

Contemporary Art in Vienna
Thursday, May 6–
Saturday, May 8, 2010

with Thomas W. Lentz, Elizabeth and John Moors Cabot
Director and Jasper Sharp, independent curator and writer

“Der Zeit ihre Kunst, der Kunst ihre Freiheit!”—To each age its art; to art, its freedom—is the motto emblazoned over the entrance to the Secession building, headquarters of the painters, sculptors, and architects who in 1897 resigned from the Association of Austrian Artists to form their own group. Championing art created outside the confines of academic tradition, the Vienna Secession, whose first president was Gustav Klimt, fostered a spirit of artistic freedom that still prevails in Vienna today. Unique in that it looks both west, to the cultural capitals of Berlin, London, Paris, and New York, and east, to the new art centers of Bucharest, Sofia, Zagreb, and Istanbul, Vienna’s artistic community is a nexus of innovation, experimentation, and exhilarating creative exchange.

A walk with Christian Witt-Döring, curator at the Neue Galerie New York and one of the world’s foremost authorities on turn-of-the-twentieth-century Viennese art and architecture, will include a visit to the Secession building that will set the stage for our three-day program. Klimt’s *Beethoven Frieze* remains on display in the building’s basement, and today the Secession, a non-collecting institution, is a leading venue for contemporary art in Europe.

Our program will also coincide with the Vienna Fair, the city’s exciting international contemporary art exposition, now in its fifth year. Highlighting galleries and artists from Central and Eastern Europe, the fair provides a unique opportunity to view important new work being produced at the crossroads of East and West and not yet seen at major fairs in London, Miami, or Basel. We will enjoy VIP access and special introductions to key figures at the center of it all.

Over the course of our extraordinary three-day journey, we will meet some of the artists, gallerists, and collectors who make Vienna the complex and fascinating artistic center that it is today. Among other highlights of our itinerary will be private and specially arranged visits to:

- Thyssen-Bornemisza Art Contemporary—a foundation created in 2002 by Francesca von Habsburg, representing the fourth generation of the Thyssen family’s dedication to the arts—and the collection in Francesca von Habsburg’s private residence.
- Israeli Cultural Center—an association that assists Jewish families with restitution claims for art and antiques forcibly removed from their possession before or during World War II.
- MUMOK—Austria’s premier museum of modern art, with particular strengths in Pop Art, Photorealism, Fluxus, Nouveau Realism, and Viennese Actionism.
- Artists’ studios, including those of sculptor Erwin Wurm, American-born painter Lisa Ruyter, and new-media artist John Gerrard.
- The Generali Foundation—created in 1988 by the insurance group of the same name, a collection of conceptual art that is unparalleled in the world.
- An exceptional private collection of contemporary Austrian art, complemented by American works from 1960 to the present by artists including Ad Reinhardt, Barnett Newman, Morris Louis, and Elisabeth Peyton.
- MAK Contemporary Art Tower—a World War II anti-aircraft gun tower now housing the contemporary art collection of the Museum für angewandte Kunst, Austria’s national Museum of Applied Arts.

Contemporary Art
in Vienna, Austria

May 6–8, 2010



Harvard Art Museum
in Vienna

- The Agnes and Karlheinz Essl Collection—the largest private collection of contemporary art in Austria, housed in a purpose-built museum opened to the public in 1999.
- Galleries—in conjunction with the Vienna Fair, the city's leading contemporary art galleries, which are clustered on three streets in the city center, will host the second edition of *Curated By*, a project in which international curators are invited to conceive and install a single exhibition for each street.

Registration Information

A registration fee of \$1,250 per person includes bus transportation in Vienna, special access and guide fees, and lunch and an evening cocktail reception each day. Space is limited.

Air travel, hotel accommodations, and dinners are not included and must be arranged on your own, though suggestions will be provided.

Our program begins on the morning of Thursday, May 6, and ends with a cocktail reception on the afternoon of Saturday, May 8.

An optional dinner and tickets to the Vienna State Opera's performance of Giacomo Puccini's *Tosca* on Saturday evening, May 8, will be arranged if interest is expressed.

Accommodations

We encourage you to take advantage of a special rate of €179 that we have negotiated with Steigenberger Hotel Herrenhof. Please mention "Harvard University" when booking your room.

Bus will depart from and return to this hotel each day.

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1010 Vienna
Austria
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Fax +43 1 534 04 155
www.steigenberger.com
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Cancellation Policy

We understand that schedules sometimes change unexpectedly. If you need to cancel your travel plans, we will refund your full registration fee up to April 15, 2010. However, to offset costs we incur, a \$250 cancellation fee will apply after April 15, 2010.

Harvard / RSVP Art Museum

Harvard Art Museum
in Vienna

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City, state, zip code _____

Daytime phone _____

Email _____

Please indicate the number of participants.

___ Vienna \$1,250 per person

___ I / We are interested in dinner and tickets to the
Vienna State Opera's performance of Puccini's *Tosca*
on Saturday evening, May 8. Please provide details.

Total _____

Check (payable to Harvard Art Museum)

Visa

MasterCard

American Express

Card # _____

Exp. date _____

Signature _____