

Shaping the Future – International Workshop in Kahla

From April 4 through 9, 2016, KAHLA/Thüringen Porzellan GmbH will host an international workshop in its production facilities. Together with faculty members and experts in the fields of ceramics, digital design & production technology and cooking, students from four European Art Schools and Universities will explore the present and future potential of working with porcelain. The participants come from the Aalto University Helsinki, the University of Ulster Belfast, the KADK (Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts) Copenhagen and the Berlin Weissensee School of Art. The 21 student workshop participants are assisted by a large team of faculty members and workshop tutors. A documentation team will record the various experiments on film, photo and in writing.

The workshop is part of the project module *Shaping the Future* under the umbrella of *Ceramics and its Dimensions*, a project sponsored by the EU programme *Creative Europe*. The results of the workshop will be incorporated in a travelling exhibition, which is expected to be shown in museums in 6 European countries between 2016 and 2018.

Ceramics is one of the first and still one of the most important materials produced by humans. The project *Ceramics and its Dimensions* brings together museums, universities and companies to examine the different aspects of ceramics from a variety of perspectives, including culture, history and design. As part of this project, the importance of ceramics in the past and present, its diverse use and its potential for the future will be investigated, defined and presented to the public.

KAHLA/Thüringen Porzellan GmbH has been supporting and assisting the entire project from the beginning. Already at the opening event in Belgrade, Serbia in May 2015, Managing Partner Holger Raithel spoke on "Porcelain for the Senses - Innovation meets Tradition".

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During the workshop, students will work in different groups, which are organised by topic. They are assisted by faculty members from their institutions and by Barbara Schmidt, designer at KAHLA/Thüringen Porzellan GmbH and Professor for Design and Experiment at the Berlin Weissensee School of Art.

KAHLA provides the participants with materials and work spaces, and with access to any technical equipment needed for the realisation of their designs. KAHLA staff will support the students with advice and will provide practical assistance. The workshop receives additional support by the Günther Raithel Foundation Educational Initiative KAHLA-Kreativ, which promotes young ceramists, designers, artists and students in the field of porcelain.

[2.648 characters incl. spaces]



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