

## **Focal exhibition with Federico Solmi, Candice Breitz and Julian Rosefeldt BEN Awards of Honor go in 2017 to Jonas Mekas and Ingvild Goetz**

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B3 is dedicating its BEN Awards of Honor to outstanding personalities from the international world of art. The award for the life's work („Lifetime achievement award, influential artist moving image art" category) goes to Lithuanian-US film pioneer Jonas Mekas (born in 1922). The B3 is thus honoring his trailblazing influence on the development of US indie films. On the occasion of the award ceremony, Mekas and Scottish director and video artist Douglas Gordon will be screening their joint film „I Had Nowhere To Go" (2016), based on the literary diary of the same name authored by Jonas Mekas. Following Laurie Anderson (2013) and Brian Eno (2015) Jonas Mekas is the third person to win the award in this category.

Premier award winners in the category „Influential patron moving image art" is German art collector and patron Ingvild Goetz. B3 is thus honoring Ingvild Goetz's many decades of passionate support for contemporary and video art, and her patronage of young artists. Goetz has already announced she will be donating her prize money to Jonas Mekas' Anthology Film Archives in New York.

### **B3 focal exhibition „ON DESIRE. Über das Begehren."**

The B3 leading exhibition forms the heart of B3 2017. It presents new positions and moving image pieces by 50 national and international artists on the focal theme of „On Desire" and addresses all the different facets of human desire such as love, greed, lust, and yearning. At the B3 Candice Breitz (RSA) and Federico Solmi (ITA/USA) present new productions as world premieres.

With his mix of images from the gaming, pop culture and drawing scenes, Italian Solmi has seized the imagination of the international art world and as early as 2015 captivated the B3 audience. At the B3 2017 Solmi will present „The Great Farce", his biggest animation project for the public space, a 9-channel video installation that will cover the façade of the Schauspiel Frankfurt building with an all-round panorama. The largest theater in the Rhine-Main region is B3 partner for the first time – by collaborating on this major project. First impressions of the Solmi project can be experienced on Facebook. Alongside installations with moving images, the exhibition will also forge a link to immersive and VR pieces.

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## **CALIFORNIA DREAMS in the Cinema and a record for short films**

Fans of discerning film can look forward to something really special at the B3 Festival movie theater, the Cinema. US director Mike Ott will present his latest, award-winning work entitled „CALIFORNIA DREAMS“, a tour of the dark side of the American Dream; a film about hopes, fears and wishes.

A total of 15 international productions will be on show in the film program. With over 265 submissions, the „Call for Entries“ for the B3 short-film program hit a new record.

### **B3 2017**

The B3 Biennial of the Moving Image takes place from Nov. 29 to Dec. 3, 2017 – for the third time. Taking as its focal theme „On Desire“, in Frankfurt and the Rhine-Main region 250 invited outstanding national and international players from the worlds of art, the media, and technology will present their projects and ideas. Their fields: art, TV/film, Gaming, VR/AR and Robotics. In the framework of the exhibition modules of Parcours, Festival and Campus/Market, they will reflect politically, aesthetically and technologically the latest trends relating to the moving image. In 2017, B3 will focus geographically on North America, China and Israel, presenting the most innovative and creative artists and contributions from the moving-image sectors in these countries.

The Biennial’s objective: first to forge a broad, interdisciplinary, cross-genre alliance for the moving image and second to offer the international creative and cultural scene an overarching platform of interaction and business.

The B3 Biennial of the Moving Image is organized by the Hessen State University of Art and Design (HfG) in Offenbach. B3 is funded by the Hessen State Ministry for Higher Education, Research, and the Arts (HMWK), the Hessische Landesanstalt für privaten Rundfunk und neue Medien (LPR Hessen) and the City of Frankfurt/Main. B3 is sponsored by Kulturfonds Frankfurt Rhein Main, the Creative Hub Frankfurt, Wirtschafts Förderung Frankfurt (Frankfurt Economic Development GmbH), and Sparda Bank.

The Central Academy of Fine Arts in Beijing (CN), the College of Design & Innovation at Tongji University Shanghai (CN), the Sichuan Institute of Fine Arts in Chongqing (CN), Zurich University of the Arts (Switzerland), Yale University (USA), and Laval Virtual (F) are all international cooperation partners.

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