

Press kit**Andrey Klassen**
Nobody Ran**Content**

Press release.....	2
Biography.....	4
Accompanying programme and guided tours.....	5
General information	6

Press release, 18.5.2026

Andrey Klassen

Nobody Ran

7.6.–20.9.2026

Project space Admiralitätstraße 75

Andrey Klassen's exhibition *Nobody Ran* uses drawings and installations to explore illusion and collective denial in the face of climate change. The presentation is a satellite of the summer project *FIRE. From the Cosmos to the Commons* by the City Curator Hamburg at St. Nikolai Memorial and takes place in the immediate vicinity, in a new project space at Admiralitätstraße 75, which the Kunsthaus Hamburg is temporarily using.



Andrey Klassen, *Butterfly*, 2022, Photo: Herbert Boswank

The utilization of fire ranks among humanity's earliest interventions in its environment. While it brings visibility into darkness, creates a sense of community, advances progress and civilization, it is, at the same time, capable of unleashing irreversible processes and uncontrolled devastation. This inherent ambiguity serves as the starting point for the exhibition *Nobody Ran*, which will be on view in the new project space at Admiralitätstraße 75 in Hamburg from 6 June to 20 September, every Thursday and Friday from 11 am to 6 pm and Saturdays from 11 am to 4 pm.

In this exhibition, Andrey Klassen's artistic practice – based primarily on black-and-white drawings – is translated into the spatial realm. A scene unfolds in semi-darkness, with three burnt parasols slowly rotating on their own axes. Figurative elements are suspended from their ribs; light sources illuminate them,

casting silhouettes onto the walls. The material structure thus recedes into the background, while the action shifts into the immaterial space. The work picks up on Plato's allegory of the cave, translating it into a spatial arrangement that explores the difference between illusion and reality as an immediate experience. Visibility and deception intertwine: the light creates silhouettes that promise insight while, at the same time, concealing their own origin. Perception shifts between appearance and reality, itself becoming a subject of the work.

The element of fire appears here in its simultaneously productive and destructive power – as a source of insight and, likewise, a sign of an escalating ecological crisis. The charred parasols – actually symbols of protection, leisure and a seemingly controllable relationship with nature – signify a world thrown out of balance. Despite decades of scientific evidence, the urgency posed by climate change has been disregarded and its effects are still being relativized – a situation reflected in Plato's metaphor of the cave, in which people mistake a play of shadows for reality. It can also be seen as an allegory of an errant collective perception: clinging to the familiar, trusting in images that suggest stability, even though reality has long since shifted.

The exhibition title *Nobody Ran* is taken from a line in the song *Hamburg brennt* (*Hamburg is Burning*, 2008) by the band 1000 Robota, known for responding to socio-political crises with provocative lyrics. In Andrey Klassen's work, motifs from Hamburg's city history – such as the Great Fire of 1842 during which an alleged fire tamer promised to quell the flames for 60,000 marks – overlap with art-historical references such as *Christ in Limbo* (ca. 1520) by the Follower of Hieronymus Bosch, from the collection of the Hamburger Kunsthalle. Both points of reference appear as sombre foreshadowings of a present in which disaster, faith in control and collective denial overlap. Andrey Klassen's installation opens up a space of experience in which these layers overlap, challenging visitors to question their own perceptions: Which images do we accept as reality? And which insights have we ignored for too long?

Andrey Klassen's exhibition *Nobody Ran*, curated by Anna Nowak, is a satellite of the *FIRE* project by the City Curator Hamburg. As the second chapter of the series *From the Cosmos to the Commons*, *FIRE*, curated by Joanna Warsza, is dedicated to this element, to apocalypse and repair. The project explores the political, ecological and spiritual significance of fire in times of political urgency, asking how to find a way out from the vicious cycle of destruction and renewal.

Concurrently, the Kunsthaus Hamburg is presenting a [solo exhibition by Melike Kara](#) at its own premises at Klosterwall 15 as part of the 9th Triennial of Photography Hamburg 2026. For the installation, the artist burned parts of her photographic archive for the first time and integrates the remains into a large-scale installation. Joint guided tours will explore the connections between the exhibitions by Melike Kara, Andrey Klassen and *FIRE. From the Cosmos to the Commons*. The dates will shortly be available at www.kunsthauhamburg.de.

With warm thanks for the generous support and provision of the space to fleetinsel GmbH – in particular Marilli Probst, Jan Störmer and Dr Hans-Jochen Waitz.

Biography

Andrey Klassen (*1984 in Irkutsk, RU) lives and works in Hamburg. Having studied painting and graphic design at the Dresden Academy of Fine Arts under Prof. Ralf Kerbach, he has developed a distinctive visual language that lies at the intersection of drawing and painting. In his large-scale works, he combines figurative elements with dense, frequently fragmented pictorial spaces. His work has been exhibited internationally, including Städtische Galerie Dresden (2015) and STRABAG ART, Vienna (2024). For his work, he has received several awards, including Marion Ermer Prize (2015) and the STRABAG Artaward International (2024).

FIRE. From the Cosmos to the Commons

Group exhibition at St. Nikolai Memorial, curated by Joanna Warsza
21.6.-21.9.2026

Participating artists: Hala Alnaji, Saodat Ismailova, Nikita Kadan, Hamedine Kane, Annette Kelm, Lene Markusen, Mark Morris, Neda Saeedi, Mikołaj Sobczak, Cecilia Vicuña & Coco Bergholm

Satellites:

Agnes Denes – Sunflower Fields

Art installation at Hammaburg-Platz, curated by Joanna Warsza
21.6.-21.9.2026

Andrey Klassen – Nobody Ran

Exhibition at project space Admiralitätstraße 75, curated by Anna Nowak
7.6.–20.9.2026

Sunflower Fields is being developed in close collaboration / partnership with the Authority for Urban Development and Housing (BSW), the Authority for Environment, Climate, Energy and Agriculture (BUKEA), Ministry of Culture and Media Hamburg (BKM), the St. Petri Parish, BürgerStiftung, Claussen-Simon Foundation, Consulate General of the Republic of Kosovo, Autostrada Biennale and residents of Hammaburg-Platz.

Accompanying programme at project space Admiralitätstraße 75

Sat, 6.6., 12 pm

Opening Andrey Klassen – *Nobody Ran*
Introduction: Anna Nowak

Sun, 21.6., 6 pm

Performance by Andrey Klassen
As part of the opening weekend of *FIRE. From the Cosmos to the Commons*

Sun, 20.9., 4 pm

Finissage & artist talk

Holiday workshops for children aged 7-12

Fri, 17.7., 11 am–2 pm

Fri, 24.7., 11 am–2 pm

Joint guided tours with the City Curator Hamburg

Sat, 27.6., 2 pm

Sat, 25.7., 2 pm

Sat, 5.9., 2 pm

Further information on the programme at www.kunsthamburg.de and www.stadtkuratorin-hamburg.de.

General information

Opening hours at project space Admiralitätstraße 75

Thursday and Friday, 11 am–6 pm

Saturday, 11–4 pm

Closed Sunday–Wednesday

Free admission

Press contact

Lea Ziegler

presse@kunsthaushamburg.de

+ 49 40 335803

Kunsthau Hamburg

Klosterwall 15

20095 Hamburg

<https://kunsthaushamburg.de>