

Press Release 2 – March 2017

Museum Liaunig to be the Partner Museum for "Blickachsen 11"

Dr. Maria Schneider will co-curate this year's jubilee edition of the Sculpture Biennale, which will be held from 21 May until 1 October in Bad Homburg and seven further locations in the Rhine-Main region.

"We are delighted to have been invited to co-present '**Blickachsen 11**' and very much look forward to the challenge of exhibiting contemporary art as a means of changing perceptions of the public space. It is a great opportunity also to present the work of Austrian sculptors – of young talents as well as of established artists – to a wider audience in Germany", says **Herbert Liaunig**, founder and benefactor of the **Museum Liaunig**, this year's partner museum of the Blickachsen Foundation. "In addition, it is a great asset for us to have **Dr. Maria Schneider** on board, as co-curator of the exhibition", continues the Austrian industrialist. **Christian K. Scheffel**, founder and curator of 'Blickachsen', is very happy about the co-operation: "Together with the Museum Liaunig and Dr. Schneider we are continuing what has been a tradition since the second 'Blickachsen' exhibition, of partnering the Biennale with a leading museum showing contemporary sculpture of the highest quality."

The **Museum Liaunig** is situated in the Carinthian municipality of Neuhaus. Its continually expanding collection concentrating on contemporary art is as unusual as the museum building itself, which was constructed specially for it by Herbert Liaunig. Designed by the Viennese architects "querkraft", it is one of the most spectacular new museum buildings in central Europe. It became a listed building just four years after its completion in 2012 and was awarded the Austrian Museum Prize. Located directly above the river Drava, it is a captivating example of contemporary, site-specific architecture. One part of the complex juts 30 metres out into the landscape, as if free-floating, while large portions of the building are underground. And not without reason: this optimizes energy use.

The Museum Liaunig contains one of the most extensive collections of Austrian art since 1945, complemented by earlier works by classical modernists and an exemplary selection of international art. As a programmatic contrast to contemporary art, the museum also presents historical collections of decorated glassware and portrait miniatures from the 16th to 19th centuries, as well as a collection of the art of African glass beads. The museum's sculpture park, opened in spring 2016, shows a representative selection of Austrian and international sculpture and object art from modern times to the present. This great store of work is supervised by the museum's director, **Elisabeth Wassertheurer**.

On behalf of this year's Austrian partner museum, **Dr. Maria Schneider** will together with Christian K. Scheffel curate the eleventh edition of the unique "Blickachsen" sculpture project. Schneider, who lives in Hamburg and Vienna, has worked for leading art exhibitors, and as creative director was instrumental in shaping the "Autostadt Wolfsburg". Dr. Schneider studied fine arts, design, education and German philology in Hamburg.

21 May – 1 Oct 2017

BLICKACHSEN 11

In collaboration with Museum Liaunig, Neuhaus, Austria

Stiftung **BLICKACHSEN** gGmbH

Bad Homburg v.d.Höhe

Now, together with Scheffel, she will translate the expertise she gained in Wolfsburg, of creatively defining space through art, to the planning of "Blickachsen 11" in Bad Homburg and seven further locations in the Rhine-Main region.

The exhibition's core location, as always, is **Bad Homburg** with its Kurpark designed by Lenné and its landgraviate castle gardens. Two new locations have been added for "Blickachsen 11": in **Bad Vilbel** the Kurpark between the medieval castle and the city library, and in **Kronberg im Taunus** contemporary sculpture will this time be on display in the park grounds of the former Friedrichshof Castle, today housing the Schlosshotel Kronberg. In **Eschborn**, the Niederhöchstadt Sculpture Park will once again be an exhibition location, complemented by the open space in front of the south railway station. In addition **Eppstein Castle**, the Westend Campus of the **Goethe University Frankfurt**, the **Hessenpark Open-Air Museum** and **Eberbach Abbey** will once again this year invite visitors to "Blickachsen" from 21 May to 1 October.

"Blickachsen 11" will be opened on 21 May 2017 at 11.30am on Schmuckplatz, opposite Kaiser-Friedrich-Promenade 55, in Bad Homburg vor der Höhe. Detailed information on "Blickachsen 1-10" can be found at www.blickachsen.de.

For more information please contact us at the press office for "Blickachsen 11", Sunita Scheffel, Blickachsen Communications (+49 - (0)178 - 4 73 25 91, presse@blickachsen.de) or at Lindinger + Schmid, Berlin, Art and Publicity Department, Anna Figuerola Wischke (tel. +49 - (0)30 - 857 449 250, wischke@lindinger-schmid.de).