

Currents 11: The Turn of Many Suns
21.09.2024 - 03.11.2024

Jiyoon Chung
Cynthia Carballo
Stefan Kruse
Awa Gaye
Dakota Mokhammad
Dorothy In Hell
Kadia Doumbouya
Newt Contrino
Lize Crauwels
Kiko Reitsma
Javkhlán Ariunbold
Shoaib Zaheer
Nura Afnan-Samandari

Curated by:
H M Baker
Nadim Choufi
Michał Grzegorzek
Lucas Odahara

Currents 11: The Turn of Many Suns, the eleventh edition of this group exhibition and the first one coproduced by Jester and Marres, presents the work of thirteen artists who have lived and studied for the past years in the Southern Netherlands, Belgium, and North Rhine-Westphalia. These artists bring with them cultural, social, and political relations that question, expand, and at times undo the fabric that defines a region and regional education. The many suns in the title relate to the many artists that are radiating in this collective story. The turning of the suns marks the moment in which their learning exits the institution and continues as a way of shaping the world.

Currents is an annual group exhibition showing works by recently graduated artists from academies in Belgium, Germany and the South of the Netherlands. The exhibition is embedded in a coaching program with a focus on networking and professionalization

With *Currents*, Marres and Jester provide starting artists and curators the opportunity to contribute to an international infrastructure for talent development. After 10 previous editions hosting over 175 participants, *Currents* has become one of the most important platforms in the Euregion for talent development in the visual arts.

Where do we learn a language when its words, images, and forms do not only carry our stories of survival but also move us to survive? This language is not necessarily found in the rhetoric of education systems but rather in a role model or another student, in family members – both biological and chosen. In a favorite band, in the darkness of nightlife, in a lover's arms, or in a painting. It emerges from bodies and spaces where expressions of being do not stop at mere gestures but become ways of living. Our languages move us forward.

Featured artists

Nura Afnan-Samandari, Awa Gaye, Cynthia Carballo, Jiyoon Chung, Stefan Kruse, Dorothy In Hell, Kadia Doumbouya, Newt Contrino, Lize Crauwels, Dakota Magdalena Mokhammad, Kiko Reitsma, Javkhlán Ariunbold, Shoaib Zaheer and Liv Lismonde for graphic design.

Curators

H M Baker, Nadim Choufi, Michał Grzegorzek and Lucas Odahara.

Coming from different cities – Berlin, London, Beirut, and Warsaw – and working in different fields, the members of this year’s curatorial team met at the Jan van Eyck Academy. Lucas Odahara, Harriet Middleton Baker and Nadim Choufi are visual artists. Their artistic practices show a common research interest in historical power structures and alternative futures. Writer and curator Michał Grzegorzek focuses on queer theory in the visual and performative arts. The curator team was selected through an open call.

Four of the selected artists (Nura Afnan-Samandari, Kadia Doumbouya, Dakota Magdalena Mokhammad en Shoaib Zaheer) are invited to develop their work during a Jester residency.

Currents 11: The Turn of Many Suns is on view at Marres, House for Contemporary Culture in Maastricht from **21 September** through **3 November, 2024**.

To the editors

For more information, images, and interview requests, please contact Jody van Kuijk, via communicatie@marres.org



Marres

jester

Marres, Huis voor Hedendaagse Cultuur
Capucijnenstraat 98
6211 RT Maastricht
www.marres.org

Jester, Genk
Schachtboklaan 11
3600 Genk
www.jester.be

Marres receives structural support from the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science, the Province of Limburg, and the Municipality of Maastricht. Jester receives structural support from the Government of Flanders and the Municipality of Genk.