

After working with wood, paper and metal CRAFT ART FUSION will be using plastic as this year's craft material.

In comparison to the other elements that are ingrained in earth's natural process, this material stems from oil and is the outcome of a chemical process rather than the natural circular trajectory of earth's ecosystem.

Nowadays plastic is a ubiquitous part of our day to day life. In 2020 alone 373 tons of plastic were produced worldwide and statistics show that on average the rate of consumption of a West European or US- American citizen amounts to 100kg. 40% derive from packaging and are used on average for 20 minutes, before they land in the trash.

The disposal and deposit of plastic occurs under extremely poor conditions in countries of South East Asia and Africa, which is highly problematic/ leads to problematic effects on the local communities and eventually our planets. Additionally, it is important to note that the recycling rate stays at a very low level.

Additionally, it is important to note that (according to the National Geographic) the recycling rate of plastic lies around 9%.

In our seas exist vast amounts of plastic, which accumulate to island-size masses. Furthermore microplastic and its harmful substances have a wide reach and can be found among all sea's creatures. These minute plastic particles originate from abrasion of car tires, shoe soles, asphalt or can be caused by washing clothes made of synthetic fibers.

Despite plastic's irreplaceable role in industry and medicine, it is of utmost urgency that researchers and politicians find and offer sustainable alternatives to the public. However, we should also all be mindful of our consumer behaviour and contribute to the minimisation of plastic waste by consciously avoiding plastic in everyday life.

This issue is no longer solely a concern of biologists and climate researchers but has increasingly become a subject of inquiry and a popular subject in artistic discourses.

We take this year's "open call" as an opportunity to invite visual artists all over the world to participate in this dialogue of plastic and wool and present their own concoctions and contributions.