

First Issue
Self-Publishing Book Fair for Design and Art
14.-15. Oktober 2011 in Frankfurt
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**Design Verein
Frankfurt**

First Issue - Self-Publishing Book Fair for Design and Art opens in Frankfurt

Designers and artists take publishing into their own hands

Topic: Print Culture - Dead or Alive?!
Dates: Fri 14.- Sat 15. October 2011
Fair, Exhibition, Live events, 3-9 pm
Conference program on Fri and Sat, 4-8 pm
Location: basis e.V., Gutleutstraße 8-12, Frankfurt am Main

Now, after App Store and E-Book, we are returning to print. Parallel to the Frankfurt Book Fair, young designers, artists and authors will display printed publications and artfully crafted collectibles which are created, published and sold by themselves. Pioneers of the self-publishing scene from all over Europe will speak at the conference.

Dead or alive? Few other branches predict their own demise as often as the book industry. Yet despite the pessimistic "book-is-dead" lament of many experts, countless new books are again being published this year. Now, parallel to the Frankfurt Book Fair, a new event is being launched that shows that young designers and artists are again intensely involved in printing and paper.

Self-publishing in design and art is the topic of the event known as "First Issue". As the name implies, this event sees itself as the first of a series, to be followed by a Second and Third Issue and many more. A new start. "Print is not dead at all, but is rather reinventing itself anew", declares the graphic designer Sandra Doeller from Design-Verein Frankfurt, herself a young publisher playing a key role in the realization of this event.

In other words, the creative originators are taking the publishing of their work into their own hands. Illustrators, graphic designers, authors and artists are financing, publishing and distributing their own books, fanzines, catalogues, magazines and collectibles themselves. These can be marketed, for example, through the artist's own homepages, websites, blogs and the social media. In doing so, these new publishers are less interested in turning a possible profit and far more in the view of design and print as an independent form of artistic expression.

At "First Issue", young publishers from both Germany and abroad will introduce their publications, or will speak and work during the conference and the accompanying events on the topic of "Print Culture - Dead or Alive?!".

The speakers at this new event include not only the deputy head of the Frankfurt Museum of Modern Art, Peter Gorschlüter, but the German publishers Kai von Rabenau from mono.kultur and Jan Wenzel of Spector Books, but also the internationally renowned Swiss designer and publisher Urs Lehni (Rollo Press) and the famous design team of Åbåke from London who, in addition to magazines, also market fashion and music. With respect to form and content, the program includes the blogger Charlotte Cheetham of "Manystuff" and the two designers Marco Balesteros and Sofia Gonçalves from Lisbon, with their talk on Samizdat, the once illegal publication from the Soviet Union. Swiss Designer Roland Früh will present together with students from the famous masters programme Werkplaats Typografie in Arnhem their new project "Facsimile Library". Also part of the program are different activities like exhibitions, live events and music.

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Event organization: Design-Verein Frankfurt

The organizer of „First Issue“ is the Design-Verein Frankfurt e.V, to which the graphic designers Catrin Altenbrandt and Adrian Nießler (Pixelgarten), the duo Doeller & Satter, as well as Alexander Lis belong. These five internationally known designers create and/or publish their own books and catalogues. Also a member of Design-Verein Frankfurt is Petra Schmidt. Long-time editor-in-chief of the design journal “form”, she has published numerous books on design, art and architecture.

Event location “basis e.V.”

Deliberately connecting production and presentation, the non-profit cultural institution “basis” provides a setting in Frankfurt for ongoing creative processes. “basis” promotes the conscious overlapping of creative forms and exchange in applied and free areas. The fair will take place in cooperation with “basis e.V.” as part of their autumn program (“Herbstprogramm”) addressing the areas of creative activity and design.

Exhibitors:

AKV Berlin (DE), Album (DE), Catalogue (UK), Dent-De-Leone (UK), Edition Fink (CH), Edition Taube (DE), Fillip (CA), fourfiveX (DE), Für Dich Verlag (BE), Gloria Glitzer (DE), Grilli (CH), Hands on Papers (DE), Horizonte (DE), JSBJ (FR), Jung und Wenig (DE), KRITIKA (LT), Lubok Verlag (DE), Manystuff (FR), Mathias Ringgenberg (NL), mono.kultur (DE), Nero Publishing (IT), Nieves (CH), Occasional Papers (UK), oodee (UK), Prima Publications (DE), Random Press (DE/PT), Rollo Press (CH), Ruine Magazin (DE), Shake Your Tree (DE), Slanted (DE), Spector Books (DE), Stefan Marx (DE), tri-publications (CH), Werkplaats Typografie (NL)

Partners:

afri cola, antalis, Club Michel e.V., engelhardt & bauer Druck und Verlag, Tim Heiler, Hochschule für Gestaltung Offenbach am Main, Klingspor-Museum, Kulturamt Stadt Frankfurt am Main, Kai Linke, MMK-Museum für Moderne Kunst Frankfurt am Main, Riso Deutschland, SEVEN SWANS, Tau von den Wiesen

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