



## New Ringturm covering sends out signal of optimism and togetherness

**This year, Hungarian artist Dóra Maurer will transform the Ringturm in Vienna into a larger-than-life artwork called With One Another – sending out a powerful message of hope after two years shaped by the Covid-19 pandemic.**

The Ringturm covering is a flagship cultural project of Wiener Städtische Versicherungsverein, the main shareholder of the Vienna Insurance Group (VIG). Over the next few weeks – and after a two-year hiatus – the Ringturm will slip into the role of an artistic symbol of cross-border dialogue and the importance of Hungary for the Vienna Insurance Group. Dóra Maurer is the second Hungarian artist to be commissioned with the wrapping of the landmark office building on Schottenring, following in the footsteps of László Fehér in 2012. *“In view of the current situation in Europe, which has been in the grip of the pandemic for the last two years and is now the scene of a military conflict, we want to send out a signal on the importance of solidarity and togetherness. An artwork entitled With One Another by Dóra Maurer, an internationally renowned artist with both Hungarian and Austrian roots, strikes us as a particularly fitting choice,”* commented Wiener Städtische Versicherungsverein Managing Board member **Helene Kanta**.

### The work: With One Another

Entitled ‘With One Another’, the 4,000 square metre artwork is made up of a total of 30 printed netting sheets, each around 3m wide and up to 63m long. Diagonally intersecting stripes in a spectrum of bright, cheerful colours trace a path across the facade of the buildings on the Ringstrasse boulevard, overlooking the Danube Canal, in Vienna city centre. Created especially for the wrapping of the Ringturm, the artwork’s origins go back to an elaborate system of geometric and chromatic elements devised by Dóra Maurer some 30 years ago, which she has continued to develop in the intervening years. *“In my piece, various different colours dovetail together – a reference to the array of voices that characterise Central Europe. The vivid composition is designed to give the linear architecture of the Ringturm a dynamic edge, and to radiate colour from the building onto the surrounding area. A visual stimulus by the Danube Canal in summertime, but also an anchor that sends a signal of hope across national borders,”* explained **Dóra Maurer**.

### The artist: Dóra Maurer

Wiener Städtische Versicherungsverein has commissioned Dóra Maurer to create the 2022 artistic covering of the Ringturm. A stand-out figure in Hungarian art history, more than virtually any other artist she is renowned for experimenting with new forms of expression that transcend the boundaries of design as well as national borders. An established proponent of Hungarian avant garde, she is best known for her geometric and often dazzling coloured structures, with which she asks tongue-in-cheek questions of her audience’s viewing habits. Born in Budapest in 1937, Dóra Maurer studied at the Hungarian Academy of Fine Arts. Shows of her work have been staged at numerous exhibition venues around the world, most recently in 2019 with a retrospective at the Tate Modern in London. She is no stranger to a host of different genres and media – besides paintings, her oeuvre also includes graphic art, photography, film and installations. Her series, which address the ideas of geometry, colour theory and various theories of perception, are both playful experiments and scientific observations. Austria and its neighbour Hungary each play an integral part in Dóra Maurer’s biography: for decades, Vienna and Budapest were both points of departure for the artist’s creations; she has lived and worked in both cities by turns over the years.

## From Austria to Hungary

The Vienna Insurance Group – Austria’s largest international insurer – expanded into Hungary 26 years ago. Together with its strong Hungarian partners, the Vienna Insurance Group is an influential and pioneering player on the country’s insurance market. Its aim is to take the lead on issues related to insurance coverage for private and corporate customers, as well as affordable housing and infrastructure projects.

## Socially engaged and committed to supporting the arts in Austria and Europe

Wiener Städtische Versicherungsverein is committed to promoting cross-border cultural exchange and supporting social initiatives. Championing a range of art projects in Austria and abroad, as well as young artists, is a key objective for VIG’s main shareholder. The artistic covering of the Ringturm is a highly visible symbol of this philosophy. Several well-known Austrian artists have designed the Ringturm wrapping, including Gottfried Helnwein and Arnulf Rainer, and since 2012 artists from Eastern Europe have been invited to create the covering.

## Artistic wrapping of the Ringturm, 2006-2022

<b>2022</b>	<b>Dóra Maurer</b>	<b>With One Another</b>	<b>Hungary</b>
2019	Daniela Kostova	Future Dreaming	Bulgaria
2018	Gottfried Helnwein	I saw this	Austria
2017	Mihael Milunović	Vision	Serbia
2016	Ivan Exner	Unburdened	Czech Republic
2015	Tanja Deman	Summer Pleasures	Croatia
2014	Arnulf Rainer	Veil of Agnes	Austria
2013	Dorota Sadovská	Ties	Slovakia
2012	László Fehér	Society	Hungary
2011	Xenia Hausner	A Sense of Family	Austria
2008	Hubert Schmalix	Tower in Blossom	Austria
2007	Robert Hammerstiel	Tower of Life	Austria
2006	Christian Ludwig Attersee	Don Giovanni	Austria

Wiener Städtische Versicherungsverein is the main shareholder of Vienna Insurance Group AG Wiener Versicherung Gruppe (VIG), the holding company for the Group’s international insurance operations. Wiener Städtische Versicherungsverein supports the Group’s cultural and social activities, with an emphasis on cross-border exchange with the Central and Eastern European countries in which VIG has a presence. Its partnerships and initiatives are geared specifically towards supporting the activities of social organisations which provide space and scope for personal and cultural development.

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