



BERLINISCHE GALERIE

LANDESMUSEUM FÜR MODERNE  
KUNST, FOTOGRAFIE UND ARCHITEKTUR  
STIFTUNG ÖFFENTLICHEN RECHTS

ALTE JAKOBSTRASSE 124-128  
10969 BERLIN  
POSTFACH 610355 – 10926 BERLIN

FON +49 (0) 30 –789 02–600  
FAX +49 (0) 30 –789 02–700  
BG@BERLINISCHEGALERIE.DE

## PRESS RELEASE

Contact:

Susanne Kumar-Sinner  
Head of Communications  
Fon +49 (0)30 789 02 – 829  
kumar-sinner@berlinischegalerie.de

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**From the collection:  
“The Destroyed City Was My Chance”  
Hilde Weström on Her 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday  
26.09.2012–12.08.2013**



Hilde Weström, Planufer Berlin-Kreuzberg 1951/52,  
© Photography: Friedhelm Hoffmann

Hilde Weström (October 31, 1912 – February 10, 2013), together with Ilse Balg or Vera Meyer-Waldeck, is one of the few female architects who successfully participated in the reconstruction of Berlin after the war. One of the first women accepted into the “Bund Deutscher Architekten” in 1948, she founded her own firm in 1949. She then participated in numerous competitions together with colleagues such as Wils Ebert, Werner Düttmann, or Paul Baumgarten. Her wide-ranging oeuvre, which she created until her retirement in 1981, shows Weström’s engagement with a present marked by transformation and the foundational principles of new construction. Her untiring commitment to a social, individually adaptable living has made her widely known. In 1957, her designs for model apartments were presented as pioneering at the exhibition “Die Stadt von Morgen”, part of “Internationale Bauausstellung” Berlin. Selected photographs, drawings, and models from the architect’s own papers alongside loans from the Verborgenes Museum and private collections will provide insights into the life and work of this unusual pioneer of architecture.