

Press release

Worlds in Motion. 30 Years Kunstmuseum Wolfsburg May 25 – August 4, 2024

Press Conference: Thursday, May 23, 2024, 11:15 am

The Kunstmuseum Wolfsburg is celebrating its thirtieth anniversary with a unique exhibition entitled *Worlds in Motion. 30 Years Kunstmuseum Wolfsburg.* From May 25 to August 4, 2024, the museum will present highlights from its exceptional collection—including numerous new donations on view for the first time. Special "guests" have been invited to engage in fascinating dialogues on timeless and yet topical themes: Fifteen historic works from Braunschweig's Herzog Anton Ulrich-Museum will be juxtaposed with contemporary paintings, sculptures, and installations by internationally acclaimed artists, including Elizabeth Peyton, Jonathan Meese, Michel Majerus, Andreas Gursky, Gauri Gill, Bruce Nauman, Phyllida Barlow, Panamarenko, and many more—a veritable "Who's Who" of contemporary art! A Roman emperor meets an English pop star, a *Venus* by Lucas Cranach meets Cindy Sherman's sex dolls, a horse-drawn carriage meets a flying machine.

"Worlds in Motion presents a journey through the multifaceted world of change in the most diverse areas of life. The exhibition offers a space for personal reflection and collective discussion, in which it becomes clear that while many themes remain the same over the centuries, their meanings are subject to change. In this context, we are particularly pleased to be able to illustrate the timelessness of these themes by juxtaposing our contemporary works with selected works from the Herzog Anton Ulrich Museum in Braunschweig," says Holger Broeker, curator of the exhibition and Head of Collection at the Kunstmuseum Wolfsburg.

"In this anniversary year, the focus is on our collection. What my predecessors began with foresight, we have been able to continue in recent years, mainly thanks to generous donations. We have been able to develop our collection strategically, adding works by women artists and global positions in particular. Based on our collection, which has now grown to more than 1,000 works, our anniversary exhibition raises fundamental questions about human coexistence. At the same time, the exhibition accompanies our fundamental reflections on what the museum of the future could look like, how we can face the challenges of social change with confidence and openness, and how we can continue to be an attractive place for exchange and diverse experiences," emphasizes Andreas Beitin, Director of the Kunstmuseum Wolfsburg.

Divided into fifteen chapters, the exhibition *Worlds in Motion* presents unusual perspectives on topics such as the body, sexuality, identity, family sensitivities, and social values such as freedom and equality. The exhibition spans a thematic arc from the individual to the global and poses critical

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questions that have accompanied the development of the Kunstmuseum Wolfsburg's collection: How do our actions shape the world? What responsibility do we bear? What will remain? And what continues to enrich our lives? Since its opening in 1994, the museum has built up an outstanding collection of contemporary art that addresses these and other central issues of our time. The cooperation with the Herzog Anton Ulrich-Museum strengthens the institutional ties and enables lively discussions about the constants and changes in our world. The anniversary exhibition shows how renowned artists view the changes of our time through an artistic lens—from global upheavals to personal metamorphoses.

As an anniversary gift, all visitors who will or have already turned thirty this year (2024) will receive free admission to the exhibition *Worlds in Motion. 30 Years Kunstmuseum Wolfsburg.* In addition, with the start of the exhibition, the Kunstmuseum will extend its opening hours and open its doors from Tuesday to Friday from 10 am.

Opening hours as of May 28, 2024 Tuesday to Friday, 10 am – 6 pm Saturday, Sunday, and public holidays, 11 am – 6 pm

Curator: Holger Broeker Curatorial Assistant: Veronika Mehlhart

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