

St.Gallen
March, 2023

Eastern Switzerland residency programme for national and international arts practitioners to be continued: six new residents selected for 2023

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TaDA – Textile and Design Alliance, the cultural promotion programme run by the cantons of Appenzell Ausserrhoden, St.Gallen and Thurgau in cooperation with renowned textile companies in Eastern Switzerland, will continue to offer national and international personalities from the fields of art, design and architecture a stay in Eastern Switzerland as artists in residence. Following a successful pilot phase from 2019 to 2022, the cantons have decided to maintain their support for TaDA in a transfer phase from 2023 to 2026.

The call for applications for the residency period 2023 again met with an overwhelming response. The jury ultimately selected five candidates out of 234 applicants from more than 50 countries. As of April 2023, the residents will be working in Eastern Switzerland and developing their project in collaboration with TaDA partners, which include both innovative and traditional textile companies and institutions.

The selected residents are:

- Carolina Forss, textile designer and artist (Finland)
- Pascal Heimann, textile designer (Switzerland)
- Rafael Kouto, textile designer (Switzerland)
- Adrian Pepe, artist (Honduras)
- Axelle Stiefel, artist (Switzerland)
- Chun Shao, multimedia artis, (China), selected 2020

Carolina Forss is a Finnish fashion and textile designer-maker and artist. Cultural history, couture textile techniques and craftsmanship, interpreted through a contemporary lens, are major inspirations for Carolina's work. **Pascal Heimann** is a textile designer from Switzerland, working in Basel. With his projects, he strives to redefine the transformation of digital images into fabric using computer programs. **Rafael Kouto**, also Swiss, is a creative director, fashion and textile designer as well as a lecturer at the IUAV University in Venice and other institutions. In 2017, he launched an avant-garde fashion brand under his name, engaging in projects that promote upcycling, community couture and sustainability. **Adrian Pepe** is a Honduran-born fibre artist presently residing in Beirut, Lebanon. Pepe's artistic practice is an ongoing investigation of processes and material. **Axelle Stiefel** is a French-Swiss multidisciplinary artist based in Geneva who uses textile, installation, video, sound and performance for her practice. **Chun Shao** is a multimedia artist. Her interests lie in multimedia installation, e-textiles, speculative design, and data-driven art.

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Residents can work with the following partner companies and institutions in Eastern Switzerland:

- Empa, St.Gallen
- Filtex AG, St.Gallen
- Lobra AG, Thal
- Rigotex AG, Bütschwil
- Saurer Museum, Arbon
- Schoeller Textil AG, Sevelen
- Sitterwerk, St.Gallen
- Startfeld, St.Gallen
- Textilcolor AG, Sevelen
- Textildruckerei GmbH, Arbon
- Textilmuseum, St.Gallen
- Tisca Tischhauser AG, Bühler

The jury was composed of

- Martin Leuthold, textile designer
- Claudia Mareis, Professor of Design and History of Knowledge Berlin
- Markus Müller, artist
- René Rossi, Head of the Biomimetic Membranes and Textiles Laboratory, Empa
- Tanja Scartazzini, Head of cultural office St.Gallen, Trusteeship Representative
- Rebecca C. Schnyder, author
- Peter Trinkl, former CSO Saurer AG
- Roman Wild, Curator Science and Research Projects, Textilmuseum St.Gallen

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Save the Dates for TaDA Events in 2023

21 April – 18 June 2023, Gewerbemuseum, Winterthur
Special presentation: Textile Industry & Artists in
Residence
Opening, Talk & Performance: 20 April 2023, 18:30 – 19:30

25 May 2023, 18:00 - 19:30, Textilmuseum St.Gallen
TaDA Talk

22 June 2023, 18:30 - 20:00, Kunsthalle St.Gallen
Presentation of processes and results by first round of
TaDA residents

20 October 2023, 18:00 - 19:30, Textilmuseum St.Gallen
TaDA Talk

24 November 2023, whole day, Eastern Switzerland (tbd)
Annual event “Spinnerei”

Further details: www.tada-residency.ch

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Press material can be downloaded here:
<https://tada-residency.ch/media>