

MARIO PFEIFER

*1981 in Dresden, lives and works in
Berlin and New York

Education

2008–2009

California Institute of the Arts

2007–2008

Städelschule Frankfurt am Main

2005–2007

Universität der Künste, Berlin

2003–2006

Hochschule für Grafik und Buchkunst,

Leipzig

Awards and Grants

2025 • Fellowship Schaufler Lab @ TUD

2024 • Deutscher Menschenrechts

Filmpreis

• Digital Culture Grant der

Kulturstiftung des Freistaates

Sachsen

• Stiftung Niedersachsen

Filmpreis

2023 • Hessischer Film- und Kinopreis

2021 • NEUSTART KULTUR

2020 • Stiftung Kunstfonds

2019 • Stiftung Niedersachsen

für Medienkunst

2018 • Medienboard Berlin Brandenburg

2017 • Innogy Visit scholar

• Kulturstiftung des Freistaates

Sachsen

2016 • Stiftung Kunstfonds

• Travel grant, Hessische

Kulturstiftung

• Kulturstiftung des Freistaates

Sachsen

2015 • Global fellowship, Berliner Senat

• BKM, Germany

• Kulturstiftung des Freistaates

Sachsen

2014 • Stiftung Kunstfonds

• Goethe-Institut, Santiago de

Chile

• Kulturstiftung des Freistaates

Sachsen

2013 • DAAD fellowship, USA

• Goethe Institute, London

KOW

Solo Exhibitions (Selection)

2023 • Mario Pfeifer, Kunsthalle Winterthur, Switzerland

2022 • Proof of the Unthinkable, KOW, Berlin

2021 • What Must Not Be, Cannot Be, KOW, Berlin

2020 • Corpo Fechade, Berlinische Galerie, Berlin

• Negotiating the Law, Edith-Russ-Haus for Media Art, Oldenburg

• Black / White / Grey, Museum Folkwang Essen

2019 • The Power Plant, Toronto

• PYLON-Lab, Dresden

2018 • Kunstsammlungen Chemnitz

2016 • KOW, Berlin

• Galerie für Zeitgenössische Kunst Leipzig GfZK

• Mario Pfeifer, Willem de Rooij, ACUD, Berlin

2015 • KOW, Berlin

• Fotomuseum Winterthur

• Ludlow38, New York

• Circa Projects, Newcastle

• One Night Only, Kunstnernes Hus, Oslo

2014 • Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes - Museo sin Muros, Santiago de Chile

• Galería Macchina / Unversidad Católica, Santiago de Chile

2013 • Khoj, New Delhi

• Project 88, Mumbai

• Screening, MOMA PS1, New York

2012 • Circa Projects, Sunderland

2011 • Nassauischer Kunstverein, Wiesbaden

• KOW, Berlin

2010 • Weserburg - Museum für Moderne Kunst, Bremen

• 19. Videokunst Förderpreis Bremen

Group Exhibitions (Selection)

2024 • VULINEIRAIBLE - KOW, Berlin

• Für alle! Demokratie neu gestalten, Bundeskunsthalle Bonn

2023 • Grids of Violence - From Gazes to Acts - Kunsthau, Stadtmuseum Dresden

• Rencontres Internationales Paris - New Cinema and Contemporary Art

• Wer wir sind, Bundeskunsthalle Bonn

• Artissima Turin, KOW Booth

2022 • Mit der Tür ins Haus fallen, Neues Museum, Nürnberg

• Broken Music Vol. 2, Hamburger Bahnhof, Berlin

• Identität nicht nachgewiesen, Bundeskunsthalle, Bonn

• Das Auto Rosi aber, KOW Berlin

2021 • Iruru Muyu, Centro de Arte Contemporáneo - CAC, Quito, Ecuador

• Beuys - Der Katalysator, Museum Morsbroich, Leverkusen

• White Money, Sophiensaele, Berlin

• Der Katalysator - Josef Beuys und Demokratie heute, Museum Morsbroich,

Leverkusen

• Zeitumstellung, Schloss Biesdorf, Alt-Biesdorf

• The 4th Mediterranean Biennale in Sakhin Valley, Israel

• Großen Hans-Purrmann-Preis der Stadt Speyer

• Time Change – Schloss Biesdorf, Berlin

2020 • Me, Family, MUDAM Luxembourg

- 2012 • Working grant, Berliner Senat
 - 2012 • Celeste Video Art Prize, Rome
 - 2012 • Kulturstiftung des Freistaates Sachsen
 - 2012 • Goethe Institute, Mumbai, New Delhi
 - 2011 • Salon Video Art Prize, London
 - 2010 • Videokunst Förderpreis, Filmbüro Bremen
 - 2010 • DAAD fellowship, USA
 - 2010 • Werkleitz production grant, Halle
 - 2009 • TransVideoStudios, Mountainview
 - 2008 • California Institute of the Arts, USA
 - 2008 • Fulbright scholarship, USA
 - 2007 • Goethe Institute, Bangkok
 - 2005 • Goethe Institute, Prague
- Residencies**
- 2020 • Vila Sul, Salvador de Bahia, Brazil
 - 2018 • Thread, Tambacounda, Senegal
 - 2018 • SEEDs Villa Romana, Florence
 - 2017 • Goethe Institut, Lagos
 - 2015 • Cité internationale des Arts, Paris
 - 2014 • Proyecto Norte, Alto Patache, Chile
 - 2013 • Gasworks, London
 - 2012 • International Studio and Curatorial Program (ISCP), New York
 - 2011 • Dar-Al-Mamun, Morocco
- Publications**
- 2019 • If you end up with the story you started with, then you're not listening along the way, edited by Mario Pfeifer and Gaëtane Verna, Mousse Publishing
 - 2018 • Profit over Peace in Western Sahara, edited by Mario Pfeifer and Erik Hagen, Sternberg Press.
 - 2015 • Approximation in the digital age to a humanity condemned to disappear, edited by Mario Pfeifer and Thomas Seelig, Sternberg Press
 - 2012 • Three Films /Three Photographs, edited by Mario Pfeifer, Fotohof edition/KOW
 - 2010 • Reconsidering The new Industrial Parks near Irvine, California by Lewis Baltz, 1974, edited by Mario Pfeifer, Sternberg Press
- 2019 • Empört Euch!, Kunstpalast Düsseldorf
 - 2019 • Innsbruck Biennial
 - 2019 • Living Together - Crossing Borders, 4th Mediterranean Biennale, Sakhnin Valley
 - 2019 • Out of the Dark II, KOW Berlin
 - 2019 • Image Wars, Halle für Kunst und Medien Graz
 - 2019 • Human Capital, Innsbruck International 2020 – Biennial of the Arts
 - 2019 • GERMAN CINEMA NOW!, Goethe Pop Up, Seattle
 - 2019 • About Education and Fear, Kunstpavillion Innsbruck
 - 2019 • SEEDS FOR FUTURE MEMORIES, IfA Galerie, Berlin
 - 2019 • Nach meiner Kenntnis ist das sofort... unverzüglich, Albertinum, Dresden
 - 2019 • At the Edges of Documentary, Paradoks, Leipzig
 - 2019 • Die wir nie gewesen sind, Deutscher Künstlerbund, Berlin
 - 2019 • Denkraum Deutschland, Pinakothek der Moderne, Munich
 - 2019 • At the Edges of Documentary, Paradoks, Leipzig
 - 2018 • 10. Berlin Biennale
 - 2018 • Welcome to the Jungle, Kunsthalle Düsseldorf
 - 2018 • There Will Come Soft Rains, basis e.V. Frankfurt am Main
 - 2018 • Tension and Conflict, MAAT Museum of Art, Architecture and Technology
 - 2018 • Local Spaces, Transnational connections, Center for Contemporary Art, Lagos
 - 2018 • Breaking News – Sammlung von Kelterborn, Mönchehaus Museum Goslar
 - 2018 • 11th Bienal do Mercosul – O Triângulo Atlântico, Porto Alegre
 - 2018 • Occupation, Staatliche Kunstsammlungen Dresden
 - 2018 • The New Normal, Ashkal Alwan, The Hangar- Umam & Dawawin, Beirut
 - 2018 • L'Autre... De l'image à la réalité 1/3 : Vers l'Autre, Maison Populaire, Montreuil
 - 2018 • True Politics, GEGENkino, Leipzig
 - 2018 • The Atlantic Triangle, Rele Gallery, Lagos, Nigeria
 - 2018 • The Atlantic Triangle, SARACURA, Rio de Janeiro
 - 2018 • Mundo, Imagem, Mundo – Galeria Hideo Kobayashi, Centro Cultural Usiminas, Ipatinga
 - 2018 • Tension and Conflict, MAAT, Lisbon
 - 2018 • The Vague Space – Collection Christian Schwarm, Weserburg, Bremen
 - 2018 • Buried in the Mix, MEWO Kunsthalle, Memmingen
 - 2016 • 3° Montevideo Bienal, Uruguay
 - 2016 • Out of the Dark, KOW, Berlin
 - 2016 • Mundo, Imagem, Mundo – Espaço Cultural Marcantonio Vilaça, Brazil
 - 2016 • Shock Room, Brandenburgischer Kunstverein, Potsdam
 - 2016 • SAY IT LOUD!, Opa-Locka, Florida
 - 2015 • Disegno, Kupferstichkabinett, Staatliche Kunstsammlungen, Dresden
 - 2015 • Think Film / Misliti Film, KCB Cultural Center of Belgrade
 - 2015 • A Summer of Films, KOW
 - 2015 • MUNDO, IMAGEM, MUNDO – International Festival of Photography, Belo Horizonte
 - 2014 • Give us The Future, Neuer Berliner Kunstverein
 - 2014 • A Taste of Ashes Fills the Air, Center for Contemporary Photography, Melbourne
 - 2013 • Ortsbestimmung , Staatliche Kunstsammlungen Dresden
 - 2013 • Think Film, MMC Luka, Pula
 - 2013 • now here. Contemporary Art. From the Kunstfonds, Kunsthalle im Lipsiusbau, Staatliche Kunstsammlungen Dresden
 - 2013 • Kaleid2013, London
 - 2012 • Fotografie Total. Works from the MMK Collection, Museum für Moderne Kunst, Frankfurt am Main
 - 2012 • India: Visions from the Outside, The Cultural Centre of Brugge
 - 2012 • Artists against AIDS, Bundeskunsthalle Bonn
 - 2012 • Higher Atlas, 4th Marrakech Biennale
 - 2012 • Jetset, Kunsthalle Faust, Hannover
 - 2012 • The 9th world Film Festival of Bangkok

- 4th Marrakesh Biennale
- Schranz Contemporary, Hinterhof Offspace, Basel
- New Topographics, Landesgalerie Linz
- Images Festival presents Reconsidering the New, MOCA Detroit
- 2010 • Highlights from the Cologne KunstFilmBiennale in Berlin, KW Institute for Contemporary Art, Berlin
- New Topographics, Landesgalerie Linz
- Speckle Imaging: Viewpoints on Documentary in Contemporary Art, Waseda University, Tokyo
- Mulhouse Biennale 010
- Salon Video Art Prize, Matt Roberts Arts, London
- 2009 • New Topographics, Los Angeles County Museum of Art
- Antirepresentationalism III, KOW, Berlin
- Zeigen. Eine Audiotour durch Berlin von Karin Sander, Temporäre Kunsthalle Berlin
- Antirepresentationalism II, KOW, Berlin
- Antirepresentationalism I, KOW, Berlin
- Back to the Future, Center for Opinion in Music and Art, Berlin
- 2008 • Ende, Städel Museum, Frankfurt am Main
- Thisiscuring1–40, curated by Joel Mu, Firstdraft Gallery, Sydney
- I am a man, Portikus e.V. Frankfurt am Main
- 2007 • Angst, Kunstverein Tiergarten, Berlin
- Reissbretromantik, Platform, Berlin

Film Festival Participations / Screenings (Selection)

- 2023 • Rencontres Internationales Paris - New Cinema and Contemporary Art
- 2021 • Haus der Kulturen der Welt, Berlin
- 2020 • Internationales Filmfestival Mannheim-Heidelberg, Kunsthalle Mannheim
- Festival Híbrido Vila Sul Multilinguagem, Goethe-Institut, Salvador - Bahia
- Act Human Rights Festiva, Fort Collins, Colorado
- Das Bild einer Stadt im Raum des Kinos #10, Kino Siemensstadt, Berlin
- German Cinema Now, Northwest Filmforum, Seattle
- Act Human Rights Festival, Fort Collins, Colorado
- 2019 • Asolo Art Film Festival
- 14th edition of DOC EDGE International Film Festival, Wellington / Auckland
- 50th edition of Visions du Reel - International Film Festival, Nyon
- Works in Film and Video, CA2M Centro de Arte Dos de Mayo, Madrid
- Double Feature, Schirn Kunsthalle Frankfurt am Main
- 2018 • Corpo Fechado, Beursschouwburg, Brussels
- THE NEW MEDIUM III, Mumbai International Filmfestival
- 2017 • PUSH. Leben in Zeiten der Hyperinformation, European Media Art Festival, Osnabrück
- Trauma & Revival, Bunkier Sztuki, Krakow
- VideoArt at Midnight, Salzburger Kunstverein – Sunset Kino
- Untitled, San Francisco
- 2016 • 62. Internationale Kurzfilmtage Oberhausen, #blacktivist, Official Selection
- MuVi Award 2016
- CAC Contemporary Art Centre, Vilnius, Lithuania
- 2015 • The Kids Are All Right, Black Box Screenings, Beursschouwburg, Brussels
- 15. International New Media Festival, Seoul
- 61. International Short Film Festival Oberhausen / German Competition
- Signal, Malmö
- 2014 • Migrating Forms, New York
- 2013 • MoMA PS1, New York
- Kunsthaus Bregenz / European Kunsthalle
- 2012 • Sprengel Museum Hannover

- Kunsthaus Dresden
- Darklight Festival, Dublin
- World Film Festival, Bangkok
- 2011 • Bilbao International Documentary Film Festival
- Museum of Art and Design, New York
- Museum of Contemporary Art, Detroit
- Migrating Forms at Anthology Film Archives, New York
- London International Documentary Film Festival, London
- An Assault of Reality—Expansion of Cinema into the 21st Century, Museum of Art and Design, New York
- Images Festival, Toronto
- Frankfurter Kunstverein
- 2010 • Bangkok World Film Festival
- Les Rencontres Internationales, Berlin, Madrid
- Videoart at Midnight #16, Kino Babylon Mitte, Berlin
- Art Basel Film curated by Marc Glöde, Basel
- Lichter Filmtage, Frankfurt am Main
- European Media Arts Festival, Osnabrück
- Video Screening II, Museum Folkwang Essen
- 2009 • Les Rencontres Internationales, Paris
- Academy of Film & Multimedia Marubi, Tirana
- KunstFilmBiennale Köln, Cologne
- Bangkok World Film Festival
- SE8, curated by Tatiana Echeverri Fernandez, London

Further Projects

- 2021 • Artist Talk, Edith-Russ-Haus for Media Art, Oldenburg
- 2019 • Symposium, Albertinum – Staatliche Kunstsammlungen Dresden
- 2018 • Artist Talk, Academy of Visual Arts Prague
- Artist Talk, Kunstsammlungen Chemnitz
- Panel Discussion, C/O Berlin, EMOP
- Artist Talk, Villa Romana, Florence
- Panel Discussion, Arte!Brasileros, São Paulo
- Artist Talk, Museo de Arte do Rio de Janeiro
- Artist Talk, 10. Berlin Biennale
- Artist Talk, Kunsthalle Düsseldorf
- Artist Talk, Staatliche Kunstsammlungen Dresden
- 2017 • Artist Talk, European Media Arts Festival, Osnabrück
- Panel Discussion, GEGENKino, Leipzig
- Artist Talk, Bunkier Sztuki, Krakow
- Lecture, Burg Giebichenstein, Halle
- 2016 • Lecture, UNAM, Mexico City
- 2015 • Artist Talk, Fotomuseum Winterthur
- Artist Talk, Baltic, Newcastle
- Artist Talk, Goethe Institut, New York
- 2014 • Lecture, Universidad Católica, Santiago de Chile
- 2013 • Artist Talk, MoMA PS1, New York
- Lecture, Bauhaus Universität, Weimar
- Panel Discussion, Khoj, New Delhi
- Panel Discussion, StudioX, Mumbai
- Lecture, Artists Space, New York
- Artist Talk, Museum für Moderne Kunst, Frankfurt am Main
- Artist Talk, Gasworks, London
- 2012 • Panel Discussion, 4th Marrakech Biennale
- Artist Talk, Circa Projects, Sunderland
- 2011 • Conversations, Toronto, Los Angeles, New York, Berlin, Salzburg
- Panel Discussion, Goethe Institut Toronto
- Panel Discussion, LA><Art, Los Angeles
- Panel Discussion, White Columns, New York

- Artist Talk, Fotohof, Salzburg
- 2010 • Lecture Love & Space, Kunstsaele Berlin
- Darklight Festival, Dublin
- 2009 • Lecture Hero/Antihero, Kunsthochschule für Medien, Cologne
- 2008 • Guest Curator 5th Bangkok Experimental Film Festival
- Guest Curator Sun Screens Festival, Arsenal Berlin

Filmography

- 2022 • Cell 5 - A Reconstruction, 4K Video Installation, surround sound, color
- 2021 • Cell 5 - 800° Celsius: Act I, 4K Video, stereo, color, 24 min
- 2020 • Black / White / Grey, 4K Video Installation, stereo, color, 17 min
- 2019 • Backways, 2-channel-video installation, color, stereo, 5min
- 2018 • Again / Noch einmal, 2-channel HD-video installation, color, 5.1 surround sound, 42 min
- 2017 • Conversation Piece (Western Sahara), 4K & HD-video, color, stereo, approx. 60 min
- Point of No Return, 4K video, color, stereo, 24 min
- 2016 • About Education and Fear, 4K video, color, stereo, 546 min
- Corpo Fechado, 4K, Surround sound, Color, 30min, Brazil / USA Germany
- 2015 • #blacktivist, 4K videos, color, stereo, 11 min
- 2014 • Working with Allan Sekula - A video message from Tierra del Fugeo, HD video, stereo, color, 15min
- Approximation in the digital age to to a humanity condemned to disappear, 4K Cinema, 3-channel-installation, color, surround sound, 26 min
- 2010 • The Los Angeles River-project, 35 mm/HD video, color, SR 5.1, 80 min
- A Formal Film In Nine Episodes, Prologue & Epilogue, 35 mm film, color, Dolby Sr. 5.1. , 50 min
- 2009 • Reconsidering The New Industrial Parks Near Irvine, California by Lewis Baltz, 1974, 2 x 16 mm, B/W, mono, 13 min
- 2008 • Yet Untitled [Pieces of Nature], S 16 mm HD Video on Beta SP, color, stereo, 11'30 min
- 2008 • Untitled [Two Guys], HD, color, stereo, 7'30 min
- 2007 • Sum Over Histories [Part II, HD, color, stereo, 12 min
- 2006 • IMPERIAL, Digital video, color, stereo, 12 mi2005
- Cinema For The Blind [Trailer for Theatre], Digital video, color, stereo, 3 min.
- The Horizon Scene, Digital video, color, stereo, 12 min