



BERLINISCHE GALERIE

LANDESMUSEUM FÜR MODERNE
KUNST, FOTOGRAFIE UND ARCHITEKTUR
STIFTUNG ÖFFENTLICHEN RECHTS

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PRESS RELEASE

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We are renovating: Temporary closure of the Berlinische Galerie from 1 July 2014

After an exceptionally successful year – with the exhibition “Vienna Berlin” (attracting some 130,000 visitors) and the shows on Dorothy Iannone and Nik Nowak – the city’s museum of modern art had to close temporarily for renovation at 1 July. This is due to the sprinkler system installed to meet fire safety regulations in the former glass warehouse. Routine checks last autumn revealed that the old system needs replacing. The municipal landlord Berliner Immobilienmanagement GmbH BIM, will undertake the renewal. It affects both the exhibition space and the underground depot where the art belonging to the museum’s five collections is stored. The re-opening is scheduled in spring 2015.

“Obviously it is never good news when renovation entails closure, but after ten years in this building there is nothing untoward about a technical upgrade, and ultimately the purpose is to protect the art”, says Dr. Thomas Köhler, director of the Berlinische Galerie. Köhler sees the project, coming at this point in time, as an opportunity. Not only will the very latest safety standards be implemented, but the museum will reopen in good time for its 40th anniversary in 2015. Three major exhibitions are already in the pipeline: The architecture in the 1960s; an exhibition of Berlin photographer Heidi Specker and a major show devoted to Max Beckmann.

Behind the scenes work goes on. On the website, facebook and newsletter the museum keeps informing about activities and temporary projects. The children’s studio “Atelier Bunter Jakob” maintains a wide range of activities during the closure, breaking out into the urban space in a spirit of discovery with courses, workshops and projects.

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