



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

Ulrike Andres
Head of
Marketing and Communications
Fon +49 (0)30 789 02-829
andres@berlinischegalerie.de

Contact:

Diana Brinkmeyer
Marketing and Communications
Fon +49 (0)30 789 02-775
brinkmeyer @berlinischegalerie.de

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Modern Visionaries

Paul Scheerbart, Bruno Taut, Paul Goesch

15.04.–31.10.2016

Press Conference: 13.04., 11 am, Opening: 14.04., 7 pm



Paul Goesch, Kopf mit Farbteilung, about 1920,
Berlinische Galerie

The exhibition focuses on architectural blueprints and designs by three early 20th-century visionaries. Around 1914, the novelist, poet and inventor Paul Scheerbart (1863-1915) inspired the young architect Bruno Taut (1880-1938) with his ideas for coloured glass buildings. Paul Goesch (1885-1940), a trained architect, produced hundreds of fantasy drawings. He was one of the correspondents who contributed to the “Crystal Chain”, that famous forum of utopian construction initiated by Taut in 1919.

While the economy of the young Weimar Republic struggled to recover, its pioneering art drew on highly versatile sources – from crystal grottoes to galactic castles in the air – precisely because there was so little money to build with. In the enthusiastic words of architect Walter Gropius at the time: “Dreamers, fantasists, visionaries [...] that, in the final analysis, is what we want: utopia!”

The exhibition brings together about eighty vivid watercolours by Paul Goesch from the Berlinische Galerie’s own collection, most of them never shown before, along with drawings and texts by Paul Scheerbart, Bruno Taut and other members of the “Crystal Chain”.