



**Klima Biennale Wien**

**2026**

**09.04.–10.05.**

**[www.biennale.wien](http://www.biennale.wien)**

**Programme Presentation**

**23.02.2026**

**Press Kit**

# **PRESS KIT KLIMA BIENNALE WIEN 2026**

**Programme presentation**

**23.02.2026**

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## **ABOUT KLIMA BIENNALE WIEN 2026**

### **Klima Biennale Wien 2026: Worlds beyond words**

#### ***Introduction***

From April 9 to May 10, 2026, Vienna will once again be dedicated to the Klima Biennale Wien. The second edition of this interdisciplinary festival at the intersection of art, climate, and society is guided by the theme *Unspeakable Worlds*, addressing the complexity of contemporary realities that often defy language. A special focus is on Vienna's public space, with a concentration of projects at Karlsplatz – a key location in the city centre – which for one month becomes a stage for artistic interventions and events. In addition to the festival headquarters at KunstHausWien, more than fifty partner institutions contribute to a citywide programme. Initiated by the City of Vienna, the Biennale is organized by KunstHausWien, a museum of Wien Holding

#### **Festivalzentrale at KunstHausWien**

KunstHausWien presents two exhibitions within the framework of the Biennale:

*Seeds. Reclaiming Roots, Sowing Futures* explores the multifaceted meanings of seeds and seedling as a reflection of our relationship to the earth and to each other. Far beyond their biological function, seeds carry regional knowledge and cultural heritage. For the fourteen artists in the group exhibition, seeds are the starting point for works on migration and colonialism, indigenous knowledge and biodiversity, as well as resistance, solidarity practices and regenerative futures. With works by Ackroyd & Harvey, Maria Thereza Alves, Alexandra Baumgartner, Tue Greenfort, Kapwani Kiwanga, Dominique Koch, Jumana Manna, Christian Kosmas Mayer, Marzia Migliora, Lucía Pizzani, Michaela Putz, Cecilia Vicuña, and Munem Wasif.

In the project space Garage, the collective The Institute of Queer Ecology presents the site-specific exhibition *I Wish We Had More Time*. Contributions from art, music, literature and science address the manifold meanings of loss through three narrative strands: disrupted symbioses in nature and the transformation of cross-species relationships as a result of climate change, ruptures in queer history and narrative traditions caused by social crises such as the AIDS epidemic, and interpersonal losses – missed encounters and heartbreak.

The museum will also be redesigned as the Festivalzentrale for this year's Biennale: the duo JASCHA&FRANZ (Hamburg/Berlin) is collaborating with Austrian writer Andrea Grill to develop a spatial narrative – her texts form the content and visual basis of the staging.

#### **(No) Funny Games**

**Oder Wie wir lernten, fürsorglich zu sein und die Dystopie zu lieben**

### **Art in Public Space**

During the Biennale, urban space becomes a projection screen for the unspeakable behind the beautiful surface. Under the title *(No) Funny Games*, artists develop site-specific works that oscillate between idyll and dystopia. They bring the climate issue to where urban life takes place. The programme is concentrated at Karlsplatz, where a total of four artistic positions can be seen. Among other things, Margot Pilz revives *Kaorle am Karlsplatz* from 1982 and brings the Italian seaside resort back to Vienna for the Klima Biennale forty years later. Activations are carried out by partner institutions from the surrounding area, such as the Vienna University of Technology and the Vienna State Opera.

Of the ten artistic installations in total – located on building walls, bridges, billboards and in a shopping centre – eight were created especially for the Biennale. With works by River Claire, Eva Seiler, Nevercrew, Dominik Eulberg/Marcin Nowicki, Pia Sirén, Zheng Mahler, Future Leaks, Folke Köbberling and Romuald Hazoumè. Several projects are being co-curated with KÖR – Kunst im öffentlichen Raum Wien, MuseumsQuartier Wien, museum in progress and Calle Libre.

### **Partnership as a principle – projects and collaborations**

The Klima Biennale Wien sees the future as a joint creative task and builds on a diverse network of culture, science and society. Strong cooperation partners will therefore continue to form the creative foundation of the festival in 2026. As **Partners in Climate**, their programmes bring the concerns of the Biennale to the city. Participants include DAS WEISSE HAUS, MAK, Foto Arsenal and Welt Museum, the Volkstheater Wien, WUK Performing Arts, the Kunsthalle Exnergasse, SOHO Studios, Brunnenpassage (together with Sinopale), the Stadtkino Wien, Biofabrique Vienna, Kunsthalle Wien, VIENNA DESIGN WEEK and Kultur 1.

The Vienna Business Agency together with Klima Biennale Wien presents concrete alternatives for the use of public space. Ten selected initiatives from the call *Creatives for Vienna – Making Spaces* are implementing urban space projects that enhance open spaces in neighbourhoods, strengthen communities and promote ecological and social progress in Vienna – from a newly designed Viennese sausage stand to an urban golf course on the site of the former Nordwestbahnhof area.

The *Immediate Matters* series returns in a new, expanded form. Established at the Biennale 2024, this exhibition project now includes ten selected art spaces from the independent scene, which will show their own curated contributions on pressing ecological and social issues. The series is coordinated by curator Anne Faucheret and is entitled *Speak We Must We Must Speak*

The project *Solutions & Strategies* was launched at the University of Applied Arts Vienna and the Academy of Fine Arts Vienna in the winter semester of

2025/26. The highlight is a focus week on the Badeschiff on the Danube Canal during the Biennale: for one week, around 80 art students transform the location into a lively place of exchange. They present artistic works in the form of performances, installations and discursive formats created for the Klima Biennale Wien.

### **Zukunftshorizonte – The Biennale Education Programme**

Once again, the Klima Biennale Wien is focusing on the voices of younger generations. Together with artists, social space partners and scientists, projects are being developed that actively involve children and young people in shaping the future of our planet and give them a voice. Cooperation partners include the Youth Advisory Council of UNICEF Austria, Viennese schools, the transnational cooperation KLIMASTRÖME – an art and research festival by, for and with children – as well as DOCK – Children's Office of the University of Vienna and others. To kick things off, a two-day climate summit will take place on 13 and 14 April: a symposium bringing together experts from science, art, education, business, activism and politics.

### **About Klima Biennale Wien**

The Klima Biennale Wien is a transdisciplinary festival at the intersection of art and climate. It uses the power of art to drive change toward a livable future. Cooperation, participation, and awareness-raising are at the heart of the festival. The Biennale is funded by the City of Vienna's departments of Finance, Economy, Labor, International Affairs and Digitalization, Culture and Science, and Climate, Environment, and Democracy. The first edition in 2024 attracted over 225,000 visitors and more than 100 partner institutions.

## ***Unspeakable Worlds***

### **Leitmotif**

The leitmotif *Unspeakable Worlds* serves as a conceptual framework that opens up space for reflections on dimensions of the planetary crisis, the Earth, and our common future that lie beyond the reach of current linguistic and cognitive systems—the invisible, the subtle, the in-between. Everything within us and around us is interconnected. The horrors (genocides, wars, the rise of fascism...) and the beauties (the incredible interplay of nature) are equally inexplicable and unspeakable. The Biennale aims to make the invisible visible through art and to create spaces beyond familiar narratives and patterns of perception, where art, design, science, and social practice converge to explore “unspeakable worlds” as questions, as visions, and as invitations to rethink our collective existence.

As a kind of open urban laboratory and transdisciplinary platform, the Klima Biennale Wien brings together art, science, education, social services, and civil society to promote reflection, dialogue, and ultimately social transformation.

Building on the leitmotif *Unspeakable Worlds*, a reader was created in 2025 in preparation for the festival, with texts by

Veza Fernandez

Andrea Grill

Solmaz Khorsand

Sithara Pathirana

Christoph Thun-Hohenstein

**The Reader:**



## Statements

Veronica Kaup-Hasler, Executive City Councillor for Cultural Affairs and Science: "Times of growing uncertainty challenge us to make unpopular issues and challenges – above all the climate crisis – comprehensible and tangible beyond traditional scientific formats. Art has a central role to play in this: it sharpens our awareness of the present and develops perspectives for a sustainable future for all. It is therefore more important than ever that the Klima Biennale Wien can take place as an interdisciplinary festival at the interface between art and science."

Jürgen Czernohorsky, Executive City Councillor for Climate, Environment, Democracy and Personnel: "Climate policy is always also generational policy. It is our democratic responsibility not only to represent the interests of those who are eligible to vote today, but also to consider those of future generations. The Klima Biennale Wien creates public spaces for this: it makes visible what is at stake and invites us to take responsibility beyond the here and now."

Stefan Gara, climate spokesperson for NEOS Vienna: 'The Klima Biennale Wien is a powerful signal from the city about how multifaceted the debate on the climate crisis is – and what concrete steps are necessary to achieve our goals: at the local level, climate neutrality in Vienna by 2040; at the global level, profound social change for a future that combines ecological responsibility with prosperity, quality of life and social justice.'

Gerlinde Riedl, Director of KunstHausWien: "It is no coincidence that the Klima Biennale Wien originates from KunstHausWien. As the first green museum, we understand sustainability as an attitude – both in terms of content and in the spaces we open up. The festival is the result of collaboration and the conviction that the future must not be passively awaited but actively shaped together. It invites visitors to experience contemporary art in an accessible and inclusive way, discovering new perspectives in the process. Because change begins where we are willing to look. We are delighted to be hosting the Klima Biennale Wien again in 2026!"

Sithara Pathirana, Biennale Festival Director: "The current global dynamics of political eruptions and escalating climate catastrophes leave many of us speechless. This makes the search for a new language – and for expanded spaces of understanding – all the more urgent. Overcoming the climate crisis is inextricably linked to how we as a society stand up for one another and understand life as interwoven. The Klima Biennale Wien is more than just a festival – it is a movement, it is a we. We ask questions, open up spaces for visions and understand art as a tool for necessary transformation. My thanks go to everyone who is walking this path with us."

UniCredit Bank Austria, main sponsor of the Klima Biennale Wien: "For UniCredit Bank Austria, climate protection initiatives are not a trend, but an integral part of our DNA. We see it as our responsibility to continue working intensively to get the climate crisis under control and to drive forward the achievement of climate targets. We do this not only in our core business, but also by promoting transdisciplinary creative initiatives such as the Klima Biennale Wien, which makes a valuable contribution to raising awareness for greater climate justice."

## **Advisory Board**

The main objective of the Advisory Board of the Klima Biennale Wien is to support the strategic orientation of the Klima Biennale Wien. The board brings together expertise from various disciplines to strengthen the Klima Biennale Wien as a platform for art, science, business and society. In addition, the Advisory Board supports the development of medium- and long-term objectives, facilitates access to international networks and collaborations, and contributes to the review of achievements and the formulation of suggestions for improvement through critical reflection.

### **Chairmanship:**

**Christoph Thun-Hohenstein, Initiator der Klima Biennale Wien**

### **Members:**

**Franz Essl, Department of Botany and Biodiversity Research, University of Vienna**

**Amelie Klein, freelance curator, author and design critic**

**Verena Jakoubek-Konrad, Director, vai Vorarlberg Architecture Institute**

**Luisa Neubauer, climate activist and author**

**Franziska Nori, Director, Frankfurter Kunstverein**

**Amar Rajković, Head, Community Work, Volkshilfe Wien**

**Katharina Schinner-Krendl, entrepreneur, organic delicatessen with restaurant HEU&GABEL**

**Camila Schmid Iglesias, political educator, speaker and media maker focusing on anti-racism, feminism, intersectionality, decolonisation and post-colonialism, social movements, diaspora and Cuba**

**Sigrid Stagl, Department of Socioeconomics, Vienna University of Economics and Business**

## **FESTIVAL PERIOD**

### **// Duration**

**9 April – 10 May 2026**

### **// Opening Days \***

8 April 2026, 10:00	Press Conference
9 April 2026, 15:00	Soft Opening Klima Biennale Wien I Karlsplatz
9 April 2026, 19:00	Opening Klima Biennale Wien 2026 Festivalzentrale KunstHausWien
10 April 2026, tbd	Opening Folke Köbberling (KÖR) I Kunstplatz Karlsplatz, Rosa-Mayreder-Park
11 April 2026, 20:00	Opening Party at Rote Bar, Volkstheater Wien
12 April 2026, 19:00	Reading "Von Wien Nach Rojava", Volkstheater Wien
13 & 14 April 2026	Klimagipfel at Funkhaus Wien
14 April 2026, from 14:00	Soft Opening Immediate Matters

### **// Programme Focusses\***

**Focus: Openings Days**  
**09. - 14.04.2026**

**Focus: Immediate Matters**  
**14. - 19.04.2026**

**Focus: Public Space**  
**21. - 26.04.2026**

**Focus: Solutions & Strategies**  
**28.04. – 03.05.2026**

**Focus: Education & Participation**  
**05. - 10.05.2026**

**\* Programme excerpt status: 23 February 2026 / Subject to change**

## FESTIVAL PROGRAMME

### // Festivalzentrale

#### Scenography

JASCHA&FRANZ with Andrea Grill

KunstHausWien, as the festival headquarters, invites visitors to attend events and linger. The Festivalzentrale is designed by the scenography duo JASCHA&FRANZ together with the writer Andrea Grill. They translate the main theme, *Unspeakable Worlds*, into a poetic spatial and textual language. The green inner courtyard with Café Friedlich offers space for reflection, exchange and culinary breaks.

The Festivalzentrale is a walk-in collage of atmospheres, voices and rhythms. In seeking to describe the world, a space of possibility opens up – language as irritation, association, imagination. There, the possible begins to whisper.

*„klima, das ist doch – so eine situation“*

(climate, that's – more a situation) (Andrea Grill)

#### Exhibitions

##### **Seeds. Reclaiming Roots, Sowing Futures**

10.04.2026 – 14.02.2027

Curated by Sophie Haslinger

Seeds are the very foundation of our life. They provide us with the nutrients and raw materials we need, they embody biological diversity, they preserve and pass on regional knowledge and cultural heritage, and they stand for hope, change and renewal. The group exhibition explores the multilayered meanings of seeds as a mirror of our relationship to the earth and one another.

For the fourteen international artists of the exhibition, the seed is the starting point for their investigations from ecological, cultural, and symbolic perspectives. Originating from different geographical and cultural contexts, the works collected consider migration and colonialism, indigenous knowledge and biodiversity, agriculture and food sovereignty, but also resistance, self-empowerment, cooperative praxis based on solidarity, and regenerative futures.

The exhibition *Seeds. Reclaiming Roots, Sowing Futures* forges links between art, ecology and activism. The sculptures, installations, photographs and video works tell of disappearance and preservation, of loss and regeneration, of the poetic as well as political potential intrinsic to mutual concern and shared growing. Just as a seed contains within itself heritage and potential, histories and futures, a series of multifaceted narratives unfurl in the exhibition, tangibly revealing the

interdependencies and complexity of the global climate crisis and inviting us to reflect on possible futures.

**Artists:**

Ackroyd & Harvey, Maria Thereza Alves, Alexandra Baumgartner, Tue Greenfort, Kapwani Kiwanga, Dominique Koch, Jumana Manna, Christian Kosmas Mayer, Marzia Migliora, Lucia Pizzani, Michaela Putz, Cecilia Vicuña, Munem Wasif

The exhibition is accompanied by a publication to be published by Spector Books, Leipzig.

### **The Institute of Queer Ecology. I Wish We Had More Time**

10.04.– 09.08.2026

Curated by Stephan Kuss & Veronika Hackl

As part of the Klima Biennale Wien, KunstHausWien is presenting *I Wish We Had More Time*, the first solo exhibition by the Institute of Queer Ecology in Austria.

The exhibition is dedicated to the diverse dimensions of meaning associated with loss: ecological, communal, and relational. It addresses the disruption of symbiosis in nature as a result of climate change. This throws the sensitive interplay between species and phenological phases out of balance. It addresses the ruptures in queer history and narrative traditions caused by social crises such as the AIDS epidemic, as well as the relational losses that arise when two living beings meet at the wrong time or in the wrong place – missed encounters and melancholy.

The Institute of Queer Ecology is an ever-evolving collaborative organism that aims to bring marginalised alternative solutions to environmental destruction to the forefront of public consciousness. Its interdisciplinary projects are based on the theoretical framework of queer ecology, an adaptive practice that explores connectedness, intimacy and cross-species relationships. The collective aims to challenge destructive anthropocentric hierarchies and shape a just, interconnected future in which human and non-human life forms coexist on equal terms.

## // Public Space

### **(No) Funny Games. Oder Wie wir lernten, fürsorglich zu sein und die Dystopie zu lieben**

#### **Exhibition**

10.04. - 10.05.2026

Curated by Dorothea Trappel & Hektor Peljak

In a world increasingly shaped by climate disasters, political upheaval, and social fragmentation, our most basic human needs — safety, care, connection — seem to be slipping away. What remains often feels cold, hostile, even cruel beyond comprehension.

(No) Funny Games, part of the Klima Biennale Wien, confronts this uncomfortable reality head-on. The exhibition plays with surface beauty and apparent lightness—only to unravel darker undercurrents that lie beneath. These site-specific works in public space create seductive, idyllic impressions that turn out to be deceptive. What first appears charming or joyful gradually reveals itself as a mirror to the discomfort of our time.

Drawing on references like Funny Games and Dr. Strangelove, the exhibition engages in a double game of irony and sincerity. It uses aesthetic allure to draw us in, only to challenge our emotional defenses and confront us with our shared complicity. Joy becomes an act of resistance; wonder a way to stay alive in dystopia. But the question remains: What kinds of worlds are we creating to make the real one bearable—and at what cost?

(No) Funny Games not only questions the role of public art in times of crisis but also critiques how art is often instrumentalized in the context of climate discourse—without offering real solutions. These works break the fourth wall, inviting not passive consumption but emotional involvement and ethical reflection.

#### **Artistic Positions**

##### **River Claire**

Fotoserie

Nordbahnstraße 51, 1020

Hellwagstraße, 1200

Radetzkyplatz, 1030

Unter Weißgerberstraße, 1030

Kleine Pfarrgasse / Taborstraße U2 Station, 1020

Praterstern –Ausgang U2, 1020

Yppenplatz, 1160

Adele Perlmutter Platz / Praterstraße, 1020

Margaretenplatz, 1050

**Dominik Eulberg & Marcin Nowicki**

Sound Installation

tbd

**Future Leaks**

Performance

Karlsplatz

Wien Mitte - Die Mall, 1030

**Romuald Hazoumè**

with museum in progress

Installation

Aspernbrücke, 1030 / Schwedenbrücke, 1020

**Folke Köbberling, *Maaaaash!***

with KÖR Wien (Public Art Vienna)

Kunstplatz Karlsplatz, Rosa-Mayreder-Park

**NEVERCREW**

with Calle Libre

Mural

Baumgasse 77 (Building Wall), 1030 - tbc

**Margot Pilz**

Installation

Karlsplatz, 1040

**Eva Seiler**

with Museumsquartier Wien

Installation

MQ Art Box, 1070

**Pia Sirén**

Installation

Karlsplatz, 1040

**Zheng Mahler**

Installation

Karlskirche am Karlsplatz, 1040

**Partners Public Space**

BWS Gemeinnützige allgemeine Bau-, Wohn- und Siedlungsgenossenschaft, reg.

Gen.m.b.H.

Hengl Mineral GmbH

Karlskirche  
Karlsplatz.org  
Österreichische Bundesforste  
SSO Garten & Planung GmbH  
UniCredit Bank Austria  
Wiener Festwochen  
Wien Mitte The Mall  
Wiener Stadtwerke

### **Activations *Kaorle am Karlsplatz 2026***

Art, cultural and educational institutions such as the Vienna State Opera, Karlskirche, the Vienna University of Technology, Wien Museum, the Secession, the Künstlerhaus Wien and other venues around Karlsplatz are participating in the activation of Margot Pils's *Kaorle am Karlsplatz 2026* with a diverse programme of events. Special tours, discussion formats and an educational programme will shed light on current issues relating to climate, cities and sustainability from artistic, spiritual and scientific perspectives. Musical performances and performative contributions put a spot on social aspects of the climate crisis and possible visions for the future. This creates a lively dialogue between art, the public and institutions, positioning Karlsplatz as a platform for climate awareness and transformation.

### **Programme Partners**

HOPE Raumlabor @TU Wien | Kunst und Gestaltung  
Karlskirche  
Kunsthalle Wien  
Künstlerhaus Vereinigung  
NEST – Neue Staatsoper  
Secession Vereinigung Bildender Künstler\*innen Wien  
Wien Museum  
Wiener Staatsoper

## // Immediate Matters

### About

*Speak We Must We Must Speak*

Curator und Programme Coordinator Anne Faucheret

*Speak We Must We Must Speak* echoes as a necessity in a time when ecological devastation is accompanied by the exhaustion of words. The ecological crisis is a crisis of perception, sensitivity, and relationality. It is a crisis of stories and language. Across the ten exhibitions, speaking does not align with classifying and mastering the world from above, but unfolds from a situated position and engages listening, responding and resisting. Speaking means reclaiming complexity, tackling uneasy entanglements, forging alliances among humans and with more-than-humans, and understanding ecology as an ecology of relations.

### Spaces

#### WAF

*Fishy Business Hydromorphologies and Wetware*

The exhibition explores aquatic prostheses as epistemic and spatial tools. Bringing together art, architecture, biology, and myth, the exhibition asks how prosthetic interventions reshape interspecies care, ethics and cohabitation. Curated by Carmen Lael Hines and Lisa Jäger, it features works by Agnes Questionmark, Andreia Santana, Juan Pablo Pacheco, Elena Rocabert, Nikolaus Eckhard and Christina Gruber, using prosthesis to imagine alternative ontologies of care.

#### Laurenz

*flowers*

LAURENZ is planning a group exhibition entitled *flowers*. The exhibition presents works by Daniel Fonatti, Katharina Höglinger, Maureen Kägi, Minne Kersten, Lucia Elena Průša, Magali Reus, Jennifer Tee and Anna Zemánková, as well as loans from the art collection and archive of the University of Applied Arts Vienna. The works on display are dedicated to the symbolism of the flower motif, which at first glance appears harmless, and trace its origins through various artistic practices and art history.

#### ENTRE

*Kôô: Libations for Grief* by Soñ Gweha

ENTRE presents *Kôô: Libations for Grief*, a site-specific exhibition of sculptural, sonic, and video works by Soñ Gweha. The works center on the “Achatina” snail (“Kôô,” as Cameroon’s Bassa people call it), which is listed among the world’s most destructive invaders. With invasiveness imagined here as a generative modality of grief, the snail plays the role of a healing spiritual entity, a symbol of communal care, and a sonic device for ecological attunement.

## **Pech**

### ***Johanna Charlotte Trede***

Johanna Charlotte Trede is a visual artist. Her focus is on relationships and details that are usually overlooked and ignored. She finds materials on her forays through outdoor spaces, the internet, texts and construction sites.

Pech is a non-commercial exhibition space in Vienna. Pech presents solo exhibitions with a focus on idiosyncratic artistic practices and encourages artists to pursue unusual ideas and ephemeral productions.

## **Schleuse**

### ***Vera Palme***

Solo Exhibition by Vera Palme. Schleuse, Schelleingasse 26, 1040 Wien, [www.schleuse.biz](http://www.schleuse.biz)

## **new jörg**

### ***EDAPHON (A(ELIXR von Ádám Ulbert***

With *EDAPHON (A(ELIXR*, Ádám Ulbert presents an exhibition at new jörg Vienna that rethinks the concept of shelter. Based on Jules Verne's *Journey to the Centre of the Earth* and Max Ernst's surreal collages, Ulbert explores ecological deep time, alchemical models of thought and microbial interconnections. The works on display attempt to shift anthropocentric perspectives and develop a circular, relational understanding of nature.

## **Kunstverein Kevin**

### ***Asta Lyngé***

In her artistic practice, Asta Lyngé (b. 1988, Denmark; lives and works in Copenhagen) explores ideas of progress and technology, considering how objects carry systems of desire, value, and control. Through reworking familiar forms, her exhibitions expose hidden power structures and cultural narratives — and highlight how these are shaping contemporary life.

## **eindorf**

### ***Crisis of Sensitivity***

eindorf will be transformed into a resonance chamber for the body, memory and the environment. A site-specific, multidisciplinary intervention will be created here, in which choreographic, performative, installation, photographic and cinematic practices will be woven together into a unified whole. The artists reflect together on the deep interconnections between ecological and human crises and experiment with the ability to respond sensitively to the sensitivities of others and their own. The result is an artistic landscape that invites visitors to experience transformation sensually and physically.

**SIZE MATTERS. Raum für Kunst & Film**  
***WAREN / WERE* by Edith Payer**

Edith Payer maintains a collection of found objects, which now comprises several thousand items. These are things picked up off the ground and remnants that caught his eye due to their appearance, materiality, shape or state of decay. For the exhibition *WAREN / WERE*, the found objects are used in an installation setting reminiscent of 1950s shop architecture, and a series of presentation methods are played out with them, based on commercial as well as museum display techniques.

**ECHO Correspondence**  
***Another Space Agency is Possible (ASAP)***

For half a decade, British designer Sophie Dyer has co-lead the feminist art, tech, and education collective open-weather. Founded in 2020 by geographer Sasha Engelmann and Dyer, open-weather expanded into a patchy, planetary network of more than 100 DIY Satellite Ground Station operators. This decentralised, people-powered infrastructure documented extreme weather events, political climates, and the death of the last satellites transmitting publicly accessible analogue weather images. Born from locally situated questions yet operating at a planetary scale, open-weather is reimagined here as a feminist space agency. Drawing on its Public Archive and new works, the exhibition asks: What other space agencies might exist under different conditions? How might they help us navigate the climate emergency by connecting knowledge with responsibility? And how might they transform our perception of the planet and so our relationship to it?

## // Solutions & Strategies

### About

Around eighty art students from the Academy of Fine Arts Vienna and the University of Applied Arts Vienna have developed artistic works dealing with the climate crisis especially for the Klima Biennale Wien. They will be on display at the Badeschiff for one week. The cross-media artworks have been created since autumn 2025 as part of courses and include drawings, textile works, videos, as well as performances, installations and discursive formats: These include sculptures that symbolically transform the Badeschiff into a sinking Titanic, flags that fly in the wind calling for greater climate justice, and collaborative projects that make Vienna's urban nature audible by recording and editing the sounds and voices on the banks of the Danube Canal. Workshops, talks and scientific impulses open up sustainable, visionary perspectives and solutions to the climate crisis.

### Presentation

29.04.– 03.05.2026

Badeschiff Vienna

### Universities / Classes

#### University of Applied Arts Vienna

- Sculptur and Space - **Hans Schabus**
- Social Design - **Brigitte Felderer**

#### Academy of Fine Arts Vienna

- Art and Image | Drawing - **Veronika Dirnhofer**
- Art and Intervention | Environment - **Judith Huemer**

## // Creatives for Vienna - Making Spaces

In Cooperation with the Vienna Business Agency

### About

At the Climate Biennale 2026, the Vienna Business Agency is presenting ten projects that redesign and revitalise open spaces in Vienna. The winning projects emerged from the Creatives for Vienna – Making Spaces competition and were selected by a jury of experts from 132 submissions. They each received €15,000 in funding and support for implementation. The award-winning concepts range from shading public spaces to neighbourhood participatory activities. They show how Vienna's creative industries are revitalising neighbourhoods and contributing to the quality of life in Vienna.

### Projects

#### *Shade Commons*

##### **Papageienhalle im Nordwestbahnhof**

##### **Nordwestbahnstraße 16, 1200 Wien**

Cities can adapt to climate change and make public spaces more attractive by incorporating productive landscapes. Often overlooked, horticultural infrastructure provides valuable approaches. Based on the shadow house, a spatial strategy is being developed that protects against strong sunlight and enables activities. A lightweight tensile structure with HDPE nets creates flexible microclimates – cool, bright or sheltered – and adapts to the weather and usage.

#### *Bruno*

##### **Bruno Pittermann Platz, 1120 Wien**

At Bruno-Pittermann-Platz, right next to the busy Längenfeldgasse U6/U4 underground station, the Bruno project is creating a lively open space for children and families. Colourful, durable floor markings create new opportunities for movement and integrate existing elements such as the bouldering area. This activates previously underused asphalt and green spaces and transforms the square into a new, playful neighbourhood meeting place.

#### *Light for Biodiversity*

##### **Dusts Institute, Jutta-Steier-Park, 1140 Wien**

*Light for Biodiversity* is a temporary artistic intervention. By subtly altering existing street lighting, the project highlights how light shapes nocturnal ecosystems and the lives of insects. Through sensory experiences and shared observations, it encourages reflection on darkness as an ecological condition and on cities as habitats shared by humans and non-human beings.

#### *(W)Hole in One*

##### **Pocket Park Nordwest c/o Museum Nordwestbahnhof**

##### **Nordwestbahnstraße 16, 1200 Wien**

A cross golf course featuring objects from the Museum Nordwestbahnhof collection is being set up on the wasteland of the disused Nordwestbahnhof railway station. An educational trail will be set up between the tee stations and target areas, where courses, tournaments, mobile symposiums and festivals with experts and neighbours will convey the ecological and architectural potential of the site during its transformation into a new district in a low-threshold and playful way.

### ***STRØM***

#### **Donaukanal**

With its *STRØM. Baden im Kanal* project, PlaceMaking Austria is demonstrating how water can contribute to climate adaptation and social revitalisation in the city as part of the Klima Biennale Wien. A temporary swimming and recreation area on the Danube Canal shows how existing infrastructure can be transformed into public cooling zones using simple means, opening up new avenues for climate-friendly urban development.

### ***Via Tanke***

#### **Diskont Tankstelle Johanna Garage**

#### **Johannagasse 28, 1050 Wien**

The arcade petrol station 'Johanna Garage' – part of our techno-fossil infrastructure – is the setting for artistic research. Oil, mobility, infrastructure and the petrol station as a meeting place are reinterpreted through play, discussion, collective use and artistic interventions. When the taps remain quietly in the petrol pumps after closing time, future uses are tested here. Between the petrol pumps, an open-air cinema, neighbourhood meeting place, art exhibition, carpooling exchange, discussion platform and play area emerge – somewhere between everyday life, utopia and collective awakening.

### ***Die Anhaltestelle***

#### **Haltestellen der Straßenbahnlinie O: Endstation Bruno-Marek-Allee, Radetzkyplatz und Troststraße/Neilreichgasse**

The project *Die Anhaltestelle* uses O-Wagen tram stops as meeting places for dialogue in urban spaces and promotes exchange between city residents. Modular additions temporarily transform the Bruno-Marek-Allee, Radetzkyplatz (close to the Festivalzentrale) and Troststraße stops from waiting areas into places to linger. The supporting programme addresses the topics of food, exchange and social interaction and creates opportunities for exchange; at the same time, the infrastructure is open for use by local actors during the Klima Biennale Wien.

### ***Kühle Sache***

#### **Johanna-Dohnal-Platz, 1060 Wien**

*Kühle Sache* examines the potential of existing fountains to cool the immediate surroundings; it focuses on the animal drinking fountain in the 6th district, whose cooling water surface is being enlarged. To this end, a jet of water from the fountain hits the basin of the installation, creating a generous water surface. Tiles loosely distributed across this water surface form a table surface that brings people directly to the cooling water surface and activates the fountain as a communal space.

***Die Stadt führt sich auf***

**Öffentlicher Raum rund um das Burgtheater Wien  
Universitätsring 2, 1010 Wien**

Selected outdoor areas of the Burgtheater open up to the city. In collaboration with Social Design@Angewandte and WIENER TIMES, existing materials – such as those from stage operations – are sustainably reused and transformed into new, temporary street furniture. The project is intended as an experimental, temporary intervention: the resulting installations are allowed to change, weather or compost. No additional space is being taken up or commercialised – rather, space is being created for open use, without specifications and without a fixed programme.

***Wiener Würstelstand***

**Funkhaus Wien**

*Wiener Würstelstand – An experimental setup* reimagines the sausage stand as a social and cultural venue of the future. The HOT BOX BUILDING at Funkhaus Wien becomes a laboratory of the present: on a date to be announced (tba.) during the Klima Biennale Wien, it will pop up for 30 hours as a hybrid meeting place and broadcasting station – an analogue venue for culinary interventions, workshops and discussions, and at the same time a broadcasting station that transmits all programme items ON AIR.

## // Partners in Climate

### About

Partners from the arts and culture sectors present a diverse programme that was developed in dialogue with the Klima Biennale Wien.

Exhibitions, performances and workshops can be experienced in museums, art spaces or in the open air, bringing the festival theme *Unspeakable Worlds* to life – an invitation to take a fresh look at our world(s).

### Projects of *Partners in Climate*

#### **Biofabrique Vienna**

Laboratory

09.04. – 10.05.2026

The results of the pilot project for Vienna will be presented at the 2026 Klima Biennale Wien, including the 'Vienna tile' made from excavated material from public transport expansion projects and the ecological 'Vienna colours'. Biofabrique Vienna highlights the central role of Vienna's creative industries in developing marketable industrial solutions and shows how urban circular economy can be successfully implemented in Vienna.

#### **Brunnenpassage x Sinopale**

*Undercurrents – Waters that remember*

Co-creative workshops: 24.01. / 28.02. / 14.03. / 28.03. / 04.04. / 18.04. / 25.04. / 02.05. 2026

#### *Wirbelsäulen – Stabil in der Erschütterung*

Curation: Fariba Mosleh

Performance in public space 08.05.2026

Installation 09.05. – 31.05.2026

Opening with Performance 04.05.2026

Installation 04.05.- 14.05.2026

*Undercurrents – Waters that remember* is dedicated to the memory of water. Based on the LaborShhh... Listening with Waters (October 2025–May 2026), Grazielle Sena da Silva, Susana Ojeda and Zuzana Ernst, together with the participants and Sinopale Artist in Residence Çiğdem Borucu, are developing a site-specific sound work that makes voices from the hidden waterways beneath the district audible. On 8 May, a listening procession will lead through the Brunnenviertel district. The collective sound ritual understands listening as a political, anti-fascist practice against forgetting. A cooperation between Brunnenpassage, Sinopale: International Sinop Biennial and Climate Biennale Vienna 2026.

*Wirbelsäulen – Stabil in der Erschütterung* is a co-creative art project by Brunnenpassage with artist Farida Neshat. Participants translate personal memories of migration, climate change and conflict into a sculptural installation of four lime tree columns using traditional woodcut techniques. The premiere, featuring a performative intervention by Shahrzad Nazarpour and Grazielle Sena da Silva, will take place on 4 May 2026 in the Brunnenpassage.

## **DAS WEISSE HAUS**

*Choir of Kin - Photosynthesizer*

Installation

Opening 16.04.2026, 18:00

17.04. - 20.06.2026

The installation at DAS WEISSE HAUS presents the Austrian premiere of the *Photosynthesizer*, part of the *Choir of Kin* project by the Transformative Narratives collective (Lena Kuzmich and Tony Wagner). The instrument is the result of 1.5 years of transdisciplinary research with the University of Cambridge and Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam. Developed by Lena Kuzmich, it translates the photosynthetic processes of living cyanobacteria and microalgae into a light-reactive soundscape. This unfolds over three performative sequences with three new experimental music compositions by Tony Wagner.

## **FOTO ARSENAL WIEN**

*Across the Water*

Curation: Marit Lena Herrmann

Exhibition

31.01 - 10.05.2026

In *Across the Water*, Michelle Piergoelam (born 1997, Rotterdam) combines myths, dreams and family memories of the Surinamese diaspora to create poetic works about collective memory and resistance.

## **Kultur1**

*ANMUTUNGEN DER DRITTEN ATMUNG*

*Zu einer Poetik des Mitseins*

*P<sub>1</sub>: Porenzyklus | T<sub>2</sub>: Zeitflut | A<sub>3</sub>: Sirrintelligenz*

Curation: Belma Bešlić-Gál, Curation (digital): Catherine Spet

AR-Sound Walk

09.04. - 10.05.2026

*ANMUTUNGEN DER DRITTEN ATMUNG (Impressions of the Third Breath)* is a site-specific AR sound walk in the public space around the Kunst Haus Wien. Three digitally activated stations – pore cycle, time flood, sirrin intelligence – make microprocessual processes in the urban fabric audible and visible: moisture, moss, drainage, insect flight. Augmented reality and algorithmically

generated sound layers create resonance zones in which architecture, water, vegetation and insects can be experienced as active systems.

### **Kunsthalle Exnergasse**

*High on Distortion, Low on Reception*

Curation: Elisabeth Falkensteiner, Nora Mayr

Exhibition

09.04. - 30.05.2026

Between loud and soft, perceptible and repressed, *High on Distortion, Low on Reception* is dedicated to the sounds of our present – overlaid with distortion, lost in resonance. The artists explore the potential of sound as a multi-layered medium and make its hidden, threatening facets tangible: the roar of human intervention in the oceans, the silencing of insects, the noise of electromagnetic fields or the invisible forces of political measures.

Supported by the Otto Mauer Fund.

### **Kunsthalle Wien**

*Lives and Works in Vienna. Talks: The Heated City*

Talk

17.04.2026

*Lives and Works*

*inVienna* talk series is intended as a multifaceted portrait of the city of Vienna. Starting from open, socially relevant questions, the series of talks approaches the city not through a uniform narrative, but through contradictions, breaks and parallel perspectives. The talks form a discursive extension of the exhibition *Lives and Works in Vienna. Contemporary Art from Vienna*.

The first event, *The Heated City*, is dedicated to the climatic and urban planning challenges of a growing metropolis.

### **MAK**

Felix Lenz. *Soft Image, Brittle Grounds*

Curation: Marlies Wirth

Exhibition

11.02. - 26.07.2026

In the mixed media installation *Soft Image, Brittle Grounds*, artist and filmmaker Felix Lenz explores the material and political implications of technological image and knowledge production, showing how the complexity of the world collides with the reductive rationalities of the digital age. At the intersection of art, design and film, the installation can be experienced spatially and audiovisually, encouraging reflection on the multi-layered interrelationships between technology, ecology, power and inequality.

## **SOHO Studios**

*Sensorisches Kunstlabor Wien & Otros Futuros - Other Futures*

Workshopseries

14.04., 19.04., 21.04., 28.04., 05.05.2026

The project comprises a four-part workshop series and two events at KunstHausWien, exploring the olfactory aspects of urban spaces. The formats form a sensory line – an axis through space and time:

from KunstHausWien via Sandleiten to indigenous regions of the Amazon. The focus is on the question of how ecological connections can be embodied beyond verbal language. The formats invite participants to comprehend the unspeakable through the senses.

## **Stadtkino**

Cinema programme

The Stadtkino cinema is showing three films as part of the Klima Biennale Wien programme: *Little, Big and Far* by Jem Cohen, about the Austrian astronomer Karl, who tries to escape his life crisis on a deserted island in Greece. *Jane* by Brett Morgan, based largely on unknown archive material from Jane Goodall, whose research on chimpanzees revolutionised our understanding of nature. And *Wild Relatives* by Jumana Manna, which documents the first operation of the Global Seed Vault – the Norwegian seed collection. Jumana Manna is also represented in the Seeds exhibition with a work.

Jane by Brett Morgan

as part of PIONEERS and the Klima Biennale Wien

Wed 15 April 2026, 7:30 p.m. | Admiral Kino

Wild Relatives by Jumana Manna

as part of the exhibition Seeds. Reclaiming Roots, Sowing Futures

Wed 22 April 2026, 8 p.m.

followed by an artist talk with Jumana Manna, moderated by Alena Williams (EN)

Little, Big and Far by Jem Cohen

as part of the Klima Biennale Wien and the leitmotif Unspeakable Worlds

Thu 30 April 2026, 8 p.m. – Vienna premiere

## **VIENNA DESIGN WEEK**

Panel Discussion

During the opening days of Klima Biennale Wien

Based on the manifesto 'Bürgerin Donau' (Citizen Danube) by Katja Schechtner and Alex Putzer, VIENNA DESIGN WEEK is organising a panel discussion on the topics of 'Communication, Graphic Design & Climate Activism' in the context of the Klima Biennale Wien. The discussion marks the start of a process towards a public campaign for the legal status of the Danube in Vienna. The plan is to present the results in autumn as part of the 20th edition of VIENNA DESIGN WEEK.

### **Volkstheater Wien**

*Von Wien nach Rojava*

Lecture

12.04.2026, 19:00

The Klima Biennale Wien and Volkstheater invite you to an evening of utopias as part of this year's Biennale leitmotif, *Unspeakable Worlds*. An evening where laughter and tears are closely intertwined. An evening about solidarity, resistance and, above all, feminist struggles – and the question of how just futures can be conceived and lived. An evening about Rojava.

A reading by and with Muzayen Al-Youssef, Judith Goetz, Stefanie Sargnagel and Heidi Sequenz. Guest: Düzen Tekkal.

### **Weltmuseum Wien**

*SUPERFLUX. The Craftocene*

Exhibition

03.03. - 16.08.2026

The London-based design studio and future lab SUPERFLUX, founded in 2009 by Anab Jain and Jon Arden, is one of the most influential players in speculative design internationally. Based on the concept of the Craftocene, the exhibition explores how craftsmanship, technology and ecological intelligence can be combined to create new forms of coexistence. Three key works by SUPERFLUX are complemented by selected objects from the collections of the Weltmuseum Wien.

### **WUK Performing Arts**

*DIGGING DEEP Songs of Sediment*

Performance

7.-10.05.2026

*DIGGING DEEP* is a sonic and somatic performance on earth, reflecting on material relations through the collective act of digging. The artists Claudia Lomoschitz, Andrea Gunnlaugsdóttir and Crystal Wall intertwine storytelling, bodily scores, imagination and polyphonic songs, to open up sensorial realms and queer-feminist histories. Equipped with digging tools the audience will be guided through sonic and somatic explorations of the ground beneath.

*DIGGING DEEP* is a queer-feminist response to the extractivist, patriarchal and capitalist demands on earth, questioning if earth can still be understood as a resource within the Anthropocene?

**// Future Horizons – the education programme of Klima Biennale Wien**

## **About**

The future begins now: the voices of younger generations will once again take centre stage at the Klima Biennale Wien 2026. With a view to global change, social awareness and new, ecologically sustainable visions of the future, innovative projects are being developed in collaboration with artists, social space partners and scientists to actively involve children and young people in shaping the future of our planet – and to make their voices heard.

With: DOCK – Children's Office of the University of Vienna, KLIMASTRÖME – art and research festival by, for and with children, UNICEF Austria Youth Advisory Council, Volkshilfe Wien and selected Viennese schools

With the kind support of: Local Agenda 21, OeAD – Agency for Education and Internationalisation, and the Federal Ministry for Housing, Arts, Culture, Media and Sport

## **Partners and Projects**

### **Klimaströme**

16.04.2026 - 10.05.2026

DAS WEISSE HAUS

How will the world of tomorrow eat? From 30 March to 3 April 2026, children and young people will explore the connections between nutrition and climate in a workshop with the Hamburg-based design and games collective studioplayces. The convergence of art and science will result in an immersive game that can be experienced at DAS WEISSE HAUS from 16 April 2026 as part of the Klima Biennale Wien. A collaboration with the KLIMASTRÖME Festival Hamburg, the Children's Office at the University of Vienna, DOCK – Laboratory for Future Questions and The White House.

### **Climate Summit**

13.04 - 14.04.2026

Funkhaus Wien

The festival will kick off with the Climate Summit at Funkhaus Wien – an interdisciplinary symposium that brings together science, art, education, business, activism and politics.

Over two days and in three thematic blocks – Future Cycles & Regeneration, Climate-Social Urban Development, and Cultural (Climate) Education and

Participation – international and national experts will join forces with local actors to discuss creative solutions and strategies for a sustainable future.

Participants include Luisa Neubauer, Franz Essl, Emanuele Coccia, Sigrid Stagl and Nikolaj Schultz.

The event is open to anyone interested and offers space for exchange, inspiration and concrete ideas for action.

### **UNICEF Youth Advisory Council at the Climate Summit**

UNICEF, the United Nations Children's Fund, campaigns for children's rights worldwide, including in Austria. The UNICEF Austria Youth Advisory Council, in which twelve young people contribute their perspectives and opinions, works on issues such as sustainability, equality and participation. On 14 April, the Youth Advisory Council will be organising a programme item for the Climate Summit with the Climate Biennale. Among other things, they will discuss what a meaningful role for young people in climate protection could look like.

### **Reclaiming the Streets**

With the school programme *Reclaiming the Streets*, the Klima Biennale Wien wants to rethink public space together with Viennese schoolchildren and artists. In this project, it invites children and young people to actively shape their environment and make their ideas for a liveable, climate-friendly city visible. The projects show that aesthetic design, environmental and climate awareness, and collective action are inextricably linked; that the future is created through creative action and collaborative learning; and that urban space should be designed as a communal, sustainable living space.

## **// Satellites**

### **About**

The Klima Biennale Wien sees itself as an open, collaborative network. In addition to the curated programmes and specifically initiated collaborations, numerous satellite projects will also be realised in Vienna and beyond in 2026. Partners develop independent contributions, which they bring to the Biennale.

This creates a vibrant network of events, exhibitions, interventions and discourses that carry the themes of the Climate Biennale into a wide variety of urban and regional contexts. As part of the official network, these projects highlight the diversity, commitment and creativity with which Vienna and its surrounding area are addressing issues of ecological and social transformation.

Further information will be available by mid-March at [www.biennale.wien](http://www.biennale.wien).

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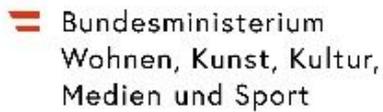


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## **PRESS CONTACT**

**Alexandra Guth**  
**Kommunikationsleitung**  
**KunstHausWien**  
**M: +43 664 882 18 118**  
**E: [alexandra.guth@kunsthauswien.com](mailto:alexandra.guth@kunsthauswien.com)**

**Susanne Haider**  
**art:phalanx – Kultur und Urbanität**  
**T: +43 (0)6991 205 1700**  
**E: [presse@artphalanx.at](mailto:presse@artphalanx.at)**

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**More information and press material:**  
**[biennale.wien/press](http://biennale.wien/press)**