

Press release

10 May 2021

Selma Doborac receives the 2021 Werner Düttmann Fellowship for transdisciplinary art

The Akademie der Künste is awarding the Werner Düttmann Fellowship of the JUNGEN AKADEMIE to the director and screenwriter Selma Doborac. Born in 1982 in Bosnia and Herzegovina, she lives and works in Vienna. The fellowship for international artists, endowed with EUR 10,000, is a residency and working fellowship in Berlin; it has been awarded annually since 2018 to support young international artists of all fields who excel in their transdisciplinary artistic practice and research. This fellowship has been made possible by the family of Werner Düttmann (1971-1983), in honour of architect of the Akademie building on Hanseatenweg and long-standing president of the Akademie der Künste, whose centenary is being commemorated this year with an exhibition project at the Brücke Museum and at many venues in Berlin.

Doborac has been selected on the recommendation of Akademie members Alexander Horwath (Film and Media Art Section), Hubertus von Amelunxen (Visual Arts Section), Nele Hertling (director of the Performing Arts Section) and Kathrin Röggla (vice-president of the Akademie der Künste, Literature Section).

The jury's statement reads: "Selma Doborac has impressed the jury with her transdisciplinary practice using film, photography and installation, as well as her very special rhetorical and poetic skills in images, language and also sound. The jury was particularly excited and moved by her essay film *Those Shocking Shaking Days* (2017) on war and war reporting that questions the scope of narrative and media communicability with great intellectual power, artistic intensity and poetic density and painfully dissects the narrative and imaging methods of the endless stream of media productions."

The Werner Düttmann Fellowship has been awarded in previous years to the Russian composer Marina Poleukhina (2018), the Mexican artist Sebastián Solórzano (2019) and the Brazilian performance artist Cássio Diniz Santiago (2020).

Selma Doborac was born in Bosnia and Herzegovina in 1982 and lives in Vienna. She works in the fields of essay, documentary and experimental film, photography and conceptual art. From 2002 to 2007 she studied at the University of Applied Arts Vienna in the cross-media art class under Bernhard Leitner. From 2008 to 2012 she also studied at the Academy of Fine Arts Vienna in Harun Farocki's art and film class. Doborac's work has been shown at numerous film festivals and exhibitions, and she has received prizes and scholarships at home and abroad.

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