

Information for Artists about our Mission

If you are an artist or curator interested in exhibiting at LiTE-HAUS, it is important that you understand our mission to decide if your artwork fits our purpose. Because we encourage provocative art and consider our work to be art-activism, your interactions with the gallery might feel different from your experience with *commercial* spaces. LiTE-HAUS straddles the line between white-cube glossy art galleries in Mitte versus smaller spaces you find in Kreuzberg or Neukölln. We are unique. Unlike commercial galleries, LiTE-HAUS gives more artists opportunities they might not have when approaching other spaces.

LiTE-HAUS is a *non-profit organization* - Ad Finem gGmbH - established in 2016 by artist Debbie Davies. Born in Trinidad & Tobago, and raised in New York City, Davies has a diverse background in art, finance, and engineering. Her multiple skills create a very professional level of operations, and educates artists who want to establish a business-minded approach to their art practice.

The mission is to encourage cross cultural communication by connecting people through art. The main goal of the exhibitions we present addresses various environmental issues. The definition of "environmental" goes beyond ecological concerns and involves the diverse cultural environment of modern cities. Berlin is a mosaic of ethnicities, religions, and economic classes. Like many large metropolitan cities it's diversity is both energizing, yet sometimes polarizing. LiTE-HAUS explores both the current and historical global problems using art and culture as a tool for building cultural bridges.

The secondary goal is to support emerging artists in a variety of mediums, and enhance a sense of community between artists and the public. The group exhibitions we feature - mostly finding artists through open calls - give artists a platform they might not find in other art spaces. The curatorial process is very democratic. We accept artists of all ethnicities, ages, sexual and gender orientation, and level of education. While we focus mostly on Berlin-based artists, we sometimes show art by international artists.

Artists who create political or social work are prioritized. But we also welcome artists who create works that reflect their perception of "environment". Paintings, illustration, collage, sculptures, video, installations, photography, dance, and spoken word are all acceptable. If you review the work we've exhibited so far, you will see the wide range of artists we have represented.

Through collaborations and pushing the boundaries of art's definition we bring people together and encourage *conversation*; something we feel is much needed. By forming a network with global partners, we offer our community an opportunity to expand their knowledge of art. Further, the exploration of culture is encouraged through these collaborations between artists and residents. LiTE-HAUS is a beacon for the diverse Neukölln community we call home.

We feel it is important for artists whose work is a reflection of problems they want to expose - from any part of the world - to be *heard*. We encourage artists to be bold in their attempt to solve problems through art. It is not possible to make change in the world if you communicate *only* with the people who *agree* with you. You must reach out to your opposition and engage *them* in conversation.

LiTE-HAUS invites organizations, institutions, and government officials to our exhibitions. Artists are given the opportunity to discuss their work, and their views about problems of their home country. We think opening communication between artists and people in powerful positions is one way to make change happen.

If you feel uncomfortable with the idea of someone from the government of any country visiting your exhibition, then we ask that you contact us first before completing an artist application, to further discuss the situation. This does not mean your application will be rejected. We only want you to fully understand what we are trying to do through art.