



Austrian  
Newsletter

September & October 2016



Sixty Years  
Austrian Cultural  
Forum London

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## Last Chance

### Out of the Box

*Until Thursday 15 September, ACF London*

Don't miss the final weeks of our 60th anniversary exhibition curated by Vienna-based art consultancy section.a. The exhibition responds to the site, history and current programme of the ACF through a number of specially commissioned artworks and installations.

### Maria Lassnig

*Until Sunday 18 September, Tate Liverpool*

This major exhibition of works by Austrian artist Maria Lassnig (1919–2014) includes around 40 paintings, works on paper and animations, focusing on Lassnig's committed exploration of the notion of self-portraiture and the boundaries between the self and the world.

Info: Tate Liverpool, Albert Dock, Liverpool L3 4BB; [www.tate.org.uk/liverpool](http://www.tate.org.uk/liverpool)

### The Body Extended: Sculpture and Prosthetics

*Until Sunday 23 October, Henry Moore Institute, Leeds*

*The Body Extended: Sculpture and Prosthetics* traces how artists have addressed radical changes to the very thing we humans know best: our bodies. The exhibition presents over seventy artworks, objects and images including works by three celebrated Austrian artists: Michael Kienzer, Walter Pichler and Franz West.

Info: Henry Moore Institute, 74 The Headrow, Leeds LS1 3AH; [www.henry-moore.org/hmi](http://www.henry-moore.org/hmi)

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## September

### London Design Biennale 2016

*Wednesday 7 – Tuesday 27 September, Somerset House, London*

This year, Austria will take part in the first London Design Biennale under the motto 'Utopia by Design' at Somerset House. The theme celebrates the 500th anniversary of the first publication of 'Utopia' by Thomas Morus.

Austria will present a specially developed kinetic light installation by celebrated design duo mischer'traxler studio, commissioned by Austria Design Net. *Level: the fragile balance of utopia* transforms itself as it interacts with the audience as well as its environment.

[www.londondesignbiennale.com](http://www.londondesignbiennale.com)  
[www.somerset-house.org.uk](http://www.somerset-house.org.uk)



mischer'traxler studio

### Percussion Discussion at KISS

*Wednesday 7 – Saturday 10 September, Leicester*

Austrian musicians Richard Eigner and Gustav Scholda, known from projects such as Ritornell, have been invited to

perform at the Kyma International Sound Symposium in Leicester. Their new project, called 'Percussion Discussion', blurs the line between acoustic and electronic sounds.

[kiss2016.symbolicsound.com](http://kiss2016.symbolicsound.com)



Percussion Discussion

## Designing Eutopias – Places of Happiness

*Saturday 10 September, 1pm,  
Somerset House, London*

As part of the London Design Biennale's public programme, Austria's design team mischer'traxler studio (Katharina Mischer & Thomas Traxler) are joined by Christoph Thun-Hohenstein, Director of MAK Vienna, and London Design Biennale Director Christopher Turner to discuss the possible and positive roles designers and biennales can play as laboratories for design and change. The talk is moderated by Thomas Geisler, curator of Austria's entry to the Biennale.

Info: Screening Room, Somerset House,  
The Strand, London WC2R 1LA;  
[www.somersetthouse.org.uk](http://www.somersetthouse.org.uk),  
[www.londondesignbiennale.com](http://www.londondesignbiennale.com)

## Maria Lassnig Film Retrospective

*Saturday 10 September, Tate Modern*

On the occasion of the first major UK retrospective exhibition at Tate Liverpool, London audiences will have the opportunity to see a special screening of animated films made by Maria Lassnig in the 1970s. The films explore themes of female representation, perception and the body's relationship with machines.

Info: Tate Modern, Bankside, London SE1 9TG;  
[www.tate.org.uk/visit/tate-modern](http://www.tate.org.uk/visit/tate-modern)

## Julya Rabinowich, Wanderlust (Unravelling Europe)

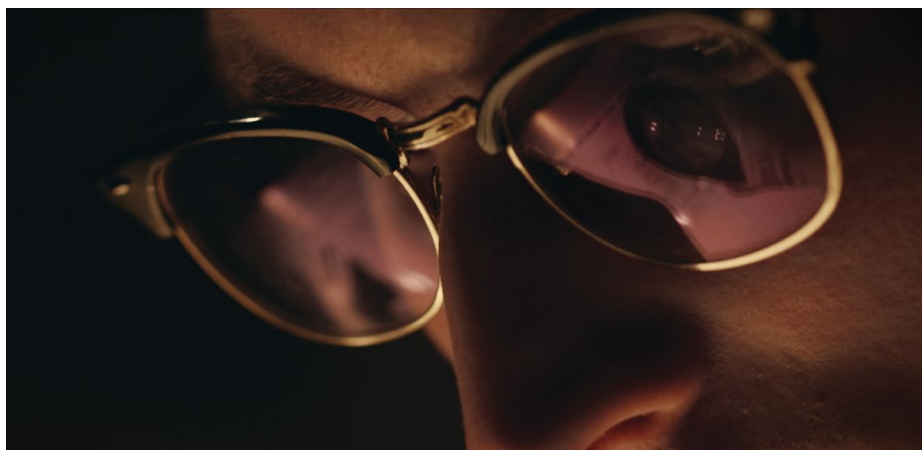
*Monday 12 September, Free Word Centre  
London*

Austrian writer Julya Rabinowich will read from her book *Split Head (Spaltkopf)* as part of the Wanderlust programme at the Free Word Centre. Rabinowich's work responds to the politics around asylum and the European refugee experience. *Split Head* is a novel about exile, new departures and dead ends. The reading will be followed by a panel discussion about migration, cultural inheritance and translation.

Info: Free Word Centre, 60 Farringdon Road,  
London EC1R 3GA; [www.freewordcentre.com](http://www.freewordcentre.com)



Julya Rabinowich, photo by Margit Marnul



Still from *A Good American*

## Take One Action Film Festival: A Good American

*Wednesday 14 – Sunday 25 September,  
Edinburgh & Glasgow*

A codebreaker genius, a revolutionary surveillance programme and corruption across the board of NSA. The feature documentary *A Good American* by Austrian director Friedrich Moser is a captivating investigation of the failings of the intelligence-industrial complex in the US. Take One Action is the UK's leading global change film festival.

[www.takeoneaction.org.uk](http://www.takeoneaction.org.uk)

## Cineclub: Ma Folie

*Tuesday 20 September, 7pm, ACF London*

To accompany our autumn exhibition and celebration of female cultural practice and production, the ACF presents a selection of films featuring, produced or directed by women from Austria. The season is presented in partnership with Close-Up Cinema.

While *Ma Folie* begins as an 'amour fou' it quickly develops into a riveting

psychological thriller. Hanna is in love with Yann and adores the videos he films and sends her daily. When mistrust and jealousy bring the relationship to an end Yann refuses to leave Hanna alone. He continues sending her films which take on an increasingly threatening nature. Q&A with director Andrina Mračnikar following the screening.

Austria, 2015, 100 mins, German with English subtitles, directed by Andrina Mračnikar

## Modern Languages, Global English, and the Future of the EU

*Wednesday 21 September, 10am–6pm,  
Senate House, University of London*

Organised in conjunction with Alessandro Carlucci (University of Oxford) and the Fondazione Istituto Gramsci, Rome, this workshop will discuss topics such as the political economy of languages, perceptions and representations of multilingualism, EU language policies and the role of translation among other topics.

Info: Bloomsbury Room, G35, Senate House, Malet Street, London WC1E 7HU; [www.sas.ac.uk](http://www.sas.ac.uk)



## V&A Digital Design Weekend

*Saturday 24 & Sunday 25 September,  
10.30am–5pm, V&A South Kensington  
and ACF London*

Now in its sixth year, the Digital Design Weekend brings together artists, designers, engineers, technologists and the public to celebrate and share contemporary digital art and design. Coinciding with the London Design Festival and the V&A's Engineering Season, this is an excellent opportunity to explore interactive installations, performances and digital projects.



Digital Design Weekend 2015, © V&A Museum

Installations by Austrian designers Jochen Zeirzer, Stefan Tiefengraber, Linda Kronman & Andreas Zingerle (KairUs art collective) and Yen Tzu Chang will be presented at the V&A. Additionally, the ACF London will open its doors for the weekend and present work by Verena Mayrhofer and Dawid Liftinger. The exhibition will continue until Friday 7 October. The project is presented in partnership with Ars Electronica Linz and the V&A London.

Info: Victoria & Albert Museum, Cromwell Rd, London SW7 2RL; [www.vam.ac.uk](http://www.vam.ac.uk)

## Cineclub: Among The Blind

*Wednesday 28 September, 7pm,  
ACF London*

Among The Blind is a journey into an unfamiliar world. A world separated from our own by a single sensory organ.

Director Eva Spreitzhofer challenges our assumptions in this documentary by introducing us to the experiences of three blind protagonists, one of whom is Andy Holzer, an extreme mountain climber.

Austria, 2015, 90 mins, German with English subtitles, directed by Eva Spreitzhofer

## Schmieds Puls & Robert Rotifer

*Thursday 29 September, Servant Jazz  
Quarters, London*

Three years ago, Mira Lu Kovacs played a rather unforgettable solo concert at the Austrian Cultural Forum. Since then she has won an Amadeus (the Austrian equivalent of the Brits) with her three piece band Schmieds Puls. Their success lies in Kovacs' outstanding voice, intimate lyrics and unusual harmonies. She will be joined in this concert by Canterbury-based Austrian singer-songwriter Robert Rotifer. Having curated many concerts for the ACF London, Robert is known for his Ray Davies-style narrative songs and heart-wrenching chord changes.

Info: Servant Jazz Quarters,  
10a Bradbury Street, London N16  
[www.servantjazzquarters.com](http://www.servantjazzquarters.com)



Schmieds Puls, photo by Astrid Knie

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# October

## Mahler Symphony No. 2 'The Resurrection' study day

*Sunday 2 October, 11am–4pm,  
ACF London*

In the second of his new series of study days focussing on each of Mahler's symphonies, writer and broadcaster Gavin Plumley, the Vice President of the Gustav Mahler Society UK, will continue his exploration of Mahler's great symphonic odyssey, focusing on the great Second Symphony known as 'The Resurrection'.

This is a ticketed event. Entrance is £20 for the day. Please book via [info@mahlersociety.org](mailto:info@mahlersociety.org) [www.mahlersociety.org](http://www.mahlersociety.org)

## Hans Weigand

*Opening: Monday 3 October, 6.30–9pm;  
Exhibition continues until Sunday  
9 October, ACF London*

In conjunction with the Frieze Art Fair in London the ACF will host an exhibition by Austrian artist Hans Weigand, organised and presented by Vandart. *London Calling Return of the Apes* showcases the artist's latest series of works as well as a site-specific installation realised by the artist



Hans Weigand

for this occasion. Weigand's extensive body of works incorporates painting, music, sculpture, print, photography and wood carving techniques. Driven by his own personal history and historical role models such as Hieronymus Bosch, Weigand employs intricate processes and transforms richly layered works into pieces full of socio-political depth as well as pop and punk culture abundance.

## Cineclub: Project – Superwoman

*Tuesday 4 October, 7pm, ACF London*

Hildegart Rodríguez was born in Madrid in 1914 and was the lifelong 'project' of her mother, Aurora Rodríguez, who had conceptualised her as a kind of superwoman. She was to become the great feminist activist of her country. After a breathtaking early career, she was shot dead in her sleep by her mother at the age of 19. Barbara Caspar's striking film fuses documentary and animation styles. Feminist activists and sociologists consider the burning question of what mother-daughter relationships are like in terms of 'only wanting the best' in today's life plans.

Austria, 2016, 90 mins, German with English subtitles, directed by Barbara Caspar

## Feminist Avant-Garde of the 1970s. Works from the Verbund Collection

*Friday 7 October – Sunday 8 January 2017,  
The Photographers' Gallery, London*

This exhibition of works from Austria's Verbund Collection highlights the groundbreaking practices that shaped the 1970s feminist art movement and provides a timely reminder of the impact of a seminal generation of artists. Alongside established practitioners such as

VALIE EXPORT, Cindy Sherman and Francesca Woodman, the exhibition is also a rare opportunity to discover the influential work of artists including Birgit Jürgenssen, Katalin Ladik and Renate Bertlmann. In partnership with the Photographers' Gallery, the ACF London and Close-Up Cinema present a series of accompanying events including film seasons, artist talks and a symposium later in the year.

Info: The Photographers' Gallery,  
16–18 Ramillies Street;  
thephotographersgallery.org.uk



Birgit Jürgenssen, *Ich möchte hier raus!*, 1976  
© Estate Birgit Jürgenssen, Vienna

## Koo Jeong A 2016 Artist of the Year featuring Martin Roth

*Friday 7 October – Saturday 19 November,  
Korean Cultural Centre, London*

At her exhibition as Artist of the Year Koo Jeong A invites fellow artists to transform a solo show into a dynamic collaborative project. Artists will respond to the line drawing *Civilizing Process* created by Jeong A in 2005. Among the selected artists is New York based Austrian artist Martin Roth who works with living organisms to create thought-provoking and mesmerizing installations.

Info: Korean Cultural Centre UK, Grand Buildings, 1–3 Strand, London WC2N 5BW  
[www.kccuk.org.uk](http://www.kccuk.org.uk)

## The Austrian Centre London: Green Plaque Unveiling

*Thursday 13 October, 4pm, 124 Westbourne Terrace, London*

The Austrian Centre London will receive a commemorative plaque at their former base, 124 Westbourne Terrace in Paddington. The Austrian Centre was the most important social, cultural and political hub for Austrian exiles from the Nazis. Opened in 1939, its first President was Sigmund Freud. The Centre housed a library, restaurant, theatre, political cabaret, concert venue and functioned as a publisher, offered advisory services and served as a meeting place for thousands of refugees from Austria. This plaque recognizes the importance of this site and the role it played in the lives of so many Austrian refugees. Following the unveiling at Westbourne Terrace there will be a reception and concert at the ACF London.

## The Austrian Centre London: Commemorative Concert

*Thursday 13 October, 6.30pm, ACF London*

Following the unveiling of the green plaque at 124 Westbourne Terrace we invite guests to the ACF London for a special commemorative concert. The opening of the Austrian Centre on March 11, 1939 was celebrated with a concert programme consisting of chamber music for string quartet and a selection of German Lieder. Ensemble EMIGRE, based at the Royal College of Music and connected with the research and performance project 'Singing a Song in a Foreign Land' presents a concert of a similar nature, incorporating elements of the original programme as well as compositions by Austrian musicians

Karl Rankl, Hans Gal and Ferdinand Rauter who played an active role in the life of the Austrian Centre. The programme is curated and presented by Norbert Meyn (RCM).

## My Mother Medea

*Monday 17 October – Saturday 26 November, Unicorn Theatre, London*

Written by Austrian director Holger Schober for children aged 9–13, *My Mother Medea* offers a completely new angle on an age old myth. The new refugee children sit at the front of the class and tell their story; how it was for them, how it feels to be different, how it feels to be on the run and not to know what home means anymore.

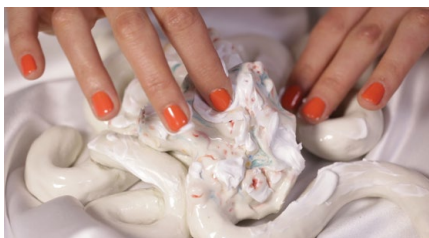
Info: Unicorn Theatre, 147 Tooley Street, London SE1 2HZ; [www.unicorntheatre.com](http://www.unicorntheatre.com)

## Tender Touches

*Opening: Tuesday 18 October, 7–9pm, ACF London; Exhibition continues until Friday 13 January 2017*

Taking its title from a work by avant-garde Austrian artist Renate Bertlmann, this exhibition presents works which examine representations of body, sexuality and relationships. The exhibition traces its development and transformation from the 1970s up to contemporary artists' practice. Artworks tackle stereotypes of representation, fetishisation, domesticity, as well as digitalisation and hybridity of these notions and their forms. Invited artists include Friedl vom Gröller/Kubelka (Austria), Renate Bertlmann (Austria), Eva Stenram (Sweden), Zoe Williams (UK), Julia Zastava (Russia/Austria).

'Tender Touches' is presented in connection with The Photographers' Gallery exhibition of Feminist Avant-Garde works from the Verbund Collection, Vienna and thanks to the support of the Richard Saltoun Gallery.



Zoe Williams, *Chateaux Double Wide Series*, video still

## David Helbeck Trio: Into the Mystic

*Thursday 20 October, 7pm, ACF London*

David Helbeck (piano) together with Raphael Preuschl (bass ukulele) and Reinhold Schmölder (drums) will perform works from their latest album 'Into the Mystic' in Cardiff and London. The celebrated Austrian jazz trio delves into a more mystic sound for this album with compositions inspired by different cultures and mythologies. In addition to concerts in Cardiff (18.10) and at the Vortex (19.10) in London David Helbeck will perform a special solo concert at the ACF London (20.10).

[www.davidhelbeck.com](http://www.davidhelbeck.com)

## Musik der Jugend

*Wednesday 25 October, 7pm, ACF London*

We are delighted to announce a very special concert presenting some of Austria's finest young classical musicians. First prize at this year's Prima La Musica awards at the Bruckner Hall Linz, was a concert at the ACF London. The two winners were the El Bamschlex Trio and Lukas Sternath.

The trio, made up of Christoph Bamschoria (clarinet), Alexander Falzberger (bassclarinet) and Elias Gillesberger (piano), will perform works by Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy, Carl Baermann, Béla Kovács and Tobias Weiß while Lukas Sternath (piano) will perform works by Mozart, Chopin and Schumann.



## Cineclub:

### The Dreamed Ones

Thursday 27 October, 7pm, ACF London

This uniquely told love story has the moving relationship between Ingeborg Bachmann and Paul Celan, important representatives of post-war German-language poetry, at its core. The story of their relationship is told through their nearly 20-year correspondence (1948–1967). Or, more precisely, by a young woman and a young man reading from their letters in a studio in Vienna's venerable Funkhaus. The tumultuous emotions of proximity and distance, fascination and fear captivate them. Yesterday's love, today's love and tomorrow's: where the lines are blurred lies the heart of the film.

Special preview courtesy of Contemporary Films; Austria, 2016, 89mins, German with English subtitles, directed by Ruth Beckermann



Still from *The Dreamed Ones*, courtesy of Contemporary Films

## VALIE EXPORT Film Retrospective

Thursday 27 – Sunday 30 October,  
Close-Up Cinema, London

Close-Up presents a retrospective on the moving-image works of radical Austrian artist and provocateur VALIE EXPORT. In partnership with the ACF London and in conjunction with The Photographers' Gallery Feminist Avant-Garde exhibition they've brought together almost five

decades of works, divided into six distinct programmes that include her early short films and videos, radical performances, feature length fiction films and documentaries.

Info: Close-Up Film Centre, 97 Sclater Street, London E1 6HR; [www.closeupfilmcentre.com](http://www.closeupfilmcentre.com)



VALIE EXPORT, *Tapp und Tastkino*, 1968, © Valie Export/VG Bildkunst, Bonn 2015; Courtesy of Galerie Charim, Vienna; The SAMMLUNG VERBUND, Vienna

## Mario Rom's Interzone at Match&Fuse Festival

Saturday 29 October, Cafe Oto, London

Match&Fuse are organising a 'knees up' like no other this autumn. Bringing together musicians from 12 countries across Europe, this concert is a response to the extremely divided world we find ourselves in. Austrian jazz trio Mario Rom's Interzone is among the invited bands. The celebrated young musicians, Mario Rom (trumpet), Lukas Kranzelbinder (bass) and Herbert Pirker (drums) will present sophisticated jazz compositions with youthful humour.

Info: Cafe Oto, 18–22 Ashwin Street, London E8 3DL; [www.cafeoto.co.uk](http://www.cafeoto.co.uk)  
[marioromsinterzone.bandcamp.com](http://marioromsinterzone.bandcamp.com)

## September

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## Visitor Information

The Austrian Cultural Forum London promotes cultural contacts between the UK and Austria by organising events and supporting artists and projects in the fields of music, performing arts, visual arts, literature, film and science.

Austrian Cultural Forum London  
28 Rutland Gate, London SW7 1PQ

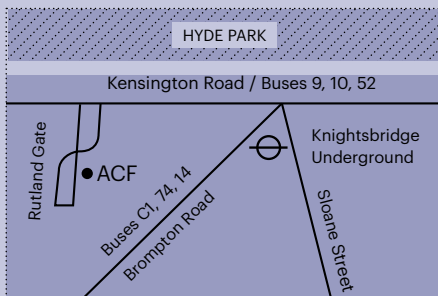
### Opening Hours

Monday to Friday, 9am – 5pm

T 020 7225 7300

E [office@acflondon.org](mailto:office@acflondon.org)

[www.acflondon.org](http://www.acflondon.org)



Events at the ACF London are FREE.  
Space is limited so please book in advance.

 [ACF\\_London](https://twitter.com/ACF_London)

 [austrian cultural forum](https://www.facebook.com/austrian-cultural-forum)

Cover: Renate Bertlmann, Protrusions, 1982,  
© Renate Bertlmann / The SAMMLUNG VERBUND, Vienna.  
From the exhibition 'Feminist Avant-Garde of the 1970s at  
The Photographers' Gallery

Design by Polimekanos

 EUROPE  
INTEGRATION  
FOREIGN AFFAIRS  
FEDERAL MINISTRY  
REPUBLIC OF AUSTRIA

 BRITISH  
COUNCIL

THE  
PHOTOGRAPHERS'  
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RICHARD SALTOUN

CLOSE-UP

VANDART

V&A