



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, Berlin, 21 August 2013

Exhibition: 24 October 2013 to 27 January 2014

Vienna Berlin

The Art of Two Cities: From Schiele to Grosz

A joint exhibition by the Berlinische Galerie and the Österreichische Galerie Belvedere
Berlinische Galerie, Berlin: 24.10.2013 – 27.01.2014
Belvedere, Wien: 14.02. – 15.06.2014

In their first major themed exhibition together, the Berlinische Galerie and the Österreichische Galerie Belvedere will show key works of modern art from Vienna and Berlin ranging from the Secessions via Expressionism to New Objectivity. Masterpieces from both collections will combine with lesser-known specimens to create a panoramic insight into the vibrant exchange between these two metropolitan hubs in the early 20th century.

Much is already known about the links between these two cities in the fields of literature, theatre and music, but the dialogue between Vienna and Berlin around classical modernism in art has rarely been explored. This themed exhibition of some 200 works seeks to redress the oversight. It opens with the formation of the Secessions, whose champions turned their backs on academic style to negotiate new positions between art nouveau and late impressionism. The dawn of modernism is reflected on both sides in a quest for new tools of expression, but while the Berlin Secessionists around Max Liebermann took a growing interest in everyday reality and made a theme of the urban experience, Viennese artists around Gustav Klimt and Koloman Moser sought their style in ornamental forms, often associated with the language of symbolism. Nevertheless, it is evident from the many exhibitions of the day that there was a constant flow of exchange and that they were well aware of each other's work.

In the 1910s, as a new generation of Expressionists emerged in the form of artists like Ernst Ludwig Kirchner, the Danubian capital was gradually ousted from its leadership role in the fine arts by its recent but aspiring German counterpart. Young Austrian artists such as Oskar Kokoschka and Egon Schiele stepped out of Klimt's shadow, presenting their avant-garde work to a more open-minded yet critical audience in Berlin. Art dealers and essayists such as Paul Cassirer, Herwarth Walden and Karl Kraus were equally at home in the art communities of both cities and built a close network of contacts, enabling many artists to settle in Berlin, especially after the Great War.

With the post-war decline of the Danubian monarchy and the death of important artists like Egon Schiele and Gustav Klimt, the Viennese art world faded from international view during the 1920s and 1930s. While Dada, Verism and New Objectivity rigorously confronted new political and social realities in Berlin, such engagements were now rare in the Austrian capital.

Vienna Berlin
The Art of Two Cities
From Schiele to Grosz



Ernst Ludwig Kirchner, Women on the Street, 1915
Von der Heydt Museum, Wuppertal

EXHIBITION
24.10.2013 – 27.01.2014

PRESS CONFERENCE
Wed 23.10.2013, 11 am

PREVIEW
Wed 23.10.2013, 7 pm

CURATORS
Dr. Ralf Burmeister
Dr. Annelie Lütgens

OPENING HOURS
Wed – Mon 10 am to 6 pm

PUBLIC TRANSPORT
U1 / U6 Hallesches Tor
U6 Kochstraße / U8 Moritzplatz
Bus M29 Waldeckpark / 248
Jüdisches Museum

ADMISSION PRICES
Day ticket: € 10 / Concessions: € 7
1st Monday in the month: € 6
Admission free for under-18s

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Patron: Klaus Wowereit, Governing
Mayor of Berlin

Media partner to the Berlinische
Galerie: WALL AG

Head of Marketing and
Communications
Susanne Kumar-Sinner
Fon: 030 / 78902 829
Fax: 030 / 78902 730
Kumar-Sinner@berlinischegalerie.de

MEDIA RELATIONS
ARTEFAKT Kulturkonzepte
Ursula Rüter & Stefan Hirt
Marienburger Straße 16
10405 Berlin
Fon: 030 / 440 10 686
Fax: 030 / 440 10 684
mail@artefakt-berlin.de

Press downloads at:

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Vienna Berlin: The Art of Two Cities

From Schiele to Grosz

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At the same time, Vienna witnessed quite independent phenomena, such as kineticism with its utopian visions and avant-garde idiom. There were also some specifically Austrian interpretations of New Objectivity, largely but unjustly ignored in the past. While they reflect links with Berlin and the work of an Otto Dix or George Grosz, they are influenced just as much by the Viennese tradition of psychological art.

When Friedrich Kiesler organised his "International Exhibition of New Theatre Technology" in 1924, the Austrian capital once again became a magnet for the avant-garde. Finally, tribute is paid to exhibition organiser and art historian Hans Tietze, a historic figure almost unknown in Germany, whose call for "lively art history" inspired the exhibition "Vienna Berlin: The Art of Two Cities".

Artists (selected)

Hans Baluschek, Max Beckmann, Otto Dix, George Grosz, Carry Hauser, Raoul Hausmann, Hannah Höch, Ernst-Ludwig Kirchner, Erika Giovanna Klein, Gustav Klimt, Oskar Kokoschka, Broncia Koller-Pinell, Max Liebermann, Jeanne Mammen, Ludwig Meidner, Koloman Moser, Max Oppenheimer, Emil Orlik, Christian Schad, Egon Schiele, Max Slevogt.

The exhibition will be accompanied by a bound **catalogue** to be published by Prestel Verlag. The catalogue will examine the dramatic changes undergone by the fine arts in Vienna and Berlin from the beginning of the 20th century until the period between the two World Wars. It will document the exchanges between artists in these very different cities and their perceptions of one another.

392 pages, 300 colour illustrations, € 49.95

A bilingual **multimedia guide** (German/English) will offer a wide variety of background information in sound and image, taking the visitor on a journey back in time. A separate audio guide will be tailored to the needs of visitors with little or no sight, facilitating their access to the exhibition experience.

Framework events

Long Vienna Nights:

Long Vienna Film Night: 01.11.2013, 6-10 pm

Long Vienna Literature Night: 06.12.2013, 6-10 pm

Long Vienna Music Night: 10.01.2014, 6-10 pm

Family Fest at the Berlinische Galerie on Sunday: 03.11.2013

Interdisciplinary Symposium "Vienna Berlin": 24/25.01.2014

The exhibition is a cooperation of the Berlinische Galerie and the Österreichische Galerie Belvedere. Its patron is Klaus Wowereit, Governing Mayor of Berlin. Funds were kindly made available by Stiftung Deutsche Klassenlotterie Berlin and the Kulturstiftung der Länder.