

PRESS RELEASE



GALERIE ART CRU BERLIN · ORANIENBURGER STRASSE 27 · 10117 BERLIN-MITTE
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MONIKA MAURER-MORGENSTERN

Vernissage: Thursday, 10.11.2016, 7 pm
Exhibition: 11.11.2016 – 15.01.2017
Opening Hours: Tuesday–Saturday, 12–6 pm
Galerie ART CRU Berlin, Oranienburger Str. 27, 10117 Berlin-Mitte, Germany
Introduction: Annelie Lütgens
Head of the graphics collection, Berlinische Galerie

Galerie ART CRU Berlin is showing drawings, gouaches and etchings by Monika Maurer-Morgenstern. The pictures are a selection of 21 series, each with 2 to 48 sheets. They were created between 1992 and 2016.

The works by Berlin based **Monika Maurer-Morgenstern** are representational but not realist. They depict only humans. Every sheet focuses on a scene, in which Maurer-Morgenstern not seldomly appears as a protagonist. When she wants to show the course of a narrative, an experience or a stage of life, she chooses the form of the series. In her delicate and sensitive drawings she composes a surreal and fragile pictorial world using pencils, chalks, aquarelle, pigment colors or egg tempera.

„I am painting because i am not acting in theatre and in my pictures i am staging the dramas of my impatient soul“, she wrote in the Leporello of her first solo show in 1986 in Munich. Alongside her work as a teacher for illiterate persons and raising her two children she didn't have hours of time to paint. Her drawings were created spontaneously. On her sheets brief thoughts, also speech balloons, are floating between the figures almost coincidentally and partly in mirror writing. Maurer-Morgenstern is self taught and „a loner in the arts“ (Hanne Weskott, Süddeutsche Zeitung), who later in life educated herself for many years at the Salzburger Sommerakademie for fine arts. She was able to maintain an intense and unconventional authenticity in her works. Nancy Spero and Leon Goloub, both teachers of the artist, described her pieces as „subtle, sensitive and evocative, delicate and intense at the same time and also an unusually rich expression of feminine spirit.“

Her images appear to push from the subconscious, like in a process of liberation. They are dreams or reflections which are oscilating between everyday situations and surreal experiences full of hybrid creatures. In the serial form these drawn pictorial circles appear as visualized diary entries of high density, which pull the viewer directly into the occurrences, even if they are not comprehensible at first glance. Complemented by writings which are applied with both hands by the artist in mirror writing the mysterious-surreal effect of the pictures is enhanced. Her drawings are searching for a harmonious center, as if they were trying to enable a new perception. In the exhibition we are accompanying Monika Maurer-Morgenstern on an eventful and obscure „Trip to Paris“

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

Vorstand:
Alexandra von Gersdorff-Bultmann
Ralph Stabbert
Wolfram Voigtländer

Spendenkonto:
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(Reise nach Paris), spending a kafka-esque „Court Day“ (Gerichtstag) or are getting engaged in an „Inner Dialog with Berlin Gallerists“ (Innerer Dialog mit Berliner Galeristen).

Monika Maurer-Morgenstern was born 1942 in Leipzig and lived in Munich for 44 years. Since 2012 she lives and works in Berlin.

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*.

For further information and images please contact us:

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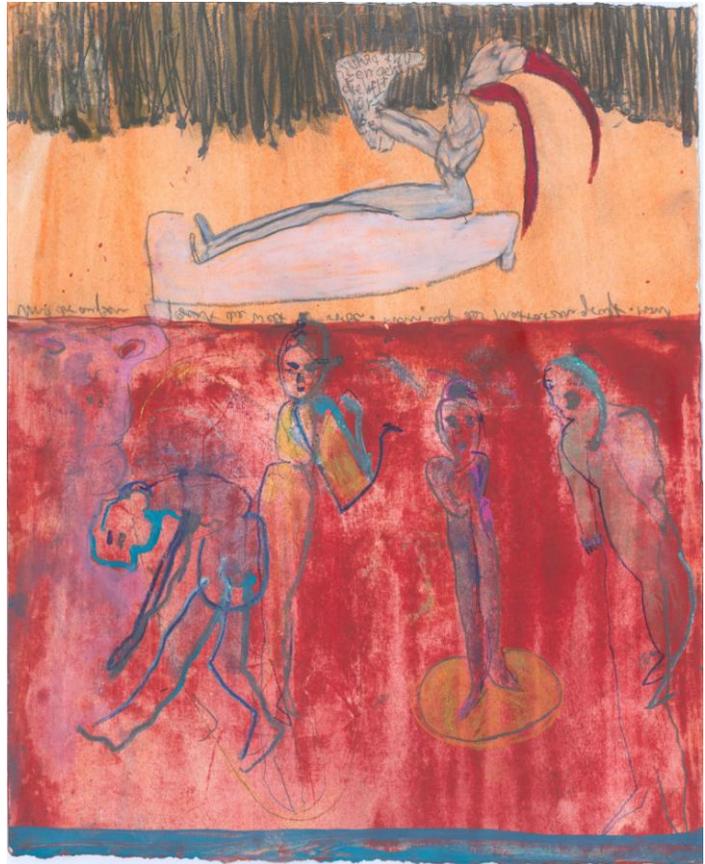
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Marina, 2014, pencil, pastel chalks, pigments, egg tempera, chalks, 29x13,3



und draußen geht die Welt vorbei, 2015, pencil, pigments, egg tempera, casein wax chalk, 19,8x24,5



ich will nicht, series, 1992, pencil, colored pencil, 29,5x85

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es geht ein dunkle Wolk herein, 2004, series of 8 cards, pencil, colored pencil, water color, 10,5x15

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