

INTO THE NIGHT CABARETS AND CLUBS IN MODERN ART

Lower Belvedere and Orangery
14 February to 1 June 2020



Rudolf Schlichter, Women's Club, c. 1925, Private collection © Viola Roehr v. Alvensleben, Munich. Photo: akg-images

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CABARETS AND CLUBS IN MODERN ART

Exhibition in collaboration with Barbican (London)

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In the twentieth century, cabarets, clubs, and cafés were gathering places for a rich variety of cultural and social ideas. They became centers of the avant-garde providing artists with a platform for creative exchange. *Into the Night* explores these alternative scenes and tells of art and nightlife in the period spanning from the 1880s through to the 1960s.

Stella Rollig, CEO of the Belvedere: *“The exhibition presents a new and exciting approach to famous chapters in art history. The first major show devoted to this theme, it spotlights alternative venues of modern art, free creative spaces that emerged as incubators of cultural ideas. Visitors will be swept away on a journey not only to the Chat Noir in Paris and the Cabaret Fledermaus in Vienna but also to Harlem in New York, to Mexico City, and Ibadan in Nigeria.”*

Cabarets, cafés, and clubs inspired the exchange of ideas between art, architecture, design, literature, dance, and music. An intermingling network emerged that stimulated collective authorship, cross-disciplinary art forms, and revolutionary political ideas. Many of these venues offered freedom from societal constraints and political repression, providing people outside the mainstream with a stage on which they could refashion the prevailing codes of gender and identity. And in these unique interiors with their varied programs, spectators were treated to an immersive experience that appealed to all the senses.

Obvious connections exist between these venues and the emergence of new artistic styles and forms of expression: In Paris during the 1880s, the Chat Noir's shadow theater anticipated cinema. Cabaret Fledermaus, founded and designed in 1907 by key members of the Wiener Werkstätte, marked the transition from Secessionism to Expressionism. Dada was born at the Cabaret Voltaire in Zurich in 1916. And in Germany between the wars, the electrifying energy of the nightclubs fired the imagination of artists working in the styles of Expressionism and New Objectivity, such as Otto Dix, Jeanne Mammen, and Elfriede Lohse-Wächtler. Elsewhere, the abstract design of Café L'Aubette in Strasbourg was partly the work of Theo van Doesburg, protagonist of De Stijl movement, in collaboration with Sophie Taeuber-Arp and Hans Arp. In Rome, the nightclub Bal Tic Tac designed by Giacomo Balla and Fortunato Depero's Cabaret del Diavolo were of great significance for Futurism. In the context of these venues, works are being shown by artists like Hans Arp, Otto Dix, Theo van Doesburg, Aaron Douglas, Hannah Höch, Josef Hoffmann, Elfriede Lohse-Wächtler, Oskar Kokoschka, Jeanne Mammen, Koloman Moser, Henri Rivière, Sophie Taeuber-Arp, Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec, and Prince Twins Seven Seven.

The exhibition

Curator Florence Ostende (Barbican): *„Although certain cases like the Cabaret Voltaire are now considered milestones in the history of art, most of the marginal activities and ephemeral gestures produced in the context of artistic cabarets remain footnotes in art historical literature and exhibition history. Into the Night celebrates the diversity of art forms, the plurality of voices and the vulnerability of the artwork produced in these spaces, revealing an alternative and expansive view of art beyond the high modernist canon.“*

The exhibition is arranged according to place and theme rather than by chronology. Immersive reconstructions provide a vivid impression of the venues. Artistic elements and architectural details have been recreated and illustrated. At the Lower Belvedere the shadow plays from the Chat Noir café have been brought back to life. Copies of Susanne Wenger's design of the façade for the Mbari Mbayo Club in Osogbo and Uche Okeke's wall paintings for the Mbari Artists and Writers Club in Ibadan, both in Nigeria, can also be seen. In the Orangery visitors can experience a recreation of L'Aubette's Cine-Dancing space and the Cabaret Fledermaus's famous bar area with its tiled mosaic. The tiles were recreated for the exhibition as part of a research project at the University of Applied Arts Vienna. The exhibition features 320 works—paintings, drawings, prints, photographs, films, and archival material. Enriching the presentation, a program of performances featuring theater, concerts, readings, and dance, will reawaken the vibrant nightlife of these different venues.

The exhibition also goes beyond the boundaries of a Eurocentric perspective by looking at the Harlem Renaissance in New York jazz clubs of the 1920s and 1930s, whose protagonists were involved in the fight against racism, or the Mbari Artists and Writers Club, founded in 1961 in post-Independence Ibadan, Nigeria. A further chapter is dedicated to the movement Estridentismo and the artist group ¡30-30! in Mexico City.

The exhibition has been realized in collaboration with the Barbican (London).

ARTIST IN THE EXHIBITION

(visual artists, writers, designers and others)

Jacob Afolabi	Bakare Gbadamosi	Maurice Neumont
Ramón Alva de la Canal	Valeska Gert	Valente Malangatana Ngwenya
Manuel Maples Arce	Eric Gill	Okogbule Glory Nwanodi
Jean (Hans) Arp	Charles Ginner	Demas Nwoko
Germán List Arzubide	Spencer Gore	Rufus Ogundele
George Auriol	George Grosz	Uche Okeke
Hugo Ball	Alex La Guma	Christopher Okigbo
Giacomo Balla	Dodo (Dörte Clara Wolff)	Colette Omogbai
Max Beckmann	Emmy Hennings	Muraina Oyelami
Georgina Beier	Hannah Höch	Lenrie Peters
Fernando Bolaños Cacho	Karl Hofer	Faramarz Pilaram
Aristide Bruant	Josef Hoffmann	Michael Powolny
Dennis Brutus	Richard Huelsenbeck	Kyn Taniya (Luis Quintanilla del Valle)
Edward Burra	Langston Hughes	Fermín Revueltas Sánchez
Rosario Cabrera	Marcel Janco	Hans Richter
Joyce Carrington	James Weldon Johnson	Henri Rivière
Jean Charlot	William H. Johnson	Ibrahim El-Salahi
Jules Chéret	Moriz Jung	Rudolf Schlichter
John Pepper Clark	Oskar Kokoschka	Erna Schmidt-Carroll
Germán Cueto	Fritz Lang	Marcel Słodki
Carl Otto Czeschka	Jacob Lawrence	Wole Soyinka
Leon Damas	Le Corbusier	Théophile-Alexandre Steinlen
Fortunato Depero	Fernando Leal	Sadegh Tabrizi
Francisco Díaz de León	Louis-Ernest Lesage (Sahib)	Parviz Tanavoli
Kamran Diba	Wyndham Lewis	Sophie Taeuber-Arp
Josef Divéky	Alain Locke	Víctor Tesorero
Otto Dix	Bertold Löffler	Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec
Theo van Doesburg	Elfriede Lohse-Wächtler	Prince Twins Seven Seven
Aaron Douglas	Auguste und Louis Lumière	Enrique Ugarte
Thomas Edison	Fernand Lunel	Arqueles Vela
Duke Ellington	Jeanne Mammen	Isabel Villaseñor
Monir Farmanfarmaian	Leyly Matine-Daftary	Susanne Wenger
Justino Fernández	Claude McKay	Adolphe-Léon Willette
Gabriel Fernández Ledesma	Leopoldo Méndez	Denis Williams
Gerónimo Flores	Curt Moreck	Eduard Josef Wimmer-Wisgrill
Georges Fragerolle	Louis Morin	
Loïe Fuller	Gerardo Murillo (Dr. Atl)	

CLUBS, CAFÉS, CABARETS

Chat Noir, Paris, 1880s

Loie Fuller im Folies Bergère, 1890er Jahre

Kabarett Fledermaus, gegr. 1907

Cave of the Golden Calf, London, 1912-1914

Cabaret Voltaire, Zürich, 1916

Bal Tik Tak, Rom, 1921

Fortunato Depero's Cabaret del Diavolo, Rom, 1922

Café de Nadie, Mexico City, 1920er

Café L'Aubette, Strasburg, 1926-28

The Mbari Artists and Writers Club, Ibadan, Nigeria, 1960er

Mbari Mbayo, Oshogbo, Nigeria, 1960er

Rasht 29, Teheran, 1966-69

PERFORMANCES

Hugo Ball, Krippenspiel. Condert Bruitiste

Donnerstag, 27. Februar | 18.30 Uhr

Als Figurentheater erzählt das Ensemble des Kabinettheaters die dadaistische, lautpoetisch begleitete Weihnachtsgeschichte in sieben Bildern, die am 31. Mai 1916 im Zürcher Cabaret Voltaire uraufgeführt wurde. Der Evangelientext wird dabei vom pfeifenden Wind, von blökenden Schafen und vom „Ramba Ramba“-Gemurmel von Maria und Josef untermalt. Die Sängerin Anna Clare Hauf bringt als Bruitistin die „Geräuschinsel“ zum Klingen. Figurenspiel: Katarina Csanyiova, Walter Kukla. Stimme und Leitung: Julia Reichert.

Gerade jetzt! Urbane Lieder

Donnerstag, 19. März | 18.30 Uhr

Liedermacherin und Performancekünstlerin AnniKa von Trier singt über Zeitfragen der Gegenwart wie ständige Erreichbarkeit, Umgang mit Lebenszeit, die digitale Bohème, Patchworkfamilien oder den Zeitgeist von Ost und West. Zwischen Kabarett und Chanson zeichnet sie im Dialog mit ihrem lindgrünen Akkordeon ein Bild des kreativ-gentrifizierten Berlin des 21. Jahrhunderts. Zudem ist Dada ihr Steckenpferd, und in ihren Texten huldigt sie der Mutter Courage der Collage Hannah Höch.

Ultraschall – eine Hommage auf das Kabarett Fledermaus

Donnerstag, 16. April | 18.30 Uhr

Bernd Remsing liest Satirisches aus Wien um 1900 von Roda Roda und Peter Altenberg sowie Alfred Polgars und Egon Friedells legendäre Texte für das Kabarett Fledermaus. Der literarische Streifzug umfasst ebenso den mehr als 250-mal aufgeführten Einakter *Goethe* wie Karl Kraus' Kritik am Gesamtkunstwerk der Wiener Werkstätte. Musikalisch begleitet wird er von Fiaker Fiasko mit Wienerliedern, inspiriert von Punk, Jazz und Uromas Liederfundus.

Afrobeat-Konzert. Cheikh M'Boup und Petaw Band

Donnerstag, 23. April | 18.30 Uhr

Von den Wurzeln des Afrobeat in Nigeria in den 1960ern über Griot-Melodien aus dem Senegal bis zum Salsa führt Cheikh M'Boup mit der Petaw Band. Gemeinsam bilden sie eine musikalische Brücke zwischen den Kontinenten Afrika, Südamerika und Europa. Die Kaurimuschel – in der Sprache Wolof „Petaw“ genannt – ist das Symbol dafür: Als Glücksbringer wie als Tauschmittel steht sie für die Verbindungen von Zentral- und Westafrika bis nach Südamerika.

Poetic Space.

Eva-Maria Kraft (Tanz) und Rupert Huber (Musik)

Donnerstag, 30. April | 18.30 Uhr

Tanz und Musik verschmelzen in der improvisierten und im Moment choreografierten Performance *poetic space*. Das Grundprinzip ist der Dialog zwischen den Künstler_innen und dem Raum. Eva-Maria Kraft lässt sich von den raumgreifenden und expressiven Bewegungen von Loïe Fuller, Rupert Huber am Klavier von der Zweigesichtigkeit Erik Saties inspirieren.

€ 22 (Eintritt, Willkommensekt, Programm und exklusive Ausstellungsbesichtigung inkl.)
Begrenzte Teilnehmer_innenzahl | Tickets unter: www.belvedere.at/programm

GENERAL INFORMATION

Exhibition title	Into the Night. Cabarets and Clubs in Modern Art
Exhibition duration	14 February to 1 June 2020
Exhibition Venue	Lower Belvedere und Orangery
Exhibits	about 320
Curator	Florence Ostende
Curatorial Assistance Belvedere	Katharina Lovecky
Exhibition management	Kristof Viola / Sibylle Reichmann
Exhibition catalogue	<i>Into the Night. Cabarets and Clubs in Modern Art</i> Editors: Florence Ostende with Lotte Johnson Authors: Fabio Benzi, Phillip Dennis Cate, Jo Cottrell, Hilary Floe, Elena Gigli, Lotte Johnson, Thomas Kennedy, Amy Helene Kirschke, Alexander Klee, Lynda Klich, Raimund Meyer, John Milner, Sohrab Mohebbi, Chika Okeke-Agulu, Florence Ostende, Camilla Smith, Marek Wieczorek Graphic design: John Morgan studio Prestel Verlag 346 pages, 430 pictures, 23,7 × 31,1 cm, Hardcover, 45 EUR ISBN 978-3-7913-5888-8 (english trade edition)
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Press Contact	Press Office Belvedere Prinz Eugen-Straße 27, 1030 Vienna T +43 1 795 57-177 M.presse@belvedere.at

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