

PRESS RELEASE

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www.frauenfreiluftgalerie.de

Project *FrauenFreiluftGalerie Hamburg / Open Air Gallery of Women Hamburg*

2013-07-17

ROSSANA ROSADO Portrait in HAMBURG MURAL

Sent to:

David Gonzales, NY TIMES
Rossana Rosado, El Diario
Erica Gonzalez, El Diario

US General Consul opens mural on Hamburg's Harbour

US General Consul Dr. Inmi Patterson will inaugurate the new mural of the **FrauenFreiluftGalerie Hamburg** titled "Women's Labour in New York City and Hamburg Harbour – bridging the two ports" on a festive scale.

New York artist Janet Braun-Reinitz, Hamburg artist Hildegund Schuster as well as curator of the Open Air Gallery Dr. Elisabeth von Dücker will be there.

When ? On Friday , July 26 , 1 pm

Where ? Große Elbstraße 132

Media representatives are kindly invited. Interviews can be arranged.

For questions, interviews or photos please contact:

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Read more information below.

More information

Press Information **Mural of the *FrauenFreiluftGalerie Hamburg / Open Air Gallery of Women Hamburg***

“Women’s Labour in New York City and Hamburg Harbour – bridging the two ports“, “Frauenarbeit im Hafen von New York City und Hamburg – ein Brückenschlag“ is the title of the newest mural and No 15 of the Open Air Gallery at the river Elbe.

The mural is an artistic-documentary collaboration.

Two artists and an art historian are working together: the international artist **Janet Braun-Reinitz** from New York, the Hamburg artist and employee of Hamburger Kunsthalle **Hildegund Schuster** as well as art historian **Dr. Elisabeth von Dücker** who is responsible for conceptional and investigating work in Hamburg Harbour. Hamburg artist Ayse Kazci is collaborating on the mural.

Since 1994 von Dücker and Schuster have together sponsored and created 15 murals in the Hamburg port, most of which can still be seen.

The bi-national art project focuses on changes in the labour force in both harbours, often unseen and unnoticed by the public. The harbours do not, in fact, function today without the contribution of the female workers in every strata of employment.

While the myth of dominant males seems to fade, the “glass ceiling“ is everywhere. This is an Anglo – American term that means that top-jobs are closed to women. Nevertheless: Hamburg Port is moving. Since the beginning of the 21st century women have been getting more and more access to formerly “men only“ jobs. Navigation and inland navigation, logistic labour, running Van-carriers and cranes, engineering work in leading positions in public or private companies as well as being responsible in works committees and unions are moving towards Non-gender identity. Today in New York Ports there are female Captains, Supervisors and a Commissioner of the port, representing a new, more open attitude to women’s work. At the same time there are still many more minor paid and precarious employment or jobs without working papers as well as female “jobs“ like caring, cooking, cleaning

Investigating this subject in 2013 was like discovering new ground. There is a big spread between documentation and impression. This requires fresh views and pictures. Our mural turns the spotlight on the world of many kinds of labour in ports. This is the first time in this decade that a Hamburg Art Project represents paintings with a bi-cultural dimension and a social and gender background, that highlights the exciting change of labour in ports from the female point of view.

While The New Feminist Movement had started writing female history, here it is painted in a contemporary context, into town history, suggesting global meanings, without the need for individual heroes, encouraging everybody.

The mural is in fantastic location: right in the center of the so called Holzhafen. It is sited on two facing walls – one on the protected historical building of the Seamen’s Mission and on the other side on the wall of the famous “Haifischbar“.

Hildegund Schuster and Elisabeth von Dücker, the leaders of the only Open Air Gallery showing women's labour in harbours all over the country appreciate the collaboration with Janet Braun-Reinitz who is a prominent member of the American Mural movement and has worked in many other countries as well. She is the president of Artmakers Inc. and the co-author of "On the Wall: 4 Decades of Community Murals in New York City".

Her credo of social, critical, participatory, gender-sensitive and democratic, go together with the ongoing work and philosophy of the 1994 founded *Open Air Gallery of Women Hamburg / FrauenFreiluftGalerie Hamburg*.

Supporters: Kulturbehörde Hamburg, Bezirksversammlung Altona, Hamburger Stiftung zur Förderung von Wissenschaft und Kultur, Amerikanisches Generalkonsulat Hamburg, SAGA, ITF, Deutsche Seemannsmission Hamburg-Altona, Altonaer Spar- und Bauverein, Kulturstiftung Altona, Aurubis AG

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