FRAC Alsace

Press Kit
Nähe / Correspondances

REGIONALE 27



NÄHE / CORRESPONDANCES

From **12.04.2026** to **03.07.2027** at **FRAC Alsace**



From **12.04.2026** to **03.07.2027**

Public opening, by registration:
friday december 4th - 6pm

THE EXHIBITION

Nähe / Correspondances

David Batigne · Selina Baumann
Florian Dautcourt · Amanda Röling

Curation : Steven Vandeporta

Nähe / Correspondances brings together four artists selected for the singularity of their representations of everyday life and the world: David Batigne, Selina Baumann, Florian Dautcourt and Amanda Röling.

Between France, Germany and Switzerland, they develop distinct practices, ranging from sculpture and installation to painting, earth and textiles. Yet their works share a particular attentiveness to the real, to its landscapes, spaces, objects and moments of everyday life.

The exhibition creates a correspondence between these four perspectives. Each artist observes, selects, transforms or shifts a fragment of the world in order to offer a personal interpretation of it. The works resonate with one another less through their forms or media than through the ways in which they look at what surrounds us.

At FRAC Alsace, these four artistic worlds come together, opening a dialogue between different sensibilities, practices and neighbouring territories.

Nähe, the German word for “proximity”, evokes this connection: a closeness that allows differences to emerge, to respond to one another and to create new correspondences.



Portrait of David Batigne © Lu Bihler

THE ARTISTS

DAVID BATIGNE

Born in 2000 in Toulouse (FR)
Lives and works in Mulhouse (FR)

David Batigne's practice unfolds from the tension between origin and change. Raised between France and the Azores, he brings together in his sculptures two landscapes that seem impossible to reconcile, yet nevertheless coexist and converse within him.

He often works with bronze and cast materials, which appear to freeze movement: matter caught in an instant between eruption and solidification.

David Batigne's works speak of desire situated between two worlds.

They hold on to that moment when destruction and birth become inseparable — a silent dialogue between proximity and distance, between what once was and what remains.

Text written by Jenny Kreiger



David Batigne, *Caldeira*, 2024
Plaster, resin, 55 x 40 x 25 cm
Photo credit: David Batigne



David Batigne, *Sans-titre*, 2025
Bronze, video screen, 15 x 11 x 6 cm
Photo credit: Nina Reiben



David Batigne, *Fontaine*, 2024
Plaster, metal, water, 200 x 250 x 250 cm
Exhibition *Bonimentheureuses* - Regionale 25 Kunsthalle Mulhouse, 2024
Photo credit: Emilie Vialet



David Batigne, *Sans-titre,* 2025
Insect cast in bronze
Photo credit: Anna Soz



Selina Baumann's portrait © Timo Ullmann

SELINA BAUMANN

Born in 1988 in Wattwil (CH)
Lives in Basel, works in Obervil (CH)

"My works—whether images or sculptures—hover between figuration and abstraction. I seek to delve into the essence of forms, to bring forth archaic figures and primordial beings, and to give physical form to inner images and emotions.

What interests me is the imperfect, the immediate and accessible, and the intuitive. I favor manual work and direct creation. Everything passes through my fingers: hand-shaping, machine-quilting. In doing so, I operate at the limits of structural feasibility—at the very edge of my own capabilities.

For me, ceramics is both a working material and a companion. It seems to offer me almost inexhaustible possibilities, while simultaneously imposing clear limits through its intrinsic properties.

In contrast, fabric is distinguished by its lightness and mobility. It exudes a certain softness, a vulnerability. It is the pleasure of touch—of contact with the material—that drives me. I am fascinated by this supple, malleable clay that hardens irreversibly during firing."



Selina Baumann, *Aftas*, *Naton, Sanda,* 2023
Fabric, thread, aluminum, 180 x 100 cm each
Rafita, 2023
Ceramic, 134 x 55 x 50 cm
Exhibition view, *Erde*, Galerie Probst



Selina Baumann, *Holo, Orbs, Jinx, Lioba, Ylva und Uras*
16-piece group, ceramic, 2019
Exhibition view *(Zeug) Haus*, Rapperswil-Jona
Photo © Andri Stadler



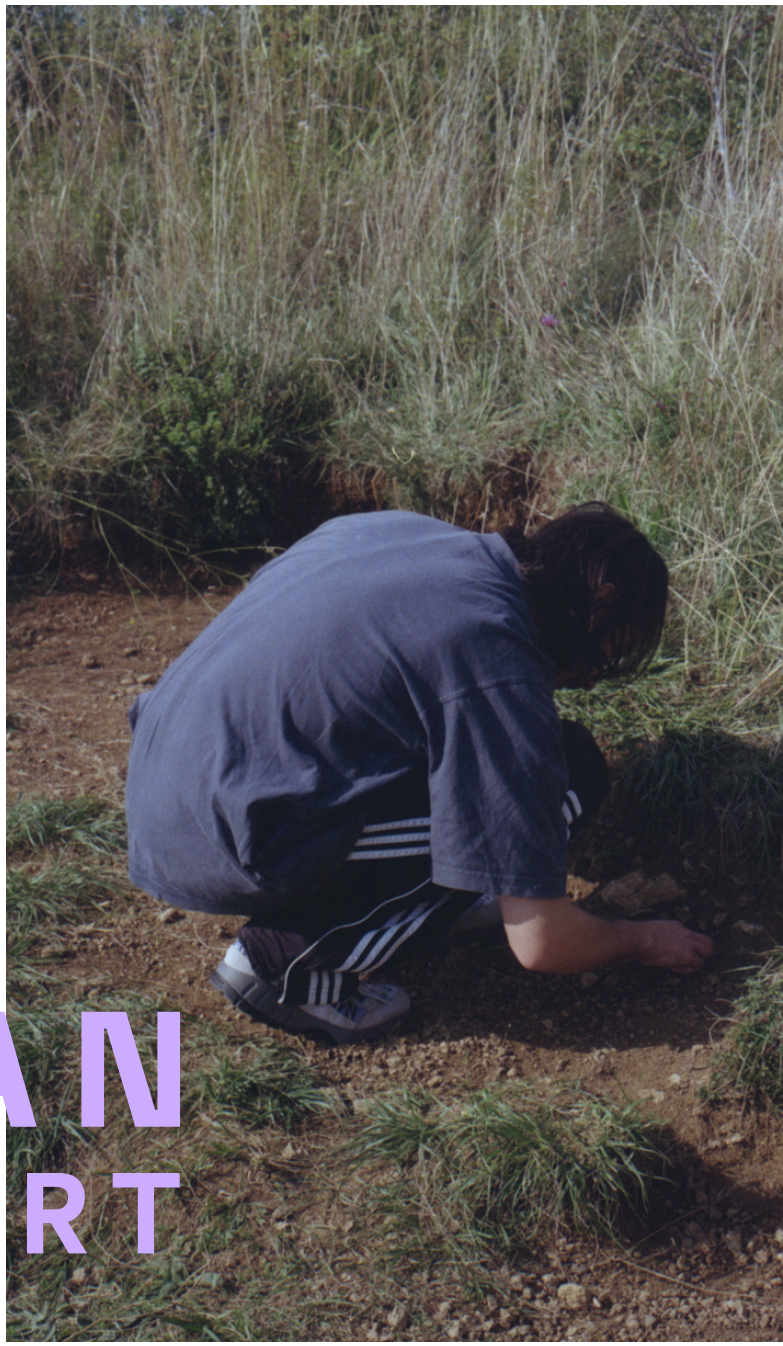
Selina Baumann, *Versa, Loberon, Reeta*, 2024
Fabric, thread, aluminum, magnets, 90 x 10 x 230 cm each
Erde I & II, diptyques, 2024
Ceramic, aluminum, 60 x 36 x 3 cm & 21 x 74 x 3 cm
Exhibition view *Art Empowers*, Zurich



Florian Dautcourt, *Fleurs de roches*, Ceramic, 2024 © Florian Dautcourt

FLORIAN DAUTCOURT

Born in 1994 in Nancy (FR)
Lives and works in Mulhouse (FR)



Florian Dautcourt's portrait © Lucy Flamme

"I studied at the Nîmes School of Fine Arts, then at the Haute École des Arts du Rhin in Mulhouse, as well as at the IEAC in Guebwiller. Over the course of my artistic journey, I discovered ceramics, before developing a studio practice that brings together wood, metal, clay, and found objects. I have been based at the Motoco studios in Mulhouse for the past two years.

My artistic practice revolves primarily around the themes of connections and encounters—exploring how to convey the relationships that form between individuals and the landscapes they traverse, as well as our potential connections with the diverse living beings that inhabit them. For me, it is about seeking ways to honor and celebrate the beings that cross our paths and inhabit our journeys, and how to recount the memories of these encounters."



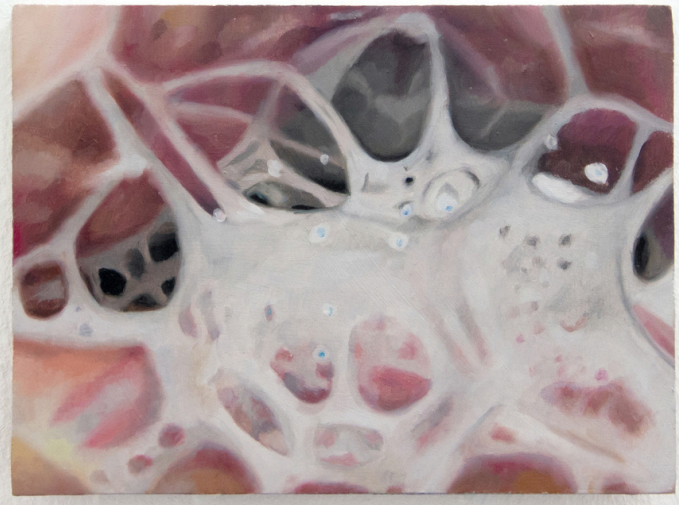
Florian Dautcourt, Detail, *Empreinte florale*
Metal embossing © Florian Dautcourt 2024



Florian Dautcourt, Overview, *Empreinte florale*
Metal embossing © Florian Dautcourt 2024



Florian Dautcourt, Close-up view, *Empreinte florale*
Metal embossing © Florian Dautcourt 2024



Amanda Röling, *o.T. 0MZ25,* 15 x 10 cm
Oil on wood, 2025

AMANDA RÖLING

Born in 1999 in Herdecke (DE)
Lives and works in Karlsruhe (DE)

Amanda Röling grew up in the area around Freiburg.

She began studying Fine Arts in 2021 at the State Academy of Fine Arts Karlsruhe in Corinne Wasmuht's class. She currently lives and works in Karlsruhe.



Amanda Röling, *o.T. 0LR25,* 15 x 11 cm
Oil on wood, 2025

Amanda Röling, *o.T. 0MA25*, 15 x 10 cm
Oil on wood, 2025



Amanda Röling, *o.T. 0BL26*, 100 x 100 cm
Oil on canvas, 2026



Program

Exhibition highlights

Preview

Nähe / Correspondances

► Friday december 4th - from 6pm to 8pm



Harumi Mumenthaler & Mélanie Beulich

FRAC Alsace is pleased to invite you to the opening of its new exhibition, in the presence of artists David Batigne, Selina Baumann, Florian Dautcourt, and Amanda Röling.

The evening's program:
6:00 pm: Performance by Harumi Mumenthaler
6:45 pm: Remarks
7:15 pm: Refreshments

Free, registration required
www.frac-alsace.org

Visit

Nähe / Correspondances

► Saturday december 5th - 4:30 pm



Photo credit: Sébastien Buzov - FRAC Alsace

Let yourself be guided by the FRAC Alsace's mediators for a visit of the exhibition *Nähe/ Correspondances*.

*Visits take place **every Saturday at 4:30 pm**, throughout the duration of the exhibition.*

Free entrance

Meeting

Frontières fertiles / Crossing Borders

► Sunday december 6th - 3 pm



Photo credit: Meeting with the artsit Fernande Petitdemange in FRAC Alsace

As part of *Regionale 27*, the artists David Batigne, Selina Baumann, Florian Dautcourt et Amanda Röling - from France, Germany and Switzerland engage a conversation about their artistic practices, creative processes and the ways their work resonates across borders.

Free, registration required
www.frac-alsace.org



Harumi Mumenthaler - Photo credit: Julia Hebeisen



Photo credit: Silke Briel, *Art Basel Liste* for Juliette Blightman

PERFORMANCE

HARUMI MUMENTHALER

Born in Bern (CH)
Lives and works in Basel (CH)

Harumi is a freelance movement artist based in Basel, Switzerland. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Visual Communication and Digital Spaces (HGK Basel, 2022) and a second Bachelor's degree in Contemporary and Urban Stage Dance (2024). Over the past ten years, she has gained extensive experience as a dancer and performer and is a member of collectives such as *Moving Mountains* and *The Collective*.

Her practice explores diasporic experiences, identity, memory, grief, and belonging through movement and choreography. Drawing from personal experiences, oral histories, and everyday gestures, she creates embodied archives that explore how cultural knowledge is passed on, transformed, and shared.

Through collaborative processes, shee seeks to create spaces for connection, collective remembering, and new forms of belonging.

To discover during the preview
► **Friday december 4th - 6pm**

Performance co-produced with: LA KUNSTHALLE MULHOUSE CENTRE D'ART CONTEMPORAIN

ABOUT THE *Regionale*

From **11.26.2026** to **01.03.2027**
More informations:
www.regionale.org

The Regionale is a tri-national exhibition project that transcends national borders.

For over twenty years, the *Regionale* has fostered exchange between artists, curators, and the public. In a world marked by polarizing opinions, *Regionale* offers a platform for nuanced dialogue and networking, bringing international social debates to the region. Through the collaboration of various exhibition spaces from Switzerland, Germany, and France, not only are artists and the local art scene strengthened, but the cultural dynamic is also enriched. *The Regionale* organization stands for diversity, inclusion, and equity and is open to a diverse range of participating artists with varied social backgrounds, life experiences, ages, and perspectives.





View of the FRAC Alsace's storage areas - Photo : V. Muller

ABOUT THE FRAC Alsace

1, route de Marckolsheim, Sélestat
More informations:
www.frac-alsace.org
Press contact:
communication@frac-alsace.org

The Regional Contemporary Art Funds (FRAC) are institutions dedicated to contemporary creation and its dissemination throughout the region. Through their collections, exhibitions, and cultural initiatives, they support artists and guide audiences in discovering contemporary artistic forms, fostering experimentation and dialogue. Together, 49 Nord 6 Est — FRAC Lorraine, FRAC Champagne-Ardenne, and FRAC Alsace form the "3 FRACs" network of the Grand Est region.

FRAC Alsace's partners:

PRÉFET DE LA RÉGION GRAND EST
Liberté Égalité Fraternité

La Région Grand Est

Sélestat Alsace Centrale

ACADÉMIE DE STRASBOURG
Liberté Égalité Fraternité

PLATFORM
RÉSEAU DES FONDS RÉGIONAUX D'ART CONTEMPORAIN
FRAC

●● PLAN D'EST
Pôle arts visuels Grand Est

FRAC Alsace is funded by the Ministry of Culture (DRAC Grand Est) and the Grand Est region. It receives support from the City of Sélestat and the Strasbourg Academy for its educational activities.

An exhibition in partnership with:

REGIONALE

LA KUNSTHALLE MULHOUSE CENTRE D'ART CONTEMPORAIN