

## ILLUSTRATIVE 2009

**Villa Elisabeth, Berlin**

**Opening: 15 October 2009**

**16 October – 1 November 2009**

### **The art festival “Illustrative“ is back in Berlin**

Paris, Zurich, and now Berlin: ILLUSTRATIVE 2009 will celebrate the cutting-edge works of contemporary graphic artists from the October 16th to the November 1st. Works ranging from drawing, graphic prints, painting and monumental murals to graphically inspired 3D-illustrations, book art and animation, will all be on show. With more than 60 artists from all across the globe, ILLUSTRATIVE brings together an inspiring cornucopia of visual contemporary culture in the Villa Elisabeth, located in the heart of Berlin.

The core exhibition, comprised of renowned illustrators and graphic artists, displays the various unorthodox and sophisticated influences of traditionally separated fields such as design, fine arts or applied arts, as well as their fusion to a “cutting edge visual culture”. Furthermore, the festival presents an exhibition of legendary illustrators such as Keiichi Tanaami, the 73-year-old icon of Japanese pop art and former art director of the Japanese Playboy, who is regarded as one of the main influences of artists like Takahashi Murakami. The **Young Illustrators Award** follows the most current trends in illustration, critiqued and selected by an international jury. During the first weekend of the festival, a **conference** will be held, at which experts, designers, and artists will thoroughly examine the artistic, political, and aesthetical field of illustration.

### **The Exhibition 2009**

The core exhibition of ILLUSTRATIVE presents the work of contemporary artists, whose work fundamentally influences present day trends in Illustration and graphic art. They surprise with unusual visual concepts and graphic installations, they merge analogue techniques like etching and screen print with digital image samples or cleverly combine catchy illustrations with figurative or abstract painting. Often they undergo a complete metamorphosis into moving images (animation), major book art objects, or integrated as graphic sketches on textile, glass or wood. Next to the explicit reference to analogue and digital craft, the different artists also showcase the most importantly perceived trends in regards to content: as a criticism of consumerism and society, as an aesthetic statement, or as a visionary sketch of utopian scenarios.

The exhibition features works from artists such as Erik Mark Sandberg (USA), Tomer Hanuka (ISR), Diego Lorenzini (CHIL), Cristobal Leon (CHIL), Nigel Evan Dennis (USA), Christian Montenegro (ARG), Jesse Auersalo (FIN), Matt Furie (USA), Siggí Eggertsson (ISL), Jörn Kaspuhl (GER), David O'Reilly (IRL), Lorenzo Petrantoni (IT), Martin Haake (GER), Luke Best (GB), Eva Han (KOR), Antti Uotila (FIN), Daniel Stolle (GER), Gregori Saveedra (ES), Pixelgarten (GER), Eda Akaltun (TUR), Good Wives and Warriors (GB), Alina Günter (SUI), Rebecca Manley (GB), Working Class Hero (SUI), Vincent Hui (USA), Edwin Ushiro (USA), and many more.

### **Idea and Background**

ILLUSTRATIVE is a project put forth by the non-profit organisation Illustrative e.V. Founded in 2006 by Pascal Johanssen and Katja Kleiss in Berlin, Illustrative e.V. has showcased the phenomenon of illustration art in exhibitions in Berlin, Paris and Zurich, as well as in catalogues and its own art magazine, Objects. Furthermore, Illustrative annually grants the Young Illustrators Award to up-and-coming illustrators. Initially intended as an exhibition, Illustrative has become an international meeting point for the graphic art community.

The exhibition is accompanied by a catalogue and a special edition of the art magazine "Objects. Journal of Applied Arts".

### **Exhibition**

Opening (invitation only): 15 October 2009

16 October – 1 November 2009

Original Art Works, Installation Pieces and Book Art Objects

Villa Elisabeth, Invalidenstr. 3, 10115 Berlin, Germany

Open daily 11 am – 8 pm

### **Conference**

17 – 18 October 2009

Artist talks, Performances and Animation Screenings

Villa Elisabeth, Invalidenstr. 3, 10115 Berlin

### **Award Ceremony**

17 October 2009

Award ceremony of the Young Illustrators Award

Villa Elisabeth, Invalidenstr. 3, 10115 Berlin

### **Partner**

Swatch has been the main sponsor of Illustrative since 2008. Swatch, founded by *Nicolas G. Hajek* in 1983, is one of the biggest Swiss watch makers. The company has been working with illustrators and artists for the past 25 years, especially as part of the Art Specials, a limited watch collection.

### **Contact Illustrative**

Katja Kleiss, [kleiss@illustrative.de](mailto:kleiss@illustrative.de)

Illustrative e.V.

Gormannstr. 23, 10119 Berlin, Germany

Tel.: + 49/30 48 49 19 29

Fax.: +49/30 27 57 20 19

[www.illustrative.de](http://www.illustrative.de)

Press Download:

<http://www.illustrative.de/press/footage>