

FINE ARTS/
SCULPTURE

weißensee

kunsthochschule berlin

Study Program Sculpture

Prof. Else Gabriel
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Dirk Peuker (artistic adviser)
and additional contract teachers
as well as artistic assistants

The diploma program in sculpture sees itself as a temporary space, offering students practical and theoretical tools for becoming artists.

The Sculpture program at the Berlin Weissensee School of Art is a Fine Arts course. The focus of the program is on independent artistic practice; different activities specific to various crafts, media, and materials are integrated. In single and group tutorials, in an intensive exchange with the faculty who are themselves artists, and through various practical and theoretical projects, students are given the opportunity to develop their own modus of working.

Regular exhibitions and competitions provide an opportunity for students to show their work outside of the school, which contributes to their development. Partnerships with other schools, both in Germany and abroad, offer a broad range of opportunities for exchange.

The department of sculpture is directed by three professors, and there are also numerous adjunct faculty and visiting lecturers. The central teaching methods are individual instruction and project work, which guarantees that each student receives intensive support. Sharing and comparing ideas with other study courses at the weißensee academy of art berlin and other schools in Germany and abroad is encouraged. Students are acquainted with various domains of knowledge and must complete compulsory courses, as a way of increasing their skills.

These courses cover areas such as artistic techniques, the study of materials and exercises in form and space. However, the special focus of the course is placed on developing sculptural intelligence, without which independent, artistic creative work is impossible.

Foundation Course (first year of studies)

Students in all departments take the foundation courses in the foundation of art and design. General aesthetic, visual and practical foundational knowledge and practice are taught, including foundations in the fields of digital media and anatomy/morphology. Students are introduced to sensual-direct as well as analytical-systematic ways of working. The broad curriculum enables them to discover, develop, and deepen their individual abilities and talents. Teaching takes place in interdisciplinary small working groups. Interdisciplinary interactions, teamwork, and communicative activity go beyond the limits of one's own discipline and genre. With the special structure and its range of what is on offer, the foundational program is a specialty of the weißensee academy of art. The program emphasizes in particular the following: teaching the foundation art and design, expanding individual creative abilities, opening up new work modes, acquisition of expertise and skills in various crafts and more.

Commencement of study

Admission of beginners is for the winter semester only, i. e. from October of the current year.

Duration of study

The duration of the program is ten semesters, including the period devoted to the diploma project. After successful graduation is awarded the academic title „Diplom für Freie Kunst“/“Diploma degree of Fine Arts“ and though being a first degree the diploma is equivalent to a Master Degree. After that, students may also do a two-semester post-graduate Meisterschüler program.

Syllabus

The first two semesters are dedicated to fundamental artistic and scientific studies. The one-year interdisciplinary foundation course attended by students across all departments. Teaching in the shape of exercises, seminars

and lectures is largely done in common courses for all specialisms. Teaching and working subjects of the main course are: self-instruction, project work, material properties, practical training. The teaching staff appreciate that self-determined study with formulation of individual tasks and alternating with practical training, constitute for the individual student valuable aids for problem handling and self-assessment. The accompanying teachers are visual artists of diverse orientation. The resulting variety of approaches and ways of solution enhance artistic argumentation. The whole structure of studies is modularized.

Studio Workshops

The instructional program of weißensee academy of art berlin is outstanding supported by its studios workshops. The artisans convey skills and basic knowledge about the most disparate materials. All students can use the workshops, whatever course they are enrolled. Besides acquiring traditional manual skills, they can learn the newest computer-aided techniques. For example weißensee has a Ceramic- and Model Making Workshop, also a Wood-, Welding- and Bookbinding Workshop, a Printing Studio, a Silkscreen- and Gravure Workshop, Weaving/ Dying/ Knitting rooms, Photography- and a Computer Studio, an Interactive Technology Lab and more.

Stay abroad

The weißensee academy of art berlin cultivates direct contacts with a great number of colleges in other countries and promotes student exchange. Interested students in the main course may contact the international office of weißensee for information about exchange emplacements available within the SOKRATES/ ERASMUS Programme or other possibilities for a stay abroad, and hand in their corresponding applications.

Conclusion of study

The study is concluded with a practical and a theoretical diploma examination. Admission to the diploma procedure is only for students who have completed at least two semesters of main study at the weißensee academy of art berlin and have concluded this study successfully. After having passed the diploma examination, the graduate will receive the „Diploma for Graduates in Fine Arts/Sculpture of weißensee academy of art berlin“ and the diploma supplement.

Master class: Meisterschülerstudium

Graduates of the weißensee academy of art berlin who achieved very good or excellent Master results may apply for a one-year honour-master-student course.

Admission prerequisites

- A special artistic talent is required
- Minimum age 18 years
- General matriculation standard / general certificate of secondary education
- Preliminary practical or vocational training

Artistic admission test / aptitude test

The artistic talent will be ascertained by a test procedure in the middle of February.

The application period for all undergraduate courses of study is from 1 November to 10 December of each year. The Registration is made through the website: www.kh-berlin.de.

For summer term a registration is not possible. In January applicants will receive an invitation and practical hints for the aptitude test.

This admission test or exam will consist of:

- The test starts with the submission of your portfolio and if required your special homework. Minimum of 15 to maximally 20 personally produced artistic works (mainly drawings and other specimens).

Admission to the test will be decided upon after examination of these works (preselection).

- A 2 to 3-day exam for proving the required aptitude.
- An interview concerning, as a rule, the evaluation of the artistic achievements shown as well as the technical skills and motivation of the participants.

Handicapped or chronically ill applicants may apply for compensation of their drawback in the test. The test participants will be informed in writing about the results. A successfully passed test is valid for two years.

Portfolio

An admission to the aptitude test will be decided after the review of the portfolio. All applicants will be invited and required to submit the portfolio personally. The content of the portfolio naturally varies depending on the desired department, but here are some general tips.

There are not too many specifications from the faculties regarding the portfolio, other than the fact that it should include ca. 15 to 20 preferably original works (drawings, paintings, photographs, collages, videos, three-dimensional works or works on canvas must be documented as photographs). All media are permitted. The portfolio should be easy to manage and not exceed DIN A0.

The concept of the portfolio is entirely up to the applicant and should demonstrate not only basic artistic skills and creativity but also works that are relevant to the desired program. It should be very selective about the works. As the portfolio is the first part of the entrance exam, applicants should think carefully about their artistic identity, talents, and goals. They try to avoid works that appear as if they were instructed to create it – it is very important that the creative, artistic personality can be seen in the portfolio. It is also important that the portfolio illustrates that applicants have continuously and intensively worked on their creative development. The professors place great

value on high quality drawings. For inspiration, applicants can view a range of different student projects on the website or alternatively visit the open days in July.

Application/admission

An application can be filed only after having passed the artistic admission test, whereupon the suitable applicants will receive the corresponding application form from the weißensee academy of art berlin. This form has to be sent within the established period, together with the appertaining documents, to the matriculation office of the weißensee academy of art berlin. The application deadline is preclusive. Allotment of the study places by central assignment (ZVS), numerus clausus, waiting semesters or drawing of lots is not done. After conclusion of the admission procedure in Mai of the same year, the applicants receive a written admission award and the registration forms.

Information on admission and matriculation for international applicants

In application proceedings, there are no differences between Germans, EU-Citizens or other international applicants, provided international applicants can submit a proof of German language proficiency with the application form: minimum of the qualification A2/B1 for Fine Art departments. The language of instruction is German in all our courses. As the aptitude test will be also carried out in German it is absolutely necessary to be provided with a sufficient knowledge of German language. Needless to say that most professors speak English very well, so in case of need, applicants may be able to explain the ideas, aims and motivation also in English. After a positive decision, it must be presented a language certificate for the admission: for example Testdaf 3, DSH 1 or the certificate of the UDK or the Goethe institution (qualification level B2) for the Fine Art study programs. In exceptional cases, a proof of the exam registration or a certificate of the B2 - course is also sufficient for the time being. The relevant language certificate must be submitted before the studies begin.

Recognition of certificates

First if applicants pass the aptitude test successfully, they have to apply for admission with the necessary certificates and documents, and these must be submitted in form of an officially authenticated translation in German or English. Foreign higher education entrance qualifications (allgemeine Hochschulreife) must be recognised as equivalent to the German general or subject-specific higher education entrance qualification. An exemption from this is possible if you have a „special artistic aptitude“ and its is declared in the notification for the result of the aptitude test. Applicants from the People’s Republic of China, Vietnam and Mongolia must include the original certificate confirming that the papers have been pre-checked by the Academic Evaluation Centre (APS).

Change of college

Changing to the weißensee academy of art berlin is possible only after completion of the fundamental study or of the 2nd semester in the same course of study. It is recommendable first to get into touch with the professors of the desired specialism and to arrange a personal interview. Acceptance and acknowledgement of accomplished studies are assessed and approved by the examination and admission committees. The application periods for College Transfer Admission are from 01 December to 02 January 02 for the summer term and May 01–31 for winter term. Please see information and guidelines for online application on the website: www.kh-berlin.de under >Studies>Applying For Studies>Transfer Students

Registration/fees

For registration it is necessary to present the health insurance vouchers and to pay the contributions of approx. 300 € (registration fee, social contribution, Students’ Association (ASTA) and ticket for local transport). Tuition fees are not charged.

Accommodation

The weißensee academy of art berlin does not have any student hostels or flats. The address of the central accommodation agency is: studierendenWERK BERLIN. Web: www.stw.berlin. Moreover there exists in Berlin an ample offer of private flat-sharing and subtenancy opportunities which can be found in newspaper ads, on notice boards, by personal contacts or in internet, for example: wg-gesucht.de, easywg.de, wg-welt.de

Information material

Further information about the weißensee academy of art berlin can be found in the Internet (www.kh-berlin.de).

Information days

Once a year – in July – the weißensee academy of art berlin hosts its traditional „RUNDGANG-Open Days“ providing prospective students and applicants best opportunities for information and offer you an ideal introduction to this school. And all interested people are also invited to an informative event in November, here will take place a presentation of all departments.

Student advisory service

Susan Lipp
general course guidance
Student Service, room A 1.09

mail: studienberatung@kh-berlin.de
open hours: tuesday 11-13, thursday 14-17
telephone advisory service: +49 30 47705 342
tuesday 14-16, wednesday 10-12

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