

Stephan Schmidt-Wulffen (born June 20, 1951) is a philosopher, curator and art historian who works in the field of epistemology of arts and design and holds a senior professorship for art theory at the Free University Bolzano.

During times as rector of the academy of fine arts Vienna (2002-2011) and as head of the New Design University St.Pölten (2011-2016) he engaged into the future development of art universities and introduced one of the first german-speaking practice-based phds. He is an Honorary Professor for Aesthetics and Artistic Knowledge at the Zeppelin University Friedrichshafen and developed the program 'creative performance'. Schmidt-Wulffen studied philosophy, linguistics and communication design in Cologne, Constance and Wuppertal. As art critic (German editor of Flash Art, magazine ART among others) he promoted artists like Rosemarie Trockel, Martin Kippenberger, Albert Oehlen among others. Between 1992 and 2000 he was the director of the Kunstverein in Hamburg showing today's renowned artists like Olafur Eliasson, Rirkrit Tiravanija, Pierre Huyghe.

Schmidt-Wulffen published widely in academic and art critical context. His research fields concern artistic practice, artistic knowledge, relational aesthetics.
(See also Wikipedia)