



## Press Release/Pressemitteilung

### ANDREA ZITTEL. PLANAR COMPOSITION FOR ESTERS GARDEN HOUSE HLHE Sculpture Garden

Haus Lange Haus Esters, Krefeld | Extension as of June 2, 2022

In 2019, the Kunstmuseen Krefeld invited the American artist Andrea Zittel (b. 1965, Escondido, California; lives and works in Joshua Tree, California) to develop a permanent site-specific installation for the Hellerau garden house in the garden of Haus Esters. As part of the Bauhaus anniversary exhibition *Alternatives for Living* (2019), the first part of Zittel's installation opened in the interior of the garden house. Now, the Kunstmuseen Krefeld are pleased that the work could be completed with its second part in the interior and especially also in the exterior space. It thus expands the spectrum of different forms of sculpture in the garden of Haus Lange Haus Esters and is also the first contribution by a woman artist. Museum director Katia Baudin, who invited Andrea Zittel to develop this special project notes: "We are very pleased that the sculpture garden surrounding the two Mies van der Rohe villas now includes a leading contemporary female position. Andrea Zittel's sculptural installation reacts to and expands upon the legacy of the Bauhaus and the quest to integrate art into everyday life."

With her concept of *Planar Panels* in the garden house designed and produced by the Hellerau workshops in Dresden, Andrea Zittel has created a usable Gesamtkunstwerk especially for this location. It deals with the connection between interior and exterior spaces in modern architecture, as well as with the history of the first prefabricated garden house of the Deutsche Werkstätten Hellerau. Zittel's artistic practice deals with strategies, means, and forms of design and architecture, especially simple geometric surfaces. Her artworks are for the most part simple interventions in life based on her reduced, modular worldview. She uses her art to examine the legacy of the Bauhaus and other modern movements in everyday life. For the garden house, she created minimalist furniture sculptures composed primarily of colored panels. In 2019, tables, benches, and stools were created for the interior and a carpet for a bench. In the second part of the project, the installation is expanded with ceiling lights, bowls, trays, and more stools indoors and bench sculptures outdoors.

The garden house designed and produced by the Deutsche Werkstätten Hellerau in the 1920s is also composed of surfaces and, thanks to its modular prefabricated construction, is the first of its kind ready for mass production. In this respect, it represents an example of the rationalization of industrialization, which increasingly suppressed craftsmanship in the early twentieth century. Zittel's installation emphasizes this serial quality. She incorporates the garden with bench sculptures glowing in soft red tones, using them to connect the interior and exterior spaces in the modern tradition. The five rectangular benches on the lawn in front of the garden house invite visitors to take different perspectives on the architecture and the gardens and to come together in different formations. For Zittel, her works are experimental arrangements for human interaction. In accordance with her concept, the ensemble around the garden house is repeatedly activated as a social space. In this context, the new installation fits in perfectly with the current exhibitions dedicated to Julio Le Parc and Adolf Luther in the villas, which, as "Interactive Spatial Experiences", shed

Kunstmuseen Krefeld

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light on the efforts of art in the 1960s to be a catalyst for interaction. All three positions grant the public an active role in their artwork.

The expanded installation heralds Andrea Zittel's upcoming solo exhibition in the fall of 2022, which will continue the contemporary artist's dialogue with the heritage of modernism at Haus Esters.

The installation will be on view seasonally, primarily during the spring and summer months. It was made possible thanks to a generous donation from the Melcher Family and an acquisitions grant from the State of North Rhine-Westphalia to the Friends of the Kunstmuseen Krefeld.

Curators:

Katia Baudin, Director Kunstmuseen Krefeld  
with Juliane Duft, Researcher and Assistant Curator, Kunstmuseen Krefeld

Sponsored by the Ministry of Culture and Science of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia.

Ministerium für  
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Kunstmuseen Krefeld

Kaiser Wilhelm Museum Haus Lange Haus Esters

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Joseph-Beuys-Platz 1

47798 Krefeld

Tue–Thur, Sun 11:00 am – 5:00 pm

Fri–Sat 11:00 am – 6:00 pm

**Haus Lange Haus Esters**

Wilhelmshofallee 91-97

47800 Krefeld

Tue–Thur, Sun 11:00 am – 5:00 pm

Fri–Sat 11:00 am – 6:00 pm

For special opening hours on holidays  
see [www.kunstmuseenkrefeld.de](http://www.kunstmuseenkrefeld.de)

The Kunstmuseen are a cultural institution  
of the City of Krefeld.

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