

## Curators' Biographies

### Kasper König

Professor Kasper König (\*1943) was only twenty-three years old when he curated the *Claes Oldenburg* exhibition in a museum in Stockholm. While still a student, he organized several exhibitions and published numerous books. In 1985, König became Professor of Art and the Public, a then newly created position at the Academy of Fine Arts in Düsseldorf. Three years later, he accepted a professorship at the Städelschule Frankfurt, where he has served as president of this fine arts college since 1989. During this same period he became founding director of the Portikus, an exhibition hall in Frankfurt/Main. König has organized several large exhibitions, including *Westkunst* (1979) in the Messehallen, Cologne; *von hier aus* (1984) in the Messe, Düsseldorf; and *Der zerbrochene Spiegel* (1993) in Vienna and Hamburg. In 2000 he was responsible for *In-Between Architecture*, the arts projects of the EXPO Hannover, and was also appointed director of the Museum Ludwig in Cologne. Together with Klaus Bußmann, he organized the first *sculpture projects muenster* in 1977.

### Brigitte Franzen

An art historian and cultural studies scholar, Dr. Brigitte Franzen (\*1966) became curator for contemporary art for the Westphalian State Museum for Art and Cultural History in 2005. She studied art history, European ethnology, German literature, and sociology at the universities of Karlsruhe, Vienna, and Marburg/Lahn. Between 1994 and 2005 she taught at the University of Wuppertal, the University of the Arts Berlin, the Technical University Graz, and the Academy of Fine Arts Munich. She has also worked at the Museum of Modern Art, Vienna (1990/91), the Albertina, Vienna (1990/91), the Museum of Modern Art, Frankfurt/Main (1991-1994), the Badisches Landesmuseum, Karlsruhe (1996/97), and the forum Stadtpark, Graz (2001-2003). Between 2003 and 2006 she codirected *Microlandscapes*, a research project financed by the Volkswagen Foundation. Franzen is the author of *Die vierte Natur: Gärten in der zeitgenössischen Kunst* (2000) and coeditor of *Landschaftstheorie* (2005).

## Carina Plath

Dr. Carina Plath (\*1966) studied art history, classical archaeology, and Romance languages and literature at the universities of Muenster, Bologna, Munich, and Bochum. She received her PhD from the University of Bochum with a thesis on Maria Nordman's work of the 1970s. From 1994 to 2001, Plath worked as an art critic for *Das Kunst-Bulletin* (Zurich) and *neue bildene Kunst* (Berlin). She has also written numerous essays on contemporary art for catalogues and reference book entries. From 1999 to 2001, she was enrolled in the curatorial studies program at Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson, New York. In 2000, she curated *image a new*, an exhibition at the Center for Curatorial Studies, New York, as well as *Platino*, at the Goethe Institute, New York. Since 2001, she has been director of the Westfälischer Kunstverein, an art association for which she has realized the following exhibitions: *formal social* (2002); *Prisoners* - a project by Pawel Althamer (2002); *Wilhelm Sasnal* (2003); *STREIK* (2003); *Valérie Favre* (2004); *Matthew Buckingham* (2005); and *T,O,U,C,H,I,N,G - Wahrnehmung und Film* (2005).