

# CV Esther Kempf

Born February 29, 1980 in Bafut, Cameroon | Swiss nationality | [www.estherkempf.com](http://www.estherkempf.com)

## Education

- 2001– 2005 B.A. in Fine Art, Gerrit Rietveld Academie, Amsterdam
- 2002– 2003 Scenography, Gerrit Rietveld Academie

## Solo exhibitions

- 2018 You said, she said, I said, Gallery Brigitte Weiss, Zurich
- 2017 Esther Kempf at One-Night Stand Gallery, Sofia, Bulgaria  
Room for one Space, Oeil de Poisson, Québec City, Canada
- 2016 M wie Martha, Gallery Brigitte Weiss, Zurich
- 2015 Esther Kempf zu Gast im Atelier Hermann Haller, Museum Hermann Haller, Zurich  
Zwei Sätze à zwölf Wiederholungen, Corner College Zurich (with Hannah Gieseler)
- 2013 Learn French in Mexico, gallery Brigitte Weiss, Zurich
- 2011 Time is Time, gallery Brigitte Weiss, Zurich  
Diskrete TopoGogie, exhibition space De Tribune, Amsterdam
- 2010 CARAVAN 3/2010: Esther Kempf, series of exhibitions of young art, Aargauer Kunsthaus  
C'est quoi, ton prénom?, Institute of Modern Art, Nuremberg
- 2009 Offset, Gallery Brigitte Weiss, Zürich  
ALS OB, exhibition space Walcheturm, Zurich  
GleichSchwer, Zürcher Brockenhaus, Zurich (with Mathilde van Beekhuizen)
- 2007 Second Floor, exhibition space Moira, Utrecht

## Group exhibitions (selection)

- 2020 Besser leben, Hochrhein-Triennale, Kaiserstuhl & Hohentengen  
Was nützt — in Gedanken 2, Locher, Zurich  
In Transition, art in the cotton spinning mill, Sennhof Kyburg CH
- 2019 Hallo Hannah, Shedhalle Zürich  
Werkschau 2019, Museum Haus Konstruktiv, Zürich  
Biennale dell'immagine - Miky Maoy, Spazio Lampo, Chiasso  
Time Takes Time, A-Dash Artspace, Athen
- 2018 Swiss Art Awards 2018, Messezentrum Basel  
Buildings are not enough, Block 78, Tbilisi Architecture Biennial, Georgien 2018
- 2017 XMas-Ausstellung, Foundation Binz39, Zurich  
PEAL / GEM / SPAM, Artspace Dienstgebäude Zurich
- 2016 Open Studio, FAAP São Paulo, Brasil  
Sites by Sights, Kulturtankstelle Döttingen
- 2014 The Movement of the Whole, INDA Galéria, Budapest  
The Chase, La Rada, Locarno, CH  
Sinopale 5, International Sinop Biennial, Sinop, Turkey
- 2013 Learning from Warsaw, CCA Ujazdowski Castle, Warschau & Museum Bäregasse, Zurich  
Swiss Art Awards 2013, exhibition center Basel
- 2012 Disputed Territory, Sevastopol Museum, Ukraine  
...wie der Schatten das Licht..., Kunstmuseum Olten  
La Jeunesse est un Art, anniversary Manor Art Award 2011, Aargauer Kunsthaus
- 2011 Space Odyssey, art space MAERZ, Linz  
Môtiers 2011 - Art en plein air, Val de Travers, Neuchâtel
- 2008 Unter 30 VI, Kunsthaus Langenthal, Langenthal  
Swiss Art Awards 2008, competition Kiefer Hablitzel, Messe Basel

## Grants and awards

- 2020 Freiraumbeitrag, Canton of Zurich
- 2012 Working grant Canton of Zurich  
Working grant Heinrich Danioth Foundation, Canton Uri
- 2010 Working grant Canton of Zurich  
Promotion grant UBS Culture Foundation
- 2009 Working grant (Atelierstipendium), Binz39 Foundation, Zurich
- 2008 Award of the Dr. Georg und Josi Guggenheim Foundation  
Award of the Kiefer Hablitzel Foundation
- 2007 Working grant (Residency at Cité des Arts, Paris), City of Zurich

## Residencies / Research projects

- 2017 Oeil de Poisson, Québec City, Canada (3 month)  
Off/Line: What can Art do for Zemo Nikosi?, Art as foundation, Zemo Nikosi, Georgia (2 weeks)
- 2016 FAAP, Sao Paulo, Brasil (3 month)  
Musiz Foundation, Sofia, Bulgaria (1 month)
- 2013 CCA Ujazdowski Castle, Warsaw, Poland (3 weeks)
- 2008 Cité des Arts Paris, France (1 year)
- 2006 El Levante El Levante, Rosario, Argentina (3 Monate)

## Talks

- 2017 *Déjeuner Méduse #2 - Art Café Discussion*, work presentation, Méduse, Québec Ville, CA
- 2016 Meet the Artist: Esther Kempf, Cinema Xenix  
Presentation of videos and talk with Gesa Schneider (Director Literaturhaus Zürich)
- 2015 *BREAKFAST AT PAUL'S with ESTHER KEMPF*, The Institute, Zurich  
Talk between the artist Paul Polaris and Esther Kempf
- 2012 Artist's talk during the exhibition *La jeunesse est un art*, Aargauer Kunsthhaus  
With art historian Katrin Weilenmann and artists Stefan Burger, Saskia Edens,  
Esther Kempf and Luc Mattenberger  
*How to work with Illusions*, Kunsthalle Exnergasse, symposium *Reality Manifestos - Can Dialectics  
Break Bricks?*, curator Nicola Ruffo in conversation with Esther Kempf
- 2011 *Wortgebäude und Bausätze*, talk about architecture and art, Literaturhaus Zurich  
With Finnish Writer in Residence Olli Jalonen, art historian Martino Stierli and artist Esther Kempf
- 2010 *Architektur im Würgegriff der Kunst*, Wäscherei - Kunstverein Zürich  
Mini-Exhibition, work presentation and talk with architect and curator Nele Dechmann.  
*Gespräche im Rockefeller Dining Room*, Haus Konstruktiv, Zürich  
Project during exhibition "ganz konkret" - Folge 2  
Cooperation between Haus Konstruktiv and Stiftung Binz39

## Artmediation

- Since 2018 Member of the Fine Arts Commission of the City of Zurich
- Since 2018 Jury member Freiraum-Stipendium, author collective Index - Wort & Wirkung
- 2018 / 2019 Expert Diploma Day, F+F School for Art and Design, Art Studies, Zurich
- 2014-2015 Lecturer at Department Art & Architecture, ETH Zurich, Prof. Karin Sander.
- 2012-2014 Juror of the *Förderpreis der Lis und Roman Clemens Stiftung*, BA Szenografie,  
Zurich University of the Arts (ZHdK)
- 2014 Guest lecture: Work Presentaion, Propädeutikum, Zurich University of the Arts (ZHdK)
- 2011 *Verquerte Welt*, one week theatre and art workshop with kids  
Winterakademie, Theaterhaus Gessnerallee Zürich
- 2008 Guest lecture: Work presentation, foundation course, Bern University of the Arts (HKB)

## Publications

Horizon Nr. 97, 2017, Magazine culturel suisse, Avril /Mai /Juin 2017, Consulat de Suisse à Montréal

Kunstbulletin 10/2016: Esther Kempf — Kunst im Windschatten des Zwecks. Text: Fritz Balhaus

*Architektur im Würgegriff der Kunst*. Publishers: Nele Dechmann und Nicola Ruffo. With contributions by  
Christoph Gantenbein, Daniel Morgenthaler, Heike Munder, Philip Ursprung und Laura de Weck.  
gta Verlag, Zurich, 2013

*La jeunesse est un art*. Publication on 30-jährigen jubilee of the Manor art prize. Texts (d/f/e) by Madeleine  
Schuppli, Bice Curiger, Jean-Paul Felley & Olivier Kaeser. Edizioni Periferia, 2012

*Drieluik - Mathilde van Beekhuizen, Sachi Miyachi, Esther Kempf*. Herausgeber: Pavel van Houten, 2013

*Alles, was man sehen oder anfassen kann, ist ein Nomen und wird gross geschrieben*.  
Monography / artists book, Verlag Edizioni Periferia, 2010

*Caravan 3/2010*: Esther Kempf. Booklet to the exhibition at Kunsthhaus Aarau, 2010

*Unter 30 VI*. Booklet to the exhibition at Kunsthhaus Langenthal, 2008