Aptitude assessment at the Basel Academy of Art and Design

Dear Applicant
Thank you for your interest in the Master’s degree programme Fine Arts at the Basel Academy of Art and Design.

Application deadline Master’s programme
15 March 2023

To be eligible for participation in the aptitude assessment, please apply on the registration portal as soon as possible – no later than 15 March 2023.

→ about Degree Programme and Online-Application
→ FAQ about Online-Application

There is a registration fee of CHF 200 that must be paid before you complete your application.

Application

Please take note of the documents you are asked to submit upon registration. → see FAQs

After receipt of your application via the registration portal (confirmation of receipt) and after successful review of the submitted documents (admission requirements/completeness), you will receive from the Academy’s Student Administration Office by email a confirmation that you have been accepted to the aptitude assessment.

Note: Please bear in mind that you will receive a maximum of two reminder emails if your registration is not complete. Without a feedback from you and a completed application form after the second reminder, we will assume that you do not wish to pursue your application any further.

Introduction

The MA in Fine Arts offered by the Art Gender Nature Institute at the Basel Academy of Art and Design FHNW focuses specifically on artistic practices attentive to the values of equality and social justice. Our Master’s degree programme is based on new ways of relating to nature and gender and all of their entanglements as well as to the many crucial political and aesthetic concerns that shape not only the artistic practices of the future but our future social spaces.

For the past decade, we have also cooperated with the Fine Arts MA programme (MA CAP) at the Bern University of the Arts; this has been characterized by close collaboration in the planning and development of courses open to students from both institutions as well as by the arrangement that lecturers from both schools offer individual tutorials in art and theory.

Opportunities for further cooperation are provided by affiliations with the Department of Art History and the Institute for Media Studies at the University of Basel, and specific offers within the Academy itself. The various courses offered provide the basis for collective and individual study; they all emphasize the importance of mutuality, care, and empathy in the arts.
At the Art Gender Nature Institute, we also organize a range of events, including the Art Talks series and the semi-annual Master Symposia series, which are open to all art students in Switzerland and abroad as well as to the general public. Our podcast series, meanwhile, which narrates our research and ways of expanding and conversing with our community, is widely available online. Finally, special projects and art exhibitions are regularly presented in our exhibition space, the TANK, on campus.

- **Aptitude assessment**

In part 1 of the assessment, a panel will review the portfolio you submitted and your motivation letter. If approved, you will receive an invitation by email to part 2 of the assessment (interview); if not successful you will a letter of rejection.

- **Communication**

Communication during the aptitude assessment up to the admission decision is handled by the office of the Master's degree programme Fine Arts under the email address: admission.MA-art.hgk@fhnw.ch

- **Part 1 of aptitude assessment latest by 15 March 2023 (24.00 hrs)**

Please upload all the required documents via the application portal.

- **Application documents**
  - CV in tabular format (max. 3 DIN A4 pages)
  - Proof of compliance with admission requirements
  - Portfolio (documentation of artistic work up to date)
  - Motivation letter (max. 2,500 characters incl. empties)

Applicants with a foreign language background are required to submit proof of their language proficiency in English at level B2 (or equivalent) according to the standard European reference framework at the beginning of their studies. Students may be compelled by the head of the degree programme to attend a language course if their knowledge is deemed insufficient for the purpose of studying.

- **Portfolio**
  - Examples of your artistic work; work that is important to you and that you have done independently.
  - Artistic works/experiments that you have realized independently or within the framework of your previous education/training.
  - The documentation may include photographic or reproduced copies of originals with details of title, year, size, and technique. You may also explain the individual works or groups of works in the form of text.
  - You determine the scope yourself.

- **File and size:**
  - Single page (no double pages)
  - Max. size of PDF file: 100 MB
  - Please list video/audio files as a link in the portfolio
  - The portfolio is to be submitted digitally in PDF form using the following file name: Family name_first name_portfolio_MA_ID_2023

- **Motivation letter**

In your motivation letter you should explain in your own words how you see your artistic practice, the way you believe it has evolved over time, and what your expectations are for your work in the future. Let us also know what you would like to learn and what you are curious about. Also, tell us a bit about what motivates you to be part of a group of artists learning together, and why you want to study at our institute. Finally, briefly describe a dream or a vision that, if realized, would make you extremely happy.
**Announcement of the results of part 1**
4 April 2023

The decision regarding part 1 of the aptitude assessment will be communicated by email.

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**Part 2 of aptitude assessment**
17 to 21 April 2023

**Interview**
The interview is conducted with a panel made up of lecturers from the Art Institute as well as a student representative.

Duration: Approx. 20 minutes

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**Admission decision**

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**Announcement of the results of part 2**
2 May 2023

The final decision concerning part 2 of the aptitude assessment (and thus the admission decision) is communicated on 2 May 2023 by email.

Note on the admission decision:
Due to our cooperation with the Master's degree programme at HKB Bern, the two responsible commissions communicate their decision to one another.

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**Registration deadline for degree programme**
5 May 2023

The definite and binding registration (registration form HGK) for a study place must be submitted by 5 May 2023.

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**Ranked waiting list**

In the admission procedure, the available study places are assigned to the candidates that fulfil the admission requirements and have passed their aptitude assessment according to a ranking system. Candidates who were not awarded a study place on the basis of their ranking in the assessment, receive a confirmation that they figure on the ranked waiting list.

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**Decision concerning the ranked waiting list**
2 May 2023

As of 2 May 2023, study spaces will be awarded to individuals on the ranked waiting list according to their ranking.

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**Enrolment**

From mid-June 2023 by the Academy's Student Administration Office.

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**Submission of registration form**

Submit your definite registration (registration form) for the fall semester 2023/24 by post or by email to the Student Administration Office (info.hgk@fhnw.ch). You will receive an email confirming the receipt of your registration.

- Detailed information concerning the degree programme and the documents to be submitted for enrolment will follow by email from the end of June 2023.

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**Fall semester 2023/24**

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**Start of semester**
Monday, 18 September 2023

**Structure of academic year**

→ Structure of academic year
→ Course catalogue HGK FHNW

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**Questions**

If you have any questions, please contact admission.MA-art.hgk@fhnw.ch

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**Postal address**
Hochschule für Gestaltung und Kunst Basel FHNW
Institute Art Gender Nature (IAGN)

Degree Programme Fine Arts MA
Zulassungsverfahren
Freilager-Platz 1, Postfach
4002 Basel
General provisions concerning the admission procedure

- The dates you have been given for the aptitude assessment must be observed unconditionally.
- The work is to be produced by you personally.
- Make sure you label the portfolio with your name, first name, and address.
- No liability will be accepted for the submitted/delivered work.
- During the evaluation phase, no information is provided concerning success or failure.
- You will receive your result from the office of the degree programme after the aptitude assessment process has ended.
- Withdrawals from the aptitude assessment must be submitted in writing.
- Any absence due to illness or accident has to be verified by a doctor’s certificate.
- The grading of the assessment is governed by the provisions of the degree programme’s study regulations.
- The aptitude assessment can be repeated twice.

Dokumente

→ Scale of fees Academy of Art and Design FHNW
→ Study Regulations, Fine Arts MA

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Basel Academy of Art and Design

Admission procedure HGK, of December 2022
Subject to change without notice