

# NEU NOW 2016 Great Success

Eighth edition of arts festival closes on a high note

**NEU NOW**, the international arts festival presenting Europe's emerging artists – aptly described by the press as the bridge between academics and practice – closed its doors after a successful eighth edition.

From the 14th to the 18th of September, the eighth edition of NEU NOW, an initiative of **ELIA – European League of Institutes of the Arts**, took place in Amsterdam's Westergasfabriek. Visitors, arts professionals and students were extremely enthusiastic about the quality of the works on show and the diversity of the performances and film programme. NEU NOW counted 4.500 visitors, making this year's edition the busiest in its history.

Creative directors Anthony Dean and Paula Crabtree: "We are very pleased with the quality and attendance of this year's edition. The range of work on show represented the broad range of work being produced across arts institutions in Europe and beyond. The Taiwanese work by Hsu Chen Wei Production Dance Company and Tsai Yi-Ting gave an additional reference point from outside of Europe, which was good for us as well as for them."

## Europe's Emerging Artists

Sixty international artists from eighteen countries participated at NEU NOW 2016, amongst them artists from Latvia, Iceland, Belgium, Switzerland, as well as Spain, Croatia and Taiwan. The artists represented and embraced the concept of NEU NOW, highlighting the fluid character of the artistic disciplines to present a programme in which exhibitions, performances, workshops, films and artist talks converge to provide new perspectives and future opportunities.

NEU NOW has not only given the participating artists a platform to present their work to an international audience, but it has brought together a group of highly unique and talented artists in ways that will continue to benefit them creatively and commercially in the future. Several collaborations already began during the festival, of the artist's own initiative.

## Quotes Artists

Alberto Condotta (UK): "NEU NOW was a wonderful opportunity to work with very skilled and helpful technicians and arts professionals of all sorts. The impromptu creation of my work at NEU NOW nacht would not have been possible, if it weren't for the skilled people at this festival"

Teresa Doblinger (ZW): "One of the things that I enjoyed most was meeting all the artists and seeing their work. There are not too many artists involved, so it was possible to connect with everyone. The curation of artworks and artists was impressive."

Hillside Projects (SW): "The diversity of the programming and art forms at NEU NOW has pushed our artistic practice beyond our boundaries, moving further into performance from our experience in visual arts and opening up new opportunities for us."

## Editor's Note

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## Empowering Europe's Emerging Artists

NEU NOW is Amsterdam's international art festival devoted to presenting the work of exceptional emerging talents advancing towards their international careers from art academies across Europe and beyond. A selection of artists from a plurality of cultural and artistic perspectives is brought together to show their work. NEU NOW highlights the fluid character of the artistic disciplines to present a programme in which exhibitions, performances, workshops, films and artist talks converge to provide new perspectives and future opportunities.

Previous editions of NEU NOW were held in Vilnius, Tallinn, Nantes, Porto, Amsterdam and Glasgow. In 2015 the festival returned to Amsterdam, where it found a permanent home.

NEU NOW is an initiative of ELIA – European League of Institutes of the Arts.

## Partners

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