

## 2 Curatorial Grants\* – Practice and Networking

Period I/2018 (January 1st – June 30th, 2018) & Period II/2018 (July 1st – December 31st 2018)

one German Curator and one Dutch Curator \_ each Period

- Residency\_ Schloss Ringenberg | schloss-ringenberg.de/ kunst@schloss-ringenberg.de
- Duration\_ 6 month
- Grant\_ €1,250/month
- Scope of work\_ 2 projects/ exhibitions as a curatorial team in cooperation with Museum Het Valkhof Nijmegen (Period I), KIT – Kunst im Tunnel Düsseldorf (Period II) and at Schloss Ringenberg (Period I & II), financed by plugin.
- Requirements\_ max 35 years; University degree (Art History or Art/ Cultural studies); demonstration of professional qualification
- Application Deadline: 15<sup>th</sup> of September 2017; Application in print form and as digital file (PDF)

Since 2010 the State of North Rhine-Westphalia and the Mondriaanfonds Amsterdam inaugurated a new model for promoting postgraduate curatorial work by offering a programme-based grant for young German and Dutch curators.

The grant provides €1.250/month in support for each participant for a period of six months. It should support the maintenance and allows the payment of rent for one studio. A lease contract has to be signed with the Derik-Baeger-Gesellschaft for six months (starting 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2018 for Period I - 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2018 for Period II).

The curatorial grant is practice-oriented and tied in with the euregional project programme of plugin\*\*.

The programme is located at Schloss Ringenberg, in Hamminkeln on the Lower Rhine. Schloss Ringenberg has been in operation as a studio and exhibition centre for 40 years. With six German and Dutch artist fellows per year, dialogue-focused exhibitions and cross-border knowledge exchange, along with a wealth of activities for the public, the Schloss unites under one roof in a unique exemplary fashion the whole spectrum of contemporary cultural endeavour.

Since 2001 the work of Schloss Ringenberg has centred on European projects involving German-Dutch cooperation. In conjunction with changing project partners on both sides of the border, as the well-known institutions, the Schloss has since 2005 been providing cultural producers and mediators with the means to try out unusual contemporary art concepts and formats.

Twice a year one German and one Dutch curator are invited to work as a team. Both fellows will live and work for the most part at the Schloss together during the 6-month grant period. There are two separate studios and one common office for the curators. Residence at the Schloss and participation in plugin are mandatory for grant-holders.

While guided/ moderated by the plugin-Team at Schloss Ringenberg the project offers a versatile selection of concrete fields of work as opportunity to independently put their ideas into practice. The task of two exhibitions/ projects, financed through plugin provides them with a model for the real conditions under which they will embark on their careers.

Project partners for the exhibitions/projects are: Westfälischer Kunstverein Münster | Museum Kurhaus Kleve | KIT – Kunst im Tunnel Düsseldorf | Museum Arnhem | Museum het Valkhof Nijmegen | Tetem Enschede

The grant serves to equip curators with professional credentials, including:

- developing their own criteria for the quality and relevance of artistic approaches - creating their own curatorial profile/aesthetic approach
- experience with institutional structures and practice-related processes such as mounting an exhibition, public relations, organisation and budgeting
- the ability to discriminate between artistic product and curatorial approach, leading to better comprehension of creative practice - supported by the unique exchanges between mediators and producers of contemporary art via artist and curatorial fellowships taking place under one roof

A Dutch-German expert jury will choose curatorial fellows in October 2017.

\* The application for the Dutch curatorial grant has to be done exclusively via Mondriaanfonds Amsterdam.  
(<http://www.mondriaanfonds.nl/aanvraag/bijdrage-gast-en-buitenlandateliers/buitenlandateliers/schloss-ringenberg/>)  
The application for the German curatorial grant exclusively requires a degree at a University in North Rhine-Westphalia.  
(Application form: [http://www.schloss-ringenberg.de/stipendium/bewerbung\\_.php](http://www.schloss-ringenberg.de/stipendium/bewerbung_.php))

\*\* plugin is a pilot-project to improve the economic skills and situation of young visual artists and curators. The project is aiming to initiate a self-sustaining art-economy-infrastructure that consists on a synergetic exchange of artists, curators, exhibition institutions and small entrepreneurs from the creative economy sphere. Within the try-out project activities, realized in cooperation with the curatorial fellows, new models for distributing artistic products are approved. These models stay independent from the art-market and will maintain independence for artists. While plugin also could re-enact a broad fascination for art and collecting its products, the current society's appreciation of visual arts as crisis-proof currency might be superseded by alternative concepts of value, towards issues of artistic quality and desire to own art. [www.plugin-project.com](http://www.plugin-project.com)