

1. Press text BERLINER LISTE 2008

On its 5th anniversary the BERLINER LISTE 2008 is being held in a former luxury hotel on the prestigious Kurfürstendamm Boulevard

On the occasion of its 5th anniversary, the **BERLINER LISTE 2008 – fair for contemporary art, photography and art since 1960** – is taking place in an exciting new location: the historical premises of the former hotel Haus Cumberland on Kurfürstendamm in Berlin-Charlottenburg.

Since its establishment in 2004 the LISTE has positioned itself as a "fair of discovery" in two ways. On the one hand art collectors and curators from around the world can seek out new talents here. An example is Mera and Don Rubell from Miami who discovered the young painter Andrea Lehmann from Düsseldorf for their large international collection and bought up the whole exhibition stand at once. The fair offers young galleries and those that are not yet well established particularly favourable terms. The exciting concept of changing locations for the fair also gives the BERLINER LISTE a particular flair every year. Venues for the LISTE in previous years have included the former transformer station *Umspannwerk* in Kopenhagener Straße in the Prenzlauer Berg district (formerly the Vitra Design Museum) and the former post office station *Postbahnhof* at the rail triangle.

Growing success

Wolfram Völcker, head of the young fair says "Initially started as an experiment, the BERLINER LISTE has become successfully established in the art landscape". Together with other Berlin gallery owners Völcker had the idea of creating an alternative fair parallel to the ART FORUM BERLIN especially for young and aspiring galleries and contemporary young art to whom a classic art fair is not suited in his opinion. "Every year we create a special ambience and framework conditions which make our fair a very special and successful event for international exhibitors and visitors alike." The BERLINER LISTE is a suitable platform for experimenting without risk and making discoveries – an addition previously missing in the Berlin fair landscape. 30 galleries and 4,000 visitors attended the first fair in 2004 and since then it has grown continuously with more than 70 exhibiting galleries and an expected 10,000 visitors at this year's fair. The 2007 fair attracted approximately 9,000 international curators, collectors, journalists, and art lovers.

New sections: Photography & art since 1960

For the first time at the BERLINER LISTE visitors will be able to enjoy three different sections on the four floors of Haus Cumberland. In addition to the **contemporary art** section, the 2008 fair has been expanded to include the **categories of photography and art since 1960**. As well as paintings, drawings, sculptures and video art, for the first time the following 7 galleries are presenting photography only: *ROBERT MORAT GALERIE* (Hamburg), *ARTantide.com* (Verona), *Galeri Paqui Delgado* (S. Sadurni d'Anoia), *Galerie en passant* (Berlin), *ego gallery* (Barcelona), *Gallery Lumiere* (Seoul), *McBride Fine Art* (Antwerp). Works by highly regarded photographers such as Thomas Höpker and Araki Nobuyoshi are being exhibited among others. Wolfram Völcker says "The development of photography in the past few years has shown that it is not only prices that are increasing; above all there is growing public interest. The fifth BERLINER LISTE takes this into account." The gallery *Helga K. Schiffler* from Bad Soden and *Galerie Oben GbR* from Chemnitz are exhibiting art since 1960.

The majority of the predominantly young galleries at the fair come from Germany. A high percentage of the foreign galleries come from Italy and Spain, but the USA, South Korea, Belgium, Latvia, Finland, Poland and Romania are also represented.

The 73 exhibiting galleries from 11 countries include *Galleria Uustitalo* from Helsinki, *C5 colección* from Santiago de Compostela, *Matthias Jahn at Fred Jahn* from Munich, *ROBERT MORAT GALERIE* from Hamburg, *WILDE GALLERY* and *Galerie oko – Japanese Contemporary Art* from Berlin, *Alma Gallery* from Riga, *Anaid Art Gallery* from Bucharest and *Merry Karnowsky Gallery* from Los Angeles/Berlin.

New venue: Haus Cumberland

In 2008 the fair will once again be held in an exciting new exhibition venue: the vacant former 5-star luxury hotel Haus Cumberland. The building was erected in 1911/12 and was designed by Robert Leibnitz who also designed Hotel Adlon. After multiple uses the building most recently housed the Berlin regional finance office (1966-1993). Contemporary art and a glamorous historic ambience create an exciting combination for the BERLINER LISTE: In many rooms in which the young art is taking up residence the elegant interior has been preserved with highly ornate stuccoed ceilings, ceiling paintings and fine wooden panelling. These former hotel rooms and suites with a total area of 3,500 m² offer the galleries perfectly illuminated "white cubes" for the presentation of the works of around 350 artists at the LISTE.

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