Press release, June 13, 2023

## werkleitz

Werkleitz Festival 2023 *My Precious* Exhibition, films, walks June 2 – 18, 2023 Kornspeicher and Inspektorhaus at the Novalis Museum Wiederstedt Schäfergasse 6, D-06456 Arnstein, OT Wiederstedt <u>https://mein-schatz.werkleitz.de/en</u>

## Last exhibition weekend with a high profile panel discussion on structural change and culture as well as the role of art in transformation processes.

Social conditions are formed, tested and strengthened in culture. Art is predestined to explore new territory. With its curatorial and artistic, but also socio-geographical research in the Mansfeld-Südharz region, Werkleitz asks about old and new creations of values. "What is *My Precious* today?", the central question of this year's festival, is not least an invitation to the inhabitants of the former mining and industry area to look into the future by taking inventory of what already exists - whether of an ideal or material nature. Sebastian Putz, State Secretary for Culture in Saxony-Anhalt, asked at the end of his opening speech on 2 June whether the real treasure might be the people here in the region who have "qualified themselves through transformation, sometimes more, sometimes less painfully". On Saturday, 17 June at 14:00, Rainer Robra, Minister of State and Culture of Saxony-Anhalt, Antonia Lahmé, Director of the programme *TRAFO*. *Modelle für Kultur im Wandel* (TRAFO. Models for Culture in Transition) of the German Federal Cultural Foundation, and Werkleitz Director Daniel Herrmann will talk about structural change and cultural commitment in Mansfeld-Südharz as well as in comparable regions.



Play reading from the work S. Anders leben. Eine Handlung in Gesprächen [S. Living Differently. An Action in Conversations] by Stephanie Kiwitt © Werkleitz, 2023

On Friday, 2 June 2023, the Werkleitz Festival 2023 *My Precious* opened in the granary and inspector's house at the Novalis Museum Wiederstedt. Welcoming speeches were given by Sebastian Putz, State Secretary for Culture of the State of Saxony-Anhalt, André Schröder, District Administrator of Mansfeld-Südharz, and Janet Klaus, representative of the City of Arnstein. The curators Daniel Herrmann and Alexander Klose then gave an introduction to the topics and questions of the festival, followed by a guided tour by the curators, until the evening ended with music.  $\rightarrow$  Listen to a shortened recording of the greetings and opening speech (in German)

After eight successful festival days, Werkleitz is facing the finissage weekend. From 15 to 18 June, the exhibition will be open one last time. The weekend will be framed by a broad programme of accompanying events. In addition to the discussion between Rainer Robra, Antonia Lahmé and Daniel Herrmann on Saturday afternoon, there will be artist talks with the artists Karsten Bott, Juliane Henrich and Agnieszka Polska on Saturday and Sunday. Lars Fischer will lead thematic strolls through the region on both weekend days. On Saturday evening *Palermo* will be playing a DJ-set from 20:00, whilst next door the Wiederstedt volunteer fire brigade will be celebrating its 15th anniversary on the grounds - a double occasion to celebrate! The festival ends with a closing tour through the exhibition with the curators Daniel Herrmann and Alexander Klose on Sunday, 18 June, at 15:00.  $\rightarrow$  all information on the programme

The film programme Schnitt ins Land (Cut into the Land) already concludes on Thursday, 16 June at 20:00, curated by Florian Wüst, at the Zazie Kino in Halle.  $\rightarrow$  Information on the film programme in Halle

Opening hours of the exhibition and film room in Wiederstedt (3.6 to 18.6.): TH 11:00 a.m. - 05:00 p.m. FR 03:00 p.m. - 08:00 p.m. SA 11:00 a.m. - 08:00 p.m. SU 11:00 a.m. - 05:00 p.m.

Admission to all festival events is free. Guided tours for groups can be arranged outside opening hours upon request. Contact: info@werkleitz.de

Arrival Kornspeicher and Inspektorhaus at the Novalis Museum Wiederstedt Schäfergasse 6, D-06456 Arnstein, OT Wiederstedt Parking spaces are available for those arriving by car. → information on the arrival by train or car

Cooperation partner

Cooperation partners are the district of Mansfeld South Harz, the city of Arnstein and the Research Center for Early Romanticism and Novalis Museum Oberwiederstedt Castle.

Press contact: Marlen Kaufmann, <u>presse@werkleitz.de</u> If required, our press kit for this year's festival is available under the following <u>link</u>.

Werkleitz Gesellschaft e.V. | Schleifweg 6 | 06114 Halle (Saale) | <u>presse@werkleitz.de</u> | 0049 345 68246 10 | werkleitz.de | facebook | twitter | instagram | newsletter |

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