

Press release, Wiesbaden, September 2023 (page 1 of 3)

# Maja Smrekar is the Follow Fluxus laureate 2023

***Follow Fluxus – Fluxus und die Folgen 2023*** grant for contemporary artists called by the Hessian State Capital of Wiesbaden and the Nassauischer Kunstverein Wiesbaden goes in its sixteenth year to Maja Smrekar.



Since 2008 **Follow Fluxus – After Fluxus** supports international artists, whose work suggests ideas inherent to Fluxus in order to further develop the ideas of Fluxus. The endowment of 10,000 Euro is provided annually for a three month residency in Wiesbaden. The work stipend concludes with a solo exhibition in the Kunstverein in 2024.



The jury of five people consisted of **Prof. Dr. Hanna B. Hölling** / Research Professor Bern Academy of the Arts / Project Lead Performance: Conservation, Materiality, Knowledge / Project Lead Activating Fluxus, **Yama Rahimi** / Contemporary Artist and AAPP Europe Resettlement Coordinator, **Michael Berger**, Collection Berger, Wiesbaden, **Monique Behr**, Cultural Office Wiesbaden, and **Elke Gruhn**, artistic director and curator, Nassauischer Kunstverein Wiesbaden. The jury chose from 54 nominations and justified the choice as follows:

*Maja Smrekar's collaborative projects span a wide range of artistic forms, from hybrid art and performance to photography. She combines practice-based research that explores the potential of current technology and science, negotiating themes of ecofeminism, technology, and social structures. She shares her findings through lecture-performances and written texts. In her art, she explores the connections between humans, animals, and technology, drawing from a wealth of media. Her long-term performances and micro-performativity that engage with human and non-human processes create intense imagery that together with her collaborative working process impressed the jury.*

Press release, Wiesbaden, September 2023 (page 2 of 3)

## About the artist /

**Maja Smrekar** (\*1978 in Brežice, Slovenia) is a bio-artist who collaborates with scientists in the laboratory, employing biotechnology in her work to explore complex questions. Her art delves deeply into the human position within the ecosystem, the challenges of biotechnology, and the concept of a posthuman world.

After completing her master's degree at the *Academy of Fine Arts and Design* in Ljubljana, specializing in video and new media, she has since created a diverse body of work encompassing performances, installations, site-specific art, videos, workshops, lectures, discussions, and texts.

She has exhibited at venues such as the *MAXXI - National Museum of 21st Century Arts* in Rome, *ZKM Karlsruhe*, *Musée de l'Homme* in Paris, and during the Vienna Art Week. Maja Smrekar has also been involved with production platforms like *L'internationale*, *the Quo Artis Foundation*, and *The Culture Yard*. In 2017, she received the *Golden Nica Award* in the Hybrid Art category at the *Prix Ars Electronica* for her series "*K-9\_topology*," which explores the co-evolution of humans and dogs and garnered significant attention. Starting in 2023, she will be teaching at the *Academy of Fine Arts and Design* in Ljubljana.



**The grant is made possible by the Cultural Office Wiesbaden.**

We appreciate your interest.

For further **information** and **press pictures** we are at your disposal via e-mail and telephone.

## Press contact /

Nassauischer Kunstverein Wiesbaden

+49 611 301136 / [presse@kunstverein-wiesbaden.de](mailto:presse@kunstverein-wiesbaden.de)

Press release, Wiesbaden, September 2023 (page 3 of 3)

## Press Images /

Please respect the copyright. There is no charge when used in reports on the exhibition. On request we can provide images in a printable resolution. In return we would be pleased to receive a copy and /or document link of your article.



**Maja Smrekar**

Follow Fluxus laureate 2023 Nassauischer Kunstverein Wiesbaden

Photo credit: Hana Josić



**Maja Smrekar / Opus et Domus, 2018**

Follow Fluxus-Stipendiatin 2023  
Nassauischer Kunstverein Wiesbaden

Photo credit: Thinkalike



**Maja Smrekar / K-9\_topology, 2014**

Follow Fluxus-Stipendiatin 2023 Nassauischer Kunstverein Wiesbaden

Photo credit: Borut Peterlin