

EIKON Award (45+)

Under the patronage of VALIE EXPORT



symbolic image

**Europe-wide call for submissions for women artists aged 45 and older
on the occasion of the 100th issue of EIKON**

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EIKON Award (45+)

Call for entries on the occasion of the **100th issue of EIKON** for **women photographers and media artists aged 45 years and over.**

Prize money: € 5,000

Patronage: VALIE EXPORT

Jury: Jürgen Klauke (DE), Margot Pilz (AT), and Æsa Sigurjónsdóttir (FR/IS)

Idea and concept: Marielis Seyler and Nela Eggenberger

To celebrate its **100th issue**, **EIKON – International Magazine for Photography and Media Art** is announcing a Europe-wide award: Under the patronage of **VALIE EXPORT**, a pioneer in media art and performance, and by the initiative of **Marielis Seyler** (photo artist) and **Nela Eggenberger** (EIKON's editor-in-chief), the award is directed at **women photographers and media artists 45 years and older**. The addressees are oftentimes excluded from awards by age restrictions, in addition to still being marginalized on the art market on the basis of multiple aspects of their sexual identity.

The aim of the award is not only to survey the current conditions in women's art production, but also to draw attention to and sensitize a broad public for the (biographically caused) delays in artistic development and practice of both late entrants and returning artists.

EIKON #100

Countless women artists are pioneers in groundbreaking movements in photography and media art. Thus, a consistent representation of women media artists in art history is of the utmost importance. The **100th issue of EIKON** is dedicated to this desideratum and is designed as a high-quality special edition issue, that will accompany the prize. The artistic works of select participants will be presented and analyzed in a comprehensive essay.

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Patronage and jury of the EIKON Award (45+)

Patronage

VALIE EXPORT is considered a forerunner in conceptual media, performance, and video art. The Vienna based artist has been using the name VALIE EXPORT since 1967, a moniker which simultaneously serves as an artistic concept. Since the late 1960s, her artistic practice focuses on the body as a kind of “exhibition space”. Her most recognized performances are *Tapp und Tastkino* and *Aktionsbese: Genitalpanik* (both 1968), which force intimate encounters with the female body in public spaces. VALIE EXPORT is involved in various curatorial projects, international symposia, exhibitions, and film programs. Her works are represented in the collections of major museums, such as The Museum of Modern Art, New York; Centre Pompidou, Paris; Tate Modern, London. In 2017 the museum LENTOS will be presenting an extensive exhibition of the artist, coinciding with the acquisition of her archive by the city of Linz. Furthermore, the opening of the VALIE EXPORT Center – a research center for media and performance art is currently being planned.

Jury

Jürgen Klauke is a world renowned protagonist of contemporary photography, body art, and performance. Since the 1970s he has been critically addressing normative social concepts of gender identities and patterns of social behavior. The human body – most often his own – serves as the essential medium in his work. Klauke was a pioneer in a time when the issues of gender and identity were not yet established in art and theory discourses. Between 1994 and 2008 he was a professor for artistic photography at the Academy of Media Arts in Cologne. From 2010 to 2011 the Museum of Modern Art in Salzburg and the ZKM. The Center for Art and Media Karlsruhe presented the shows *Jürgen Klauke. Ästhetische Paranoia*. In 2017 the retrospective of his graphic work titled *Jürgen Klauke – Selbstgespräche. Zeichnungen 1970–2016* can be viewed at the Max Ernst Museum Brühl.

Margot Pilz is one of the pioneers in Austrian concept and media art. Her experimental, performative, and conceptual approach are already visible in her early works. Pilz pushes the limits – in a radical, actionist, and feminist way. This manifests itself in daring experiments with new media and materials, as well as in the exposing of taboos and stereotypes. As one of the first artists in Austria, she used computers in her works and analyzed the digital world. In 2011 Pilz was given the award for Visual Art by the city of Vienna. In 2014 the Künstlerhaus Vienna hosted the exhibition *Once upon my time: Java 1942* and in 2015 the MUSA Vienna honored the significance of her performative photography and her pioneering role in the field of New Media with an extensive show titled *Margot Pilz: Meilensteine. Von der performativen Fotografie zur digitalen Feldforschung*.

Æsa Sigurjónsdóttir works as an associate professor at the University of Iceland and as an international curator. She publishes papers on crucial issues of contemporary photography and art, the history of art and visual culture, and is the organizer and participant of various international projects. In 2016 Sigurjónsdóttir curated the exhibition *Fleckless and Hotheaded* in the gallery Raum mit Licht in Vienna. Other exhibitions curated by her include i.a.: *Reconstruction of Friendship*, Corner House, Riga European culture capital, 2014; *Tracks in Sand, Sigurjón Ólafsson Retrospective*, National Gallery Iceland, 2014; *Turku Biennial*, Finland, 2013.