



BERLINISCHE GALERIE

LANDESMUSEUM FÜR MODERNE
KUNST, FOTOGRAFIE UND ARCHITEKTUR
STIFTUNG ÖFFENTLICHEN RECHTS

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Press Information Berlin, 31 January 2011

Exhibition: 15 April to 12 September 2011

RAINER FETTING. BERLIN

Berlin has proved to be one of the most important places in the life and artistic productivity of the acclaimed painter Rainer Fetting (*1949). As from 1972, he captured the special atmosphere of the city's western part, when Berlin exercised a powerful impact on German society as a result of student unrest and the gay movement. In this period, Fetting developed into a sensitive observer of the city and its (art) scenes. His "Wall Paintings" in glowing, bright colours employ an expressive style of painting to depict Berlin as a dynamic city of alternative ways of life. After the radical political upheaval of the *Wende*, Fetting continued to be fascinated by the new German capital and meticulously documented the emerging changes here.

The exhibition shows around 40 works from four decades. It is the first comprehensive presentation – in the four chapters "Wall Paintings", "Drummer and Guitarist", "Role Play and Images of Friendship" and "The New Berlin" – of central work groups by Rainer Fetting, which are closely bound up with his creative output here in Berlin.

Born in Wilhelmshaven in 1949, the artist came to Berlin in 1972, studying painting under Hans Jaenisch at the Hochschule der Künste (College of Arts). In addition to Fetting's rather small-format paintings dating from the mid 1970s – which still sample and adopt various stylistic models with their smudged areas of colour or parallel fields of open hatching – the exhibition also shows the well-known "Wall Paintings", which were produced only a little later. At the beginning of the 1980s, Fetting – who had already attracted international attention in path-breaking exhibitions such as *A New Spirit in Painting* (London 1981) and *Zeitgeist* (Berlin 1982) – turned his back on Berlin and Germany and moved to New York. But Fetting is not only the artist of the "old" West Berlin before the fall of the Wall; with his more recent works he proves himself a focused observer of the new German capital, to which he returned at the beginning of the 1990s.

The exhibition under the patronage of Klaus Wowereit, Governing Mayor of Berlin, is taking place with kind support from the Stiftung Deutsche Klassenlotterie Berlin.

RAINER FETTING. BERLIN

DURATION: 15.04. – 12.09.2011

OPENING: 14.04.2011, 7 p.m.

PLACE: BERLINISCHE GALERIE, Alte Jakobstraße 124-128, 10969 Berlin



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EXHIBITION
15.04. – 12.09.2011

PRESS PREVIEW
Wed 13.04.2011, 11 a.m.

OPENING
Thu 14.04.2011, 7 p.m.

OPENING HOURS
Wed – Mon, 10 a.m. – 18 p.m.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION
U1 / U6 Hallesches Tor
U6 Kochstraße / U8 Moritzplatz
M 29, 248

ADMISSION
8 Euro / reduced: 5 Euro
1. Mon/ every Month: 4 Euro
Admission free until 18 years

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