

Press Release

**(CON)TEMPORARY FASHION SHOWCASE:
JULIA KOERNER**

Press Conference	Friday, 6 May 2022, 10 am
Opening	Saturday, 7 May 2022, 6 pm (Exhibition open as of 11 am)
Exhibition Venue	MAK Geymüllerschloß Pötzleinsdorfer Straße 102, 1180 Vienna
Exhibition Dates	7 May – 5 June 2022
Opening Hours	Saturdays and Sundays, 10 am – 6 pm

Julia Koerner's characteristic, organic designs with a futuristic connotation occupy a special position in the fashion world, not only in an aesthetic respect. The architect, fashion and product designer produces as spectacularly as she designs and is viewed as a pioneer in the 3D-printing of fashion and products. The graduate of the University of Applied Arts Vienna, who lives between the USA and Austria, contributed 3D-printed costumes to the Marvel Comics film *Black Panther* and achieved international recognition with her work for Haute Couture fashion labels, including Iris van Herpen. As of 7 May, Julia Koerner will start the new *(Con)temporary Fashion Showcase* series in the Geymüllerschloß and will show select handbags and garments produced with a 3D-printing procedure in the cupola room of the MAK branch.

Julia Koerner founded her JK3D® label in 2020 and she and her team have since pursued the vision of being inspired by natural structures for their designs. Her primary maxim is also to work as environmentally-friendly and sustainably as possible. The pieces are manufactured from recyclable materials on demand with 3D-printing in Koerner's studios in Los Angeles and Vienna for the respective regional markets.

Koerner selected the handbag lines *HY Clutch* and *HY Mini* for the *(Con)temporary Fashion Showcase*. They are produced from plant-based polymers and are inspired in their structure by the lamellas of the hymenium of fungi. The pieces will be presented in the Geymüllerschloß on the *Lamella Series*: these mass-customized, multi-functional, stackable pedestals refer, like the *HY Clutches* and *HY Mini*, to the surface of fungi and are just as biodegradable. Corresponding with this, Koerner is showing three articles of clothing. The *Venus Dress* (2016) makes the complex, web-like structure of a deep-sea "Venus"

flower basket sponge” its paradigm: the so-called Venus’ flower basket sponge is a unique natural phenomenon in the variability of its appearance. While the form of the model from nature is influenced by light and water currents, the surface of the *Venus Dress* reacts with changes in color to the body temperature of the wearer.

The *Setae Jacket*, developed in 2019, also refers to a natural artefact and is reminiscent in its colorfulness and grace of the Madagascan sunset butterfly. Julia Koerner developed an algorithm that allowed her to digitally imitate the butterfly’s wings, which are covered with thousands of microscopic, fine scales and hairs. In collaboration with Stratasys, it was possible to directly print the polychrome, bristle-like elements onto the fabric with a 3D-printing procedure.

The latest article of clothing originates from 2020 in the context of Julia Koerner’s participation in the EU-sponsored Re-FREAM project. Her project had the title *Digital Vogue – Between Organic and Synthetic Processes*. Here too, she concentrated on efficient material usage with a focus on conserving resources. The *Arid Collection*, which consists of 38 parts, can be arranged through various combinations of its elements and can be worn not only as a dress but also as a jacket or skirt.

Julia Koerner is the founder of JK Design GmbH and the label JK3D®, with locations in Salzburg, Vienna, and Los Angeles. She is a professor at the School of Arts & Architecture at UCLA and previously taught at the Architectural Association Visiting School, the University of Applied Arts Vienna, and the University of Lund. The design visionary in the field of 3D-printing has collaborated with fashion designers, costume designers, and global brands, including Swarovski, Iris van Herpen, or Chanel’s Maison Lesage to create iconic designs. In 2019, her 3D-printed creations, produced in cooperation with Ruth E. Carter for the award-winning Hollywood film *Black Panther*, were honored with an Oscar for best costume design. www.juliakoerner.com, www.JK3D.com

The exhibition *(Con)temporary Fashion Showcase: Susanne Bisovsky* (11 June – 28 August 2022) and the artistic position *(Con)temporary Fashion Showcase: Jojo Gronostay* (3 September – 4 December 2022) will follow this year in the context of the new MAK series in the Geymüllerschloss.

Detailed press texts on the exhibitions in the context of the *(Con)temporary Fashion Showcase* will be continually updated at MAK.at/en/press.

Continually updated details on the program at: MAK.at/en/contemporaryfashion

Press photos for the exhibition are available for download at MAK.at/en/press.

Press Data

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Curator	Lara Steinhäuser, Curator, MAK Textiles and Carpets Collection
Admission	€ 7 Free admission for children and teens under 19 Free admission with MAK Annual Ticket
MAK Press and PR	Judith Anna Schwarz-Jungmann (Head) Sandra Hell-Ghignone Ulrike Sedlmayr T +43 1 711 36-233, -229, -212 presse@MAK.at, www.MAK.at

Vienna, 3 May 2022