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PRESS RELEASE

Sam Bardaouil and Till Fellrath named Directors of Hamburger Bahnhof, Museum for Contemporary Art, Berlin

– Check against original text in German –

The founders of the multidisciplinary curatorial platform Art Reoriented will take up their posts on January 1, 2022 – Grütters: Bardaouil and Fellrath will provide groundbreaking impulses for Hamburger Bahnhof – Parzinger: Curatorial duo will achieve great things for contemporary art in Berlin

At its meeting today, the Board of Trustees of the SPK (Stiftung Preußischer Kulturbesitz, Prussian Cultural Heritage Foundation) decided that Sam Bardaouil and Till Fellrath will jointly lead the Hamburger Bahnhof – Museum for Contemporary Art – Berlin of the Staatliche Museen zu Berlin (National Museums in Berlin) as Directors from January 1, 2022.

Bardaouil and Fellrath are Founders of the multidisciplinary curatorial platform Art Reoriented, which they launched in New York and Munich in 2009. They are Curators of the 16th Lyon Biennale in 2022, and have been Associate Curators at Gropius Bau in Berlin since 2017. Central to their work is inclusivity in artistic and institutional practices, and a revisionist approach to art history. They are internationally recognised curators and award-winning authors whose shared practice is rooted in global contemporary art, as well as in the field of modernist studies.

Born in Lebanon, Sam Bardaouil holds a Ph.D. in art history and a Masters of Fine Arts in Advanced Theater Practice. Till Fellrath, born in Germany, holds two Masters degrees in Economics and Political Science, and is currently Professor for Design Related Sciences at the Academy of Fine Arts in Nuremberg. This diversity in their cultural and academic backgrounds underlines their inherently collaborative model. Over the past 12 years, Bardaouil and Fellrath have jointly curated exhibitions and collaborated with more than 70 institutions worldwide, including Centre Pompidou in Paris, Mathaf: Arab Museum of Modern Art in Doha, Reina Sofia in Madrid, ARTER in Istanbul, Kunstsammlung Nordrhein-Westfalen in Düsseldorf, Tate Liverpool, Gwangju Museum of Art in South Korea, and Moderna Museet in Stockholm. At the Venice Biennale, they curated the National Pavilions of Lebanon (2013) and the United Arab Emirates (2019), and are Curators of the French Pavilion in 2022.

DER PRÄSIDENT
MEDIEN, KOMMUNIKATION
UND VERANSTALTUNGEN

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Minister of State for Culture and the Media **Monika Grütters** commented on the decision: "With Till Fellrath and Sam Bardaouil, an internationally active, experienced team of curators will lead one of the most important museums for contemporary art in Germany and Europe. As independent curators with a special focus on art from the Middle East, they have worked with renowned museums all over the world over the past few years, bringing a deep understanding of the global art scene to their new role. With their inspiring enthusiasm, they are sure to provide ground-breaking impulses for the Hamburger Bahnhof."

"With Sam Bardaouil and Till Fellrath leading the Hamburger Bahnhof as a hotspot for contemporary art, the institution will have a leadership duo for the first time. Their international experience provides them with the knowledge and sensitivity that are key to facilitating exciting exchanges with artists and institutions from around the world. I am confident that Sam Bardaouil and Till Fellrath, with their convictions and courage, will achieve great things here for contemporary art in Berlin," said SPK President **Hermann Parzinger**. The President expressly thanked the previous director Gabriele Knapstein for her work.

In commenting on their appointment **Sam Bardaouil and Till Fellrath** said: "We look forward to leading the Hamburger Bahnhof as a central and inclusive institution within the cultural landscape of Berlin, a city that is constantly reinventing itself as a leading hub for creative expression. The Hamburger Bahnhof will assert itself as a fluid platform for the generation of daring ideas, broadening the frontiers of institutional practices and contemporary artistic creation."

Presse Images: <https://www.preussischer-kulturbesitz.de/news-room/presse/pressebilder.html>