

PRESS RELEASE



GALERIE ART CRU BERLIN · ORANIENBURGER STRASSE 27 · 10117 BERLIN-MITTE
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ABRAM WILHELM

Vernissage: Thursday, 07.04.2016, 7 pm
Exhibition: 08.04. – 22.05.2016
Opening Hours: Tuesday–Saturday, 12–6 pm
Galerie ART CRU Berlin, Oranienburger Str. 27, 10117 Berlin-Mitte, Germany
Introduction: Rolf Brueggemann
Psychologist, museum director of MuSee/e

Galerie ART CRU Berlin is showing works by Abram Wilhelm. His pieces are expressions of a raw creativity with the strong visual presence of classic art brut. The exhibition is held in collaboration with museum *MuSee/e*, Göppingen.

Abram Wilhelm was born 1944 in Amsterdam, grew up in the Netherlands and lived through several personal crises. His childhood was defined by hunger, hard physical work and the experience of sexual abuse. At the age of 21 he arrived in Germany and started a family. His wife committed suicide in 1981, followed by his son, who took his life 16 years later.

In his art Abram Wilhelm found a crisis response. His sorrows and the extreme experiences are reflecting in the intense works created by this outsider artist. He utilizes different media and a large variety of materials, creates paintings, drawings, collages and sculptures for which he sometimes uses found objects, for example parts of a wooden bed or cigar boxes. His creations, which the artist usually draws completely naked, remind of Hieronymus Bosch. Weightless figures, like the "Insektenhexe" (insect witch) or „Krakenfrau“ (kraken woman) are hovering through color spaces in which you can find religious or mythical references at times. His works show stomata, body fluids, excrements. As a viewer you sense instinctively that Wilhelm is not interested in any sort of affected provocation. Thematically he "references sexuality, but also anger", however never to shock or create a sensation of disgust. In his wildly glowing color palette he creates works primarily for himself, fills every corner of his house with them. They are an invitation to feel an artist's reception who managed to transform his great experienced sorrow into a highly expressive oeuvre that knows of no taboos or borders. After his turbulent life Abram Wilhelm trusts his inspirational slogan "Great expectations are waiting for those who follow their soul."

You can find further information about Abram Wilhelm on: www.artbram.de

Trägerverein:
PS-Art e.V. Berlin
Oranienburger Straße 27
10117 Berlin-Mitte

Vorstand:
Alexandra von Gersdorff-Bultmann
Ralph Stabbert
Wolfram Voigtländer

Spendenkonto:
Bank für Sozialwirtschaft
IBAN: DE42100205000001082600
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Galerie ART CRU Berlin is Berlin's only gallery for so-called Outsider Art since 2008. The term (introduced in 1945 by painter Jean Dubuffet as "Art Brut") refers to art by people with psychiatric disorders or mental disabilities. We are convinced that the particular perceptions these artists have allow them to create art of high authenticity. With our exhibitions we present works by "outsiders" as a crucial part of contemporary art and aim to foster discourse within the established art world. Being located at the Kunsthof on Oranienburger Straße, the gallery presents works by people with disabilities right in the centre of Berlin's art scene. Galerie ART CRU Berlin is backed by the non-profit federation PS-Art e.V. Berlin – a network of different institutions.

For its five-year jubilee the gallery published a chronicle comprising all exhibition catalogues from 2008-13. In 2014 we took part at the *Outsider Art Fair* in *Paris*, the world's leading fair in this field. The same year saw the nomination of five artists from the network of PS-Art e.V. Berlin for the international art prize *Euward*.

For further information and images please contact us:

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Abram Wilhelm, Bettfußteil, Woman, 2004, Mixed Media, 100x120



Abram Wilhelm, Blumenkaspar, 2014, Mixed Media, 100x40



Abram Wilhelm, Insektenhexe, 2014, oil painting, 36x52

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