



BERLINISCHE GALERIE

LANDESMUSEUM FÜR MODERNE ALTE JAKOBSTRASSE 124-128 FON +49 (0) 30 -789 02-600  
KUNST, FOTOGRAFIE UND ARCHITEKTUR 10969 BERLIN FAX +49 (0) 30 -789 02-700  
STIFTUNG ÖFFENTLICHEN RECHTS POSTFACH 610355 - 10926 BERLIN  
BG@BERLINISCHEGALERIE.DE

## PRESS RELEASE

Contact:

Susanne Kumar-Sinner  
Head of Marketing and Communications  
Fon: 030 789 02-829  
kumar-sinner@berlinischegalerie.de

Sandra Kühberger  
Media Relations Germany  
Vattenfall GmbH  
Fon: 030 8182 2323  
sandra.kuehberger@vattenfall.de

Berlin, 25 April 2013

## Katja Strunz awarded Vattenfall Contemporary 2013

### Berlinische Galerie presents the Exhibition *Drehmoment (Viel Zeit, wenig Raum)*

Press conference: April 25, 2013, 10 am  
Opening and award ceremony: April 25, 2013, 8 pm  
Exhibition dates: April 26 – September 2, 2013

Berlin artist Katja Strunz (born in Ottweiler, 1970) is this year's winner of Vattenfall Contemporary 2013. Her abstract sculptures and site-specific installations explore the links between space, history, and time. In her work, a reduced constructivist formal language confronts everyday objects and traces of the emergence and aging of the materials used.

For the exhibition at Berlinische Galerie, Katja Strunz has created a spatial composition entitled *Drehmoment (Viel Zeit, wenig Raum)* (Torque [Much Time, Little Space]), dominated by two monumental metal objects. With this work, she continues her exploration of folding and collapsing time and space and transfers it to the museum's entrance hall.

The first part of the work consists of an irregularly folded structure of sheet metal that occupies the front part of the exhibition space, 40 meters long and 8 meters wide. The remaining half of the space is dominated by a monumental black metal ribbon that is held up by a steel rope at a height of 8 meters, its loose end lying on the floor. In contrast to the first work, the shape here is defined by regular folds that, like a stairwell, are pressed together towards the top. The beginning and end of the ribbon are placed in such a way so as to give the impression of a closed circle. The exhibition title also evokes the association of machine parts. *Drehmoment* (Torque) refers to the force that sets a vehicle in motion. In this context, the black ribbon seems like the drive belt of a motor, which when torn brings movement to a standstill.



Another part of the exhibition shows a selection of four sheets from the series *Yesterday's Papers*, which Katja Strunz has been working on since 2001. The series consists of loose sheets from historical publications that Katja Strunz has reprinted using classical printing techniques. From the present, she uses historical means to intervene in a sphere of the past, redefining it according to her own rules. The letters and symbols used thus fall into the space of history, making the historical distance between past and present visible.

With this year's Vattenfall Contemporary, the jury honors an artist whose work reveals a confident approach to space, as can be seen in her various exhibitions and here once again in her show at Berlinische Galerie. The jury also found Strunz's reflected references to constructivist forms of the avant-garde, including a consideration of their aging, a unique position within contemporary art.

The prize is the successor of *Vattenfall Kunstpreis Energie*, which had been awarded since 1992. In 2010, the prize was re-conceptualized together with Berlinische Galerie. Since then, it has been awarded to an artist of international renown who lives and works in Berlin. Vattenfall Contemporary includes a solo show at Berlinische Galerie, the publication of an exhibition catalogue, and a purchase for the Vattenfall Collection. The previous prizewinners are Julian Rosefeldt (2010), Angela Bulloch (2011), and Michael Sailstorfer (2012).

The members of the 2012 jury were Torsten Meyer (board member, Vattenfall), Anne-Katrin Reinecke (manager, Local Partnerships Benelux, Central Europe, Nordic, Vattenfall), Petra Roettig (Galerie der Gegenwart, Hamburger Kunsthalle), Michael Sailstorfer (prizewinner, Vattenfall Contemporary 2012), Thomas Köhler (director, Berlinische Galerie), and Heinz Stahlhut (head of the fine arts collection, Berlinische Galerie)

- In the context of Gallery Weekend the exhibition will be open on 26.04. until 10 pm
- Guided Tours by the curator: 17.06., 19.08., 2pm
- Artist Talk: 26.08., 6 pm, Katja Strunz in conversation with Guido Fassbender, Curator of the exhibition

The exhibition catalogue, published by Distanz, is available at the book shop at Berlinische Galerie (19,80 Euro).

Ermöglicht durch

VATTENFALL 