

# KAHÁN ART SPACE Vienna

## about

To open a space for art with an attached café & restaurant in these times requires courage or at least determined confidence. After several months of renovation work, KAHÁN ART SPACE will now open a branch in Vienna's second district on April 8, 2021 - with limited opening hours due to the lockdown - in addition to Budapest.

Initiated by Zoltán Aczél and Alexander Zach, curated by Kasia Matt-Uszynska (Neuer Kunstverein Wien), the new space will present young art several times a year with solo and group exhibitions. Thematically, the focus is on artistic positions that deal with current social, eco-nomic and political issues.

The 35-year-old artist Daniel Rycharski from Poland will be the first. Read more below about his confrontation between urban and rural Poland, between LGBTQ rights and a politically agitating, homophobic Catholic Church.

As soon as possible the attached Café & Restaurant KRAUS will open again. The editorial offices of DIE ZEIT Austria and DATUM have already moved into their offices in the same property a few months ago.

All in all, KAHÁN ART SPACE Vienna, KRAUS and the editorial offices are to create a lively, discursive place of dialogue, openness and exchange.

### **KAHÁN ART SPACE Vienna:**

Große Sperrgasse 37/Gross Pfarrgasse 7, 1020 Vienna

### **Exhibition:**

Daniel Rycharski "The Cages"  
April 8 - May 14, 2021  
Thu, Fri 1pm - 5pm

### **Press tour:**

Monday, April 12, 10.00 a.m.

## KAHÁN ART SPACE

Space for Art and Discourse

Kahán Art Space Vienna focuses on artists who work with current social, economic and political subjects. In this sense, art explores questions about our existence and co-existence, as these are also indicators of an open and democratic society after all.

A space for art and dialogue, Kahán Art Space Vienna was established in the second district of Vienna, where the editorial office of the Austrian political and social periodical DATUM and the office of the Austrian publisher of the German weekly newspaper DIE ZEIT are also located. A communication bridge between these institutions is created by KRAUS café and bar, which also serves as an additional event venue.

### **The concept of the exhibition**

In what ways are we exposed to a deprivation of liberty, to oppression, and to exploitation today? What can be said about the situation of fundamental rights and freedoms? What artistic reactions and interventions can be found out there relevant to these questions? Kahán Art Space Vienna sheds light on these questions and reveals the current trends around these themes.

Still it doesn't reduce art to a mere political and social dimension but makes its

potential for a free and independent life and way of thinking visible and turns it into something that can be experienced. Kahán Art Space Vienna focuses on the work and views of artists who challenge existing behavioural and idealistic conventions, who create the opportunity for a new interpretation of social, historical and political conditions, and thereby sharpen and change our view of the world and its issues. Over this process, the innovative power and critical thinking of art encourages us to question the usual categories, concepts or supposed objectivity, to consider alternative options, and to place ourselves in unusual perspectives. Thus, the venue sees the creative process and practice as a method of investigating issues that are not addressed socially or are being suppressed.

Kahán Art Space Vienna holds four individual or group exhibitions every year. But the meaning of art does not only manifest itself in works of art and art projects—it embeds itself into various dialogues formulating first between the artists and the artwork, then between the artwork and the public, and finally, among various public spaces. The communication of artistic thoughts, views and statements are supported and accompanied by guided visits, discussions and workshops. The self-managed art communication programme organised with the involvement of the artists is primarily aimed at the direct area (mostly schools).

## Daniel Rycharski

The Cages

Daniel Rycharski, born in 1986 in the small village of Kurówko in Poland, focuses his work on rural areas, their history and traditions. As a result, his work occupies an autonomous place in the latest trends of Polish art.

Rycharski works at the interface of different social and political contexts, critically exploring the tensions between urban and rural Poland, LGBTQ\* rights, and a politically active Catholic church in an era marked by the rise of conservatism, nationalism and right-wing populism in Poland. Rycharski often draws directly on religious symbols and transfers them to his personal world. In so doing he addresses the close relationship between political and religious power in the country, their intolerance, and latent anti-Semitism.

Rycharski repeatedly harnesses the potential of artistic participation for his social debates. Rycharski's artistic strategies thus include installations in public urban and rural spaces, into which he incorporates the community, its language, craft, and history.

## Café & Bar KRAUS

Space for Encounter

KRAUS is the gastronomic neighbour of Kahán Art Space Vienna, creating a bridge to the offices of the periodical DATUM and the Austrian editorial office of the German weekly newspaper DIE ZEIT. Reinventing the classic Viennese coffee house, KRAUS not only offers a hearty breakfast, it welcomes its guest with an exquisite menu all day. And in the evenings, it transforms into a bar with a unique atmosphere. Just as the Viennese coffee house was a hub of intellectual gatherings and vivid debates 100 years ago, KRAUS serves as a meeting point for the world of art and the media. It strives to rekindle the dialogue and the critical spirit of the city with its diverse programme. And the motivation and inspiration behind that is none other than Karl Kraus.

## DATUM & DIE ZEIT

Space for Quality Journalism

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