

Press Release, February 22, 2024

GfZK's new café *292 Karangahape Road* opens on March 8, 2024 and was designed by artist Ruth Buchanan

At regular intervals, artists redesign the café at the GfZK – Museum of Contemporary Art Leipzig. Its interior design, name, and sometimes even gastronomic offerings change in the process. The new café will open on March 8, 2024 and was conceived by artist Ruth Buchanan as an outpost of the Artspace Aotearoa, which is run by the artist. The café is called *292 Karangahape Road*, in reference to Artspace Aotearoa's address in in Tamaki Makaurau Auckland, Aotearoa New Zealand.

Ruth Buchanan's artistic work includes exhibition-making, writing, design, and teaching. Since November 2022, her practice has primarily revolved around her role as the Kaitohu Director of Artspace Aotearoa. Founded in 1987 by artists and arts workers, the publicly funded contemporary art gallery is located in the heart of Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland. Each year the entire programme orbits around one central question. In 2024, Artspace Aoteaora asks: "do I need territory?" Taking this question as a point of departure, Buchanan declares GfZK's café to be an outpost of Artspace Aotearoa and names it after the gallery's address: *292 Karangahape Road*. By transferring details from the artspace's structure, colours, and graphic design to the café, Buchanan invites visitors to participate in a speculative exchange that unfolds over time between Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland and Leipzig.

Ruth Buchanan is an artist of Taranaki who lives in Tamaki Makaurau Auckland. As well as the exhibitions developed with Govett Brewster Art Gallery, Kunstmuseum Basel | Gegenwart, and Te Pataka Toi Adam Art Gallery, she has realised commissions at, amongst others, Badischer Kunstverein, Karlsruhe; Toi o Tamaki Auckland Art Gallery; MASP, Sao Paolo; the 8th Gwangju Biennale; Hamburger Bahnhof, Berlin; Kunsthaus Bregenz; If I Can't Dance..., Amsterdam; and The Showroom, London. In 2018 she received the Walters Prize, the preeminent biennial contemporary art award for an Aotearoa New Zealand artist. Since November 2022, she is Kaitohu Director at Artspace Aotearoa. In 2023, her sculpture ensemble *Ein Garten mit Brücken (Wirbelsäule, Magen, Kehle, Ohr)* opened in Mönchengladbach. This site-specific work was part of the Neue Auftraggeber program, and opens up the garden as a place of encounter.

Additionally involved in the realisation of *292 Karangahape Road* are HIT, who also create designs for Artspace Aotearoa, and Andreas Müller (Kooperative für Darstellungspolitik, Berlin), who supports the artist in realising the interior design.

To date, the following artists have realised concepts for the café:

Markus Dreßen: *DAS KAPITAL* 2018-2023

Céline Condorelli: *Café bau bau* 2014-2018

Apolonika Šušteršič und Meike Schalk: *Café KAFIČ* 2010-2014

Jun Yang: *Paris Syndrom* 2008-2010

Anita Leisz: *Café Neubau. Club Weezie* 2006-2007

Das Café: Karen Kilimnik 2002-2003

Das Café: Gerwald Rockenschaub 2000-2002

Das Café: Anton Henning 1998-2000

292 Karangahape Road is run by Max Heyne, Felix Kastl, and Toni Krätzer (TREI GmbH), who already work closely together with the Leipzig cafés dankbar and grato. Their concept envisages both a daytime café serving breakfast, lunch, and coffee and home-baked cakes, as well as a place where guests can come together in the evening for light meals and selected drinks.

Opening hours:

Mon closed

Tue, Weds, Sun 9 am–7 pm

Thu–Sat 9 am–12 am

Opening:

March 8, 8 pm

Opening hours on March 9:

9 am–5 pm

10 pm–2 am

The café's redesign is realised as part of the INFORM Prize for Conceptual Design 2024, sponsored by Dr Arend Oetker. Situated at the nexus between graphic design and art, the prize has been awarded since 2007.

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