

L U M A W E S T B A U

IT'S URGENT - PART III



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It's Urgent! - Part III

Curated by Hans Ulrich Obrist

The starting point for *It's urgent* is an exhibition model that I (together with Christian Boltanski and Bertrand Lavier) started with *do it* in 1993 . For this ongoing, flexible and permanent exhibition, we invite artists to write instructions, scores and recipes that can be interpreted by others each time they are presented. For example, the poet Eileen Myles (she also belongs to the new *It's urgent* project) wrote a contribution entitled *How to Run for President of the United States* . Her text recalls that even in these frightening times, democracy belongs to the people and that art can be a means of reclaiming it.

Earlier this year I invited twelve artists (**Etel Adnan, Sophia Al-Maria, Tania Bruguera, Tony Cokes, Olafur Eliasson, Hans Haacke, Lauren Halsey, Eileen Myles, Precious Okoyomon, Wolfgang Tillmans, Rirkrit Tiravanija,**

Nora Turato) to To realize posters and posters that were presented on advertising space throughout Denmark during the spring elections for the EU Parliament and the Danish Parliament. The idea was to show an exhibition that reaches everyone because it goes beyond the museum and brings the ideas of the artists into society. This first edition of *It's urgent* was realized by the Kunsthalle Charlottenburg and the Heartland Festival.

The second edition started this spring at Luma Westbau in Zurich. In the spirit of constantly evolving exhibitions, we have invited a further 45 artists from all over the world to answer the question of what is urgent in our time; these are: **David Adjaye / Maxwell Alexandre / Mathis Altmann / Liz Johnson Artur / Kasper Bosmans / Mark Bradford / Judy Chicago / Douglas Coupland / Aria Dean / Eugenio Dittborn / Jimmie Durham / Formafantasma / Cao Fei / Fernando Garcia-Dory / Anna Bella Geiger / Liam Gillick / Renée Green / Joseph Grigely / Newton Harrison / Luchita Hurtado / Pierre Huyghe / Koo Jeong A / Josh Kline / Jakob Kudsk Steenson / Suzanne Lacy / Friederike Mayröcker / Oscar Murillo / Lorraine O'Grady / Yoko Ono / Trevor Paglen / Raymond Pettibon / Vaclav Pozarek / Raqs Media Collective / Tabita Rezaire / Peter Saville / Stephen Shore / Marianna Simnett / Patrick Staff / Barbara Solomon Stauffacher / Martine Syms / Günther Uecker / Madelon Vriesendorp / Jan Vorisek / Lawrence Weiner / Stanley Whitney.**

We have invited a further 22 artists for the third edition: **Meriem Bennani / Antonio Caro / Theaster Gates / Fabien Giraud & Raphaël Siboni / Beatriz González / Dominique Gonzalez-Foerster / Sky Hopinka / Joseph Kahlil / Amar Kanwar / Maya Lin / Fernando Palma Rodríguez / Paul B. Preciado / Faith Ringgold / Rachel Rose / Anri Sala / Tomás Saraceno / Bruno Serralongue / John Waters/ Ai Weiwei / Huang Yong Ping / Samson Young.**

Many of these poster projects have taken the form of practical and feasible proposals rather than imaginary utopias. Questions of ecology, inequality and togetherness as well as a common future are often raised. To speak to Etel Adnan: "The world needs togetherness, not separation. Love, not distrust. A common future, not isolation. "

The project will continue to develop in Zurich until we reach 100 posters at the end of January 2020 and then be shown during the Luma Days 2020 in Arles. Admission is free; Small print versions of the posters can be taken away for free, and will be distributed throughout the city. The exhibition can thus reach an audience outside of Luma Westbau, as it manifests itself in many surprising places and in unexpected contexts, creating new forms of exchange and social space.

If ever there was a time when the world needed artists' radical ideas, visions, and perspectives on society, it was now - and it is urgent.

