

World  
Frankfurt

Design  
RheinMain

Capital  
2026

WORLD  
DESIGN  
CAPITAL

FRANKFURT  
RHEINMAIN  
2026

dreams,  
ideas &  
prototypes  
*young talents at work*

WDC  
Campus  
Program

Opening-  
Festival  
03.-05. July

Exhibition  
until 09. August

Museum  
Angewandte Kunst,  
Frankfurt

Gefördert durch/  
Funded by



HESSEN

STADT FRANKFURT AM MAIN



KULTURFONDS  
RHEINMAIN

Auf Grundlage der Leitidee von /  
Based on the core idea of

Design for Democracy.  
Atmospheres for  
a better life

World Design Capital® ist eine Initiative der /  
World Design Capital® is an initiative of

WDO WORLD  
DESIGN  
ORGANIZATION

# Welcome to the WDC Campus

In the spring and summer of 2026, the Museum Angewandte Kunst, Frankfurt will serve as a showcase for the next generation of designers and researchers.

Under the WDC motto *Design for Democracy – Atmospheres for a better life* students, faculty, and startups from the fields of design, architecture, and science will showcase their projects. The focus will be on a wide range of topics that affect our daily lives: from public spaces, health, and education to new forms of coexistence, responsible consumption, and technological innovations.

## The WDC Campus team

- Julia Klass, Design and Curatorin
- Corinna Gratzl, Design and Curatorin
- Jonathan Kuhlmann, Creative Producer
- Joshua Moos, Design & Projectassistent
- Lynn Witzel, Social Media Manager
- Greta Roters, Junior Art Director and Junior Social Media Manager
- Angela Schmitt Gläser, Contactmanagement, Curation Campusmovie
- Georg-Christof Bertsch, Director Content & Program
- Prof. Roland Lambrette, Design FRM gGmbH, WDC Campus

# dreams, ideas & prototypes

03.07.–09.08.2026

## Our Themes and Areas of Focus:

### Health & Care

What does a good life look like when health is self-determined and care is conceived in social terms?

### Sustainability & Environment

How do we shape a future that conserves resources and takes a long-term view of responsibility?

### Spaces & Participation

How do we want to build, live, and connect with one another? What kinds of spaces facilitate encounters, participation, and neighborly connections?

### Movement & Mobility

How will we get around in the future so that more people can stay connected? Mobility is social infrastructure.



a supporter of the WDC Campus Frankfurt am Main 2026

# **dreams – the Power of Visions**

## **03.07.2026**

14:00

### **KickOff with vibes in the Park**

HFG Radio Music Collective (Jazz, Beat Funk)

15:00

### **High Five**

Organizers, exhibitors, and partners of “dreams, ideas & prototypes” are celebrating the completion of the project. Feel free to join us. In the park.

16:00

### **Awards Summit: How can I gain visibility as young designer?**

How do I enter design awards? What role do design awards play in launching a career? Nine representatives from the awards programs introduce themselves and explain the criteria, processes, and implications for young designers.

· German Design Graduates, Deutscher Design Club, Mia Seeger-Stiftung, Art Director's Club, aed neuland, RIMOWA, Hessen Design, Red Dot, iphiGenia Award, Nachwuchspreis für zirkuläres Design

17:45

### **Hochschulen Get Together**

There are important issues that unite us all. The campus fosters interconnected exchange. It serves as a platform for students, teaching assistants, professors, and presidents.

The WDC Campus collaborates with 27 universities and aims to promote networking. This gathering offers a unique opportunity to discuss teaching, research, developments, and collaborations in a different way.

- 18:30 Entry**  
at the WDC-Hub, Forum of the Museum
- 19:00 Welcome**  
by the WDC Campus team  
· *Julia Klass, Corinna Gratzl, Jonathan Kuhlmann, Greta Roters and Joshua Moos*
- 19:10 Greeting**  
· *Timon Gremmels, Hesse's Minister for Science and Research, Arts and Culture*
- 19:20 Greetings**  
· *Carolina Romahn, CEO World Design Capital FrankfurtRheinMain 2026*  
· *Dorothee Bolade, Membership Engagement Manager, World Design Organization*  
· *Dr. Ina Hartwig, City Councilwoman and Head of the Department of Culture and Science, Frankfurt am Main*  
· *Prof. Roland Lambrette, Design FRM gGmbH, WDC-Campus*
- 20:00 Exhibition Opening**  
First tour of the exhibition on the 1st floor and the outdoor area. The project creators explain their exhibits in the exhibition.
- 20:30 Campus Summer Evening**  
The outdoor kitchens from the universities and the Emma Metzler Restaurant are open.  
Sound performance by students of Prof. Florian K  ppler, Trossingen University of Music:  
Champagne and Design—Form, Function, Physics?!  
Prof. Dr. Matthias Schmitt, Hochschule Geisenheim  
Dancefloor until 10 p.m.

# ideas – Exchange as the Foundation for Change

## 04.07.2026

10:00

### Entry

#### Connecting Worlds

*Innovation Potential in the Creative Industries*

· Kaweh Mansoori Hesse's Minister

#### Making of the 7th Creative Industries Report

· Susanne Stöck

*Project Manager, Creative Industries Office Hesse*

### Talk

· Kaweh Mansoori

*Hesse's Minister of State*

· Ina-Marie Orawiec

*Dipl.-Ing. Architect and Cityplaner,*

*OX2architekten GmbH, CreativeLab rethink\*rotor*

· Anastasios Jakopanec

*Head of Strategy + AI & Operational Excellence,  
Merck Group*

#### Open Design Week and the WDC Campus

*Sophie Bernauer (Open Project Manager), Corinna Gratzl (Curation & Design, WDC Campus), Julia Klass (Curation & Design, WDC Campus) and Prof. Roland Lambrette (Initiator of the WDC Campus and Managing Director of the WDC 26 Operating Foundation)*

### Get together

11:30 Get-together at Imbiss

**14:00      Between Science & Creative Experimentation**

The afternoon promises to be diverse, featuring presentations on theory, practice, and design experiments. Topics include autonomous vehicles in rural areas, climate change, AI as a newspaper editor, democracy in design, and body & sound.

The presentations will last approximately 20 minutes

- 14:00**      · *Prof. Ineke Hans, Universität der Künste Berlin:*  
The Power of Design. What can design do? How do you design – and how does design shape you and your everyday life?
- 14:20**      · *Dorothee Bolade, World Design Organization:*  
How does the WDO connect and engage its members worldwide—and how can you get involved in the network?
- 14:40**      · *Zhong Ming, Hunan University:*  
Design for Rural Areas: Who Designs Them, and How Can We Achieve Environmental Sustainability and Prosperity?
- 15:00**      · *Assoc. Prof. Dr. Marija Miloshevska Janakieska and Devleta Shabani and Jasemen Ramadani, International Balkan University Skopje:* Rethinking the Post Office Building: A Brutalist Landmark Becomes an Inclusive “Third Place” for the Community.
- 15:20**      · *Prof. Dr. Aleksandra Ristovska, IBU, Skopje, with Lazime Lusjani:*  
Urban Symbols and Visual Communication: What Images Shape Skopje’s Public Space?

- 15:40 · *Enes Pavlukovic, Hochschule Darmstadt:*  
Algorithm Times: AI as Editor-in-Chief. What Are the Logic and Contradictions of an “Autonomous” Medium?
- 16:00 · *Prof. Sebastian Oschatz, HfG Offenbach, MESO Digital Interiors GmbH and Nico Munkler, Design Innovation & Strategy, Manager Hyundai MARA:*  
Concept study for passenger and cargo transport in rural areas – world premiere in Frankfurt.
- 16:20 · *Dr. Jae-Seung Roe, Kookmin University, Seoul:*  
Human-Centred Mobility for the Smart City.  
Presentation of the Center's current projects.
- 16:40 · *Nicolas König and Lewis Horkulak (820), ETH Zürich:*  
Design System for the Aeration of Heated Alpine Lakes – The Interface Between Technology and Ecology.
- 17:00 · *Montgomery Wagner, Revoltech GmbH/FUTURY:*  
Plant-based, plastic-free leather alternatives: How new materials are transforming fashion and product design.
- 17:20 · *Essak Khan, AlsterrLab/Smarte/FUTURY:*  
Smart Textiles: Biotechnology, Polymer and Textile Engineering for Health, Wellness, and Sports.
- 17:40 · *Laurin Böhm, Design Academy Eindhoven:*  
Flößern – in fluent: The raft as a mobile measuring station and a platform for conversation and the exchange of knowledge.
- 18:00 · *Nina Jäcker, Hochschule für Gestaltung Offenbach:*  
Offen-Bach: Stream restoration as a model for climate-resilient cities and improved aquatic ecology.
- 18:20 · *Shantel:*  
What does diversity sound like?
- 18:40 · *Prof. Florian Käßler with students:*  
Noises and Sound as Spatial Material – an experimental performance with sound in space.
- 19:00 · *Stefan Weil, Atelier Markgraph GmbH, Frankfurt:*  
As a designer, how do I get into music—and vice versa?



# Campusmovie Festival

14:00 –  
18:00

· *DHBW Ravensburg*  
All The Dreams You Wished  
To Live by Dominik Leingartner  
/ Jam Side Down by Jonas  
Hardt, Justus Jäger,  
Soraya Müller and Nico Rinker  
/ Kaptschaaaah by Anna  
Steiner, Elena Bender, Laura  
Rösch

· *KHM Köln*  
Erich, 37, sucht Wohnung by  
Julia von dem Berge

· *Filmuniversität Babelsberg*  
Konrad Wolf  
Floating by Jelena Milunovic

· *Filmakademie Baden-Württemberg*  
Breaking Glass by Nicolas  
Bori

· *Kunstakademie Münster*  
Der Moment in dem ich dich  
ins Herz schloss by Mustafa  
Khalaf

· *Hochschule Darmstadt*  
Der Friedhof der Namen-  
losen by Hesam Yousefi / Birds  
by Juliana Kralik / The Virtues  
of Normality by Alison Burns  
/ Künstscheissé by Mark  
Menzel / Just a perfect day by  
Methas Chantawong

· *HBK Braunschweig*  
Watch yourselves by  
Franziskus Bries as part of  
the team with Jolli & Sven

· *Hochschule RheinMain*  
Those Who Throw a Stone by  
Melissa Klingelhöfer / Milk by  
Jennifer Kolbe

· *Kunsthochschule Kassel*  
Raum ohne Zeit by Alessandra  
Coronato / Vom Duft der roten  
Beete und den Menschen, die  
ewig leben by Maren Wiese  
and Petra Stipetić / jeijay  
by Maren Wiese and Petra  
Stipetić

· *HFG Offenbach*  
Butterfly-Basin by Evgeny  
Musalevsky

· *HFF München*  
Respirer by Alexander Baum-  
gartner / Boubarcar by Ivetta  
Urozhaeva

· *Bauhaus-Universität Weimar*  
Testigo del Viente by Ferri  
Caicedo / Wurst by Valentina  
Schütz

· *Hochschule RheinMain und  
Hochschule für öffentliches  
Management und Sicherheit  
(HöMS)*  
To belong by Aissa Marong /  
Unspoken by Leo Barth, Phu-  
ong Thao Do / Gift by Veronika  
H. / Pressure by Keanu-Lee  
Seipel, Ben Toporowski, Luca  
Lapicirella, Valenia Grau and  
Merle Bischoff / Half Court by  
Emilios Vassiliou

# prototypes – Ideas become Reality

## 05.07.2026

### 14.00 Short lectures and performances

- 14:00 · *Prof. Holger Kleine, Hochschule RheinMain:*  
Ten Democratic Imperatives. The Poets' Tower in Strasbourg is a place for language, encounters, and cultural exchange. Located between the European Parliament and the European Court of Human Rights, it stands as a symbol of multilingualism and the democratic power of language.
- 14:20 · *Valerio Sampognaro, HFBK Hamburg:*  
Aerodomestics. Ultralight Furniture – Tension-based designs for flexible living spaces with a touch of excitement.
- 14:40 · *Prof. Dr. Stefanie Eberding:*  
Methods and Relationships. Teaching and Learning: How do teaching methods shape relationships during college?
- 15:00 · *Lara Marie Walter, Hochschule RheinMain:*  
Everybodies – the body in capitalism. 3D avatars illustrate the self-optimization of female-identified individuals in light of media-promoted body ideals.
- 15:20 · *Laurin Emmerich, Hochschule Darmstadt:*  
numa – A wearable system for people on the autism spectrum: detects emotions early and supports self-regulation via an app.
- 15:40 · *Prof. Christina Zenk, Professor for musicrelated Designtheory in Context with digital Media, Hochschule für Musik, Trossingen:* Musikbezogene Designtheorie als Gestaltungswerkzeug.
- 16:00 · *Dr. Jana Steingässer, Prof. Dr. Gesa Foken, Kurt Friedrich:*  
MEERDemokratie: The Vaka as a Real-World Laboratory for Democratic Coexistence: greenD's Summer School Combines the Sea with Ecosystem Conservation.

16.00

## Workshop

What needs to be done immediately to embed and develop more democracy in universities?

Universities have numerous governing bodies that have proven their value over the years. As populist tendencies on the rise, these institutions must now be assessed to determine whether they are resilient. This is all the more important in a field like design, where decisions are made that often have massive environmental or social impacts.

18.00

## Closing

A recap and farewell to the three days, with videos and photos.

# Upcoming Events:

- 01.07. Workshop: Democratic Tableware**  
Prof. Andreas Mühlenbehrend, Dr. Klaus Harnack and Niklas Haman, Bauhaus Universität Weimar.  
The goal is to use designed table objects to improve negotiations and make democratic processes visible and open to discussion.  
· 17:00 – 20:00, Museum Angewandte Kunst, Frankfurt
- 07.–11.07. Futures by design**  
During the tour of the HfG Offenbach, the exhibition showcases works in industrial design, student designs, and design research.  
· daily 12:00 – 20:00, Alte Schlosserei der Energieversorgung Offenbach AG (EVO), Andréstraße 71, 63067 Offenbach
- 08.07. Workshop: Designing Design Education**  
Future Prospects for Design Education with Prof. Dr. Annette Diefenthaler, iF Design Foundation. Current Future Prospects  
· 14:00, Museum Angewandte Kunst, Frankfurt
- 08.07. Workshop: Stadt. Natur. Zukunft – Rethinking Public Space**  
Dr. Julia Krohmer (Senckenberg Gesellschaft für Naturforschung), Prof. Dr. Constanze Petrow (Hochschule Geisenheim), Prof. Dr. Andreas Thon (Hochschule Geisenheim), Prof. Dr. Jan Dieterle (FUAS) work with participants in co-creative workshops on the interaction between humans and nature.  
· 14:00 – 20:00, Museum Angewandte Kunst, Frankfurt

**09.07. ADC Creative Club**

The *ADC Creative Club* is being launched this year as part of the WDC Campus – an ideal space for exchange and interesting presentations. This is where experts from the creative industry and students come together.

· 17:00 – 20:00, Museum Angewandte Kunst, Frankfurt

**10.07. Workshop: Hightech-Medizintechnik: Replacing Limbs**

Today, sports prosthetics enable athletes to set records that would have been unthinkable in the past. Here, design and engineering are achieving amazing things. These devices must withstand extreme stresses and blend seamlessly with the body.

· 17:00, Museum Angewandte Kunst, Frankfurt

**10.–12.07. Hfg Offenbach Tour**

The HfG tour is one of the most highly regarded in Germany, in part because the exhibitions and events are scattered throughout the city.

· Program: [www.hfg-offenbach.de](http://www.hfg-offenbach.de)

**11.07. Talk: MARA. High Tech Shuttle for the remote countryside**

The Theme Island is hosting the world premiere of MARA. Students and project leaders will explain the function, methodology, and results of the project by the HfG Offenbach and Hyundai.

· 11:00 – 20:00, Museum Angewandte Kunst, Frankfurt

**15.07. Workshop: Social Design with and on the sea: MEERdemokratie**

The Okeanos Foundation and greenD are exploring in the dialogue workshop how marine conservation and social design can be combined on ships.

· 11:00 – 15:00, Museum Angewandte Kunst, Frankfurt

- 17.07. Workshop: Patrizia Schaub: Self-Perception Among New Professionals (a game)**  
For this master's thesis, over 130 designers were surveyed. The result was 100 question cards about values, attitudes, and responsibility: a game that is played on campus.  
- 14:00 – 17:00, Museum Angewandte Kunst, Frankfurt
- 18.07. DISPLAY x WDC Campus**  
On 18. February 2026, the City of Frankfurt's Smart City Office and the NODE association opened the new space for digital innovation, "display," in the heart of downtown.  
- 17:00 – 21:30, Museum Angewandte Kunst, Frankfurt
- 22.07. Lecture: CorpseCraft No. 1-3**  
Bauhaus Future Fiction  
Prof. Markus Weisbeck, Vera Kunz, studio weisbeck  
- 17:00 – 20:00, Museum Angewandte Kunst, Frankfurt
- 24.07. Presentation: Understanding Clay**  
Tobias Trübenbacher, Andreas Lang, Studio ttal  
- 17:00, Museum Angewandte Kunst, Frankfurt
- 29.07. Interactive Presentation:  
In the Zoo – Spaces for Movement for a shared Experience**  
Dr. Christina Geiger, Direktorin from the Zoo Frankfurt, Felix Nowak, Hochschule Mainz and students  
- 11:00 – 20:00, Museum Angewandte Kunst, Frankfurt
- 07.08. Lecture: Mobility with and for everybody – and by any means necessary**  
Prof. Dr. Kai Vöckler, Prof. Peter Eckart and the Offenbach Institute for mobilitydesign.  
- 17:00, Museum Angewandte Kunst, Frankfurt



The *Parkplatzhaus* is a project aimed at combating unaffordable housing. It uses the space of a parking lot to create affordable housing. Affordable micro-homes without new land sealing, scalable cities.

Ruonan Wang and Moritz Maier, National University of Singapore as an independent project

# people & projects in the festival program



## Prof. Ineke Hans

*Universität der Künste, Berlin*

The Power of Design: What can design achieve today - in everyday life, in industry, and in politics? Prof. Ineke Hans explores not only how we shape our world through design, but also how we ourselves are shaped by objects, spaces, and processes. Using practical examples from product and furniture design, she sheds light on the responsibility of designers and the question of what social and environmental consequences every design decision entails.



## Dorothee Bolade

*Membership Engagement Manager,  
World Design Organization*

Dorothee Bolade serves as the liaison between the World Design Organization and its members. She illustrates how a global network of design cities, institutions, and professional associations gives rise to concrete collaborations—such as the awarding of the title “World Design Capital.” The focus is on how members can actively contribute: through projects, exchange programs, collaborative learning processes, and the sharing of best practices in addressing social and environmental challenges.





## Ming Zhong

*Hunan University, China*

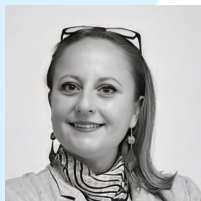
Ming Zhong discusses how design can drive social innovation in rural areas. What kinds of landscapes, villages, and infrastructure do we want—and who decides that? The focus is on ecological sustainability and shared prosperity as a shared quality of life, not merely economic growth. Design is understood as a cultural practice of innovation that takes local forms of knowledge seriously, strengthens communities, and enables new forms of participation, production, and environmental stewardship.



## Assoc. Prof. Dr. Marija Miloshevska Janakieska

*International Balkan University, Skopje*

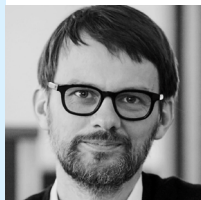
The former post office building in Skopje is an iconic, modernist structure, but at the same time a vulnerable site of memory for the city. In their project, Marija Miloshevska Janakieska and her students are reimagining this space: rather than being preserved as a museum, the building will be transformed into an inclusive “third place” where community, cultural exchange, and urban memory converge. They are exploring how architecture can serve as a resonant space for stories, conflicts, and visions of the future.



## Prof. Dr. Aleksandra Ristovska

*International Balkan University, Skopje*

What symbols and images shape public space in Skopje – and how do they influence the way people see themselves in the city? Prof. Dr. Aleksandra Ristovska and Lazime Lusjani analyze urban symbols and visual communication: posters, logos, murals, billboards, and historical reliefs. Their project explores how these visual layers represent power dynamics, shape identities, and what scope exists for a new, more inclusive image of the city. Design becomes a tool for re-learning.



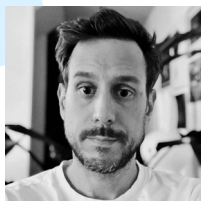
## Prof. Sebastian Oschatz

*HfG Offenbach/MESO Digital Interiors GmbH*

### Nico Munkler

*Design Innovation & Strategy,  
Manager Hyundai MARA*

With MARA, Prof. Sebastian Oschatz and Nico Munkler present the results of a collaborative project involving students from the HfG Offenbach and partners from research and industry. The concept study for transporting people and cargo in rural areas addresses the question of how supply, mobility, and participation can function in places where bus routes are being cut and travel distances are increasing. The project demonstrates how technological innovation, interaction design, and scenario development come together to highlight major challenges and devise new solutions. The project was supervised by Prof. Sebastian Oschatz, Daniel Rese, Julian Schwarze, Nico Munkler (Hyundai Motor Europe Technical Center), and Betty Yagis (Hyundai Connected Mobility). With the kind support of Prof. Peter Eckart, the Offenbach Institute for Mobility Design (OIMD), and MESO Digital Interiors.





## Enes Pavlukovic

*Hochschule Darmstadt*

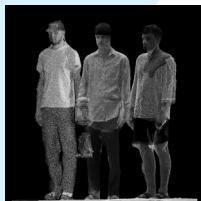
The “editor-in-chief” of the *Algorithm Times* is artificial intelligence. Enes Pavlukovic examines how algorithms weigh topics, generate headlines, and construct narratives when humans intervene only in a curatorial capacity. The project highlights the logic and contradictions inherent in a supposedly autonomous medium: Which data sets determine relevance, how do filter bubbles arise, and how is journalistic responsibility changing? The presentation offers insight into the creative process.



## Dr. Jae-Seung Roe

*Head of Department, Associate Professor,  
Automotive & Transportation Design,  
College of Design, Kookmin University,  
Director of Humanising Mobility Design Centre*

This study examines human-centered mobility design in a future smart city, using Seoul as a case study, and explores the connection between public transportation and personal mobility systems. The central infrastructure is the PM-Lane, a citywide network that flexibly accommodates small electric vehicles within the urban space and allows them to be parked anywhere. In this way, the first and last kilometer are reimagined as a seamless part of urban transportation.



## Nicolas König, Lewis Horkulak / 820

*ETH Zürich*

*A Fish Odyssey* is developing a design system to aerate Alpine lakes that heat up in the summer, whose ecosystems suffer from warming and oxygen depletion. The project combines technical infrastructure with a narrative approach: fish serve as indicators of a lake's condition, and their movements and living conditions are visualized. In this way, climate change becomes visible and can be experienced emotionally. The work explores how design can bridge the gap between environmental technology, data visualization, and storytelling.



## Montgomery Wagner

*Revoltech GmbH / FUTURY*

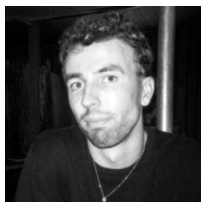
*Revoltech* is a startup that develops plant-based, plastic-free leather alternatives from natural raw materials. Montgomery Wagner demonstrates how fibers and biopolymers are transformed into materials that closely resemble leather in terms of feel and appearance, but do so without using animal-derived components or fossil-based plastics. The project combines materials research, circular thinking, and brand building: How can these alternative materials be established in fashion, accessories, and product design in a way that ensures they are accepted by consumers?



## Essak Khan

*AlsterrLab / Smarfecto*

Essak Khan is working on the biotechnology-driven advancement of smart textiles. In the *Alsterr-Lab* and *Smarfecto* projects, insights from biotechnology, polymer science, and textile engineering are combined to develop fabrics that measure and respond to the body's condition. The goal is to create applications in preventive healthcare, wellness, and competitive sports. The presentation demonstrates how sensor technology, data analysis, and design come together, and explores the ethical questions that arise when handling sensitive physiological data.



## Laurin Böhm

*Design Academy Eindhoven*

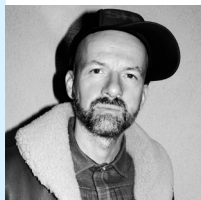
In the *Flössern – in fluent* project, a raft becomes a mobile monitoring station and research platform on the Rhine. It carries sensors and equipment, documenting water quality, currents, and the stories of the people living along the river. At the same time, it serves as a public space for discussions and workshops, bringing together knowledge from science, activism, and local experience. In this way, the Rhine can be experienced anew as an ecological space and cultural landscape—with design serving as a tool for collective exploration.



## Nina Jäcker

*HfG Offenbach*

*Offen-Bach* examines how the restoration of a channeled stream in Offenbach can contribute to a more climate-resilient and livable city. Taking the underground Hainbach as her starting point, Nina Jäcker develops design guidelines for banks, paths, public spaces, and biodiversity. These guidelines are translated into a practical design catalog that bridges urban planning and water management. The goal is to improve urban and aquatic ecology, provide protection against flooding, and establish a new relationship between the city and its waterways.



## Shantel

With his Bucovina Club compilations, Shantel became the audible face of a different Germany. Drawing on an exceptionally diverse family and musical background, Shantel blends Eastern European sounds with electronic beats – making migration something you can hear and dance to. Musical treasures emerge in a new, multifaceted context that allows listeners to intuitively experience their cultures of origin. Shantel's method is cultural mixing and sampling – club culture as an open laboratory rather than a museum-like reenactment.



The **HOTTIE** flat 3D-knit belt relieves menstrual cramps using heat and TENS (transcutaneous electrical nerve stimulation). Discreet and controllable via an app, it is comfortable and suitable for everyday use.

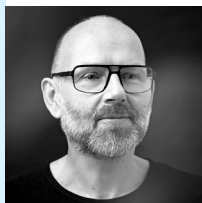
Elisabeth Lorenz and Marc Hackländer, HfG Schwäbisch Gmünd



## Prof. Florian Käßler and students

*Hochschule für Musik, Trossingen*

Sound Performance. Students of Prof. Florian Käßler explore noise and sound as materials in space. They work with field recordings, electronic sound generation, and the spatial arrangement of speakers and objects. Their performance creates soundscapes that temporarily transform the WDC Campus: Visitors move through zones of noise, musical fragments, and silence. The works explore how sound influences orientation, atmosphere, and social interaction, and how "listening" can be understood as a design practice.



## Stefan Weil

*Atelier Markgraph GmbH, Frankfurt*

Stefan Weil is a designer, fanzine creator, and drummer. In the early 1980s, he played in the new wave band *Neue Mode* and designed their album covers as well as visual identities for projects such as Blind Vision and Robotiko Rejekto. In 1989, he founded the techno fanzine *Frontpage* with Jürgen Laarmann; later, he was involved with other magazines and continues to shape the visual culture of electronic music to this day. Today, he is the driving force behind the *MOMEM museum of modern electronic music* in Frankfurt, where he brings together design, scene history, and urban development.





## Prof. Holger Kleine and students

*Hochschule RheinMain, Wiesbaden*

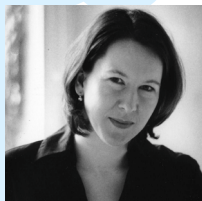
The *Dichtertrum* sees itself as a place for language, encounters, and cultural exchange. International poets live on the upper floors, opening up new perspectives on democracy through their work. The tower is located between the European Parliament and the European Court of Human Rights – a deliberate positioning within the political landscape. In this way, it becomes an architectural plea for multilingualism, poetic debate, and the democratic power of language as a unifying medium.



## Valerio Sampognaro

*HFBK Hamburg*

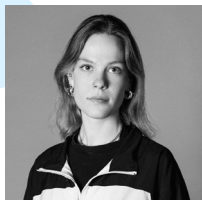
*Aerodomestics* explores how the formal diversity of kite construction can be applied to furniture. Using sailcloth and aluminum tubes, the designer creates ultralight, fully functional furniture whose tension structures utilize usable surfaces as wings. A shelf made from recycled kitesurfing fabric gains tension and stability under load, while another model features foldable sailcloth with adjustable tension. This typology serves as a testing ground for additional objects, such as tables and chairs, designed for flexible living situations.



## Prof. Dipl.-Ing. Stefanie Eberding

*Frankfurt University of Applied Sciences*

Stefanie Eberding explores how teaching methods shape relationships – between instructors and students, between theory and practice, and between individuals and groups. The focus is on didactic approaches that actively involve students in design processes, facilitate reflection, and take different learning styles into account. Her work demonstrates how pedagogical decisions can transform design degree programs – moving away from the mere transmission of knowledge toward the collaborative, dialogic design of learning spaces.



## Lara Marie Walter

*Hochschule RheinMain, Wiesbaden*

*Everybodies – the body in capitalism* examines self-optimization as a guiding principle of Western societies. Performance, efficiency, and measurable results become currency, with the body as the central site of these logics. In the installation *Everybodies*, avatars of female-read persons are created via scanning, continuously changing under the influence of media body ideals. This makes visible how strongly notions of „optimization“ influence identity, self-image, and health – and what forms of resistance are possible.



## Laurin Emmerich

*Hochschule Darmstadt*

*numa* is a wearable system that helps autistic people recognize emotional states early and regulate them independently. Sensors capture bodily reactions, and discreet feedback indicates when overload is imminent. In addition, an app offers caregivers insights without disclosing intimate details. The project makes invisible processes visible without stigmatizing. It combines product design, interface design, and research on neurodivergence, asking how technology can contribute to empathetic support.



## Prof. Christina Zenk

*Hochschule für Musik, Trossingen*

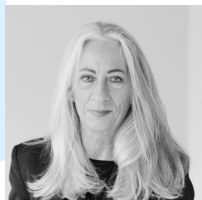
Prof. Christina Zenk combines music, design, and cultural studies. After studying psychology, music education, and composition, she worked as a research associate in Siegen, where she focused on the music of fashion shows and virtual research environments. Today, she is a professor of music-related design theory in the context of digital media at the Landeszentrum MUSIK-DESIGN-PERFORMANCE. Her research explores how sound, rhythm, and musical structures shape design – from interfaces to spatial staging.



## Dr. Jana Steingässer

*MEERDemokratie, Hochschule Darmstadt*

*MEERDemokratie* uses the *Vaka*, a traditional Polynesian sailing boat, as a living lab for democratic coexistence in confined spaces. The temporary community on board must make decisions, negotiate conflicts, and share responsibility while depending on the sea and weather. In this process, the sea becomes tangible as a connecting foundation of life that affects people and ecosystems alike. Building on this experience, a summer school by greenD with students from Darmstadt University of Applied Sciences explores ecosystem protection as the foundation of a democratic future.



## Carolina Romahn

*CEO World Design Capital  
FrankfurtRheinMain 2026*

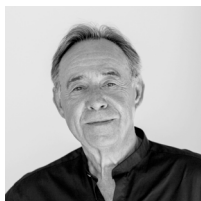
As CEO of World Design Capital Frankfurt Rhein-Main 2026, Carolina Romahn oversees programs, partnerships, and communications. The WDC organization creates the foundations on which in-house formats such as the WDC Campus are built. Her work connects city, region, universities, businesses, and civil society to make design visible as a shared resource and to build long-term networks beyond the WDC year.



## Timon Gremmels

*Hessian Minister for Science and Research, Art and Culture*

As Hessian Minister, Timon Gremmels is one of the political contacts for the WDC Campus. Through the support of the State of Hesse, together with the Kulturfonds Frankfurt RheinMain and the City of Frankfurt, World Design Capital Frankfurt RheinMain 2026 is made financially and politically possible.



## Prof. Roland Lambrette

*Design FRM gGmbH, WDC Campus*

Roland Lambrette is one of the initiators of the Campus concept within the framework of World Design Capital. With his experience in teaching, exhibition development, and organizational development, he created the conceptual foundation for the WDC Campus. Today, he works operationally in program planning, implementation, and quality assurance. His goal is to establish the WDC Campus as a vibrant research and learning environment in which students, teachers, and practice partners work together on prototypes for a fair and sustainable design of our future world.



## Dr. Ina Hartwig

*Councillor and Head of the Department for Culture and Science, Frankfurt am Main*

As Head of the Department for Culture and Science, Dr. Ina Hartwig is the specialist contact for the WDC Campus at the municipal level. The City of Frankfurt regards design as a cultural and societal task and supports World Design Capital 2026 as a key funding project.

As a cultural policymaker, Dr. Ina Hartwig is also, in a sense, a designer herself: she thus also represents the idea that culture, art, and design produce not only products but also new spaces, narratives, and forms of participation that can transform urban life in the long term.



## Kaweh Mansoori

*Deputy Minister-President of the State of Hesse*

Kaweh Mansoori is Hessian State Minister and Minister for Economic Affairs, Energy, Transport, Housing and Rural Areas, as well as Deputy to the Hessian Minister-President. In his work, he makes it clear: the creative industry is an important driver of the Hessian economy. Creative businesses in particular bring a high degree of courage and innovative strength that many other sectors urgently need – from new business models to fresh ideas for products, services, and communication.



@Nicolas Weiers

*Holobiont transfers the technology of industrial photobioreactors with microalgae into urban space.*

Milan Stein, Kunsthochschule Kassel  
Diploma thesis under Prof. Oliver Vogt





dreams,  
ideas &  
prototypes  
*young talents at work*

Museum  
Angewandte Kunst,  
Frankfurt

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