

Lovis Corinth. Life – A Celebration

18 June to 3 October 2021

Lower Belvedere

Lovis Corinth's body of work reveals an unparalleled artistic spectrum, leaping as it does from the 19th century to Modernism. His comprehensive oeuvre bridges the transition from Realism to Impressionism to Expressionism. Following the footsteps of this remarkable painter, the Belvedere traces his artistic journey.

German artist Lovis Corinth was one of the founding members of the Munich Secession. Together with Walter Leistikow and Max Liebermann he was one of the leading figures, and first chairman, of the Berlin Secession. Classifying his work from an art-historical perspective is contentious, as he integrated a wide variety of stylistic elements into his works. In his private life, he alternated between bon vivant and family man. He violated bourgeois morality with his large-format painting *Young Girl with Bull*; conceived as a history painting, he brought the liaison with his student Charlotte Berend into the public eye in ironical fashion. But after marrying Charlotte Berend, his perceived role aligned with the bourgeois conventions of the 19th century – for many years, his wife set aside her artistic career to benefit his.

The exhibition at the Lower Belvedere examines the stylistic transformations of Lovis Corinth through his life and work: The eroticism he addressed at the beginning of his marriage in nude portraits of his young wife, which gradually morphed into the theme of mother and child; the children growing up and the family as a leitmotif in his work; his own aging, repeatedly incorporated in his symbolic vanitas paintings; and finally, the climax of his oeuvre, the landscape paintings from the Walchensee.

In November 2021 the exhibition will travel to the Saarlandmuseum in Saarbrücken.

Curator: Alexander Klee

Kontakt

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