

THE NATIONAL GALLERY OPENS THE FIRST EXHIBITION IN ITS PLANNED CYCLE 'SALM MODERN' – SHOWING BASQUIAT, HARING AND WARHOL

In collaboration with the Staatliche Kunstsammlungen Dresden (SKD) and the Sammlung Hoffmann Berlin, the National Gallery Prague (NGP) presents a selection of first-rate artworks from the Sammlung Hoffmann's donation to the Staatliche Kunstsammlungen Dresden at the Salm Palace, never before seen outside Germany in such breadth and scope. The exhibition *Dimensions of Dialogue* introduces pioneering figures in modern and contemporary art, including Marina Abramović, Jean-Michel Basquiat, Antony Gormley, Keith Haring and Andy Warhol, whose work enters into dialogue with Czech artistic production.

Sammlung Hoffmann Berlin

This spring, the Staatliche Kunstsammlungen Dresden were generously donated the outstanding art collection of Erika and Rolf Hoffmann. The donation contains works representing artistic styles and directions from the 1910s until the present. The bulk of approximately 1200 artworks ranges from drawing and painting through photography, printmaking and sculpture through film and video-art, made by artists active both on the local and international scene, from little known names to world-renowned figures such as Marina Abramović, Jean-Michel Basquiat, Monica Bonvicini, Tracey Emin, Keith Haring, William Kentridge, Ernesto Neto, Pipilotti Rist, Frank Stella and Andy Warhol.



Andy Warhol, Portraits, 1980 © Sammlung Hoffmann

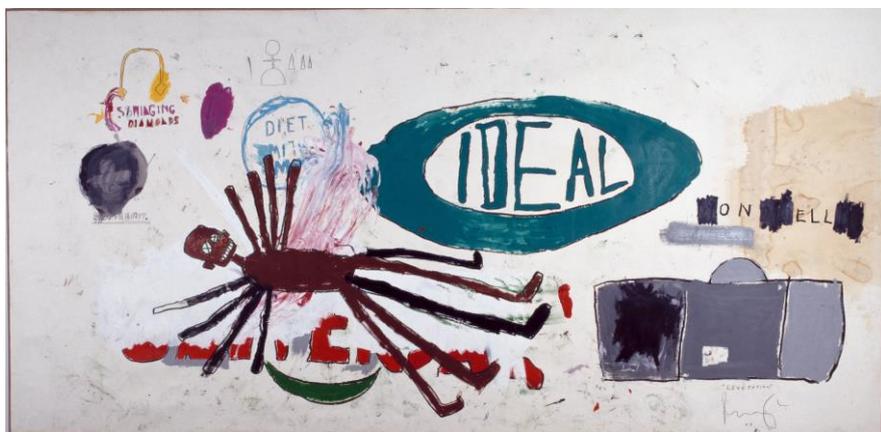
Dimensions of Dialogue

"In this exhibition, which was inspired by the title of the famous film by Jan Švankmajer, we try to highlight the Dimensions of Dialogue between artworks produced in different generations, languages and media. I find this all the more important when today's reality is no less surrealistic than what that eerily jesting film portrays. I am very glad of the opportunity to continue and expand the dialogue which my husband and I began with artists from our generation 50 years ago. And I am curious to see what the artists and audiences in Czech Republic will have to contribute," explains Erika Hoffmann.

"With the generous donation of Erika Hoffmann in March 2018, the Staatliche Kunstsammlungen Dresden have gained an invaluable asset of modern and contemporary art. Shortly afterwards followed the invitation from Jiří Fajt to present a selection of works from the collection alongside works produced by Czech artists. As the SKD and the NGP formed a long-term collaborative partnership in 2017, I am all the more delighted that this wonderful mutual effort has already come to fruition a year later in a joint and above all extraordinary exhibition project," explained Marion Ackermann, Director General of the SKD.

"Thanks to the partnership and friendly relations between the National Gallery Prague and the Staatliche Kunstsammlungen Dresden, we have a unique opportunity to present this internationally significant collection for the first time in the Czech Republic to local and international audiences. The exhibition at the Salm Palace is based on a dialogue between world-renowned artists and Czech artists in particular. I personally hold the generosity of both Erika Hoffmann as well as Marion Ackermann and her team in high esteem. I hope that the local and international audience will appreciate the results of our work," said Jiří Fajt, General Director of the NGP.

At the Salm Palace on Hradčany Square, audiences will have the chance to witness works by, among others, Marina Abramović, Jean-Michel Basquiat, Monika Bonvicini, Günter Brus, Jake & Dinos Chapman, Olga Chernysheva, Dan Flavin, Isa Genzken, Antony Gormley, Keith Haring, Thomas Locher, Frank Stella, Hiroshi Sugimoto, Jean Tinguely, Andy Warhol and Franz West from the Sammlung Hoffmann's donation to the Staatliche Kunstsammlungen Dresden. Czech artistic production will be represented by the works of Josef Bolf, Jiří Černický, Federico Díaz, Zdena Kolečková, Stanislav Kolíbal, Krištof Kintera, Jan Nálevka, Ivan Pinkava, František Skála, Vladimír Skrepl, Richard Stipl, Kateřina Šedá and Adriana Šimotová.



Jean-Michel Basquiat, *Levétation*, 1987 © Sammlung Hoffmann, courtesy of Galerie Hans Mayer

The exhibition of works from the Sammlung Hoffmann's donation to the Staatliche Kunstsammlungen Dresden is the first instalment in a series of exhibitions titled 'Salm Modern'. Within this cycle, the NGP plans to present exhibitions dedicated to modern and contemporary art from all around the world in the context of Czech artistic production. It expects to organise medium-length exhibitions in roughly yearly cycles, in collaboration with leading galleries and museums from Europe and abroad.

The exhibition *Dimensions of Dialogue* opens on December 1, 2018 at 6 pm with an Opening and lasts until December 1, 2019.

Partnership of NGP and SKD

Last year, the Staatliche Kunstsammlungen Dresden and the National Gallery Prague formed a collaborative partnership. The two institutions celebrated the beginning of their partnership in winter of 2017 with the 'Culture Train Praha – Dresden // Dresden – Praha'. The partnership was buttressed by intense exchange of associates as well as the general directors, who symbolically switched places for the length of a day. The institutions are planning further collaboration in exhibitions and research for the coming year.

Dimensions of Dialogue

Date: 2 December 2018 – 1 December 2019

Venue: Salm Palace

Curators: Marion Ackermann, Jiří Fajt, Erika Hoffmann, Veronika Hulíková, Pirkko Rathgeber, Otto M. Urban and Elke Giffeler.

Exhibition Design: Vladimír Kosík

Graphic Design: Studio Najbrt

The exhibition is organised by the National Gallery Prague, the Staatliche Kunstsammlungen Dresden and the Sammlung Hoffmann Berlin.

Press Kit and Images

<http://vpn.ngprague.cz:8010/PRESS/>

Contact

Tereza Ježková
Head of Marketing and PR
+420 728 301 377
tereza.jezkova@ngprague.cz

Info

Opening Hours:
Tuesday–Sunday: 10 AM – 6 PM
Wednesday: 10 AM – 8 PM
info@ngprague.cz
+420 224 301 122
www.ngprague.cz

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The exhibition projects are financially supported by the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic and are held in commemoration of the 2018 anniversary of Czech statehood. For an overview of all events held in commemoration of the anniversary, please visit: www.spolecnestoleti.cz.

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