

Press release

September 2024



Art Brut Biotope. Works from the Hannah Rieger Collection

The exhibition is on show at the Kunsthalle Jesuitenkirche from 28 September 2024 to 9 February 2025.

With the private collection of Hannah Rieger from Vienna, for the first time, Kunsthalle Jesuitenkirche is presenting Art Brut. The collection ranks among the most important of its kind and with this exhibition is having its premiere in Germany.

Titled 'Art Brut Biotope. Works from the Hannah Rieger Collection', 77 exhibits by 46 artists from all over the world are on show, offering a unique insight into this genre. Works of Art Brut, which are more and more becoming the focus of public attention, are also increasingly finding their way into the collections of renowned museums as well as important international art shows, such as the Venice Biennale. The exhibition also features works by all four Art Brut artists who are on show at this year's Biennale: Aloïse Corbaz, Madge Gill, Anna Zemánková und Leopold Strobl.

The exhibition 'Art Brut Biotope. Works from the Hannah Rieger Collection' was curated by PD Dr. Thomas Schauerte, director of the Museums of the City of Aschaffenburg.

Art Brut – The completely unexpected in art

The creators of Art Brut are mostly self-taught and create unadulterated art beyond the mainstream. The term Art Brut was introduced after the Second World War by French artist and wine merchant Jean Dubuffet. The genre is characterised by its diverse and original formal language, which is both historically and currently far removed from of the academic art world.

Art Brut reveals its true essence only through its radical individuality. Each artist follows a creative mission, obsession or vision, presenting a stand-alone artistic expression with completely autonomous aesthetics. The focus of Art Brut is on the quality of artistic expression and not on the social status or the mental, physical or intellectual condition of the artists.

Communications
Vera Höfer

Schlossplatz 4
63739 Aschaffenburg

Phone
+49 60 21 386 74 15

presse@museen-
aschaffenburg.de

www.museen-
aschaffenburg.de

Press release

September 2024



The avant-garde, always in search of new forms of expression, also discovered Art Brut for themselves. Important artists such as Max Ernst, Paul Klee and Pablo Picasso, as well as the Aschaffenburg-born expressionist Ernst Ludwig Kirchner, have thoroughly explored the genre.

Art Brut Biotope

The interplay of different formal languages and 'individual mythologies' (Harald Szeemann) reflects the uniqueness, non-conformity and diversity of Art Brut. The exhibition creates a space in the sense of a protected biotope where – just like in ecology – life can unfold freely and where viewers can experience emotionally meaningful things – beyond the conventional, academic appreciation of art.

The Hannah Rieger Collection

Hannah Rieger has been collecting Art Brut since 1991 and lives in Vienna and the Weinviertel region of Lower Austria. Her collection comprises over 550 works, making it one of the larger private collections specialised in Art Brut. Its starting point is art from the village of Maria Gugging near Vienna, where the Austrian Art Brut artists' community is based. The psychiatrist Dr. Leo Navratil initiated the 'House of Artists' in 1981 as a men's department for the psychiatric clinic there. However, it has since been separated from the psychiatric hospital and transformed into an institution unique in the world with art production, museum and gallery. The rest of her collection consists of international Art Brut with a focus on women.

'The artists and their works that have gone unnoticed for decades are close to my heart – both personally and for reasons of academic rehabilitation. I am excited that Art Brut is honored now in Aschaffenburg, this historically important residential town,' says Hannah Rieger about her intention.

Press release

September 2024



Artists of the exhibition

Noviadi Angkasapura (b. 1979, Indonesia)

Perihan Arpacilar (b. 1949 to 2022, Turkey / Germany)

Laila Bachtiar (b. 1971, Austria)

Pearl Blauvelt (1893 to 1987, USA)

Ida Buchmann (1911 to 2001, Switzerland)

Raimundo Camillo (b. 1939 or 1943, Brazil)

Nek Chand (1924 to 2015, Pakistan / India)

Aloïse Corbaz (1886 to 1964, Switzerland)

Alois Fischbach (1926 to 1987, Austria)

Johann Fischer (1919 to 2008, Austria)

Franz Gableck (1910 to 1974, Austria)

Ousseynou Gassama (Hassan) (life dates unknown, Senegal / Spain)

Madge Gill (1882 to 1961, United Kingdom)

Paul Goesch (1885 to 1940, Germany)

Martha Grunenwaldt (1910 to 2008, Belgium)

Guo Fengyi (1942 to 2010, China)

Johann Hauser (1926 to 1994, Austria)

Magalí Herrera (1914 to 1992, Uruguay)

Franz Kamlander (1920 to 1999, Austria)

Franz Kernbeis (1935 to 2019, Austria)

Johann Korec (1937 to 2008, Austria)

Julia Krause Harder (b. 1973, Germany)

Pradeep Kumar (b. 1973, India)

Momoko Nakagawa (b. 1996, Japan)

Michel Nedjar (b. 1947, France)

Press release

September 2024



Masao Obata (1943 to 2010, Japan)
Misleidys Castillo Pedroso (b. 1985, Cuba)
Marilena Pelosi (b. 1957, Brazil / France)
Michaela Polacek (b. 1972, Austria)
Mehrdad Rashidi (b. 1963, Iran / Germany)
Heinrich Reisenbauer (b. 1938, Austria)
Karl Reisenbauer (b. 1940, Austria)
André Robillard (b. 1931, France)
Karoline Rosskopf (b. 1911, date of death unknown, Austria)
Arnold Schmidt (b. 1959, Austria)
Mary T. Smith (1904 to 1995, USA)
Harald Stoffers (b. 1961, Germany)
Leopold Strobl (b. 1960, Austria)
Oswald Tischirtner (1920 to 2007, Austria)
Karl Vondal (1953 to 2024, Austria)
Melvin Way (1954 to 2024, USA)
Leoš Wertheimer (1956 to 2018, Czech Republic)
Scottie Wilson (1888 to 1972, Scotland / Canada)
Josef Wittlich (1903 to 1982, Germany)
Anna Zemánková (1908 to 1986, Czech Republic)
Carlo Zinelli (1916 to 1974, Italy)

Detailed artist biographies can be found on the website:

<https://livinginartbrut.com/index.php/de/kuenstler/alle-kuenstler>

Press release

September 2024



Exhibition catalogue

The exhibition catalogue will be available from 25 September 2024 on the following websites:

www.museen-aschaffenburg.de

<https://livinginartbrut.com/index.php/de/projekte/publikationen>

Photo credits

All press photos can be found on our website:

<https://www.museen-aschaffenburg.de/Presse>

With the support of



Kunsthalle Jesuitenkirche

Pfaffengasse 26

63739 Aschaffenburg

Opening times

Tuesday 10.00 – 20.00

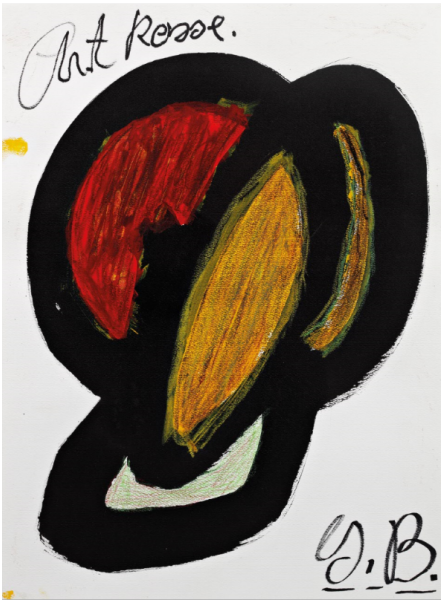
Wednesday to Sunday, public holidays 10.00 – 18.00

Closed on Mondays

Press release

September 2024

Photo credits



Ida Buchmann, Rosse, 1986, 40 x 30,1 cm, acrylic, permanent marker, ink, wax crayons, ©
Erbengemeinschaft Ida Buchmann, photo: Maurizio Maier



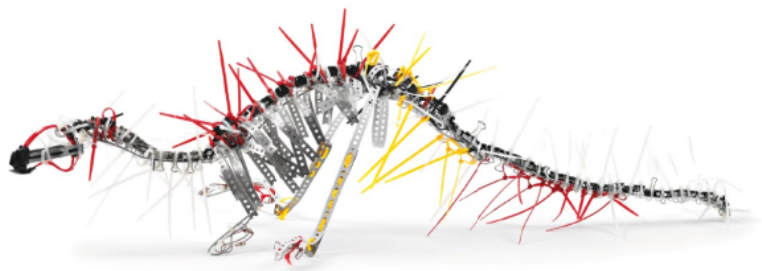
Aloïse Corbaz, Général Guisan sous le bouquet final, between 1951 and 1960, 59,5 x 42 cm,
coloured pencils on paper, recto, verso, © Fondation Aloïse, Chigny, photo: Maurizio Maier

Press release

September 2024



Noviadi Angkasapura, untitled, undated, 40,5 x 28,5 cm, mixed media on paper, © Noviadi Angkasapura, photo: Maurizio Maier



Julia Krause-Harder, Compsognathus, 2012, 95 x 25 x 30 cm, various materials, © Julia Krause-Harder, Atelier Goldstein, Frankfurt, photo: Maurizio Maier

Press release

September 2024



Johann Hauser, Frau mit schwarzem Haar, 1995, 42 x 29,6 cm, pencil, coloured pencils on paper, © Privatstiftung - Künstler aus Gugging, photo: Maurizio Maier



Oswald Tschirtner, Menschen, 2012, 45 x 180 cm, permanent marker, acrylic on canvas, © Privatstiftung - Künstler aus Gugging, photo: Maurizio Maier

Press release

September 2024



Laila Bachtar, Krokodil Laila auf, 2001, 70 x 100 cm, pencil, coloured pencils, © galerie gugging, photo: Maurizio Maier



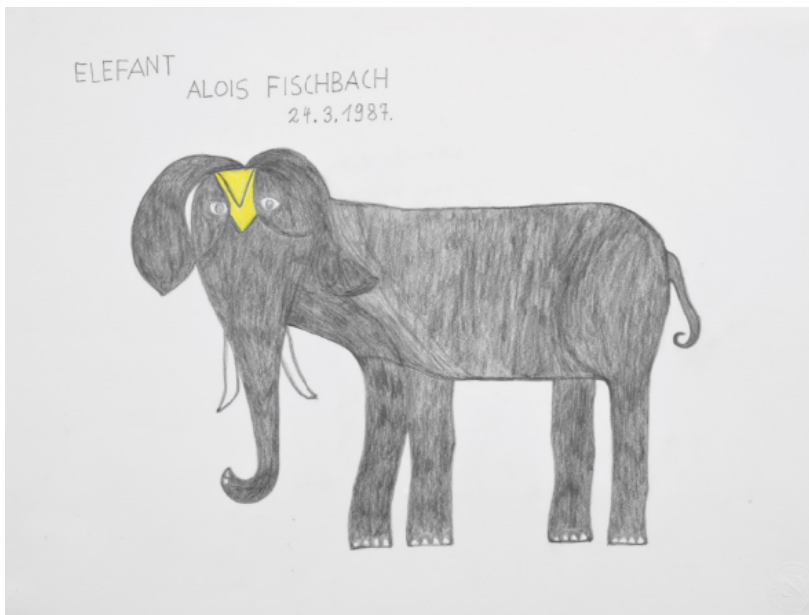
Madge Gill, untitled, 1951, 60,4 x 50,6 cm, ink on paper, © all rights reserved, photo: Maurizio Maier

Press release

September 2024



Mary T. Smith, untitled, 1980, 33 x 119 cm, acrylic on sheet metal, © all rights reserved, photo: Maurizio Maier



Alois Fischbach, Elefant, 1987, 30,1 x 40,1 cm, pencil, coloured pencils, © Privatstiftung - Künstler aus Gugging, photo: Maurizio Maier