, Georg Karl Pfahler, Penck, Baselitz. We had lots of good feedback and we would be delighted to come back next year, that is for sure.”

The galleries König and KOW from Berlin are also very satisfied with the results of the fair. “We achieved very good sales again this year: A sculpture worth 72,000 euros by Alicja Kwade went to a private collection in Munich and a work worth 32,000 euros to Münster. A Luxembourg collection acquired a canvas work by Rinus Van de Velde for 18,000 euros. Other works by Erwin Wurm, Katharina Grosse and Michael Sailstorfer were also placed in good collections. A work by Andreas Schmittgen went to the Kunstsammlung NRW,” Johann König, König Galerie, Berlin.
The Freundeskreis of the Kunstpalast Düsseldorf purchased *DDR Noir* (2019) by Henrike Naumann from KOW for 25,000 euros; 20,000 euros were donated by the Freundeskreis and 5,000 euros by Art Düsseldorf. The Kunstsammlung NRW acquired artwork by Jan Albers at the Van Horn Gallery in Düsseldorf. Daniela Steinfeld, Van Horn also reports on the purchase of a work by Sabine Fritsch by the Eon Kunstsammlung: “Top atmosphere and top-class audience. We are completely satisfied.”

The cooperation between institutions and galleries was particularly productive this year. Rhineland Independent, an association of four important Düsseldorf private collections (Julia Stoschek Collection, Langen Foundation, Philara Collection and KAI 10 | Arthena Foundation) celebrated its start at Art Düsseldorf with a booth presentation by the New York artist group Guerrilla Girls: “For an important art city like Düsseldorf, it is a great privilege to host a prestigious fair. This year, I am particularly pleased because the Julia Stoschek Collection itself was represented at the fair, and we had our own booth with three other excellent private collections from the Rhineland,” Julia Stoschek, Julia Stoschek Collection.

For Gregor Jansen, director of the Düsseldorf Kunsthalle, there are significant developments in various directions, not only for Düsseldorf, but for the Rhineland in general: “Art Düsseldorf and the surroundings of the fair with visitors, activities, attractions and special events enrich the art scene with diverse encounters of art enthusiasts from all over the world and create an energetic flair with potential.”

This year, with the rsvp section, Art Düsseldorf supported eleven galleries founded in the last ten years, which were invited by a jury and offered discounted booth prices. Galleries from New York, Tokyo, Dubai, Brussels as well as Berlin, Munich, Hamburg, Leipzig, Cologne and Düsseldorf were able to present themselves with an experimental program. “The people here are open-minded, curious and enthusiastic. We are very satisfied. The visitors are relaxed, which is due to the size and atmosphere of the fair. I sold the two artist positions presented very well – Megan Rooney and Anna Virnich (prices between 2,000 and 5,000 euros),” Dennis Hochköppeler, Drei, Cologne.

Talion Gallery from Japan was represented with a joint booth together with CAF (Contemporary Art Foundation, Tokyo). The young artist Shoma Kimura gave an insight into his work, which combines painting with virtual reality technology. “We sold all the paintings by Shoma Kimura to different European collections. We are happy and would be glad to be part of next year’s Art Düsseldorf”, Chihiro Watanabe, CAF, Tokio.

As part of the talk program, over three days national and international guests from Japan, Belgium, France, UK and the US discussed digital transformations in the art world. The relevance of the topic attracted not only a professional audience, but also numerous interested visitors. The talks could be followed live on the Instagram channel of Art Düsseldorf.

Photos of this year’s Art Düsseldorf can be found here: www.art-dus.de/press-images-2019/

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