

NEWSLETTER KICKEN BERLIN

SPRING 2016

MIXED MEDIA (II) About Abstraction

March 17 - April 22, 2016

Open: Tue - Fri from 2 - 6 p.m.
& by appointment

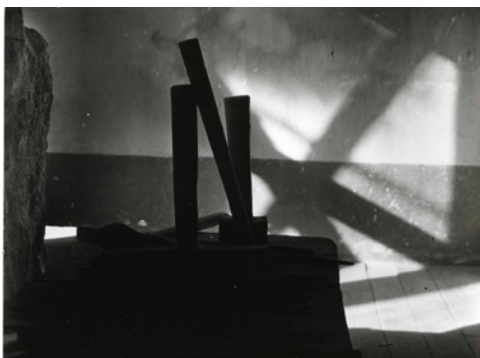
VIRTUAL TOUR >>> kicken-gallery.com



LÁSZLÓ MOHOLY-NAGY, 'Untitled (Kestner-Mappe, Plate 6)', 1923, colour lithograph © Hattula Moholy-Nagy: VG Bild-Kunst, Bonn 2016 / Courtesy Kicken Berlin

MIXED MEDIA (II) About Abstraction

The exhibition series *Mixed Media*, which presents photography in dialogue with other media, continues in a second show, *About Abstraction*. The exhibit addresses free forms – lines, surfaces, structures – ranging from the 1920s through the 1980s. From constructivism to minimalism, the spectrum includes drawing, graphic works, and sculptural works that correspond with photographic pieces.



CHRISTER STRÖMHOLM, 'Paris', 1949-1950, gelatin silver print © Christer Strömholm / BVS / Courtesy Kicken Berlin

The Photography Show | presented by AIPAD

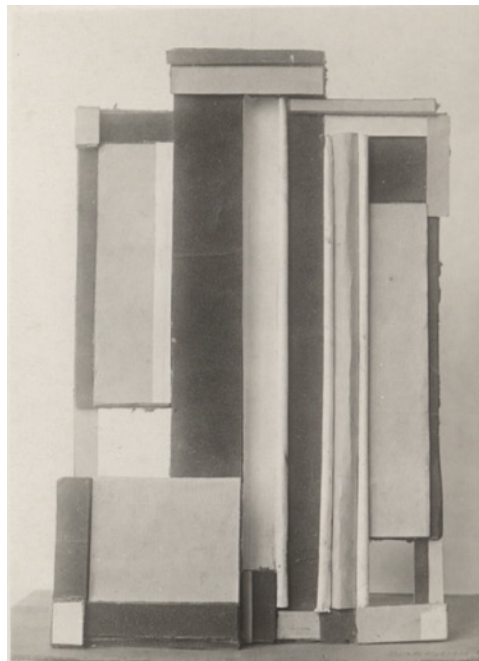
Park Avenue Armory, New York: Booth 213 (5)

PRESS & VIP PREVIEW: Apr 13, 3.30 – 5 p.m. (invitation only)
OPENING NIGHT PREVIEW: Apr 13, 5 – 9 p.m. (invitation only)
PRIVATE TOURS: Apr 14 – 17, 10 – 11 a.m. (invitation only)
SHOW HOURS: Apr 14, 11 a.m. – 7 p.m., Apr 15, 11 a.m. – 8 p.m., Apr 16, 11 a.m. – 7 p.m. & Apr 17, 11 a.m. – 6 p.m.

>>> aipad.site-ym.com

The complex formal language of the abstract motifs across various media reflects the development of abstract art in the twentieth century and is manifested in two tendencies: in a constructivist, geometric approach on the one hand and in a lyrical, expressive stance, emphasizing materiality and tactility, on the other. Assembled here by these approaches, the groupings serve to continuously spark new and unusual visual conversations.

Classic black-and-white photography meets its analogy in the clear form of graphic design and drawing. As an introduction, works by Arnulf Rainer, Lucien Clergue, and Hans Hartung set dark accents, while pieces by Christer Strömholm, Takeshi Kijima, and Peter Brüning accentuate softer, script symbols and lines on light surfaces.



VKHUTEMAS WORKSHOPS, 'Untitled (Vkhutemas, IIV-5-28; An exercise on rhythmical frontal composition)', 1920s, gelatin silver print © Estate of the artist / Courtesy Kicken Berlin

Also on display are crystalline and vegetal shapes and figurative motifs by Czech artist Jaromír Funke and Italian painter Carol Rama, augmented by the analogy of Heinz Hajek-Halke's *Lichtgrafik*.

Works by Jaroslav Rössler, a study from the Vkhutemas workshop for spatial perception,

NEWS

EXHIBITIONS OF GALLERY ARTISTS

Erwin Blumenfeld, Janos Frecot, Helmut Newton, Man Ray in: 'Blue Moon' (group exhibition), until Mar 27, 2016, Kunsthalle HGN, Duderstadt, Germany kunsthallehgn.de

'JOACHIM BROHM State of M.', Mar 22 – Jun 12, 2016, Kunstmuseum Kloster Unser Lieben Frauen, Magdeburg, Germany kunstmuseum-magdeburg.de

Charles Fréger 'Yokainoshima', until May 15, 2016, Fondation d'entreprise Hermès in Tokyo, Japan fondationdentreprisehermes.org

Charles Fréger in 'Mit anderen Augen. Das Porträt in der zeitgenössischen Fotografie' (group exhibition), until May 29, 2016, Die Photographische Sammlung/SK Stiftung Kultur, Köln, Germany mitanderenaugen.info

Jitka Hanzlová in 'Mit anderen Augen. Das Porträt in der zeitgenössischen Fotografie', (group exhibition), until May 8, 2016, Kunstmuseum Bonn, Germany kunstmuseum-bonn.de

Peter Keetman, Otto Steinert, Ludwig Windstosser a.o. in 'Jackson Pollock's Mural. Energy Made Visible' (group exhibition), until Apr 10, 2016, Deutsche Bank KunstHalle, Berlin, Germany deutsche-bank-kunsthalle.de

Man Ray in 'Pandora's Box: Jan Dibbets on Another Photography' (group exhibition), Mar 25 – Jul 17, 2016, Musée d'art Moderne de la Ville de Paris, France mam.paris.fr

Hans-Christian Schink in 'Szenerie und Naturobjekt - Antarktisfotografien von Hans-Christian Schink und der Valdivia-Expedition 1898/99', until Jun 26, 2016, Technische Sammlungen Dresden, Germany tsd.de

and a László Moholy-Nagy lithography from the Kestner Portfolio show how color (or black and shades of gray), forms, and surfaces influence perception. The similarities and divergences of artistic positions beyond the groups assembled together on the wall become apparent in the works from Josef Albers and Richard Serra, who encountered each other as teacher and student in Yale University art department.

The pinnacle of geometry around 1930, in both artistic and commercial works, is reflected in the drawings of Bauhaus student Grit Kallin-Fischer, a montage by typographer Jan Tschichold, and photographic volume studies of the Vkhutemas workshop, the Eastern European counterpart to the Bauhaus.

At the center of a loose grouping of linear and crystalline elements is a drawing by Charlotte Posenenske that conveys a certain tactility, almost as if in relief. This piece is flanked on one side by exponents of the German and international New Objectivity movements, *fotoform*, and subjective photography – Albert Renger-Patzsch, Otto Steinert, and Japanese photographer Kaoru Ohto – and by abstract reminiscences of the Dada- and surrealism-trained views of Kurt Schwitters and August Sander as well as by the macro images of flowers, Kiyoshi Niiyama's series *Morning Glory*, on the other side. Hans Uhlmann's sculptural *Fetish* adopts formal aspects of non-European art.

Another collection of pure geometric forms with

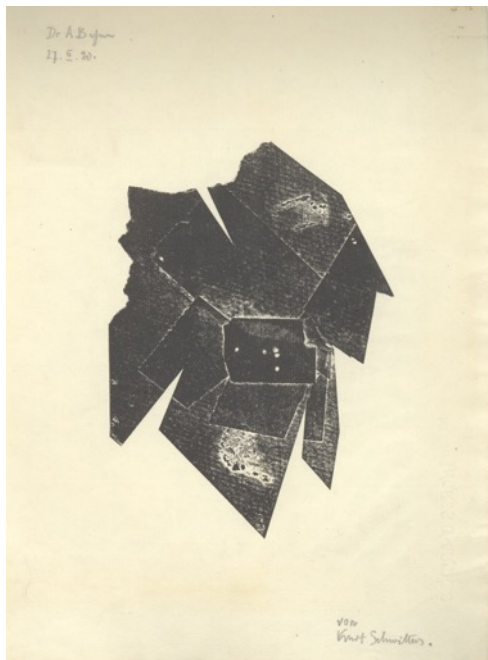


AUGUST SANDER, 'Untitled (Hans Walter Reitz, Building Corner of Gleueler Street, Cologne-Lindenthal)', ca. 1929-1932, gelatin silver print © Die Photographische Sammlung/SK Stiftung Kultur – August Sander Archiv, Köln; VG Bild-Kunst, Bonn 2016 / Courtesy Kicken Berlin

clear lines is centered around the graphic yet equally sculptural work by Imi Knoebel. Works by Christer Strömholm, Kilian Breier, Kurt Schwitters, and others elaborate on pyramids and cubes in strong black-and-white contrasts.

Strictly graphic refractions and reflections, almost like a synthesis of the shapes on the adjacent walls, set the tone for the ensemble that unites works by Otto Steinert, Jaroslav Rössler, and Hans Uhlmann. Photographically developed optical phenomena meet pictorial reduction. In his photo-theoretical explanations in *subjektive fotografie 2* (1955), Otto Steinert defined the optical-technical abstractions possible in the medium, beyond the mere representation of reality, as the freest form of "absolute photographic creation." Moving freely from inter-war modernism to Steinert and his cohorts and into the present, the exhibition *Mixed Media (II) About Abstraction* weaves together a dense net of related artistic perspectives. Transcending eras and media, these views represent a central theme in twentieth-century art.

We would like to thank the artists and their estates, Mehdi Chouakri (Berlin), Derda Berlin (Berlin), Galerie Fahnenmann (Berlin), Galerie Michael Haas (Berlin/Zurich) and Galerie Leu (München) for their kind collaboration.



KURT SCHWITTERS, 'Untitled', 1920, monotype © VG Bild-Kunst, Bonn 2016 / Courtesy Kicken Berlin

PUBLICATIONS OF GALLERY ARTISTS

Jitka Hanzlová, 'HORSE', Koenig Books, London, 2016
buchhandlung-walther-koenig.de

'Bare Wunder. Sigmar Polke through the decades', exh. cat. 2016, publ. by Sies + Höke together with Kicken Berlin, 2016

'Aspects of Subjective Photography in Japan' and 'Kiyoshi Niiyama. Morning Glory', Cahiers 8 + 9, Kicken Berlin 2015
kicken-gallery.com

REVIEWS

'Eine neue Zeitrechnung', exhibition review by Swantje Karich, Welt am Sonntag, Feb 21, 2016, nr. 8, p. 64.

'Schau genau hin', exhibition review by Christiane Meixner, Der Tagesspiegel, March 5, 2016, nr. 22 690, p. 32.

'Einst radikal, heute nostalgisch', exhibition review by Angela Hohmann, Berliner Morgenpost, March 8, 2016, p. 16.

'Art Basel Miami', fair review of Art Basel Miami Beach by Heather Buchanan, Equestro, Spring/Summer 2016, nr. 48, p. 51-55.

DO NOT MISS

'Die Entdeckung der Dinge. Fotografie und Design' (group exhibition), until Apr 3, 2016, Wilhelm Wagenfeld Stiftung, Bremen, Germany
wilhelm-wagenfeld-stiftung.de

'Cindy Sherman - Works from the Olbricht Collection', until Apr 10, 2016, me Collectors Room Berlin, Stiftung Olbricht, Germany
me-berlin.com

'Ulrich Wüst. Stadtbilder/Spätsommer/Randlagen', until Apr 24, 2016, C/O Berlin, Germany
co-berlin.org

'Stephen Shore. Retrospektive', until May 22, 2016, C/O Berlin, Germany
co-berlin.org

'Aufbrüche- Bilder aus Deutschland', Mar 23 – May 22, 2016, Willy-Brandt-Haus, Berlin, Germany
willy-brandt-haus.de

'Thomas Struth. Nature & Politics', until May 29, 2016, Museum Folkwang, Essen, Germany
museum-folkwang.de

'Ein Foto kommt selten allein' (group exhibition), until Jun 5, 2016, Museum für Fotografie, Berlin, Germany
smb.museum

PHOTOGRAPHY. WORKS ON PAPER KICKEN BERLIN

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Tue – Fri 14.00 – 18.00 Visit our exhibitions online at www.kicken-gallery.com
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