

E-WERK Luckenwalde launches
the sustainable institution in partnership
with LUMA Arles and Rupert, centre for art,
residencies and education

the sustainable institution



E-WERK Luckenwalde aerial photograph, 2019. Copyright of E-WERK Luckenwalde and Tim Haber

E-WERK Luckenwalde

In 2023, E-WERK Luckenwalde will launch *the sustainable institution*; an international symposium series, artist in residency programme and digital toolkit specifically focused on institutional sustainability, in partnership with LUMA Arles and Rupert centre for art, residencies and education co-funded by The European Union. Between April and July 2023 each institution will present an international symposium programme focused on sustainable change from an economic, humanitarian and ecological perspective. The symposiums will bring together international artists, curators, space sociologists, political geographers, economists, architectural scientists, anthropologists, (remove political geographers here) conservators and design studios to collaboratively create positive sustainable transformation and tangible solutions for the cultural sector.

On 22 March, E-WERK, Rupert and LUMA will launch a collaborative open call for an artist in residency programme, focused on sustainable exhibition making. This residency is rooted in the aspiration to take concrete action in the climate emergency, and deliver real material prototypes of sustainable exhibition making. Three artists will be selected to develop new material prototypes for sustainable exhibition making with an artist fee, travel budget and production grant of 20.000 EUR. One artist will be placed at each institution and over a research and development period mentored by a jury (Curator Lucia Pietroiusti, Conservator of modern materials and contemporary art specialising in sustainable solutions for cultural heritage, Director of Materials at Ki Culture, Advisor at Gallery Climate Coalition, architectural scientist, designer and educator, Mae-ling Kokko, Kim Kraczon, Artist Asad Raza, LUMA Atelier, Artistic Director Jan Boelen, Rupert Curator of the Residency Programme, Viktorija Šiaulytė and E-WERK Artistic Director, Helen Turner), so as to support each artist in reaching their goal. Each artist will then take residence at their respective institution to develop the prototype in Spring 2024.

Alongside this, partners will launch a digital toolkit as an open resource and tool for culture to improve ecological, economic and human sustainability. The toolkit will launch on the 22 March and function as a think-tank on how to become more sustainable on an economic, ecological and humanitarian level. This will be made available online to the public, who can use the results and models developed during the project as inspiration for their own transformation process towards sustainability.

Helen Turner, Artistic Director, E-WERK Luckenwalde, said,

“the sustainable institution is a call to action for innovation, for artistic agency to reclaim its authority in socio-political change and to activate new material approaches and territories in order to stimulate urgent change to the cultural sector and inspire action led thinking. We are pleased to partner with Rupert and LUMA Arles to raise questions and harness debate around systemic change, a slower pace, better working conditions, planetary calm, and economic and ecological progress in a post pandemic world. Each symposium will have a unique programme but what they all have in common is a deep desire to provide transformation, tangible, and creative outcomes for our industry.”

Viktorija Šiaulytė, Curator, Rupert, said,

“Rupert is glad to tackle the contested and sometimes ambivalent notion of sustainability together with LUMA Arles and E-WERK Luckenwalde, as culture should be the place where these discussions about the complexities and contradictions brought about by climate change take place. Accepting these contradictions and the imperfection of our everyday actions, we are looking forward to tracing affirmative steps and hopeful technologies towards respectful approaches between art production and what comes after.”

Jan Boelen, artistic director of Atelier LUMA, said,

“Atelier LUMA investigates the many layers of the bioregion. We gather loose historical, cultural, environmental, social, economical elements and weave them together into potential projects.”



Courtesy Rupert

Rupert
EARTH BONDS
20–22 April 2023

On 20–22 April Rupert will invite cultural practitioners and the wider public to explore the fraught relationship between cultural institutions, artistic practices, advanced technologies and the material implications of climate change. A programme of keynote lectures, workshops as well as performances, installations and readings will delve and contest the idea of a sustainable institution from the angles of environmental justice, cultural policy, technological innovation and artistic imaginaries.

The event will raise questions on how advanced technologies – like blockchain and DAO – can remodel our perception of the environment and reconfigure operations of art institutions? How do these complex overhauls align with the idea of sustainability in volatile geopolitical realities? The understanding of ‘sustainability’ is adamantly changing the way we perceive our environments, actions and various entanglements. From real-life solutions to sedative escapism – the idea, or more precisely, the hope to be able to sustain yourself and your kins became a way to fabulate our survival. No wonder that under such pressure, the idea of sustainability occasionally tends to morph into precarious ambiguity. Suddenly we are faced with uncertainty whether our actions are increasing or diminishing our chances of experiencing life after tomorrow. Or if bringing your own cup to a coffee shop while a fleet of private jets ooze in the sky is still worth the effort. *Earth Bonds* will carefully draw from the relationship between decentralisation of digital spaces and matters of care as strong political gestures towards non-perfect collectivity.



Atelier LUMA.
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Atelier LUMA – LUMA Arles
Bioregional Design Practices
26–27 May 2023

Since 2019, Atelier LUMA is conducting a research project that focuses on the construction of architectural projects designed for the challenges of the 21st century, Building for Uncertainties. The architects and designers are developing a building approach, and a prototype of how local resource management can be applied to architecture and design guided by two key concepts: frugality and resilience. Frugality involves limiting the use of resources and energies. Resilience is pursued by integrating climate, social, and economic uncertainties into the building's structure, spaces, and uses. Working alongside Atelier LUMA, BC Architects & Materials and Assemble Studio have helped research and develop new construction materials – both structural and non-structural – sourced and transformed within 70 kilometers through a decentralized production platform. In this context, Atelier LUMA will organise a symposium to present its methodology of (a) *Bioregional Design Practice* addressing issues around sustainable and locally sourced design, architecture and scenography. Conferences, presentations, student workshops, and site visits will be organised to provide a platform of exchanges between experts, practitioners, and students in Arles on the Parc des Ateliers.

E-WERK Luckenwalde

BURN OUT

1–2 July 2023

On 1–2 July 2023 E-WERK Luckenwalde will present *BURN OUT*; a two day symposium and performance programme, which intends to reveal the psychological and unconscious trauma of our own complicity in human and planetary *BURN OUT*. Say NO to our current unsustainable working conditions, and propose human, economic and ecological alternatives. The symposium speakers include Anthropologist Elizabeth Povinelli, Artist Pan Daijing, Author and Critic, Hettie Judah and Political Geographer Sinthujan Varatharajan. The symposium will address de-growth, radical democracy and care through three panel discussions and will raise questions including how can we begin to enact radical care on an immediate, local and global level to repair colonial exploitations? What does radical ecological democracy look like? Is degrowth a viable possibility to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050? How can we awaken consciousness to perform a drastic, urgent and immediate paradigm shift? A full list of speakers and artists will be announced in late Spring 2023.

On 1–2 July E-WERK will also present a performance programme featuring artists including FM Einheit, Lauryn Youden and Pan Daijing to create pockets of non-didactic reflection, in an effort to champion art as an equally valuable form of knowledge and has been curated to include intersectional, intergenerational and postcolonial perspectives from artists addressing sub-themes of *BURN OUT*, including vulnerability, de-growth, care and pace. The full programme will be announced in late Spring 2023.

BURN OUT will inaugurate the expansion of EW into a 100% CO2 neutral E-CAMPUS. In 2022 the city of Luckenwalde, in collaboration with EW, received a major grant to transform the adjacent Bauhaus Stadtbad into 'Stadtbad Live' – a new venue dedicated to experimental live art, powered by 100% CO2 negative energy Kunststrom – produced on site at EW. *BURN OUT* will present performances across four sites in Luckenwalde: E-WERK's Turbine Hall, FLUXDOME, Stadtbad Live and the adjacent abandoned warehouse next door to E-WERK.

Co-funded by the European Union, Teltow Fläming and the Lithuanian Cultural Council. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or the other granting authorities. Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.



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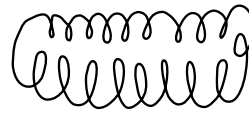
LANDKREIS TELTOW-FLÄMING
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A T E L I E R
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Images

<https://drive.google.com/drive/>

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About E-WERK Luckenwalde

E-WERK Luckenwalde is located in a former coal power station built in 1913, ceasing production in 1989 after the fall of the Berlin wall. Located 30 minutes south of Berlin, Brandenburg, E-WERK Luckenwalde is jointly directed by artist Pablo Wendel and curator Helen Turner. In 2017, the art collective Performance Electrics gGmbH led by Pablo Wendel acquired the former brown-coal power station with the vision to reanimate it as a sustainable *Kunststrom* (art power) Kraftwerk to feed power into the national grid by burning locally sources waste wood chips to make electricity, and function as a large scale contemporary art centre. As part of *POWER NIGHT* in 2019, Performance Electrics gGmbH formally switched the power in the former factory back on. Since 2019, E-WERK Luckenwalde has curated and commissioned an annual contemporary art programme exhibiting artists including Lindsay Seers, Keith Sargent, Arantxa Etcheverria, Adelina Ivan and Alina Popa, Peles Empire, Revital Cohen & Tuur Van Balen, Cooking Sections, Karrabing Film Collective, Isabel Lewis & Sissel Tolaas, Tabita Rezaire and Himali Singh Soin, Rugilė Barzdžiukaitė, Vaiva Grainytė and Lina Lapelytė, Lamin Fofana, Keiken, Henrike Naumann, Jenna Sutela, Lauryn Youden, L. Zylberberg, Peles Empire, Kira Freije, Michelle Williams Gamaker, Isabel Lewis, Paul Maheke, Harold Offeh, Bik Van der Pol, Nicolas Deshayes, Performance Electrics gGmbH, Lucy Joyce, umschichten, Nina Beier, Cecilia Bengolea with Craig Black Eagle, Performance Electrics, marikiscrycrycry in collaboration with Gareth Chambers, Charismatic Megafauna, Fernanda Muñoz-Newsome with India Harvey and Josh Antonia Grigg, Rowdy SS and Nora Turato.

E-WERK also supports artist residencies, collaborating internationally to deliver, as well as curating performances, music festivals and workshops. A CO2 neutral music festival curated by Khidja took place in 2022 featuring Suzanne Ciani, Svitlana Nianio x Sergii Khotiachuck & Roman Gens, Dopplereffekt, IADRACHE, Wojciech Rusin x Jo Hellier, Lena Willikens x Marylou and Alicia Carrera. In 2021, E-WERK hosted and curated the German premiere and only CO2 neutral performances of Golden Lion awarded opera *Sun & Sea* by Rugilė Barzdžiukaitė, Vaiva Grainytė and Lina Lapelytė.

Kunststrom was founded by Wendel in 2012 as a not-for-profit CO2 neutral energy provider on the German national grid which generates energy from art installations. We produce an average of 900,000 KW/h a year, using renewable energy technologies such as solar, wind and wood gas. Currently, Kunststrom supplies energy to cultural institutions, businesses and private households. By switching your energy provider, you will simultaneously support the development of renewable electricity and contemporary art through your utility bill.

As a not-for-profit energy provider, all income is redirected into the Kunststrom production and the contemporary art programme at E-WERK Luckenwalde. The switch process is simple; visit the [calculator](#), add your details, then begin the switch process. You can [read more here](#) about how your electricity bill will support E-WERK's contemporary art programme and sustainable energy production.

The E-WERK Team: Artistic Director Pablo Wendel, Artistic Director and Curator Helen Turner, Curator and Head of CURRENTS Adriana Tranca, Curator and Head of POWER NIGHT Katharina Worf, Digital and Programme Coordinator Katherine Thomson, Project Assistant Lea Moheit, PR Coordinator Nicola Jeffs, Project Manager Performance Electrics Alison Midgley, Creative Producer Florine Lindner, Assistance and Spatial Planning Performance Electrics Antonia Grohmann, Finances Marenka Krasomil, Designer Lorenz Klingebiel

<https://www.kunststrom.com/>

#switchtokunststrom #powerofart #artpower

About Atelier LUMA

Atelier LUMA is a program of LUMA Arles. It has been based in the Parc des Ateliers in Arles since 2017, and is deeply connected to its geographic and cultural environment: the Camargue region, the Alpilles mountains, and the Crau plains.

This bioregion is home to rich natural resources and many kinds of know-how, which we identify, promote, and mobilize. For our team and collaborators, inspiration for locally rooted projects comes from sources as varied as rice cultivation, mineral quarries, salt marshes, sheep farming, and traditional textiles and ceramics.

Our lab is equipped for research, production, and sharing knowledge. It hosts a multidisciplinary network of designers, artists, biologists, engineers, farmers, philosophers, sociologists, and activists, who work alongside each other to face the challenges of our local area's transition. We view each project as one building block in a more virtuous system.

Alongside the members of its ecosystem, Atelier LUMA is committed to balancing social and economic development. We explore possible scenarios for transforming consumer cultures and existing systems of production. As a locally focused experimental lab, Atelier LUMA also participates in knowledge sharing networks and in initiatives around the world.

<https://www.luma.org/en/arles.html>

About Rupert

Rupert is a privately initiated and publicly funded centre for art residencies and education. Its activities began in 2012 and in 2013, it moved into 'Tech Arts', a creative hub designed by architect Audrius Ambrasas.

Rupert's mission is to establish close cooperation between artists, thinkers, researchers and other cultural actors through transdisciplinary programmes and residencies. Rupert is committed to integrating with the social and cultural life of Vilnius and Lithuania, while also maintaining a strong international focus. Rupert manifests this mission through three interrelated programmes: the **residency programme**, the **alternative education programme** and the **public programme**.

They are dedicated to creating platforms for conversation, research and learning. Through these programmes, Rupert supports local and international artists and thinkers in realising their projects and establishing their creative practice on an international scale.

All of Rupert's activities are free.

Rupert's programmes are funded by the Lithuanian Council for Culture, the Nordic Culture Point, Vilnius Municipality, other public and private sponsors.

More information can be found at www.rupert.lt

Facebook: Rupert

Instagram: rupert_residency

