

NEWSLETTER KICKEN BERLIN

WINTER 2012

RUDOLF KOPPITZ & OTHER EUROPEAN MASTERS

January 28 - February 26, 2012

OPENING: January 27, 6 – 8.30 PM

KICKEN II: GUNDULA SCHULZE ELDOWY. BERLIN ON A DOG'S NIGHT

VIRTUAL TOUR >>> www.kicken-gallery.com

TEFAF Maastricht

Kicken Berlin @ Tefaf (March 16 – 25)

PREVIEW: March 15, 10.30 AM – 9 PM

Daily: 11 AM – 7 PM; Sunday, March 25, 11 AM – 6 PM

Booth 506

>>> www.tefaf.com



RUDOLF KOPPITZ (1884-1936), 'Getreidemandln', before 1923, gelatin silver print © Estate of the Artist/Courtesy Kicken Berlin

RUDOLF KOPPITZ & OTHER EUROPEAN MASTERS

To kick off 2012, Kicken Berlin presents the exhibition *Rudolf Koppitz and other European Masters* from January 27 through February 25 as well as a selection from Gundula Schulze Eldowy's *Berlin in einer Hundennacht/Berlin on a Dog's Night* (1977–1990) in Kicken II's exhibition space.

Rudolf Koppitz (1884–1936) may be considered Austria's most prominent inner-war-era photographer. His life's work spans both a variety of pictorialist imagery as well as the clear aesthetic of modernism's New Objectivity around 1930. His *Bewegungsstudie*/Movement Study of three black-robed dancers with a female nude from 1925 is his most celebrated image and simultaneously an icon of photo history. The image unites the elegance of the flowing lines of Viennese art nouveau with the precise, sharp gaze of the modern. Koppitz interpreted this motif using various techniques, from rich pigment and bromoil prints to silver gelatin prints.

Less well known but no less bold in their abstraction are the cloud studies taken by Koppitz as a surveillance pilot from an open airplane during World War I. Furthermore, Koppitz's self portraits hiking through the mountains and pictures of his powerful ex-

posed body attest to a confident, new self-representation of vital physicality in accord with the nature of the mountains. In addition to the artist's stupendous mastery of such various printing techniques, Koppitz is known for his subtle, strict, and yet harmonious compositions, the spectrum of which ranges from the elegance of the *Bewegungsstudie* and nudes to the seemingly cropped, monumental abstractions of statuesque figures of the *Heimatphotographie* (home-land photography) movement from the 1930s.

Koppitz himself considered the triptych of images *Mutter und Kind*/Mother and Child (his wife Anna with their daughter Liselotte), *Bewegungsstudie*, and the self-portrait *Im Schoße der Natur*/In the Lap of Nature to be among his most important works. A large-format version long hung prominently in his atelier. Here the study of fertility, eroticism, and self-perception can be experienced in a more intimate format in three clear silver gelatin prints.



RUDOLF KOPPITZ (1884-1936), 'Movement Study', Vienna, 1925, gelatin silver print © Estate of the Artist/Courtesy Kicken Berlin

NEWS

Dieter Appelt: Selected series online soon!

<http://www.kicken-gallery.com/appelt.html>

EXHIBITIONS OF GALLERY ARTISTS

'Joachim Brohm – COLOR', Landesgalerie Linz, Austria, until Feb 19

www.landesmuseum.at

Charles Fréger 'Wilder Mann', Fotohof, Salzburg, Austria, until Jan 28

www.fotohof.at

'František Drtikol - Helmut Newton', Kunsthalle HGN, Duderstadt, Germany, until Feb 26

'Gundula Schulze Eldowy - Die frühen Jahre. Fotografien 1977-1990', C/O Berlin, Germany, until Feb 26

www.co-berlin.info

Gundula Schulze Eldowy 'Verwandlungen', Kunstraum im Deutschen Bundestag, 'Den letzten beißen die Hunde', Mauer-Mahnmal im Deutschen Bundestag, until Feb 26

www.bundestag.de

REVIEWS

Tobias Timm, 'Die ganz andere DDR'. Zwei Ausstellungen in Berlin zeigen die großartigen Photographien von Gundula Schulze Eldowy, Die Zeit Nr. 50, 8.12.2011

www.zeit.de

RUDOLF KOPPITZ & OTHER EUROPEAN MASTERS

Kicken Berlin embeds the work of Rudolf Koppitz, long-time professor at Vienna's Graphischen Lehr- und Versuchsanstalt für Photographie, in the context of the Central European avant-garde.

In particular his contemporary Heinrich Kühn and Czechs Karel Novak, Josef Sudek, and František Drtikol and Hungarian Ferenc Háar enrich the Austrian's aesthetic world with their portraits, nude studies, and still lifes. Works by Karl Bloßfeldt, Albert Renger-Patzsch, and Aenne Biermann focus more specifically on the use of a clear, object-based photography.

Koppitz, artist and teacher, was indeed very popular in his own time, as evidenced by his regular participation in the international exhibitions of the renowned amateur photographers movement, with František Drtikol and Josef Sudek among others. A one-man show travelled through nine venues in the US in 1929; the retrospective *Land und Leute/Country and People* united over five hundred of the artist's works in Vienna in 1936, shortly before his death.

Koppitz, one of the twentieth century's most well-known unknown photographers, together with the avant-gardes of his era, comprise the heart of the exhibition, which is dedicated to his daughter Liselotte (1925–2011). Liselotte, who like her father also completed her photo studies at Vienna's Graphischen Lehr- und Versuchsanstalt, together with her husband Klaus Tavs worked tirelessly to preserve and process the estate and archives of the photographic family.



LISELOTTE TAVS-KÖPPITZ (1925-2011), 'Der größtenwahnsinnige Hund', ca. 1952, gelatin silver print © Estate of the Artist/Courtesy Kicken Berlin

Indeed her mother Anna worked together with Rudolf Koppitz, and a number of his works can in fact be attributed to her. A selection of works by Liselotte Tavs-Koppitz rounds out the show.

GUNDULA SCHULZE ELDOWY. BERLIN ON A DOG'S NIGHT @ KICKEN II

Parallel to the retrospective of the early works of Gundula Schulze Eldowy at C/O Berlin and a selection of works at the German parliament's Kunstraum and Berlin Wall memorial, Kicken II presents works from the series *Berlin in einer Hundenacht* (1977–1990).



GUNDULA SCHULZE ELDOWY (*1954), 'Berlin', 1987, gelatin silver print © Gundula Schulze Eldowy/Courtesy Kicken Berlin

With her direct, often unsparing photographs, Gundula Schulze Eldowy assumes a singular position in the history of German photography. Primarily in the 1980s, she approached people and places in Berlin Mitte with empathy and curiosity, capturing the traces of time in their faces and on the city's facades. Her series *Berlin in einer Hundenacht* is a sociogram of the last decade of the GDR; she concentrates on the unique scenes of the Berlin milieu in Mitte with its authentic, non-conformist protagonists – such as Robert, the newspaperman, and Lothar, who the photographer portrays both in his delivery uniform as well as nude. The faces reflect the difficulties of life, the figures the surreal moments. Schulze Eldowy understands herself as part of this society, not as an outsider.

Schulze Eldowy confronts the viewer even more directly with existential ideas such as violence, life, and death in the color images from the series *Der große und der kleine Schritt/The big and the little Step* (1982–1990), which she shot in Dresden and Leipzig. A selection of these photographs is displayed in the lower level of the gallery.

REVIEWS

Irene Bazinger, 'Wie sich das Glück in Bildern fassen lässt', *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* Nr. 301, 27.12.2011
www.faz.net

Karin Schulze, 'Ausnahme-Fotografin Gundula Schulze Eldowy: Berlin ist hart zu seinen Bewohnern', *Spiegel Online*, 13.12. 2011
www.spiegel.de

Kito Nedo, 'Gundula Schulze Eldowy, Ewig Stunde Null', *Art. Das Kunstmagazin*, January 2012, p. 58-65
www.art-magazin.de

PUBLICATIONS OF GALLERY ARTISTS

František Drtikol, *Photographie*, Hatje Cantz Verlag 2011
www.hatjecantz.de

Gundula Schulze Eldowy, 'Berlin on a Dog's Night. Fotografien 1977-1990'; 'Der grosse und der kleine Schritt/The big and the little step', exh. cat. C/O Berlin; 'Am fortgewehten Ort. Berliner Geschichten', both Lehmann Verlag, 2011
www.lehmann.de

LOANS FROM KICKEN BERLIN

August Sander in 'Ich ist ein anderer'. *Gesichter einer Epoche*, Franz Marc Museum, Kochel am See, Germany, Jan 29 - May 27
www.franz-marc-museum.de

Umbo in '25 Jahre! Sammlung Henri Nannen und Überraschungsgäste', *Kunsthalle Emden*, Germany, until Jan 29
www.kunsthalle-empden.de

Umbo in 'Circus Wols', *Museum Weserburg*, Bremen, Germany, Feb 25 - May 28
www.weserburg.de

DO NOT MISS

'Diane Arbus', *Jeu de Paume*, Paris, France, until Feb 5
www.jeudepaume.org

PHOTOGRAPHY. WORKS ON PAPER KICKEN BERLIN

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Wed – Sat 14.00 – 18.00 Visit our exhibitions online at www.kicken-gallery.com
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