



# Workshop Pleinair in Geierswalde

**From 30/08/2021 to 04/09/2021** - Organised by Felix Lippmann & Maja Drachsel

**Participants:** Students from HfBK Dresden in addition to two students from each partner academy

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The **unusual landscape of Lower Lusatia**, with its man-made landscapes, rudiments from the time of open-cast brown-coal mining, old building structures in the villages and the mixture of tourism, modernity and everyday life inspire a variety of image ideas.

We want to offer the students a week-long, intensive, concentrated time to explore this region through painting. Due to the very positive feedback from last year's participants and our own experiences and insights, we are repeating last year's concept with small additions and extensions.

A small youth hostel run by the Protestant Youth Ministry in the region will serve as our accommodation. We will cook our own meals there. From the hostel, we can explore the region on foot or by bicycle. In addition to the painterly exploration by participants on site, there will also be a group discussion on painting in the evenings. We will discuss painting techniques, especially regarding equipment that is practical for artistic work in the outdoors. For example, we would like to make our own charcoal for drawing, which can then be used directly for drawing the next day.

## About the region:

The Koschen open-cast brown coal mine was opened in 1952 to the south-east of Senftenberg. The first coal was mined in 1955. Some villages were bulldozed during the mining years. In 1972, the open-cast mine was shut down and flooded to form a lake. Sorbs live together with Germans on what is now Lake Geierswalde in the village of Geierswalde, Sorbian Lejno. At the end of the 19th century, Sorbs made up 98% of the population. In 1956, they were only 49.3%.

On this short trip, students have the opportunity to get to know this interesting region of Saxony, to learn about its history and stories. We would also like to show films on regional topics and on painterly plein air artistic positions, for example the documentaries: „Gundi Gundermann“ (1982), „Ende der Eisenzeit“ (1999), „Der Maler Max Uhlig“ (1989) and „Maler Klotz“ (2001).