

MAK Schindler Scholarships awarded for the academic year 2023/2024

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MAK – Press and PR

Press Release

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Already for the 27th time, the MAK Schindler Scholarships were awarded at the MAK on 12 September 2022. With 298 applications, the popular MAK Center Artists and Architects-in-Residence Program, offered annually by the Federal Ministry for Arts, Culture, the Civil Service and Sport in collaboration with the MAK – Museum of Applied Arts, drew one of the highest numbers of applicants since its founding. From these applications from 46 countries, 255 in the field of fine arts and 43 in the field of architecture, the jury unanimously decided on six projects as well as three replacement projects. In the academic year 2023/2024, the scholars will have the opportunity of residing at the Pearl M. Mackey Apartments by Rudolph M. Schindler for six months, one of the locations of the MAK Center Los Angeles, and get to realize their submitted works.

“The six ‘Schindler Scholarships’ that have been awarded to excellent international applicants in the context of the MAK Center Artists and Architects-in-Residence Program since 1996 provide a unique opportunity: young scholars live and work in the art and culture metropolis of Los Angeles for six months, gather international experience, and have the chance of networking with artists, architects, and the exceptional art scene in Los Angeles. The high number of applications shows how well-established the scholarship program is by now. I am also delighted that the BMKOES has again participated in realizing the *Final Projects* exhibition that presents the works and projects created on site to international experts but also to the interested audience,” Andrea Mayer, State Secretary for Arts and Culture, announced.

“I would like to thank all applicants for their interest, commitment, and ideas. I wish this year’s nominees an impressive, inspiring time in Los Angeles. The MAK Center is a special place that has established an outstanding reputation in Los Angeles as an important place for experimental approaches,

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exhibitions, and discourses, especially also in architecture. The MAK Schindler Scholarship Program significantly contributes to the foundation of the MAK Center as a place full of life for artistic productions. The many works by previous scholars show how important this stay was and what a lasting influence it had," Lilli Hollein, General Director and Artistic Director of the MAK, stated.

This year, the jury was composed of Lilli Hollein (General Director and Artistic Director, MAK); Susanna Koeberle (journalist, author, and curator), Zurich; Tereza Kotyk (film director, author, and curator), Innsbruck; Maruša Sagadin (artist), Vienna; and Harald Trapp (architect and sociologist), Vienna.

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The international MAK Center Artists and Architects-in-Residence Program addresses freelance artists, students of architecture (2nd part of the degree), and graduates of architecture directly after completing their degree. The focus is mainly placed on an engagement with the place of residence for the scholarship, Los Angeles: a center of critical artistic, architectural, and urban-theoretical creation.

Twice a year, in March and in September, the MAK Center presents the projects developed on site in the context of the *Final Projects* exhibition. The documentation of the works is catalogued and remains in the archive of the MAK Center, which can be accessed online at MAKcenterarchive.org.

The MAK Artists and Architects-in-Residence-Program is an integral component of the MAK Center Los Angeles, which was founded in 1994 by the MAK in cooperation with the Federal Chancellery of the Republic of Austria/Arts Department and the "Friends of the Schindler House" as a branch of the MAK. Three houses by Schindler that are important in the history of architecture are used for the exceptional program of the MAK Center—besides the Schindler House (R. M. Schindler, 1921/1922) in West Hollywood, which is celebrating its 100th anniversary this year, the Fitzpatrick-Leland House (R. M. Schindler, 1936), and the Mackey Apartments (R. M. Schindler, 1939).

The projects of the following architects and artists were chosen for the Scholarship Program 2023/2024:

Category Architecture:

4 April 2023 – 19 September 2023

Simona Ferrari (Italy)

3 October 2023 – 19 March 2024

Bianca Gamser (Austria)



Category Fine Arts:

4 April 2023 – 19 September 2023

Céline Brunko (Switzerland)
Philipp Fleischmann (Austria)

3 October 2023 – 19 March 2024

Evan Ifekoya (United Kingdom)
Anna-Sophie Berger (Austria)

Replacement Category Architecture:

Anna and Arthur Koenigshofer (Austria)

Replacement Category Fine Arts:

Abdul Sharif Oluwafemi Baruwa (Italy)
Leonie Kellein (Switzerland)

The jury's statement:

From 298 projects handed in from 46 countries, two from the field of architecture and four from the field of fine arts as well as three replacement projects were chosen unanimously.

The jury was delighted by the large amount of applications and their high and international standard, which highlight the meaning of the Scholarship Program supported by the BMKOES. In a wide range, the projects address current socio-politically and ecologically relevant topics in Los Angeles and California, which live up to the exploration and development of location-specific formats. The artists and architects selected from the younger generation work in an interdisciplinary way, with multiple media, and discuss climate change, urban space, diverse communities, or what is mythical about architecture.

The jury again placed special emphasis on the constellation of the groups of scholars during the six-month stay. The exchange inspired in this way has already in the past proven to be a productive impulse for the further development of the young artists and architects.



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