

# PRESS RELEASE



GALERIE ART CRU BERLIN · ORANIENBURGER STRASSE 27 · 10117 BERLIN-MITTE  
WWW.ART-CRU.DE

030 / 24 35 73 14  
GALERIE@ART-CRU.DE

## SONJA HALBFASS

**Vernissage:** Due to the current situation no vernissage will take place.

Please visit the exhibition during our opening hours (and by appointment).  
Already starting from **19.11.2020** you can see the show online on: [www.art-cru.de](http://www.art-cru.de)

**Exhibition:** 24.11.2020 – 21.11.2021  
**Opening Hours:** Tue & Thu 12–6 pm, Wed 2–6 pm  
**Location:** Galerie ART CRU Berlin, Oranienburger Str. 27, 10117 Berlin-Mitte, Germany

**Galerie ART CRU Berlin** is showing pictures by **Sonja Halbfass**, who grew up between the USA and Germany. It is the first exhibition of the artist in Berlin.

These extraordinary paintings reach us like messages from another world. We experience pulsating, teeming, abstract color compositions and challenging perspectives, somewhere between Pop, Op and Psychedelic Art; combined with blurred figurative scenes full of symbolism and enigmatic messages, oscillating between impression and expression. There is a lot of power in these 20+ works created over the last 25 years by the artist.

The paintings convey a spherical atmosphere with compositions that seem to float in the universe. In some of her works on paper, Halbfass forms almost surreal, delicately detailed motifs with a sweeping brushstroke and uncanny precision. She impresses with her broad artistic spectrum, perceptible as an exciting struggle between style and content. In the painting "Kraftwerk" (1998), for example, she groups a hospital bed and a winged woman supplemented by other ghostly figures around a central power plant in a confusing nightmarish scene. In contrast to the disturbing content, the pastel colors suggest harmony, with parts of the entire composition seeming to blend into each other.

Sonja Halbfass was born in 1968 in Eschwege (Hessen). She grew up in an academic household, spending her formative years in the USA after several moves between the American continent and Germany. She was an artistically talented and model student. After being hospitalized at the age of 18 she went on to study psychology and obtained a university degree. In 1989 she relocated to Germany where she has since been living in various forms of sheltered housing, such as currently in the apartments of KommRum e.V. and Die Brücke gGmbH.

---

**Trägerverein:**  
PS art e.V. Berlin  
Oranienburger Str. 27  
10117 Berlin

**Vorstand:**  
Carolin Rosner, Ralph Stabbert,  
Wolfram Voigtländer,  
Alexandra von Gersdorff-Bultmann

**Spendenkonto:**  
Bank für Sozialwirtschaft  
BIC: BFSWDE33BER  
IBAN: DE42100205000001082600

# PRESS RELEASE



**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:

Contact: Alexandra von Gersdorff-Bultmann (gallery director)  
Matthias Hofmann (press)  
Phone: + 49 / (0)30 24 35 73 14  
Mail: [galerie@art-cru.de](mailto:galerie@art-cru.de)  
Web: [www.art-cru.de](http://www.art-cru.de)  
Instagram: [@artcruberlin](https://www.instagram.com/artcruberlin)  
Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays 12 – 6 pm, Wednesdays 2 -6 pm



---

**Trägerverein:**  
PS art e.V. Berlin  
Oranienburger Str. 27  
10117 Berlin

**Vorstand:**  
Carolin Rosner, Ralph Stabbert,  
Wolfram Voigtländer,  
Alexandra von Gersdorff-Bultmann

**Spendenkonto:**  
Bank für Sozialwirtschaft  
BIC: BFSWDE33BER  
IBAN: DE42100205000001082600

# PRESS RELEASE

For printable image material please contact: [galerie@art-cru.de](mailto:galerie@art-cru.de)



Sonja Halbfass, Innerer Garten, 2010, acrylic, 42x60



Sonja Halbfass, Tanz um Saturn, 2004, mixed media, 42x60

**Trägerverein:**  
PS art e.V. Berlin  
Oranienburger Str. 27  
10117 Berlin

**Vorstand:**  
Carolyn Rosner, Ralph Stabbert,  
Wolfram Voigtländer,  
Alexandra von Gersdorff-Bultmann

**Spendenkonto:**  
Bank für Sozialwirtschaft  
BIC: BFSWDE33BER  
IBAN: DE42100205000001082600

# PRESS RELEASE



Sonja Halbfass, Kraftwerk, 1998, acrylic, 50x70



Sonja Halbfass, Leben einer Frau, 1998, acrylic, 42x60

**Trägerverein:**  
PS art e.V. Berlin  
Oranienburger Str. 27  
10117 Berlin

**Vorstand:**  
Carolyn Rosner, Ralph Stabbert,  
Wolfram Voigtländer,  
Alexandra von Gersdorff-Bultmann

**Spendenkonto:**  
Bank für Sozialwirtschaft  
BIC: BFSWDE33BER  
IBAN: DE42100205000001082600