

Urbane Künste Ruhr

Open Call: Zu Gast im Healing Complex

Residency period:
02 April — 30 June 2024
Application deadline:
05 January 2024

Contact:
Nicole Trzeja
Projekt Manager *Healing Complex*
nt@urbanekuensteruhr.de

Urbane Künste Ruhr
Gerard-Mortier-Platz 1
44793 Bochum
www.urbanekuensteruhr.de

Urbane Künste Ruhr invites artists who are interested in working with local networks and public meeting places to take part in a three-month residency for the upcoming 2024 season. The residency is part of the *Healing Complex* project.

Two positions will be allocated for the residency. Interested artists can apply individually or jointly; applications from collectives are also very welcome.

About the Healing Complex

Since June 3, 2022, Urbane Künste Ruhr has been running the project *Healing Complex (2018–ongoing)* in Gelsenkirchen, which was initiated by the artist Irena Haiduk based on the model of antique building complexes that combined art and healing. Irena Haiduk's artistic practice links the symbolic capital of the art field with real economies, which is particularly relevant in a post-industrial region such as the Ruhr area. The economic cycle of the *Healing Complex* is not about ownership, but about use and working on a common exchange economy. To this end, Irena Haiduk has redesigned the interior of the former church, which was closed in 2007 and profaned in 2014. The *Healing Complex* is therefore also a model for the conversion of vacant churches, which could be filled with new life as abandoned buildings in many cities.

The long-term project creates a meeting place in the former working-class district of Gelsenkirchen-Erle. A dense program of workshops and events provides playful, practical and theoretical impulses for a diverse community. In the second phase of the project, from March to September 2023, the idea of building an economy for the *Healing Complex* based on the underground network structures of mushroom mycelia emerged: the *Myconomie*, to promote productive neighbourly coexistence, but also as an informal learning space where knowledge and experience can be shared. After the winter break, we are following up on this phase with an guest artist residency and at the same time giving space to new ideas.

About Irena Haiduk

Irena Haiduk directs Yugoexport, an oral corporation whose founding logic is equivalence, loyalty, and familial solidarity between people and things. Initiated as a copy of the former Yugoslav apparel and weapons manufacturer Jugoeksport, Yugoexport is formally incorporated in the United States (where corporations are people), launched in Paris and headquartered in New York, Yugoexport transacts slowly, at the pace of their own economy. Their maxim, "How To Surround Your Self With Things In The Right Way", is the core principle powering the production of images, books, apparel, orations, films, scenographies, and variable spaces, all designed to nourish the organ of imagination. Yugoexport and Irena Haiduk often collaborate with art institutions including: the Renaissance Society at the University of Chicago (2015), Whitney Museum of American Art (2017), documenta 14 (2017), Swiss Institute (2020) and Kunst Halle Sankt Gallen and Neuer Berliner Kunstverein (2022), among others.

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Guest artist residency at the Healing Complex

The residency at the *Healing Complex* offers the opportunity to intensively explore the project, the existing networks and the urban-social context in Gelsenkirchen Erle over a period of twelve weeks. The stay is divided into two phases: The first six weeks lend themselves to an examination of the location and offer the opportunity to use the *Healing Complex* for research and as a studio in order to develop a situation-specific project. This conception phase is followed by a six-week implementation period, during which the previously conceived project is to be realized on site and addressed to a broad public.

Based on the results of the first two exhibition phases at the *Healing Complex* in 2022 and 2023, the guest artist residency offers the option of exploring forms of networks and testing the opening and activation of artistic institutions and urban spaces. However, the *Healing Complex* is just as well suited for an examination of the architecture of the modern church building, which was erected in 1963, as well as the history of the Erle district, whose origins are shaped by mining.

For whom?

- professionally working international and national artists and collectives who are interested in social, situational and site-specific contexts in their artistic work
- The basic requirement is that the artists spend at least 75% of their time on site

What does the guest artist residency at the *Healing Complex* offer?

- A work and production residency from April 2 to June 30, 2024 with content supervision and close ties to Urbane Künste Ruhr
- A guest artist's fee of €4,500 gross
- Accommodation in Gelsenkirchen will be provided
- Costs for arrival and departure will be covered once
- Travel by public transport for research purposes can be reimbursed
- shared use of the office space on site (Cranger Straße 338, 45891 Gelsenkirchen)

We welcome applications from all people regardless of gender, nationality, ethnic and social origin, religious affiliation, disability, age, sexual orientation and identity. We offer our support in finding suitable solutions for individual needs, for example with regard to accessibility.

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Application Documents

- Brief summary of the project (three sentences)
- Concept of work for the project in the *Healing Complex* (max. 2 pages)
- A schedule of cost for the project proposal (submitted project proposals may not exceed a gross production budget of up to €5,000)
- Curriculum vitae (max. 1 page)
- Portfolio or an overview with two to three meaningful projects (max. 15 pages)

We ask applicants to compile the application documents as one PDF file (maximum file size 8 MB)

Application period and selection procedure

- November 15, 2023 to January 05, 2024
- Submission of application documents via [this website form](#)
- An expert jury will select the artistic positions
- Notifications will be sent from the end of January 2024

Content-related questions to:

Nicole Trzeja (Projekt Manager *Healing Complex*)
nt@urbanekuensteruhr.de

(Please note: Queries between December 22, 2023 and January 01, 2024 can only be answered again from January 02)

Links

Further information on the [Healing Complex](#)

Information on [accessibility at the Healing Complex](#)

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