

PRESS RELEASE

GALERIE ART CRU BERLIN · ORANIENBURGER STRASSE 27 · 10117 BERLIN-MITTE
0049 (0)30 / 24 35 73 14 · GALERIE@ART-CRU.DE · WWW.ART-CRU.DE



ACHIM MAAZ CATALOG

Item number: ISBN 978-3-96849-081-6

Order catalog: <https://www.favoritenpresse.de/product-page/achim-maaz-monografie>

Galerie ART CRU Berlin and **Alexandra von Gersdorff** published the first detailed monograph of **Achim Maaz** (1955-2014, Bonn) to honor his life's work. The 240-page volume with approximately 190 illustrations is published by **Favoritenpresse** and is available for immediate purchase.

In addition to contributions from the artist's personal companions, the catalog features an extensive essay by **Klaus Mecherlein**, Director of Atelier Augustinum & Euward Archive. It is the most detailed art historical study of Achim Maaz's work to date. The author is a co-founder of the Euward, the world's most prestigious art award for painting and graphic art in the context of mental disability, for which the artist has already been nominated twice and presented in this context at the Haus der Kunst in Munich.

The artist:

Achim Maaz, is an outstanding artist in the realm of Outsider Art. His artwork tells the extraordinary story of a gifted drawer who, despite facing mental disabilities and a limited ability to communicate, dedicated his entire life to expressing himself artistically within the confines of psychiatric institutions. Achim Maaz's work is characterized by intricate and elaborate ballpoint pen hatchings, pencil drawings, and occasionally adorned with virtuoso oil pastel paintings. Within the art world, his creations stand alone, unmatched in their uniqueness. The large-scale format of Maaz's pieces is accentuated by the prominent border formed by the edge of the drawing paper. The figures he portrays often possess pressed, neckless heads, as if they were intricately pressed into the pictorial space, enclosed within their own physicality. Through his original and intimate paintings, Maaz subtly and intensely conveys the experiences of confinement and an underlying urge to break free. These themes dominate the atmosphere of his artwork, evoking a sense of introspection and emotional resonance.

During his lifetime, the artist was exhibited several times in the Rhineland, as well as in the Buchheim Museum, Bernried, as part of his Euward nomination, in addition to the aforementioned Haus der Kunst. The Berlin public still remembers Achim Maaz through the exhibition "Geheimnis und Faktum" ("Secret and Fact") curated by Christoph Tannert, Artistic Director Künstlerhaus Bethanien, in 2019.

The publishers:

As a nonprofit Galerie ART CRU Berlin oversees the estate of the artist, who died unexpectedly in 2014, just two weeks before a long-planned exhibition opening at the gallery, which had been organized in collaboration with the Kunsthistorisches Institut Bonn. Since then, the gallery has been committed to preserving the estate and presenting the works to the public. Alexandra von Gersdorff

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

Vorstand:
Dr. Ivan Nenchev, Norbert Prochnow
Maren Rabe, Andrea Siebert
Renate Lühr

Spendenkonto:
Bank für Sozialwirtschaft
IBAN: DE42100205000001082600
BIC: BFSWDE33BER

PRESS RELEASE

GALERIE ART CRU BERLIN · ORANIENBURGER STRASSE 27 · 10117 BERLIN-MITTE
0049 (0)30 / 24 35 73 14 · GALERIE@ART-CRU.DE · WWW.ART-CRU.DE



is an artist, occupational therapist and founder of PS-Art e.V. Berlin. She managed the Galerie ART CRU Berlin for 13 years and has been committed to the artist and his work for 10 years now.

Acknowledgements:

The publication of the catalog was made possible by the generous support of the Paritätischer Wohlfahrtsverband. We would like to thank Peter Brutschin, former director of Thikwa Werkstatt für Theater und Kunst, for his commitment in the area of concept and editing, and Álvaro Martínez-Alonso, artist and former director of the studio area of Thikwa Werkstatt für Theater und Kunst, for the reproductions of the works and draft design.

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. The gallery team is convinced that the particular perceptions these artists have allow them to create art of high authenticity. The exhibitions present works by "outsiders" as an important position in contemporary art. The aim is to stimulate an active discourse with the established art world. Located in the Kunsthof on Oranienburger Straße, the gallery positions works by outsider artists in the middle of the Berlin art scene.

Galerie ART CRU Berlin is backed by the association PS-Art e.V. Berlin, a network of various psychosocial institutions. In 2022, the gallery was awarded the Ulrike-Fritze-Lindenthal Prize for its inclusive work, the destigmatization award of the German Association for Psychiatry, Psychotherapy and Psychosomatics (DGPPN).

Contact:

Galerie ART CRU Berlin
Oranienburger Str. 27, Im Kunsthof, 10117 Berlin, Germany

Maren Rabe und Ivan Nenchev (curatorial team)
Matthias Hofmann (press)

Phone: + 49 / (0)30 24 35 73 14

Mail: galerie@art-cru.de

Web: www.art-cru.de

Instagram: [@artcruberlin](https://www.instagram.com/artcruberlin)

Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays 12-6 pm, Wednesdays 2-6 pm and by appointment



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

Vorstand:
Dr. Ivan Nenchev, Norbert Prochnow
Maren Rabe, Andrea Siebert
Renate Lühr

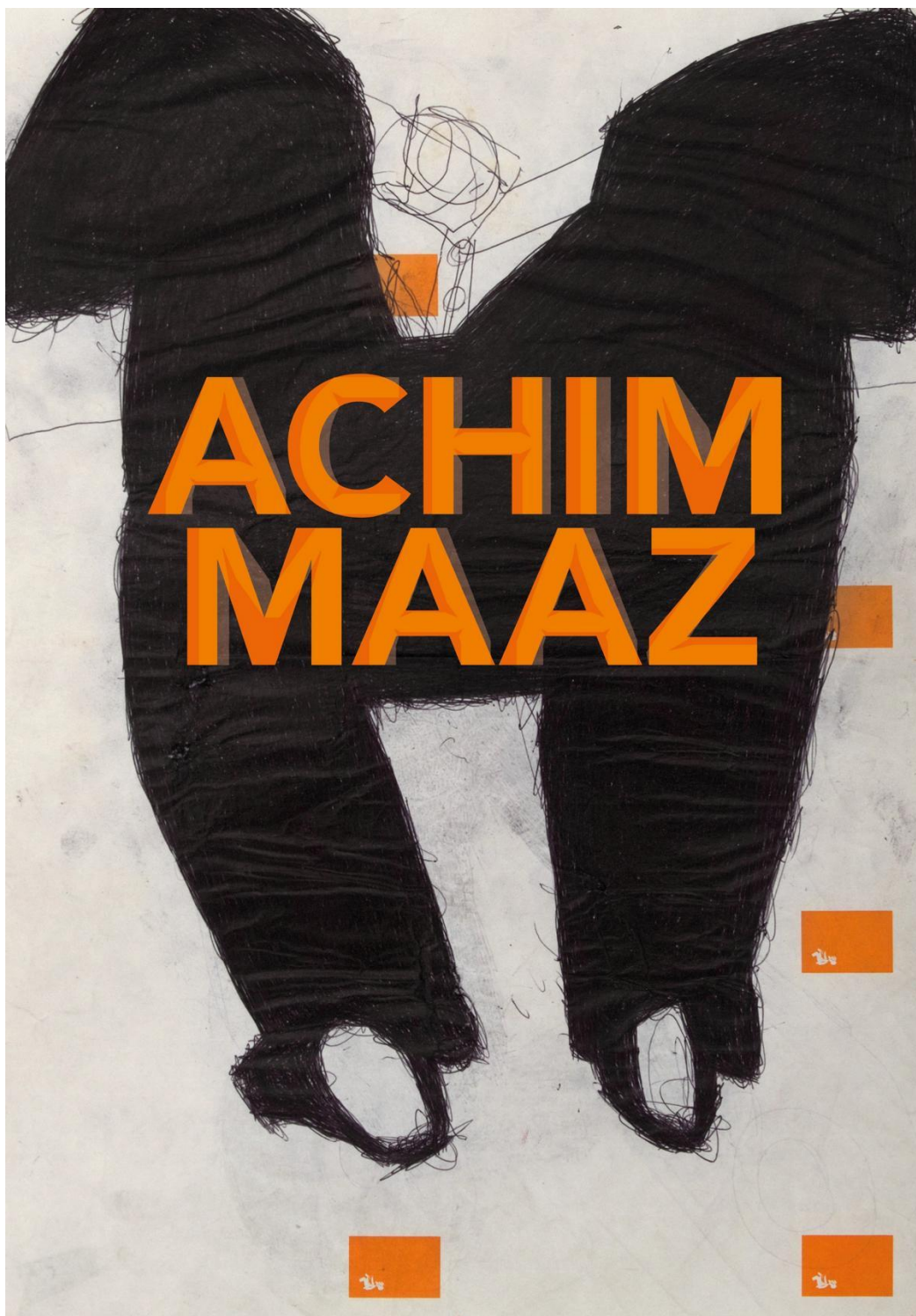
Spendenkonto:
Bank für Sozialwirtschaft
IBAN: DE42100205000001082600
BIC: BFSWDE33BER

PRESS RELEASE

GALERIE ART CRU BERLIN · ORANIENBURGER STRASSE 27 · 10117 BERLIN-MITTE
0049 (0)30 / 24 35 73 14 · GALERIE@ART-CRU.DE · WWW.ART-CRU.DE



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



Catalog cover: Achim Maaz, Favoritenpresse, Publishers. Alexandra von Gersdorff and Galerie ART CRU Berlin

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

Vorstand:
Dr. Ivan Nanchev, Norbert Prochnow
Maren Rabe, Andrea Siebert
Renate Lühr

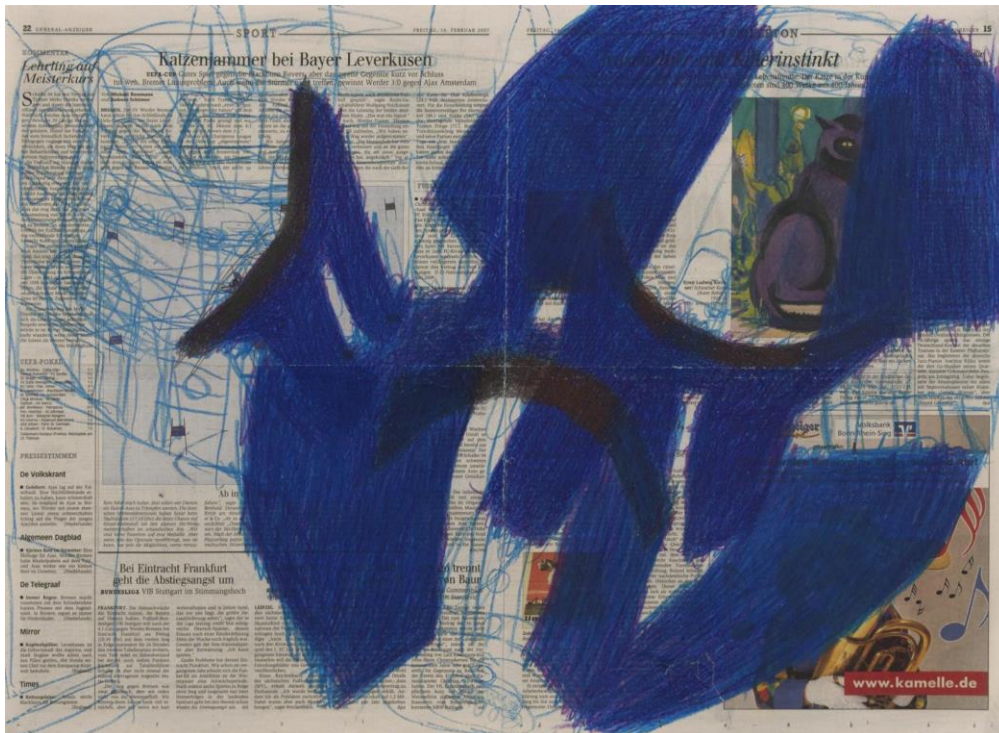
Spendenkonto:
Bank für Sozialwirtschaft
IBAN: DE42100205000001082600
BIC: BFSWDE33BER

PRESS RELEASE

GALERIE ART CRU BERLIN · ORANIENBURGER STRASSE 27 · 10117 BERLIN-MITTE
0049 (0)30 / 24 35 73 14 · GALERIE@ART-CRU.DE · WWW.ART-CRU.DE



Untitled, undated, ballpoint pen on paper with torn off adhesive particles, 89x70



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

Vorstand:
Dr. Ivan Nenchev, Norbert Prochnow
Maren Rabe, Andrea Siebert
Renate Lühr

Spendenkonto:
Bank für Sozialwirtschaft
IBAN: DE4210020500001082600
BIC: BFSWDE33BER

PRESS RELEASE

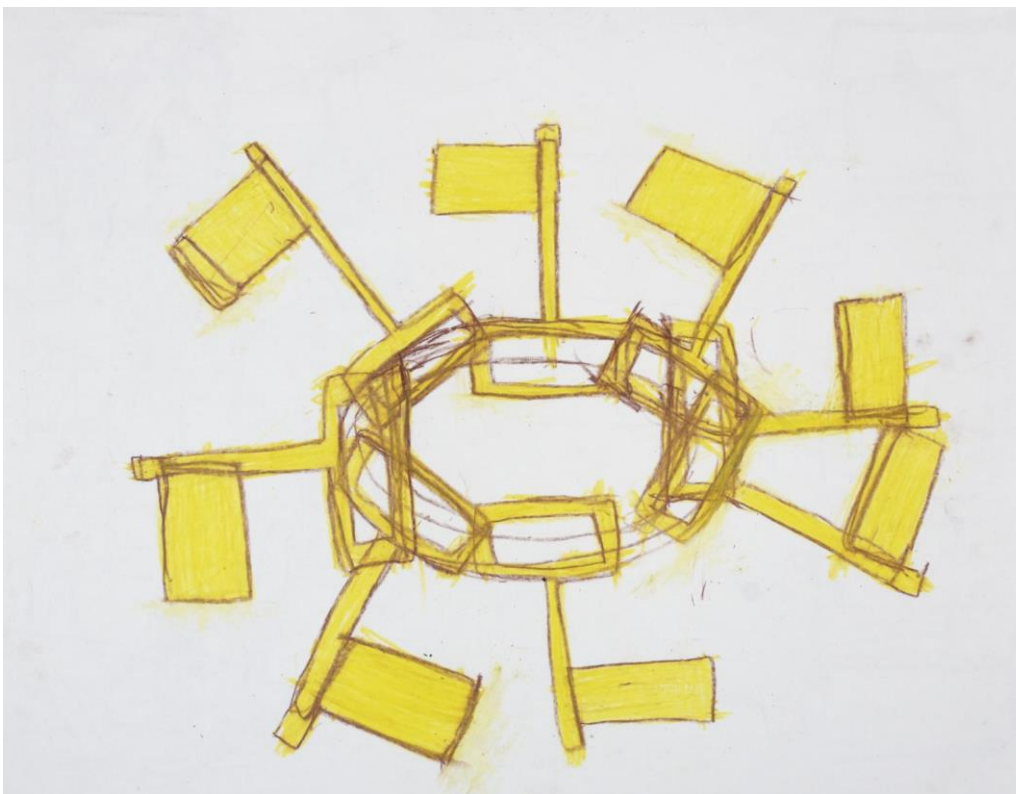
GALERIE ART CRU BERLIN · ORANIENBURGER STRASSE 27 · 10117 BERLIN-MITTE
0049 (0)30 / 24 35 73 14 · GALERIE@ART-CRU.DE · WWW.ART-CRU.DE



Untitled, undated, oil pastels on newspaper, 52,5x72



Untitled, undated, oil pastels, ballpoint pen, 50x65



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

Vorstand:
Dr. Ivan Nenchev, Norbert Prochnow
Maren Rabe, Andrea Siebert
Renate Lühr

Spendenkonto:
Bank für Sozialwirtschaft
IBAN: DE42100205000001082600
BIC: BFSWDE33BER

PRESS RELEASE

GALERIE ART CRU BERLIN · ORANIENBURGER STRASSE 27 · 10117 BERLIN-MITTE
0049 (0)30 / 24 35 73 14 · GALERIE@ART-CRU.DE · WWW.ART-CRU.DE



Untitled, undated, oil pastels, 50x65

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

Vorstand:
Dr. Ivan Nenchev, Norbert Prochnow
Maren Rabe, Andrea Siebert
Renate Lühr

Spendenkonto:
Bank für Sozialwirtschaft
IBAN: DE42100205000001082600
BIC: BFSWDE33BER