

**JUNWON JUNG – NADINE KUFFNER**  
**OFF-LIMITS**

7 December 2017 – 13 January 2018

Opening: Wednesday, 6 December 2017, 7 p.m.

Introduction:

Prof. Karen Pontoppidan, Akademie der Bildenden Künste München



Nadine Kuffner

With Junwon Jung (b. 1978 in Sang-Ju, South Korea) and Nadine Kuffner (b. 1982 in Munich) we focus on an unusual encounter of two young jewellery graduates from the Academy of Applied Arts in Munich. Having brought much experience to their studies under Otto Künzli and Karen Pontoppidan, both artists graduated in 2016 and 2017, respectively.



Junwon Jung

Artisanal knowledge and artistic vision join forces as a matter of course in clear, expressive and aesthetically convincing statements. For both artists it's about broadening their understanding of jewellery, of inciting discussions on dogmatic and traditional perspectives, and, in doing so, taking very different stances. Yet the absence of colour, the restraint in design, an unmistakeable signature style, and consideration of the jewellery's meaning and character are all common elements in their work.

At the same time *Junwon Jung* incorporates the theme of occupancy, in works characterised by a reduced, minimalistic nature. With all respect for function, he relieves the object from one-dimensional associations and analyses the various aspects of its existence, recomposing the various factors anew. In doing so, Jung lends his constructions a somewhat surprising, highly intense and sculptural presence. They are simple; they delight in their wonderful translation and subversive ideas. Moreover he appears to invert the relationship between interior and exterior, open and closed, sequence and isolation, conjugating these options as he does so. A free interplay of the ring elements then begins, which may be concealed within the body or metamorphosise from it. Stunningly simple and yet truly refined.

*Nadine Kuffner* has left all technical handcrafted know-how behind, despite being surrounded by the constant resonance of this artisanal backdrop. For some time now she has addressed the question of hierarchies, which occur via the material, via technical dictates. To this end she eschews precious metals and instead uses tin – which allows greater freedom – in a work process that the artist only partially controls while consciously committing and surrendering herself to the reaction the material brings forth. Together ‘a choreography of movement and resulting form’ (Kuffner) ensues. Size, weight, and shape serve her as instruments that override customary laws intrinsic to jewellery and establish their own standards – or, rather, bring things to a state of flux with an added interwoven dynamic.

Jung and Kuffner are the type of artists who challenge genres over and again, perhaps no longer with the vehemence and explosive impact of previous generations but still driven by the need to expand, enrich, and connect their own disciplines. In doing so the aspiration to autonomous, free action and experimentation stands at the fore and above all else. Only then can it be embedded into the jewellery legacy. Only then can it come together in jewellery. A ring, a bracelet, a necklace will then emerge. A trace of the manifold and profound research behind it, however, will always remain visible.

## CV Junwon Jung

2010-16 Prof. Otto Künzli, Prof. Karen Pontoppidan, AdBK Munich, DE  
2009-10 Lecture, Dept. Metalwork & Jewelry, Kookmin Univ., Seoul, KOR  
2008-09 Researcher, Institute of Environmental Design, Kookmin Univ., Seoul, KOR  
2004-07 M.F.A, Metalwork & Jewelry, Kookmin Univ., Seoul, KOR

### Collections:

Karl und Heidi Bollmann Collection, AUT  
Marzee Collection, Nijmegen, NL  
Die Neue Sammlung – The Design Museum Munich (Dauerleihgabe der Danner Stiftung), DE

### Awards, Scholarship:

2016 Bayerischer Staatspreis, Munich, DE  
Meisterschüler Prof. Otto Künzli / Prof. Karen Pontoppidan, AdBK Munich, DE  
2015 Stipendium für Ausländische Studierende an der AdBK München, Akademieverein, Munich  
2014 Anerkennungspreis, Oberbayerischer Förderpreis für Angewandte Künste, Munich, 2014, DE  
Projektförderung, Erwin und Gisela von Steiner-Stiftung, Munich, DE  
2013 Akademie Galerie, Kulturreferat der Stadt München und BMW Group, Munich, DE

## CV Nadine Simone Kuffner

2016 Nomination as Meisterschülerin  
2010-2017 Studies at the Akademie der Bildenden Künste Munich,  
Schmuckklasse Prof. Otto Künzli/ Karen Pontoppidan  
2007 - 2010 Studies at Konstfack, University College of Arts, Crafts and Design, Stockholm  
2004 – 2007 Studies at Staatliche Berufsfachschule für Glas und Schmuck,  
Kaufbeuren-Neugablonz,  
2003 – 2004 Studies at the private goldsmith-school Alchemia, Goldschmiedeschule für  
zeitgenössischen Schmuck, Florence

### Preise:

2016 Oberbayerischer Förderpreis für angewandte Kunst, recognition  
Forget Them, 2 prize  
2011 Talente, Oberbayerischer Förderpreis für angewandte Kunst, 2 prize