

PRESS RELEASE



GALERIE ART CRU BERLIN · ORANIENBURGER STRASSE 27 · 10117 BERLIN-MITTE
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ARCADIA – In the Quest for Beauty Art from the Open Atelier St. Hedwig

Vernissage: Thursday, 30.11.2017, 6 pm
Exhibition: 01.12.2017 – 15.01.2018
Opening Hours: Tue–Saturday, 12–6 pm
Location: Galerie ART CRU Berlin, Oranienburger Str. 27, 10117 Berlin-Mitte, Germany
Greetings: Alexander Grafe
Regional CEO Alexianer St. Hedwig Kliniken Berlin GmbH
Carsten Koziolk
Coordinator of Psychiatry Bezirksamt Mitte von Berlin
Prof. Dr. med. Felix Bempohl
Chief Physician Psychiatric University Hospital of the Charité at St. Hedwig-Hospital

Introduction: Paula Schmidt-Dudek
Artistic Director Open Atelier St. Hedwig

Music: Ensemble Nido – Maria Reich, Jazz Violin & Hauke Renken, Vibraphone
Live Music Now Berlin

Galerie ART CRU Berlin is showing works from the Open Atelier St. Hedwig, a cooperation celebrating its tenth anniversary this year. In this exhibition, the artists look for the “promised land” Arcadia. A land of milk and honey, a paradise. They search for it within Greek mythology, in the past, in the future and inside of themselves.

As different as the artists of the Open Atelier are, so are their paintings and way of referencing the exhibition’s theme. **Martin Nieder**, for example, directly quotes the show’s title in the piece “Arcadia”. His painting reveals a Canadian landscape, created very precisely with a delicate brushstroke. The luminous, extensive color composition brings to mind Pop Art at first glance. After a closer look, you surprisingly find a stylistic element of Surrealism: the horizon line challenges the perception of the otherwise strictly composed perspective. Martin Nieder has worked in the Open Atelier for seven years. His works have been on display in our gallery several times and at other exhibition spaces.

The pictures of **Haci Sami Yaman**, who has been working in the Atelier for a year, are contrasty compositions of dots, strokes and lines seemingly following certain rules that are not immediately comprehensible. They form patterns, structures and streams that are fascinating in a unique way. At the same time, his pictures are reminiscent of aerial views or sketches by landscape architects. The dynamic configuration of the images is even more impressive when you know that Yaman is an artist who is almost completely blind. The Atelier has a special kind of acrylic pens for him to use. When he applies the paint, the artist is able to orient himself by pushing the pens forcefully or by tapping. With the work he puts into his paintings, Yaman suggests underlying theories of energies, operating modes of switching systems and other philosophical-technical constructions of thoughts.

Trägerverein:
PS-Art e.V. Berlin
Oranienburger Straße 27
10117 Berlin-Mitte

Vorstand:
Alexandra von Gersdorff-Bultmann
Ralph Stabbert
Wolfram Voigtländer

Spendenkonto:
Bank für Sozialwirtschaft
IBAN: DE42100205000001082600
BIC: BFSWDE33BER

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The works of **Ursula Hanke** show her great passion for experimentation. She is constantly looking for a new artistic challenge by trying out new techniques, mostly graphic in nature. On display in the exhibition are two of her paintings in which she implements the same motif with different drawing materials. The meticulously shaped landscape – in one version as a red chalk, in the other as an ink drawing – opens, due to its precise reproduction, a content-related area of tension between original and copy, playing with reproducibility of emotionally charged, romantic landscapes.

Galerie ART CRU Berlin is Berlin's only gallery for so-called Outsider Art since 2008. The term (introduced in 1945 by painter Jean Dubuffet as "Art Brut") refers to art by people with psychiatric disorders or mental disabilities. We are convinced that the particular perceptions these artists have allow them to create art of high authenticity. With our exhibitions we present works by "outsiders" as a crucial part of contemporary art and aim to foster discourse within the established art world. Being located at the Kunsthof on Oranienburger Straße, the gallery presents works by people with disabilities right in the centre of Berlin's art scene. Galerie ART CRU Berlin is backed by the non-profit federation **PS-Art e.V. Berlin** – a network of different institutions.

For its five-year jubilee the gallery published a chronicle comprising all exhibition catalogues from 2008-13. In 2014 we took part at the **Outsider Art Fair** in Paris, the world's leading fair in this field. The same year saw the nomination of five artists from the network of PS-Art e.V. Berlin for the international art prize **euward**. Since 2015 the gallery is a member of the **lvbg**, the Galleries Association of Berlin (Landesverband Berliner Galerien).

For further information and images please contact us:

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Hours: Tuesday till Saturday / 12 – 6 pm



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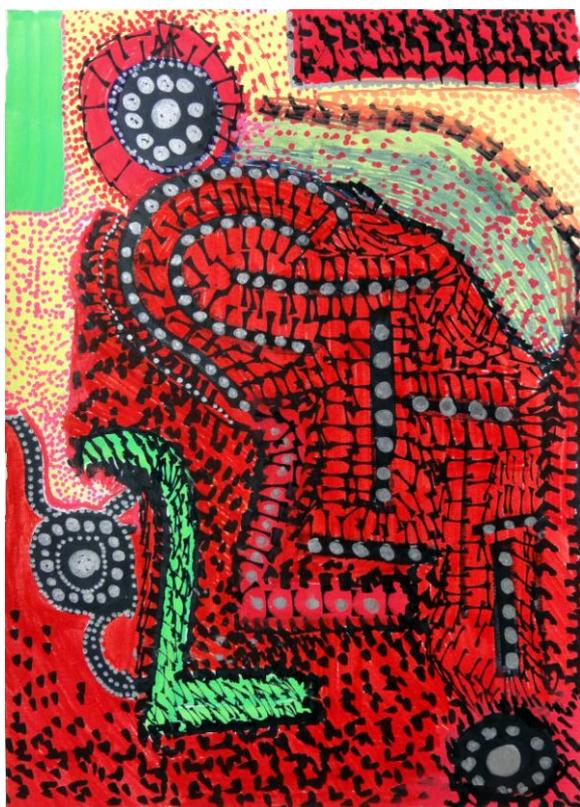
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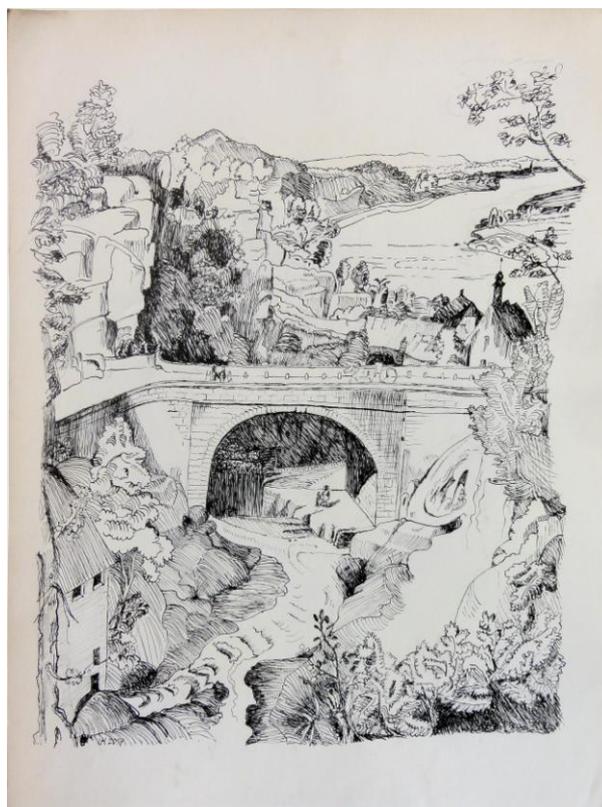
For printable image material please contact: galerie@art-cru.de



Martin Nieder, Arcadia,
2017, acrylics on canvas, 70x80



Haci Sami Yaman, Paradiesgärtlein
2017, mixed media on paper, 48x36



Ursula Hanke, Im Moseltal (nach Ramboux)
2017, ink on paper, 57x43

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