

## ALEXANDER DAMIANISCH

### AFFILIATION

Dr.phil. Alexander Damianisch MAS

University for applied Arts Vienna  
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rc profile: <http://www.researchcatalogue.net/profile/?person=47396>



by: Georg Glaeser

### SHORT DESCRIPTION

Alexander Damianisch is director of the Zentrum Fokus Forschung at the University of Applied Arts Vienna and head of the department Support Art and Research. He is re-elected member of the executive board of the Society for Artistic Research and member of the executive board of the AIL – the Angewandte Innovation Laboratory. He is delegate to the Austrian Science Fund and vice president of ARTist, a society supporting postgraduates.

He was inaugural manager for the PEEK Programme for Artistic Research at the Austrian Science Fund. He studied literature and history at the Universities of Vienna and Paris (Sorbonne), concluding his studies with a doctoral degree. Additionally, he holds a Master of Advanced Studies in Arts Management (University of Music and Performing Arts Vienna). He worked in the field of arts management and non-profit PR, including curatorial work at the Memorial Site New Synagogue – Centrum Judaicum Berlin, and the Akademie Schloss Solitude Stuttgart.

His interest is focused on the development of an open landscape of research. Coming from the humanities, literature and the broad field of the arts (Arts/Cultural Management) he has developed a special focus for the area of Artistic Research. He actively started to take into account the necessity for setting up adequate contexts, institutionally and in respect of funding options. In his understanding content creates frames; to achieve this caring, empowerment, support and documentation is needed. In his publications, he describes what he aims for with the tools of his work and institutional affiliations, the *Support for Artistic Research* (Künstlerische Forschung – Ein Handbuch, Zürich 2015, 249-253) and the development of *Heterotopoeitics* (Arts, Research, Innovation and Society, Arts, Research, New York 2015, 223-227). Recently, he co-curated an exhibition project in Hong Kong *Contemporary Code – Artistic Research* (School of Creative Media/ City University of Hong Kong, 2015). Starting autumn 2016 he is also responsible for the newly established Artistic-Research PhD Programme at the Angewandte.

## WORK EXPERIENCE

- |              |   |
|--------------|---|
| 2015–Present | <p>Head (Managing Director)<br/>Zentrum Fokus Forschung (Research Center)<br/>University of Applied Arts Vienna<br/>Oskar Kokoschka-Platz 2, 1010 Vienna (Austria)<br/><a href="http://zentrumfokusforschung.uni-ak.ac.at">zentrumfokusforschung.uni-ak.ac.at</a></p>   |
| 2014–Present | <p>Executive Board Member<br/>Angewandte Innovation Laboratory - AIL<br/>Franz Josefs Kai 3, 1010 Vienna (Austria)<br/><a href="http://www.ailab.org">www.ailab.org</a></p>   |
| 2013–Present | <p>Executive Board Member (re-elected 2015)<br/>International Society for Artistic Research (SAR)<br/>Brunngasse 60, PO Box 675, CH-3000 Bern 8, Bern (Switzerland)<br/><a href="http://www.societyforartisticresearch.org">www.societyforartisticresearch.org</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>· Support for the community of Artistic Researchers</li><li>· Development of events, tools, actions</li></ul>  |
| 2011–Present | <p>Member of the Assembly of Delegates (till 2014 as a deputy member)<br/>Austrian Science Fund<br/>Sensengasse 1, 1090 Vienna (Austria)<br/><a href="http://www.fwf.ac.at">www.fwf.ac.at</a></p>   |
| 2011–Present | <p>Department Support Art and Research (Head)<br/>University of Applied Arts Vienna<br/>Oskar Kokoschka-Platz 2, 1010 Vienna (Austria)<br/><a href="http://www.angewandte.at">http://www.angewandte.at</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>· Development of strategy, concepts and administration for the support of artistic and scientific research</li><li>· Implementation of strategy for the support of artistic and scientific research</li><li>· Conceptual support in relation to administration of artistic and scientific research</li><li>· Support contentual, administrative and financial conception of scientific, artistic research projects</li><li>· Coordination and support for the coordination of scientific and artistic research projects</li><li>· Governance of approved, third-party-funded projects</li><li>· Coordination of project partners, moderation of workshops and coordination meetings</li><li>· Development of tools (e.g. databases)</li><li>· Support for text production</li><li>· Editorial and curatorial tasks</li></ul> |

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| 2008–2011 | <p>Inaugural Programme Manager (PEEK) and Project Officer (Area of Humanities)<br/> Austrian Science Fund<br/> Sensengasse 1, 1090 Vienna (Austria)<br/> <a href="http://www.fwf.ac.at">www.fwf.ac.at</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Inaugural Programme Manager for the funding Program for Arts-based Research (PEEK), including the design of the programme<br/> (link: <a href="http://tinyurl.com/peekprogram">http://tinyurl.com/peekprogram</a>)</li> <li>· Project Officer within the area of Humanities</li> </ul>                            |
| 2005–2008 | <p>Public Relations Officer<br/> Austrian Science Fund, Vienna<br/> Sensengasse 1, 1090 Vienna (Austria)<br/> <a href="http://www.fwf.ac.at">www.fwf.ac.at</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Coordination of international expert conferences<br/> (link: <a href="http://tinyurl.com/scienceimpact">http://tinyurl.com/scienceimpact</a>)</li> <li>· Programme Manager for the Science Communications funding Programme</li> <li>· Programme Manager for the "Images of Sciences" Art Prize</li> <li>· Full cover of editorial work (FWFinfo)</li> </ul> |
| 2005      | <p>Programme Management Art, Science &amp; Business<br/> Akademie Schloss Solitude, Stuttgart<br/> Solitude 3, 70197 Stuttgart (Germany)<br/> <a href="http://www.akademie-solitude.de/en/">www.akademie-solitude.de/en/</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Responsible for all parts concerning the residency program<br/> (<a href="http://www.akademie-solitude.de/en/programs/art-science-business/">www.akademie-solitude.de/en/programs/art-science-business/</a>)</li> </ul>  |
| 2002–2005 | <p>Exhibition Coordinator<br/> Stiftung Neue Synagoge Berlin – Centrum Judaicum, Berlin<br/> Oranienburger Str 28/30, 10117 Berlin (Germany)<br/> <a href="http://www.centrumjudaicum.de/en/">www.centrumjudaicum.de/en/</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Management of several multimedia exhibitions</li> <li>· Research concerning exhibition content</li> <li>· Leading the in-house exhibition team</li> </ul>  |
| 1999–2000 | <p>Lecturer<br/> University of Durham, Durham, Department of German<br/> Elvet Riverside New Elvet, Durham, DH1 3JT (United Kingdom)<br/> <a href="https://www.dur.ac.uk/mlac/german/">https://www.dur.ac.uk/mlac/german/</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Lecturer on literature, culture and history of Germanic countries</li> <li>· Member of the team responsible for the field of departmental policy and structure</li> </ul>   |
| 1998      | <p>Visiting Lecturer<br/> Lomonossov-University, Faculty of Foreign Languages and Area Studies<br/> 119192, Russia, Moscow, Lomonosov Str., 31, Bldg. a<br/> <a href="http://www.ffl.msu.ru/en/about/departments/german_lang_and_cult/index.php">www.ffl.msu.ru/en/about/departments/german_lang_and_cult/index.php</a></p>  |

**EDUCATION AND  
TRAINING**

2000–2004

Doctorate in Modern German Literature

University of Vienna, Vienna  
Universitätsring 1, 1010 Vienna (Austria)  
<http://www.univie.ac.at>

Thesis: Poetics of Silence: The Retreat of the Modern as a Pattern of Tradition  
(Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Wendelin Schmidt-Dengler)

2000–2002

Master of Advanced Studies (Arts/Cultural Management)

University of Music and Performing Arts Vienna, Vienna  
Department of Cultural Management and Cultural Studies (IKM)  
Anton-von-Webern-Platz 1/DG, 1030 Vienna (Austria)  
<http://www.mdw.ac.at/ikm/>

Final paper: Mobil:e - a Concept for a European Forum for Arts and Culture

1993–1999

Masters degree in German Literature and History

University of Vienna, Vienna  
Universitätsring 1, 1010 Vienna (Austria)  
<http://www.univie.ac.at>

including studies at Université Paris IV - Sorbonne , Paris, France

Final paper: Karl Kaus and Rainer Maria Rilke: A Comparison of Two Concepts of Writing (Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Kurt Krolop)

1993

University Entrance Diploma

Realgymnasium Schopenhauerstrasse BRG 18, Vienna (Austria)

**PERSONAL  
INFORMATION**

Partner: Christine Wellendorf

Three Children: Leonore, Constanze, Lucius

Likes: Travel; Sport: Running, Cycling (all terrain), Hiking, Skiing ...

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

### Publications

- Damianisch, Alexander (together with Gerald Bast and Romana Schuler): Introduction for *Contemporary Code – Artistic Research. An exhibition project* in cooperation with the School of Creative Media/ City University of Hong Kong. Vienna/Hong Kong 2015
- Damianisch, Alexander: Undercurrents, Mitteilungen Designaustria Schwerpunkt Design, September 2015, 6-7  
([https://issuu.com/designaustria/docs/da\\_mitteilungen\\_3.2015/1](https://issuu.com/designaustria/docs/da_mitteilungen_3.2015/1))
- Damianisch, Alexander: Preface in the proceedings for the Conference “Perspectives on Art Education - Conversations Across Cultures”, May 28–30, 2015, Art Sciences & Art Education at University of Applied Arts Vienna, 2015
- Damianisch, Alexander (Guest editor; together with Ulf Bästlein, Karen van den Berg, Doris Carstensen, Julie Harboe, Bettina Henkel, Andre Zogholy): Arts-based/artistic research at higher education institutions – between idea, draft and realization, Special issue, Jg.10 / Nr.1, Zeitschrift für Hochschulentwicklung ZfHE, 2015  
(Link: <http://www.zfhe.at/index.php/zfhe/issue/current>)
- Damianisch, Alexander: Förderung künstlerischer Forschung. In: *Künstlerische Forschung – Ein Handbuch*, Hrsg. von Jens Badura, Selma Dubach, Anke Haarmann, Dieter Mersch (Institut für Theorie ITH), Anton Rey (Institute for Performing Arts and Film IPF), Christoph Schenker (Institute for Contemporary Art Research IFCAR), Germán Toro Pérez (Institute for Computer Music and Sound Technology ICST) der Zürcher Hochschule der Künste ZHdK, Zürich: Diaphanes 2015, 249 - 153.
- Damianisch, Alexander: Kennen kommt vor Erkenntnis. HKB Zeitung – Aktuelles aus der Hochschule der Künste Bern, März – April 2015, Bern 2015, 5.  
(Text:[http://www.hkb.bfh.ch/fileadmin/PDFs/HKB\\_Zeitung/HKB\\_Zeitung\\_2\\_2015.pdf](http://www.hkb.bfh.ch/fileadmin/PDFs/HKB_Zeitung/HKB_Zeitung_2_2015.pdf))
- Damianisch, Alexander: Heterotopoetics. In: G. Bast et al. (eds.), *Arts, Research, Innovation and Society*, Arts, Research, Springer New York, Springer International Publishing Switzerland 2015, 223 - 227.  
(Link: [http://www.dieangewandte.at/jart/prj3/angewandte\\_aris/main.jart?j-j-url=/book\\_series](http://www.dieangewandte.at/jart/prj3/angewandte_aris/main.jart?j-j-url=/book_series))
- Damianisch, Alexander: Auch die Forschung will gesponsert sein. Der Standard, 4.09.2014,  
(Text: <http://derstandard.at/2000005165798/Auch-die-Forschung-will-gesponsert-sein>)
- Damianisch, Alexander: Art and Research. In: *Kunst und Forschung / Art and Research. die angewandte – thema. Magazine of the University of Applied Arts Vienna Issue #6/2013*, 6 – 7.  
(Text:[http://www.dieangewandte.at/jart/prj3/angewandte/resources/dbcon\\_def/uploads/Presse/Beilagen/FINALkorr\\_Thema\\_Web\\_13\\_11\\_15.pdf](http://www.dieangewandte.at/jart/prj3/angewandte/resources/dbcon_def/uploads/Presse/Beilagen/FINALkorr_Thema_Web_13_11_15.pdf))

- Damianisch, Alexander: Artistic Research. In: Elias G. Carayannis (Ed.): Encyclopedia of Creativity, Invention, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship, Springer New York Heidelberg Dordrecht London 2013, 122 – 127.  
(Link: [http://link.springer.com/referenceworkentry/10.1007/978-1-4614-3858-8\\_473](http://link.springer.com/referenceworkentry/10.1007/978-1-4614-3858-8_473))
- Damianisch: Kunst ist klüger als man denkt. Der Standard 21.06.2012  
(Text: <http://derstandard.at/1339638611350/Alexander-Damianisch-Documenta-Geschwurbel-Kunst-ist-klueger-als-man-denkt>)
- Damianisch, Alexander: Verfahrensqualität verpflichtet. Proceeding of Qhoch3 - Eine Tagung zur Qualität, Bern 2010  
(Text: [http://www.hkb.bfh.ch/fileadmin/PDFs/Y/symposium/Qhoch3\\_Alexander\\_Damianisch.pdf](http://www.hkb.bfh.ch/fileadmin/PDFs/Y/symposium/Qhoch3_Alexander_Damianisch.pdf))
- Damianisch, Alexander: Edmund Edel . Ein Chronist der Branche. In: Herman Simon et. al. Pioniere in Celluloid - Juden in der frühen Filmwelt. Henschel Verlag Berlin 2004, 175 – 179.
- Damianisch, Alexander: Karl Kraus und Rainer Maria Rilke : Zur Geschichte ihrer Beziehung. Berlin : Brücken Verl., 2000, 97-152.

Presentations and  
other activities

- Presentation: Manners of Organisation (announced as: Writing Funding Applications, Keynote Special Session), in WRITING - Writing as Practice Practice as Writing - The annual Society for Artistic Research, 29 April 2016, SAR Spring Event 2016 (member of the conference committee), The Hague  
(link: [www.sarconference2016.net/rc/index.html#specialsession](http://www.sarconference2016.net/rc/index.html#specialsession))
- Exhibition Talk: Natur vs. Kultur: Sisyphos, Kontrollverlust und Utopien im Zeitalter des Menschen, together with Reingard Grabherr (Virology, Universität of Life Sciences Vienna), 26 April 2016, context: ÜBER DIE UNMÖGLICHKEIT DES SEINS, Exhibition, Kunsthalle Exnergasse WUK Vienna, 17 March - 30 April 2016, Curated by the current - Hannah Beck-Mannagetta & Lena Fließbach
- Presentation and workshop: The Portrait of Artistic Research as a young ..., Forward Creatives Festival Vienna, 9 April 2016,  
(link: <http://forwardcreatives.com/conference/portfolio/artistic-research/>)
- Curator (together with Gerald Bast and Romana Schuler): Contemporary Code – Artistic Research. An exhibition project in cooperation with the School of Creative Media/ City University of Hong Kong, 2015; featuring Arno Böhler / Susanne Granzer / Jens Badura, Klaus Bollinger, Gerhard Eckel / Michael Schwab, Nikolaus Gansterer / Emma Cocker / Mariella Greil, Barbara Imhof, Georg Glaeser, Fares Kayali, Ebru Kurbak / Irene Posch, Ruth Mateus-Berr, Ulrike Möntmann, Barbara Putz-Plecko, Ruth Schnell / Martin Kusch, Jeffrey Shaw, Gerhard Tremml, Peter Weibel, Virgil Widrich / Roman Kirschner et al (Link: <https://youtu.be/YPE8q8EEIGA>)
- Concept and presentation: The Artistic Research Library, and From Art Criticism to Peer Review and Back, in Unconditional Love – The annual Society for Artistic Research spring event 2015, London  
(Link: [http://www.societyforartisticresearch.org/fileadmin/autoren/pdf/unconditional\\_love.pdf](http://www.societyforartisticresearch.org/fileadmin/autoren/pdf/unconditional_love.pdf))
- Presentation: The Heterotopoetic - About Space and Competence Regarding an Undisciplined Approach. Context: "Aesthetics and Location", ELIA Biennial Conference 2014, Glasgow  
(Link: <http://www.elia-artschools.org/activities/biennial-conference/programme/open-space>)
- Concept, Introduction and Moderation: "Operation on the Open Heart - Art Research-Driven Education and its Societal Impact", A Conference by the University of Applied Arts Vienna and the Society for Artistic Research, October 30–31, 2014  
(Link: <https://www.researchcatalogue.net/portal/announcement?announcement=22>)
- Moderation: Since autumn 2016 moderation and conversations at events with presenters like Airan Berg, Hans-Peter Fischer, Barbara Imhof, Petra Maitz et al at the Angewandte Innovation Laboratory, opened Autumn 2014

- Presentation: Artistic Practice Equipping Us for a Changing World. Context: EUROPEAN FORUM ALPBACH 2014 / HIGHER EDUCATION SYMPOSIUM / BREAK OUT, 20.08.2014.  
(Link: <http://www.alpbach.org/en/vortrag/breakout-session-04-kuenstlerische-praxis-kompetenz-fuer-eine-welt-im-wandel/>)
- Concept and presentation: Angewandte Praxis, ongoing format of work in the field of Artistic and Scientific Research at the University of applied Arts Vienna since June 2014 (Link: <http://www.dieangewandte.at/angewandte-praxis>)
- Presentation: Heterotopictures, 2.4.2014. Context: Departmenet for Graphics and Printmaking (Jan Svenungsson)  
(Link: <http://www.grafik.ac.at> (Vienna Angewandte))
- Presentation: Shapes and Tensions, 19.5.2015. Context: Academy of Fine Arts Helsinki, Workshop at the Doctoral Programme invitation by Jan Kaila  
(Link: <http://www.uniarts.fi/en/kuva>)
- Concept and support: out of the box. 10 Questions about Artistic Research. Exhibition 29 November 2013 - 5 January 2014, MAK , Stubenring 5, 1010 Vienna  
(Link: [http://www.mak.at/jart/prj3/mak/main.jart?content-id=1343388632770&rel=en&article\\_id=1381315468254&event\\_id=1381315468426&reserve-mode=reserve](http://www.mak.at/jart/prj3/mak/main.jart?content-id=1343388632770&rel=en&article_id=1381315468254&event_id=1381315468426&reserve-mode=reserve))
- Presentation: Research in the Arts, Brussels. Context: High level stakeholder meeting (incl. presentation of the SHARE handbook), LUCA School of Arts, 25.11.2013.
- Concept, Presentation and Moderation: Angewandte Eigenart. Positionen und Diskurse künstlerischer Forschung, 19.11.2013. Context: Vienna Art Week und Artistic Technology Research / PEEK.
- Presentation: Thematic Session PEEK, 10 November 2012. Context: ART, SCIENCE AND SOCIETY: Art Questions, Art Knows, Art Matters; ELIA Biennial Conference, Vienna  
(Link: <http://www.elia-artschools.org/images/activiteiten/29/files/elia-biennial-vienna-programme.pdf>)
- Presentation and Discussion: Circle 00002 (r=4) Design science – and what makes it tick! 16.9.2011. Context: Institute of Design Research Vienna (IDRV), Circle event series, Vienna  
(Link and video: <http://www.idrv.org/circle00002/>)
- Presentations: PEEK Road Show, spring 2009. Context: Presentations at several universities of the arts in Austria regarding the newly at the Austrian Science Fund established funding program PEEK.