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«KADIST - KUNSTHALLE ZÜRICH PRODUCTION AWARD 2017» IS AWARDED TO SHIRIN YOUSEFI

Zurich / Paris, January 4, 2017

The art organization KADIST and Kunsthalle Zürich are pleased to announce Shirin Yousefi as this year's recipient of the jointly launched award.

Aimed at enabling young artists in Switzerland to realize a new project within the institutional context, the «KADIST - Kunsthalle Zürich Production Award» is designed to lend support to artists at the beginning of their career. The jury is pleased to announce its unanimous decision to award the prize to **Shirin Yousefi** for her intrepid approach to artistic research and production.

Shirin Yousefi (*1986 in Tehran, Iran) holds a Bachelor in Dramatic Arts from Tehran University, Iran, and a Bachelor of Visual Arts from ECAL, Lausanne. She is currently enrolled in a Master program at ECAL, Lausanne. The artist, who is based in Servion, Vaud, has shown in group exhibitions such as *Shadow*, Reunion, Zurich, *7 Raumthesen*, Rotwand Galerie, Zurich, and *Blancheur*, ECAL, Lausanne, among others.

The «KADIST - Kunsthalle Zürich Production Award» amounts to 10'000 Euro, which will go towards the production of Shirin Yousefi's artwork *The tales of the cortex*. Yousefi's work aims to present the non-visible events of evidence of in- and exclusion connected to borders. Working with recordings of ululation and dispersion of odor, Yousefi draws attention to paradoxically invisible and palpable barriers around areas and outlines of specific regions. Sound and odor are mobile and fluid. Both appear, linger, resonate, volatilize but at the same time deposit themselves under the surface, pollute and betray. Hence, they represent two important elements: firstly the shape of geopolitical spaces, and secondly the passing through them. Furthermore, both of them can help where the darkness and the lack of visual elements prevent a proper analysis of what is *local*, only to be lost again once it has been established.

Shirin Yousefi will present the artwork as part of the group exhibition *Speak, Lokal* at Kunsthalle Zürich, from March 4 to May 7, 2017. This group exhibition includes works by artists from four continents, and focuses on how artists all over the world investigate and broach local conditions.

The 2017 **shortlist** for the «KADIST - Kunsthalle Zürich Production Award» consists of the following four artists and projects:

Marc Asekhome and Teo Schifferli, both Zurich, with their proposal *Magazin Periodico*, nominated
Maya Minder, Zurich, with her proposal *Gasthaus - Fermentation and Bacteria*, nominated
Gian-Andri Töndury, Bern, with his proposal *Nur der leere Himmel weiss es besser (als ich)*, nominated
Shirin Yousefi, Servion, with her proposal *The tales of the cortex*, awarded

The nominators and jurors of «KADIST - Kunsthalle Zürich Production Award» 2017:

Emilie Villez, Director KADIST - Paris
Daniel Baumann, Kunsthalle Zürich
Bea Schlingenhoff, Artist
Fredri Fischli & Niels Olsen, Co-Directors of gta Exhibitions at ETH Zürich
Daniel Morgenthaler, Helmhaus Zürich

This is the 5th time the «KADIST - Kunsthalle Zürich Production Award» has been awarded.

More Information on KADIST can be found here: www.kadist.org

Kunsthalle Zürich is regularly supported by:
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