

Press Release

ELIGIUS AWARD 2019: Jewelry Art from Austria

An exhibition of the MAK in cooperation with
Kunst im Traklhaus, Salzburg

Opening	Tuesday, 5 March 2019, 7 p.m.
Exhibition Venue	MAK FORUM MAK, Stubenring 5, 1010 Vienna
Exhibition Dates	6 – 24 March 2019
Opening Hours	Tue 10 a.m.–10 p.m., Wed–Sun 10 a.m.–6 p.m.

With the exhibition *ELIGIUS AWARD 2019: Jewelry Art from Austria*, in cooperation with Kunst im Traklhaus, Salzburg, the MAK once again offers an insight into the contemporary Austrian jewelry art scene. For the fourth time, the MAK presents entries for the Eligius Award for Body Jewelry and Jewelry Objects, initiated by the Federal State of Salzburg in 2005 and awarded every three years. A concentrated presentation in the MAK FORUM displays the works of the 13 artists who have been nominated for the Eligius Award 2019: Andrea Auer, Gunda Maria Cancola, Veresa Eybl, Andrea MAXA Halmschlager, Paul Iby, Beatrix Kaufmann, Theresa Macourek, Martina Mühl-fellner, Viktoria Münzker, Izabella Petrut, Konstanze Prechtel, Birgit Schlarman, and Petra Zimmermann.

At the beginning of February 2019, this year's jury—consisting of Giampaolo Babetto (Jewelry Artist), Cornelia Holzach (Director, Pforzheim Jewellery Museum), and Anne-Katrin Rossberg (Curator, MAK Metal Collection and Wiener Werkstätte Archive)—selected 13 works for this the only award for contemporary jewelry art from Austria. In the MAK the jury will convene for a second time to decide who will receive the € 7,000 award.

Named for the patron saint of goldsmiths, the Eligius Award aims to perpetuate the historically rich tradition of the goldsmith's art in Salzburg. The award for artistically innovative works is intended for artists whose works have previously been exhibited in galleries and museums and have thus already gained recognition.

With twelve female finalists, this year works by women clearly predominate. The entries nominated for the Eligius Award 2019 are distinguished by a broad spectrum of artistic approaches:

Andrea Auer, known for her jewelry pieces fashioned out of electrical cable, presents two black necklaces made of Bakelite and an old telephone receiver, into whose now defunct apertures a glass stone and shotgun pellets have been set.

To mark her workshop's 25th anniversary, **Gunda Maria Cancola** has created a series of jewelry pieces that echo color photographs.

Veresa Ebyl perplexes us with buttons whose "pearls" are photographed against a white background.

The series *Giuggiole* (2018) by **Andrea MAXA Halmschlager** forms casts of berry seeds, old lace, and latex into green and blue brooches.

Paul Iby too creates necklaces in intensive reds fashioned from plastic and copper ready-mades.

Beatrix Kaufmann creates large brooches from Gablonz jewelry elements, drawings, and pieces of worm-eaten wood. Her *verspielt* [playful] series consists of enameled surfaces accentuated by balls of wool.

Theresa Macourek is inspired by historical drawings in creating her brooches and pendants of etched silver with their representations of fantastic animals and miniaturized symbols.

The necklaces created by **Martina Mühlfelder** consist of fine monochrome materials worked onto silver and gold platelets.

Viktoria Münzker combines glass elements, plastics, porcelain scraps, and wood to create colorful badges that suggest a new interpretation of Art Nouveau.

In a very personal work by **Izabella Petrut**—her series *A Love Story*—she knots together shoe laces and rollerblade parts to form necklaces and brooches, which she then colors gray, blue, and white.

Konstanze Prechtel constructs dice out of thin wood, using them to create long necklaces. The cloth-covered elements display a fascinating range of pastel colors.

Birgit Schlarmann sews brightly colored brooches and rings out of wool, silk, and glass pearls, whose naively decorative effect is in contrast to their “wild” design.

Petra Zimmermann works with (fashion) jewelry fragments and bag clasps, from which she creates brooches and rings, as well as more recently with maxims such as “vanitas vanitatum et omnia vanitas” that she works into necklaces.

Following the presentation in the MAK, Kunst im Traklhaus in Salzburg will be presenting an extended version of the exhibition from 17 May to 6 June 2019, which will then move to the Pforzheim Jewellery Museum in the fall.

Press photos are available for download at [MAK.at/presse](https://www.mak.at/presse)

Press Data Sheet

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Curator	Anne-Katrin Rossberg, Curator, MAK Metal Collection and Wiener Werkstätte Archive
Publication	The publication to the ELIGIUS AWARD 2019 will be presented on Thursday, 16 May 2019, at 7 p.m. at the Traklhaus in Salzburg, within the framework of the vernissage and the awards ceremony.
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Vienna, 20 February 2019