

Press release, May 22, 2023

Werkleitz Festival 2023

My Precious

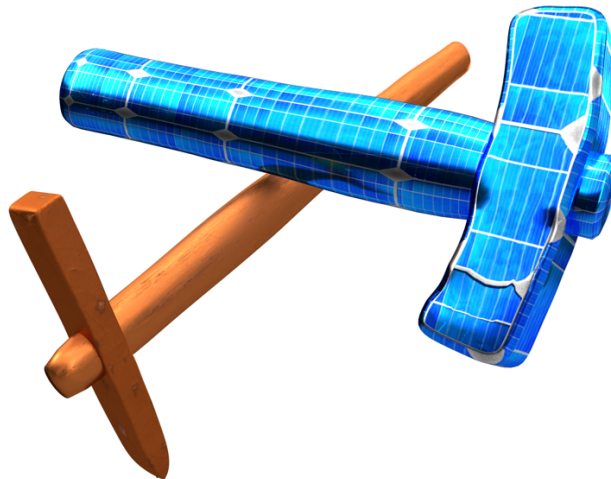
Exhibition, films, walks

June 2 – 18, 2023

Kornspeicher and Inspektorhaus at the Novalis Museum Wiederstedt

Schäfergasse 6, D-06456 Arnstein, OT Wiederstedt

<https://mein-schatz.werkleitz.de/en>



Nature does not want to be the exclusive possession of a single individual.
(Novalis, *Heinrich von Ofterdingen*)

What is *My Precious* today? And what does that still have to do with exquisite materials from underground? An exhibition project about local and global mining, its consequences as well as its people and natural conditions.

Mansfeld region 2023. The mining district in the triangle between Eisleben, Sandersleben was up until recently a place of hard work down in the mines and in the foundries. Now the region is seeking new added values and virtues. It is said that mining shapes people in a special way. Today, 30 years after the abrupt end, what about the afterlife and survival of the old values? What new values have been created?

Werkleitz has invited ten internationally working artists for the **2023 *My Precious* festival**. With eight new works created specifically for the festival and two works adapted to the local conditions, they respond to the complex *mélange* of questions that arise when looking at the Mansfeld region today. A film room curated by Florian Wüst in the Inspektorhaus, as well as a dense program of artist talks, guided thematic walks, workshops for children, concerts, readings, and much more complete the festival offerings.

The participating artists are, in alphabetical order: Ana Alenso, Mabe Bethônico, Karsten Bott, Viktor Brim, Felicitas Fäßler, Juliane Henrich, Stephanie Kiwitt, Barbara Marcel, Agnieszka Polska, and Egill Sæbjörnsson.

***My precious* opens on Friday, 2nd of June, at 6:00 pm** in the Kornspeicher (Granary) and the former Inspektorhaus (Inspector's House) at the Novalis Museum Wiederstedt. Opening messages will be given by Sebastian Putz, state secretary for culture in Saxony-Anhalt, André Schröder, district administrator of the county Mansfeld-Südharz, and Janet Klaus, representant of the city of Arnstein. At 8:00 pm, after a short reception, the curators Daniel Herrmann and Alexander Klose will lead through the festival exhibition. At 9:00 pm, there will be a soundperformance by the Berlin DJ duo INKASSO, followed by a set by DJ Stoker from Halle starting at 10:00 pm.

The festival location has an eventful history. Originally, there was a Dominican convent here, later a noble estate, where the poet and philosopher Friedrich von Hardenberg alias Novalis was born 250 years ago. The former Kornspeicher (Granary) and the former Inspektorhaus (Inspector's House) serve as exhibition and festival spaces.

On display in the atmospherically dense spaces, which range from the large storage cellar to the church roof truss and were mostly awakened from a long Sleeping Beauty slumber for the festival, are large-scale installations, sculptures, video projections and delicate graphic works. → [more information about the works](#)

A film room curated by Florian Wüst in the Inspektorhaus as well as a dense program of artist talks, guided thematic walks, workshops for children, concerts, readings and much more complete the festival offerings. → [to the detailed program](#)

The Werkleitz Festival 2023 will also take place in Halle (Saale), the headquarters of the Werkleitz Gesellschaft: On the three Thursdays of the festival, beginning on June 1, a film program compiled and moderated by Florian Wüst will be shown in the program cinema Zazie at 8:00 p.m. each day. → [to the film program](#)

A photo magazine will be published to accompany the festival. The idea for this came from a photo competition initiated by Werkleitz, which called on Mansfeld residents to send in pictures of their home region, which for them represent answers to the question "What is your precious?" → [more information about the photo magazine](#)

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

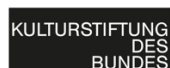
Cooperation partners are the district of Mansfeld South Harz, the city of Arnstein and the Research Center for Early Romanticism and Novalis Museum Oberwiederstedt Castle.

Press contact: Marlen Kaufmann, presse@werkleitz.de

If required, our press kit for this year's festival is available under the following [link](#).

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