

# Pictures Become Books

## The most beautiful exhibition catalogues of 2017

# Bilder werden Bücher

## Die schönsten Ausstellungskataloge 2017

This selection of German titles is show-cased at book fairs all over the world on the German collective stands organized by the Frankfurter Buchmesse in 2018.

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### Photographs become Pictures. Fotografien werden Bilder

MARTIN ENGLER  
2017, 256 pages, € 45.-  
Hirmer Verlag, 978-3-7774-2773-7  
Städel Museum, Frankfurt,  
27/4-13/8/2017

World-famous artists Bernd and Hilla Becher were the first people in Germany to teach photography as an artistic medium. Since the 1980s, their teaching has been reflected in the work of internationally significant photographers, with large-format images showing networks of relationships, and forming conceptual series. The exhibition presents about 200 photographs by Volker Döhne, Andreas Gursky, Candida Höfer, Axel Hütte, Thomas Ruff, Jörg Sasse, Thomas Struth and Petra Wunderlich.

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### Gurlitt: Status Report Bestandsaufnahme Gurlitt

KUNST-UND AUSSTELLUNGSHALLE  
DER BUNDESREPUBLIK DEUTSCHLAND  
GMBH, KUNSTMUSEUM BERN  
2017, 348 pages, € 29.90  
Hirmer Verlag, 978-3-7774-2962-5  
Bundeskunsthalle, Bonn,  
3/11/2017-11/3/2018,  
"Nazi Art Theft and its Consequences"  
Kunstmuseum Bern,  
2/11/2017-4/3/2018,  
"Degenerate Art" – confiscated and sold

The 1,500 works of art confiscated from Cornelius Gurlitt in 2013 pose the question: are they or are they not looted art? The Bonn exhibition shows the findings of research into the origins of the works. Documents, photos and more tell the story of the art dealer Hildebrand Gurlitt, who was the main procurer of art for Hitler's planned museum of art in Linz. The Kunstmuseum Bern, which is the inheritor of the Gurlitt collection, is showing works by Kirchner, Nolde, Klee, Heckel and Dix, related to the story of the "Degenerate Art".

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### Gerhard Richter Gerhard Richter

CHRISTOPH SCHREIER,  
KUNSTMUSEUM BONN  
2017, 128 pages, € 29.90  
Hirmer Verlag, 978-3-7774-2897-0  
Kunstmuseum Bonn, 15/6-1/10/2017  
Stedelijk Museum voor Actuele Kunst  
(S.M.A.K.) Gent, 21/10/2017-18/2/2018  
Museum Wiesbaden, 23/3-24/6/2018

The exhibition in Bonn shows 25 paintings with which world renowned Gerhard Richter laid the foundations of his work from 1962 and 1986. As such, they provide a key to understanding his complete works. The images of curtains, windows and doors are major pieces from New York, Budapest and Ghent, which play with the question of what painting shows us or hides from us. And what of the depiction in the medium and how this relates to the painted depiction of the world, or how both these relate to reality?

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## **New Bauhaus Chicago New Bauhaus Chicago**

BAUHAUSARCHIV /  
MUSEUM FÜR GESTALTUNG, BERLIN  
2017, 200 pages, € 39.90  
Hirmer Verlag, 978-3-7774-2938-0  
Bauhaus Archive Museum of Design,  
in Berlin, 15/11/2017–5/3/2018

In 1937, László Moholy-Nagy founded the New Bauhaus in Chicago and in so doing exerted a strong influence on American photography. In their first year, all the students learned the basics of photography and experimented with photomontage, photograms and light painting. Famous teachers such as Harry Callahan, Aaron Siskind and Arthur Siegel left their mark on generations of photographers. The exhibition examines the period from 1937 to 2001, and with it a core aspect of the American contribution to post-war photography.

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## **Splendour and Misery in the Weimar Republic From Otto Dix to Jeanne Mammen Glanz und Elend in der Weimarer Republik**

INGRID PFEIFFER FÜR  
SCHIRN KUNSTHALLE FRANKFURT  
2017, 608 pages, € 49.90  
Hirmer Verlag, 978-3-7774-2932-8  
Schirn Kunsthalle, Frankfurt,  
27/10/2017–25/2/2018

This exhibition focuses on the era's hardships, which are evident in the images and across the broad stylistic spectrum. In these works, the artists seem to have sensed the inevitability of the failure of Germany's first democratic government. The varied themes addressed in this exciting period – whose best known representatives are Otto Dix, Georg Grosz and Max Beckmann – include a farewell to the German Empire, as well as poverty, pleasure, emancipation, the first economic miracle and a fascination with sport.

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## **The documenta 14 Reader Der documenta 14 Reader**

QUINN LATIMER UND  
ADAM SZYM CZYK  
2017, 500 pages, € 49.80  
Verlag Walther König,  
978-3-96098-110-7  
Athens and Kassel,  
11/4–17/9/2017

The documenta 14 Reader contains essays, allegories, poems and historical legal documents addressing the concerns of the project, including a reflection on sovereign national states, market economies, democracy, and the communication of art. It should be taken as a critical anthology that ponders history in order to gain a clearer view of the present and reshape the future. The picture collections illustrate the event's broad temporal and geographical span, as delineated by the artists and other actors.

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## documenta 14: Daybook documenta 14: Daybook

QUINN LATIMER UND  
ADAM SZYMCZYK  
2017, 344 pages, € 35.-  
Prestel Verlag, 978-3-7913-5654-9  
Athens and Kassel,  
11/4-17/9/2017

The Daybook imitates the diary form, with each artist having been allotted a day in the calendar. From the start of the documenta in Athens till the final day in Kassel, documenta 14's participants are introduced in poetic texts. These are accompanied by pictures selected by the artists, as well as their recollections of events important for their work. As such, it is a many-layered universe of artists through whose letters and associative words we can read our way into the minds of the documenta makers.

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## Matisse – Bonnard Matisse – Bonnard

FELIX KRÄMER FÜR  
STÄDEL MUSEUM, FRANKFURT  
2017, 240 pages, € 49.95  
Prestel Verlag, 978-3-7913-5631-0  
Städel Museum, Frankfurt,  
9/13/2017-1/14/2018

Henri Matisse and Pierre Bonnard were two of the most famous representatives of French modernism. The friendship between these fellow artists lasted for over 40 years. Each took an intense approach to the same themes: interiors, still life, landscapes and above all female nudes. With 120 canvasses filled with light and colours, as well as sculptures, drawings and graphic works, the exhibition brings the two painters into a dialogue, vividly demonstrating their mutual influence.

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## Gabriele Münter Gabriele Münter

GABRIELE MÜNTER- UND JOHANNES  
EICHNER-STIFTUNG UND STÄDTISCHE  
GALERIE IM LENBACHHAUS MÜNCHEN  
2017, 256 pages, € 39.95  
Prestel Verlag, 978-3-7913-5704-1  
Städtische Galerie im Lenbachhaus  
und Kunstbau, Munich, 31/10/2017-8/4/2018

The Lenbachhaus is presenting the most extensive exhibition of Gabriele Münter's work for 25 years. More than half of the 130 paintings on show have never been seen publicly, or only in her own lifetime. And for the first time, her paintings are complemented with around 200 photographs which she took in 1899 and 1900, on her visit to the USA. Just twenty-two at the time, she demonstrated an impressive feeling for complex compositions. These images and compositions were a precursor to many of the things for which Münter later became acclaimed.

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## Paul Klee Paul Klee

ANNA SZECH FÜR DIE FONDATION  
BEYELER, RIEHEN/BASEL  
2017, 200 pages, € 58.-  
Hatje Cantz Verlag, 978-3-7757-4330-3  
The Beyeler Foundation, Riehen/Basel,  
1/10/2017-21/1/2018

Paul Klee was one of the most influential painters of European modernism. His works have been shown in many exhibitions, but this is the first to deal comprehensively with Klee's approach to abstraction. Four themes contribute to a common thread through Klee's art. These are nature, architecture, painting and alphabetic characters, and their forms vary between the semi-figurative and abstract. In these, new links emerge, both to Klee's contemporaries and to later generations.

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## Wolfgang Tillmans Wolfgang Tillmans

WOLFGANG TILLMANS FÜR DIE  
FONDATION BEYELER, RIEHEN/BASEL  
2017, 304 pages, € 58.-  
Hatje Cantz Verlag, 978-3-7757-4328-0  
The Beyeler Foundation, Riehen/Basel,  
28/5-1/10/2017

This exhibition shows around 200 photographs taken between 1989 and 2017 – almost three decades of work that counts among the most important of contemporary art. Tillmans was the first photographer to win the Turner Prize (2000), and the first to whom the Beyeler Foundation has devoted an exhibition. He rapidly became popular in the early 1990s with works that were seen as historical documents of an adolescence and a feeling of youth. These were followed by experiments with and without a camera, and with a photocopier.

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## Anita Rée Retrospektive

KARIN SCHICK, HAMBURGER  
KUNSTHALLE  
2017, 204 pages, € 39.95  
Prestel Verlag, 978-3-7913-5710-2  
Hamburg Kunsthalle, 6/10/2017-4/2/2018

The Hamburg Kunsthalle is countering the myths surrounding Anita Rée with a retrospective encompassing 200 works. Her dark reputation stems from pictorial analyses as well as the biographical detail that she took her own life before she was 50. Hard to pin down, her style is a mixture of traditional and modern, borrowing as much from New Objectivity and Cubism as from the early Renaissance. This exhibition rehabilitates an artist who is interesting and diverse as well as curious and intellectual.

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## Thomas Struth – Figure Ground

THOMAS WESKI U. ULRICH WILMES  
FÜR HAUS DER KUNST MÜNCHEN  
2017, 320 pages, € 68.-  
Schirmer/Mosel, 978-3-8296-0810-7  
Haus der Kunst, Munich,  
5/5/2017–7/1/2018

The photographic artist captures aspects of reality that we rarely see – from primeval forests to high-tech research – in giant format photos. Hardly any other contemporary German photographer has such a broad range of subject matter. This show in Munich, with about 130 photos and two video installations, is his biggest retrospective to date. For the first time, it brings together unseen early photos with archive material that underscores the longstanding ideas behind his work and shows the process of creation.

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## Working on History Arbeiten in Geschichte

LUDGER DERENTHAL, YU ZHANG FÜR  
DAS MUSEUM FÜR FOTOGRAFIE BERLIN  
2017, 160 pages, € 38.-  
Kerber Verlag, 978-3-7356-0385-2  
Museum für Fotografie, Berlin, 18/8/2017–  
7/1/2018 (An exhibition by the Art Library  
of the Berlin State Museums)

The Cultural Revolution left its mark on half a century of Chinese art. This exhibition shows the event through the prism of historical and contemporary photographs. The former provide a picture of the Cultural Revolution and its repercussions, while at the same time illustrating photography as a medium of propaganda by revealing censorship and photomontage.

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## Axel Hütte Axel Hütte

BEAT WISMER FÜR MUSEUM KUNST-  
PALAST DÜSSELDORF/JOSEF ALBERS  
MUSEUM QUADRAT BOTTROP  
2017, 368 pages, € 68.-  
Verlag Walther König, 978-3-96098-242-5  
Museum für Fotografie, Berlin, 18/8/2017–  
7/1/2018 (An exhibition by the Art Library  
of the Berlin State Museums)

Axel Hütte is one of the most important representatives of the Dusseldorf School of Photography. Architecture and landscapes form the core of his work. He finds his subject matter in the urban character of big cities, among glaciers and in the South American rainforest. The first exhibition shows 70 large-format photographs created between 1995 and 2017. In part, these are new night and day images being presented for the first time. The Early Works exhibition, meanwhile, shows portraits of his colleagues from the years following 1978.

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## Otto Dix Otto Dix

KUNSTSAMMLUNG NORDRHEIN-  
WESTFALEN, K 20 DÜSSELDORF  
2017, 240 pages, € 49,95  
Prestel Verlag, 978-3-7913-5630-3  
Kunstsammlung Nordrhein-Westfalen,  
K20, Dusseldorf, 11/2–28/5/2017 (extended)  
Tate Liverpool, 23/6–15/10/2017

Otto Dix, famous painter and infamous terror of the middle classes, spent three intensely creative years in Dusseldorf, from the autumn of 1922 until November 1925. As a member of the revolutionary art school „Das Junge Rheinland“ (Young Rhineland), he developed the critical style that makes him unmistakable in 20th century German art. The first monographic exhibition on this period contains around 200 paintings, water colours and graphic works taken from German and international collections.

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## James Rosenquist James Rosenquist

STEPHAN DIEDERICH,  
YILMAZ DZIEWIOR  
2017, 336 pages, € 49,95  
Prestel Verlag, 978-3-7913-5723-2  
Museum Ludwig, Cologne,  
18/11/2017–4/3/2018  
ARoS Aarhus Art Museum,  
Dates uncertain 14/4–19/8 2018

The museum presents the work of this important American pop artist including some material that has not previously been exhibited. The room installation F-111, an icon of the pop art era, underlines Rosenquist's interest in the social and political events of his time. In this, he places the F-111 jet fighter, which was still being developed at the time, next to pictures of everyday American consumerism. The work envelops the viewer on all sides such that they plunge into the picture.

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## Art for All Kunst für alle

TOBIAS G. NATTER, MAX HOLLEIN,  
KLAUS ALBRECHT SCHRÖDER  
2016, 416 pages, € 50.-  
Taschen Verlag, 978-3-8365-3921-0  
Schirn Kunsthalle, Frankfurt, 6/7–3/10/2016

Due to the fascination with Japanese coloured woodcuts, this oldest of printing processes experienced a renaissance around 1900, especially in Vienna. The artists who took to the technique with enthusiasm and modernised it included many members of the Viennese Secession movement. Because of its replicability and easy availability, woodblock printing was ideally suited to their concept of "Art for All". This contributed much to the development of a new imagery which already pointed towards impressionism.

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## Ulay Ulay

MATTHIAS ULRICH  
MAX HOLLEIN  
2016, 274 pages, € 45.-  
Spector Books, 978-3-9590-5111-8  
Schirn Kunsthalle, Frankfurt,  
13/10/2016–18/1/2017

The Schirn is presenting the first ever major overview this extraordinary artist's work. On show are works specially conceived for the exhibition, as well as many which have been held back for years and will be now seen for the first time. Ulay prefers working with Polaroids. The instant photos provide the material for his efforts at a representation of life. With his former partner Marina Abramović, he successfully expanded performance art in a way that today sets the standards for that genre.

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## Clemens von Wedemeyer Clemens von Wedemeyer

HAMBURGER KUNSTHALLE,  
HUBERTUS GASSNER, PETRA ROETTIG  
2016, 256 pages, € 34.-  
Spectormag GbR, 978-3-95905-102-6  
Hamburger Kunsthalle, 30/9/2016–8/1/2017

The museum is showing the first major exhibition of this film and video artist. Among other works presented will be "Muster" ("Pattern"), his contribution to documenta 13, which heralded his international breakthrough in 2012. This documents the changing history of the Benedictine monastery of Breitenau, near Kassel. For the installation, as if in a journey through time, on three projection screens he melds together images of the building's past uses as a cloister, prison, concentration camp and labour camp for girls.

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## Katharina Sieverding Katharina Sieverding

KUNST- UND AUSSTELLUNGSHALLE  
DER BUNDESREPUBLIK DEUTSCHLAND  
2016, 256 pages, € 45.-  
Hirmer Verlag, 978-3-7774-2837-6  
Bundeskunsthalle, Bonn,  
11/3–16/7/2017

Sieverding is one of the internationally renowned artists who rejuvenated photography at an early stage through an unconventional selection of images. As one of the few women in the German art scene, she has enjoyed success since the early 1970s. Large-format photography was a feature of her work, even before this became more widely used. Her photo series are an expression of her reflections on identity, the individual and the situation of the world in general.

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## Battle of the Sexes Geschlechterkampf

FELIX KRÄMER  
2016, 336 pages, € 49.95  
Prestel Verlag, 978-3-7913-5572-6  
Städel Museum, Frankfurt,  
24/11/2016–19/3/2017

A timeless subject: the tense relations between men and women, and the artistic representations of this. The curators examined the way art has reflected changing gender roles, from the beginning of the first women's movement in the 19th century to the end of the Second World War. In so doing they concentrate on the artistic schools of symbolism and surrealism. Some 150 paintings, photographs, sculptures and films address the themes of the femme fatale, seduction, emancipation, education and sexuality.

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## Photography Workshop Werkstatt für Photographie

FLORINA EBNER,  
FELIX HOFFMANN, INKA SCHUBE  
2016, 392 pages, € 39.80  
Walther König, 978-3-96098-043-8  
Museum Folkwang, Essen,  
"The Rebellious Image".  
Situation 1980: The Kreuzberg  
"Photography Workshop" and the youth scene of Folkwang, 9/12/2016–19/2/2017  
C/O Berlin "Kreuzberg – America".  
The Berlin Photography Workshop  
1976–86, 10/12/2016–12/2/2017  
Sprengel Museum Hannover,  
"And Suddenly this Distance",  
10/12/2016–19/3/2017

Through cooperation between the different cities these museums have created a three-part exhibition on the rise of photography. Based on the Berlin Photography Workshop, whose 40th anniversary this show marks, as well as the young scene in Essen, the exhibition provides an answer to the success story of the Dusseldorf School. It describes for the first time the history, influence and impacts of the Berlin institution and its key figures, such as Otto Steinert and Ute Eskildsen, in the 1970s and 1980s.

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## Gregor Schneider Gregor Schneider

ULRICH LOOCK

2016, 272 pages, € 64.-

Distanz Verlag, 978-3-95476-178-4

Bundeskunsthalle, Bonn,

2/12/2016–19/2/2017

Schneider provokes. His fascination is for religious centres, prisons, family homes, a death chamber. He replicates them and rearranges them; he contravenes self-perception and spatial perception. His installation for the Biennale in Venice, „Totes Haus u r Venedig 2001“, earned him the Golden Lion. For this exhibition, he has designed a course leading through his most important works, from early paintings and action art from the 1980s, via “TOTES HAUS u r”, up to his newer works based on culturally or historically significant buildings.

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## Kandinsky, Marc & Der Blaue Reiter Kandinsky, Marc & Der Blaue Reiter

ULF KÜSTER FÜR DIE FONDATION

BEYELER

2016, 188 pages, € 58.-

Hatje Cantz Verlag, 978-3-7757-4168-2

The Beyeler Foundation, Riehen/Basel,

4/9/2016–22/1/2017

In Germany, modernism began in Munich with Der Blaue Reiter (The Blue Rider) at a time when the city was a hotspot of the artistic avant-garde. In 1912, Wassily Kandinsky and Franz Marc published their almanac under the same name and organised a related exhibition. Now, 30 works from the original show can be seen in one room, together with the almanac and accompanied by other works from major galleries, including rarely seen masterpieces from the USA and Russia by Gabriele Münter, Marianne von Werefkin and Alexej von Jawlensky.

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## With support from:

Federal Foreign Office

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