

CARSTEN HOLLER

SEPTEMBER 2026

FLY ON AMANITA



PASSAGE

@PASSAGE_ART
WWW.PASSAGE.ART
CONNECT@PASSAGE.ART

CARSTEN HOLLER

Carsten Höller (b. 1961, Brussels) is a German artist whose practice draws on his scientific training to explore perception, human behavior, and altered states of consciousness. Trained as an agricultural scientist and former research entomologist, Höller has developed a body of work that invites viewers to question their experience of reality through situations that oscillate between experiment, play, and uncertainty.

Since the early 1990s, he has created immersive installations that provoke states of disorientation, exhilaration, and doubt. His celebrated slides, carousels, mirrored environments, sensory devices, and participatory experiments transform spectators into active participants, challenging conventional distinctions between observation and experience. Central to his practice is the notion of the artwork as a catalyst for alternative ways of perceiving and understanding the world.

Höller has maintained a longstanding interest in the social and psychological dimensions of human interaction. His scientific background also informs numerous works involving animals, plants, and psychotropic mushrooms, recurring subjects through which he investigates the boundaries between nature, culture, and consciousness.

Often associated with the artists who redefined participation and experience in the 1990s, including Pierre Huyghe, Rirkrit Tiravanija, and Andrea Zittel, Höller has developed one of the most distinctive practices of his generation. His work has been the subject of major exhibitions at Tate Modern, London; the New Museum, New York; Fondazione Prada, Milan; Centro Botin, Santander ; Pirelli HangarBicocca, Milan; Hayward Gallery, London; MAAT, Lisbon and Hamburger Bahnhof Nationalgalerie der Gegenwart Berlin, among many others. His works are held in major international collections, including the Centre Pompidou, Paris; Tate, London; Fondazione Prada, Milan; Nationalgalerie, Berlin and LUMA Foundation, Arles to mention a few. He has participated in numerous international biennials, including Venice, São Paulo, Berlin, Lyon, Gwangju, and Sharjah. Höller lives and works in Stockholm, Sweden.

POLYPHONIC VIEWS
12.09.25 - 05.10.25
Opening 12th of September
18:00 - 22:00

Genesis P-Orridge, Liang Fu
Ross Alexander Payne, Nik Nowak
Felix Kiessling, Roberto Rivadeneira
Hermann Nitsch, James Leyland Kirby
Richie Culver, Kieran Leach, Olaf Metzel
Allen-Golder Carpenter, Joshua
Mauricio Alejo, Lukas Heerich, Irm
Irving Ramó, Anastasia Shivrina
Marcus Nelson, Amrita Dhillon,
Anne de Vries, Christian Jankowski, Lea
Rafa Silveira, Tobias Spichtig, Philip McHugh
Johannes Seluga, Ivan Seal, Ju Young Kim
Anna Uddenberg, Jean-Baptiste Durand
Emmanuel Massillon, Gozié Ojini
Julius von Bismarck, Rob Blake
Hannah Rose Stewart

SPATIAL FESTIVAL - FUNKHAUS
Nalepastraße 1
12459 Berlin

POLYPHONIC VIEWS

LIANG FU
SPINE BOUNDARY
27.05.25 - 27.06.25

Opening 27th of May
19:00 - 21:00

Hermannplatz Berlin
U-Bahn Station Gleis 2 U7
Direction Spandau

@passage_art
www.passage.art

POLYPHONIC VIEWS

CARSTEN HÖLLER
FLY ON AMAN
10.09.26 - 10.10.26

Opening 10th of September
19:00 - 21:00

Curated by Udo Kittling

Hermannplatz Berlin
U-Bahn Station Gleis 2
U7 Direction Spandau

@passage_art
www.passage.art

POLYPHONIC VIEWS

HANNAH BECQUANTE
FELIX TABURAT
O KEINER
03.07.26 - 03.08.26

Opening 3rd of July
19:00 - 21:00

Hermannplatz Berlin
U-Bahn Station Gleis 2
U7 Direction Spandau

@passage_art
www.passage.art

POLYPHONIC VIEWS

KENTSKOOKING
VISIBLE WOMAN
23.01.25 - 23.02.25

Opening 23rd of January
19:00 - 21:00

Hermannplatz Berlin
U-Bahn Station Gleis 2 U7
Direction Spandau

@passage_berlin.art
www.passage-berlin.art

POLYPHONIC VIEWS

DUVLE
STUPES
19.26 - 22.10.25

Opening 12th of September

Kolja Kärtner Sainz
Anastasia Shivrina
Jerónimo Puñal
Kole Kordich
Sol Kordich
Wei Zixiang

DUVE Berlin
Michaelkirchstraße 15
10179 Berlin

@passage_berlin.art
www.passage-berlin.art

POLYPHONIC VIEWS

IVAN SEAL
THE BUILT IN
06.03.26 - 06.04.26

Opening 10th of March
19:00 - 21:00

Hermannplatz Berlin
U-Bahn Station Gleis 2
U7 Direction Spandau

@passage_art
www.passage.art

POLYPHONIC VIEWS

PEDRO MORAES
THE BUILT IN
01.06.26 - 01.07.26

Opening 1st of June
19:00 - 21:00

Hermannplatz Berlin
U-Bahn Station Gleis 2
U7 Direction Spandau

@passage_art
www.passage.art

POLYPHONIC VIEWS

MARCUS NELSON
FOOLS ARE EVERYWHERE
06.08.24 - 06.09.24

Opening 6th of August
19:00 - 21:00

Hermannplatz Berlin
U-Bahn Station Gleis 2 U7
Direction Spandau

@passage_berlin.art
www.passage-berlin.art

POLYPHONIC VIEWS

INDISCRET
THE BUILT IN
18.00 - 21.00

Opening 25th of October

Maxime Ballesteros
Lena Marie Emrich
Johann Hoffmann
Quentin Fromt
Lea Bouton
Mercedes Llanos
Rebekka Benzenberg

Hasenheide 12 - 10967 Berlin

@passage_berlin.art
www.passage-berlin.art

POLYPHONIC VIEWS

MISCHA FANGHAENEL
THE BUILT IN
09.12.24 - 09.01.25

Opening 10th of December
19:00 - 21:00

Hermannplatz Berlin
U-Bahn Station Gleis 2 U7
Direction Spandau

@passage_berlin.art
www.passage-berlin.art

POLYPHONIC VIEWS

BEN BARBETTA THOMPSON
THE BUILT IN
28.02.25 - 28.03.25

Opening 28th of February
19:00 - 21:00

Hermannplatz Berlin
U-Bahn Station Gleis 2 U7
Direction Spandau

@passage_berlin.art
www.passage-berlin.art

POLYPHONIC VIEWS

NIKOLAY KOSHELEV
DER KUSS DES FAUNS
29.04.26 - 29.05.26

Opening 29th of April
19:00 - 21:00

Hermannplatz Berlin
U-Bahn Station Gleis 2
U7 Direction Spandau

@passage_art
www.passage.art

POLYPHONIC VIEWS

RICHIE CULVER
THE BUILT IN
04.07.24 - 04.08.24

Opening 4th of July

19:00 - 21:00

Hermannplatz Berlin
U-Bahn Station Gleis 2 U7
Direction Spandau

@passage_berlin.art
www.passage-berlin.art

POLYPHONIC VIEWS

GERD ROHLING
THE BUILT IN
10.09.25 - 10.10.25

Opening 10th of September
18:00 - 20:00

Hermannplatz Berlin
U-Bahn Station Gleis 2
U7 Direction Spandau

@passage_art
www.passage.art

POLYPHONIC VIEWS

MARCO ŻEBROWSKI
HYBRIS
03.02.26 - 03.03.26

Opening 3rd of February
19:00 - 21:00

Hermannplatz Berlin
U-Bahn Station Gleis 2
U7 Direction Spandau

@passage_art
www.passage.art

POLYPHONIC VIEWS

FELIX KIESSLING
MEDIZIN
17.04.25 - 17.05.25

Opening 17th of April
19:00 - 21:00

Hermannplatz Berlin
U-Bahn Station Gleis 2 U7
Direction Spandau

@passage_art
www.passage.art

POLYPHONIC VIEWS

RICHIE CULVER
THE BUILT IN
15.05.26 - 18.05.26

Opening 15th of May

19:00

Tsar Kaloyan 10
1000 Sofia
Bulgaria

@passage_art
www.passage.art

POLYPHONIC VIEWS

ALL-U-RE
THE BUILT IN
04.06.24 - 04.07.24

Opening 4th of June
19:00 - 21:00

Hermannplatz Berlin
U-Bahn Station Gleis 2 U7
Direction Spandau

@passage-berlin.art
www.passage-berlin.art

POLYPHONIC VIEWS

CHRISTIAN JANKOWSKI
LUFTSCHLOSS UNTERGRUND
01.05.24 - 01.06.24

Opening 2nd of August
19:00 - 21:00

Hermannplatz Berlin
U-Bahn Station Gleis 2 U7
Direction Spandau

@passage_berlin.art
www.passage-berlin.art

POLYPHONIC VIEWS

Passage was founded in May 2024 with the opening of an exhibition space inside Berlin's Hermannplatz U-Bahn station. Inspired by Lucio Amelio's legendary Parisian Pièce Unique, PASSAGE began as a radical project to display art directly in public space. Since its inception, it has presented 25 solo exhibitions and hosted 3 group exhibitions (including "Polyphonic Views" at Funkhaus for Berlin Art Week 2025). Passage has presented the works of 60 artists and collaborated with 31 international galleries. The platform is curated by Victor Auberjonois.

By activating space as a medium, PASSAGE explores the outer edges of contemporary art through site-specific presentations that engage directly with their environment. What started as a subway-based art intervention has evolved into an international curatorial platform, presenting exhibitions both in Germany and abroad. PASSAGE is instinctive and independent. It exhibits both emerging and established artists, without the need for traditional representation. Each exhibition is developed in close dialogue with the artists, with curatorial attention extending to texts, documentation, and archiving, all considered integral components of the project.

Alongside its exhibition program, PASSAGE operates a multidisciplinary art residency at Schloss Willebadessen, a former Benedictine convent founded in 1149 in North Rhine-Westphalia, Germany.

FLY ON AMANITA

FLY ON AMANITA presents a new video installation by *Carsten Höller*, curated by *Udo Kittelmann*, at *PASSAGE* in Hermannplatz, Berlin. The opening takes place on 11 September, 7–9 pm, as part of Berlin Art Week. The exhibition remains on view through 11 October.

The work features a green bottle fly performing within a pristine white environment. The insect cleans itself, approaches a pale orange jello drop, feeds, enters an altered state, recovers, and flies away. The sequence loops endlessly, somewhere between scientific observation and 90s music video, laboratory experiment and choreography.

Trained as an agricultural entomologist, Höller has long worked at the unstable boundary between scientific experiment and artistic experience. Flies recur throughout his practice as organisms whose behaviour raises questions of perception, instinct, and consciousness. Mushrooms, particularly *Amanita muscaria* - for which Höller is perhaps best known, function as agents of transformation, dissolving the certainty of ordinary experience.

Known as the fly agaric, *Amanita muscaria* has long occupied a space between folklore, ritual, and toxicology. Traditionally, pieces of the mushroom were soaked in milk to attract and intoxicate flies, the origin of its common name. Drawn to the sweetness, the insects consume the liquid, become disoriented, lose control of their movements and, if the dose permits, eventually recover. Höller's video isolates this simple biological encounter, letting it unfold with clinical precision while quietly inviting comparison with human behaviour.

Presented in Hermannplatz, where addiction is part of the everyday urban landscape, the work acquires an unexpected resonance. The fly cleans itself, consumes, surrenders, recovers, and begins again. The loop offers neither judgement nor redemption; it simply repeats, exposing addiction less as spectacle than as rhythm, a cycle of desire, release, and return.

There is another layer. The fly appears to seek not merely intoxication but the altered condition itself. The possibility of pursuing an experience for its own sake, of desiring a second-order state of consciousness, has often been considered a uniquely human capacity, shared perhaps only with dolphins. Whether the fly truly experiences such a high remains unknowable, and Höller leaves that uncertainty unresolved, allowing projection to become part of the work.

FLY ON AMANITA (2025), oscillates between experiment and fiction, humour and discomfort, biology and psychology. What begins as the observation of an insect becomes a reflection on compulsion, pleasure, and the fragile mechanisms that govern behaviour, revealing how little may separate instinct from choice.









CARSTEN HOLLER

SEPTEMBER 2026

THANK YOU FOR
YOUR CONSIDERATION



PASSAGE

@PASSAGE_ART
WWW.PASSAGE.ART
CONNECT@PASSAGE.ART