

PRESS RELEASE

Aufbrüche. Abbrüche. Umbrüche. Kunst in Ost-Berlin 1985 – 1995

25 August to 11 December 2022

**Stiftung Kunstforum Berliner Volksbank
Kaiserdamm 105, 14057 Berlin-Charlottenburg**

Aufbrüche. Abbrüche. Umbrüche. Kunst in Ost-Berlin 1985 – 1995 (Art in East Berlin 1985 – 1995) is the second exhibition to be shown in 2022 at the Stiftung Kunstforum Berliner Volksbank and was created in close cooperation with the Stiftung Stadtmuseum Berlin. Under the motto "1 theme - 2 art collections - 3 venues", the exhibition project presents selected positions by East Berlin artists from these two important Berlin art collections. The works of the 57 artists from the fields of sculpture, graphics, photography and painting all address the period of upheaval in Berlin between 1985 and 1995.

The first part of the exhibition project will open on 25 August at the Stiftung Kunstforum Berliner Volksbank, the second part will be on view from 16 September in the Museum Nikolaikirche and the Museum Ephraim-Palais.

The setup of the Kunstsammlung der Berliner Volksbank (Art Collection of the Berliner Volksbank) began in the mid-1980s with a focus on figurative art from Berlin, Brandenburg and East Germany. Today, the inventory includes around 1,500 works by around 160 artists, with both East and West German positions being represented equally. A special focus lies on art of the 1980s and 1990s.

The exhibition *Aufbrüche. Abbrüche. Umbrüche. Kunst in Ost-Berlin 1985 – 1995 (Art in East Berlin 1985 – 1995)*, that is on display at the Stiftung Kunstforum Berliner Volksbank, traces the origins of this unique collection of figurative art and shows both exhibits from our own stock and items on loan from the Stiftung Stadtmuseum Berlin. The approximately 50 paintings, graphics, sculptures and photographs by 25 artists illustrate the artistic reflections on the contradictory and eventful decade between 1985 and 1995.

They also convey an impression of the variety of themes, artistic positions and signatures of the East Berlin art scene. Even before 1989, numerous artists turned away from the official cultural policy of the GDR. In their works, the young art scene processed the tensions of the last years of the GDR and the fall of the Berlin Wall.

A section of the exhibition is dedicated to the innovative positions of female East Berlin artists, who not only question state politics in their works, but also criticize traditional role models and clichés. The playful handling of female identity can be found in these works as well as the struggle for visibility and independence.

The insight into the multifaceted East Berlin art scene is supplemented by an extensive catalogue and six film interviews in which the painters Sabine Herrmann, Klaus Killisch and Sabine Peuckert, the sculptor Berndt Wilde, the photographer Maria Sewcz, the draftswoman Uta Hünninger, and the graphic artist Manfred Butzmann report on their

experiences before and after the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989.

The accompanying catalogue contains biographies of the 57 artists selected for this exhibition project, one of each of their works, and accompanying essays.

Artists in the exhibition at the Stiftung Kunstforum Berliner Volksbank include: Tina Bara, Annemirl Bauer, Rolf Händler, Sylvia Hagen, Angela Hampel, Sabine Herrmann, Uta Hünninger, Ingeborg Hunzinger, Konrad Knebel, Walter Libuda, Werner Liebmann, Harald Metzkes, Helga Paris, Wolfgang Peuker, Cornelia Schleime, Baldur Schönfelder, Anna Franziska Schwarzbach, Heinrich Tessmer, Hans Ticha, Ulla Walter, Berndt Wilde

We are also pleased to announce the release of the new inventory of the Kunstsammlung der Berliner Volksbank.

The publication looks back on the 37-year history of the Kunstsammlung der Berliner Volksbank (Art Collection of the Berliner Volksbank), which has its roots in one of the most interesting corporate collections in Germany. In addition to a detailed list of works and biographies of the artists, it also illustrates a chronological presentation of the collection's history as well as essays and an interview.

You are welcome to find out more about the dates of the tandem tours (curator and artist) and other events on our [homepage](#).

[Press information](#) and [photos](#) of the exhibition for download can be found at:
<https://kunstforum.berlin/aufbrueche-abbrueche-umbrueche-kunst-in-ost-berlin-1985-1995/>

Your press team

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Aufbrüche. Abbrüche. Umbrüche. Kunst in Ost-Berlin 1985 – 1995, 25 August till 11 December 2022, Tuesday to Sunday 10 a.m. – 6 p.m., Monday closed

Admission 4 euros / 3 euros (reduced), free admission to children and teens younger than 18 years.

A 191-page accompanying publication will be published.

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We recommend using public transportation to get to us. (S-Ringbahn Messe Nord/ICC, U2 Sophie-Charlotte-Platz or Kaiserdamm).