



# Leander Schönweger. *The Fog Disperses* Kunsthalle Wien Prize 2014 15/10 – 16/11 2014

## **Press conference**

Tuesday October 14, 2014, 11 am

## **Award ceremony and opening**

Tuesday October 14, 2014, 7 pm

## **Artist talk Lucas Gehrmann & Leander Schönweger**

Tuesday October 28, 2014, 7 pm

*The Fog Disperses* is an impressive scenario situated at the glass cube of Kunsthalle Wien Karlsplatz. In the exhibition space, Leander Schönweger sets up what appears to be a deserted campsite. A campfire is burning. We see opened cans of beer standing around. Outdoor cooking and eating paraphernalia has been unpacked but remains unused. At the opposite end of the space, a car with no passengers sits at an idle, lights on and with a door open, but nobody is there. What has happened, here? And why?

Evolving from his diploma project *The Creator Has a Master Plan*, which won the Kunsthalle Wien Prize 2014, Leander Schönweger has developed an installation for the exhibition space at Kunsthalle Wien Karlsplatz that indicates mysteries, rather than – as its title might suggest – offers solutions. This installation is not an adapted version of Schönweger's diploma project, but an entirely new work that does, however, feature some recognizable parallels and analogies.

Like his diploma project, *The Fog Disperses* is an in-situ installation: both works were created especially for the respective exhibition venues. "I always imagine the space along with the work. Even if there's no real space, I'll usually imagine a hypothetical one," says Schönweger about his approach.

The artist creates situations, in which nothing seems firmly established. No information is provided beyond that, which one sees, and any interpretation is left to the observer's imagination. The diverse range of possible associations includes the psychological, the fantastical and the poetic while simultaneously evoking questions and thoughts on the mechanisms of power and control, on freedom, on longing and fear, and on the matter of who might really be pulling the strings.

**Curator:** Lucas Gehrmann

## **The Kunsthalle Wien Prize**

The Kunsthalle Wien Prize, a joint project initiated by the University of Applied Arts Vienna and the Kunsthalle Wien, has been awarded to a graduate student of the Institute of Fine Arts and Media Art annually since 2002. This year, hs art service austria will be providing the EUR 3,000 prize money for the first time.

### Jury 2014

Gerald Bast (Rector, University of Applied Arts Vienna)  
Nicolaus Schafhausen (Director, Kunsthalle Wien)  
Alexandra Grimmer (Freelance curator)  
Lucas Gehrmann (Curator, Kunsthalle Wien)  
Siegfried Schöffauer (hs art service austria)

### Artist biography

Leander Schönweger, born 1986 in Meran (IT), lives and works in Vienna. From 2007 to 2014, he studied with Professor Erwin Wurm and Guest Professor Martin Walde at the University of Applied Arts Vienna.

#### Exhibitions:

2013: *raga*, Mobile Kunsthalle (mKH) Innsbruck and Vienna; *Kalfarli 18*, Bergen (NO); *MA1 exhibition*, Bontelabo, Bergen (NO); *Gemischter Satz. Zwischen Gestern und Morgen*, Dokumentationszentrum für moderne Kunst, Stadtmuseum St. Pölten.  
2012: *Exchange students Exhibition*, Galerie Andre Siden, Bergen (NO); *MULTImART*, ViennaFair and Vienna Art Week; *Alles wird gut*, ehemal. Arbeiterwohnhaus Montedison, Mals (IT); *kick-off february 2012 #2*, kunstbuero, Vienna; *RÄUMUNG*, Kabelwerk project space, Vienna.  
2011: *METAmART. Kunst und Kapital*, Künstlerhaus Vienna; *Voyeur – The Hidden Photographer*, photomeetings Luxembourg 2011, *Konschthaus beim Engel*, Luxembourg (LU); *0,192 m<sup>3</sup>. Studierende der TransArts*, Kunstraum Praterstraße 16, Vienna.  
2010: *Don't have Sex with your Ex*, Krinzinger Projekte, Vienna; *MÄRCHEN-HAFT: ERLEICHTERUNG*, Gefängnis le carceri, Kaltern (IT); *deixa-me lavar o caos da tua cabeça*, Fabrica Features Lisboa, Lisbon (PO); *Der alte Mann und das Meer*. Erwin Wurm and his class, NÖ Dokumentationszentrum für moderne Kunst, Stadtmuseum St. Pölten; site-specific installation, Institute of Molecular Biotechnology, Vienna.  
2009: *site-non-site*. Erwin Wurm and his class, Kunstraum Praterstraße 16, Vienna.

### Catalogue

A publication including a foreword by Gerald Bast and Nicolaus Schafhausen (eds.), texts by Lucas Gehrmann and Alexandra Grimmer, and an interview between Nicolaus Schafhausen and Leander Schönweger will accompany the exhibition. The catalogue will be published by Sternberg Press.

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Press release

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