



**Brigitte Kovacs** (\*Austria, 1980) studied Art Education at the Academy of Fine Arts and German Philology at the University of Vienna as well as Fine Arts at the University of Applied Arts Vienna and the Royal Institute of Art Stockholm. After her graduation, she undertook a curatorial training at the Generali Foundation, Vienna/Austria and at the Dia Art Foundation, New York City/USA. Later on, she moved to Galway to work as a lecturer at the National University of Ireland before she was appointed assistant professor at the Institute of Contemporary Art at Graz University of Technology. During the five years she worked at the TU Graz she aimed to explore and expand contemporary artistic production through the application of theory, research and practice.

Focusing on artistic research, Brigitte Kovacs started her PhD studies at the PhDArts International Doctoral Programme in Art and Design at Leiden University Academy of Creative and Performing Arts and the Royal Academy of Art (KABK) in The Hague/Netherlands and completed it within the framework of the doctoral program *The Arts and their Public Impact* under the auspices of the Focus Area Science and Art, run cooperatively by the Mozarteum and the Paris-Lodron University, Salzburg. In her arts-based-thesis, she examined as well as contributed to the expanding field of walking art. Hereby, she investigated how a walk as an ephemeral act relates to its being conveyed through other (visual/audio-visual/auditive/verbal) media in the context of performance art.

Since 2020, Brigitte Kovacs has worked as a University College Professor for Aesthetic-Artistic Education at the University College of Teacher Education Styria/Austria, focusing on how aesthetic education can become a transformative practice in times of social upheaval and uncertainty. Since 2022, she is also the head of the college's gallery.

Besides her occupation as an art-based researcher, curator and lecturer, Brigitte Kovacs pursues an active artistic practice. Her site-specific, conceptual and often performance-based artworks aim to contribute to critical poetics in the visual arts. They have been exhibited in Austria and abroad for the past 20+ years, among others at the Kunsthalle Vienna, MUSA and VBKÖ Vienna, Landesgalerie Burgenland, Kunstquartier Salzburg and at festivals such as Foto Wien, the Pixelache Festival in Helsinki, the Navinki Performance Festival in Minsk and the International Exhibition for Sculptures Open in Venice. In addition to her visual artistic production, she also writes literary texts that have been broadcast on the Austria national radio channel Ö1 and presented in the form of readings, i.e. at the House of Literature in Mattersburg, as well as in books and literature magazines.