

**New Exhibition *Durchdringen: Das U/unheimliche s/Sehen (Inter/Penetration: The Uncanniness of Seeing)* at Stiftung Kunstforum Berliner Volksbank**

**Duration: 11 September until 8 December 2024**

**Location: Kaiserdamm 105, 14057 Berlin-Charlottenburg**

On September 11, as part of Berlin Art Week, the exhibition *Durchdringen: Das U/unheimliche s/Sehen* opens at Stiftung Kunstforum Berliner Volksbank. Visitors can expect two special features: Michael Müller is the first artist to curate an exhibition on our space. In addition, the extensive temporary remodelling of the exhibition rooms will provide a completely new visual experience.

Perfectly lit, placed at eye level and carefully labelled - this is how art is usually presented at the Stiftung Kunstforum Berliner Volksbank. However, in this new exhibition, much is different. A wedge-shaped black installation dominates the exhibition space on the ground floor. Visitors have to venture into the darkness to reach the art. The room gets lower and lower - you literally have to adopt a different perspective and scan the pictures with your eyes in order to recognize details in the dim light.

The unconventional staging challenges our visual habits. A quick glance is not enough. The works of art only reveal their secrets and open up spaces for interpretation when viewed intensively.

This visual experiment was conceived by the German-British artist Michael Anthony Müller. As guest curator, he "penetrates" the Kunstsammlung der Berliner Volksbank - selected works from the collection as well as additional loans appear in a new context through his gaze. The presentation he has put together prevents the possibility of categorizing artists and works according to conventional aesthetic, historical or stylistic categories.

In terms of content and atmosphere, Müller focuses on the uncanny, which Sigmund Freud describes as the once familiar that has been repressed. When what was meant to remain hidden and "heimlich" re-emerges, it becomes "unheimlich" or uncanny.

In the second part of the exhibition on the upper floor, Müller uses his own art to react to the works in the Kunstsammlung der Berliner Volksbank. Visual barriers and unconventional hangings challenge visitors to shift their usual perspectives and search for deeper meanings in the dialogue between the images.

Exhibition highlights include *Aufwärts im April* (1956) by Gerhard Altenbourg, which Michael Müller has integrated into one of his own works, Müller's video *The Attempt to Be Abstract Under Hypnosis*, documenting the creation of his drawings *Session on Friday, May 2* (2007), which are also on display, and Hans Bellmer's etchings *Heinrich von Kleist: Les Marionettes* (1969), which reference Kleist's text *On the Marionette Theatre*.

With *Durchdringen: Das U/unheimliche s/Sehen*, Stiftung Kunstforum Berliner Volksbank and Michael Müller invite the audience to challenge familiar ways of seeing and to discover the ambiguous.

The exhibition shows over 100 works by 23 artists: Gerhard Altenbourg, Armando, Roger Ballen, Hans Bellmer, Asger Carlsen, Rolf Faber, Galli, René Graetz, Hans-Hendrik Grimmling, Bertold Haag, Martin Heinig, Hirschvogel, Ingeborg Hunzinger, Leiko Ikemura, Aneta Kajzer, Max Kaminski, Henri Michaux, Michael Müller, Michael Oppitz, Cornelia Schleime, Stefan Schröter, Werner Tübke, Max Uhlig

### **About Michael Müller**

In his works, the German-British artist Michael Anthony Müller (\* 1970) deals with the aesthetics and visualisation of complex thought processes, which he questions in terms of their sensual experience and material content. Based on historical narratives, scientific methods, social norms as well as language and number systems, he develops an artistic formal language that repeatedly pushes these systems and structures to their limits. Müller expresses himself through a wide range of media - from painting and sculpture to installations and performances. He lives in Berlin and exhibits his work internationally. From 2015 to 2018, he taught as a professor at the Berlin University of the Arts (UdK).

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→ [all press information and pictures of the exhibition for download](#)

→ [information on guided tours and other events](#)

**BERLIN**  
**ART 11**—15 SEP 2024  
**WEEK**

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*Durchdringen: Das U/unheimliche s/Sehen, 11 September until 8 December 2024*

*Tuesday to Sunday from 10am to 6pm, Mondays closed*

*Admission 5 Euro, reduced 3 Euro, up to 18 years free. An accompanying publication will be published.*

*Stiftung Kunstforum Berliner Volksbank, Kaiserdamm 105, 14057 Berlin (Charlottenburg), Tel. 030 30 63-17 44*

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*We recommend using public transport (S-Ringbahn Messe Nord/ICC, U2 Sophie-Charlotte-Platz or Kaiserdamm).*