

AUGUSTE RODIN: AN EXPRESSIONIST EYE

Ten bronze sculptures by Auguste Rodin from the Musée Rodin, Paris in conversation with thirteen German Expressionist works on paper from the Buchheim Museum der Phantasie, Bernried. This is the first official exhibition of *Rodin the Alma Project*.

Auguste RODIN & Otto DIX, Erich HECKEL, Max KAUS, Ernst Ludwig KIRCHNER, Otto MUELLER, Emile NOLDE, Max PECHSTEIN, and Karl SCHMITT-ROTTLUFF.

OPENING: Friday, May 1, 2015 – 6 to 9 p.m.

EXHIBITION RUN: May 1 to July 11, 2015

LOCATION: Side by Side Gallery Akim Monet, Potsdamerstraße 81b, Berlin

Welcome to our 11th gallery exhibition, the first official presentation by **Rodin the Alma Project**, a public – private partnership between the Musée Rodin, Paris, and Side by Side Gallery Akim Monet, Berlin.

The name **Rodin the Alma Project** derives from an exhibition held in 1900 by Auguste Rodin (1840-1917), in which the master presented a retrospective of his sculpture and introduced his previously unseen works on paper. This exhibition, a turning point in Rodin's career, took place at the Pavilion de l'Alma, a mostly glass structure which Rodin designed and built for the Paris Exposition Universelle of 1900. The works on display at the Pavilion de l'Alma greatly contributed to Rodin's international reputation as the father of modern sculpture.

The mission of **Rodin the Alma Project** is to illustrate the art historical connection between Rodin and the main proponents of Modernism, and to foster a relationship with creators of contemporary art. Through exhibitions and symposia at our Berlin gallery and at galleries and museums around the world, we will draw lines between Rodin and those artists who have benefited from his legacy, and those who will indeed further it.

Since 2011, Side by Side Gallery Akim Monet has promoted themed conversations among artists from different periods. In this current exhibition, we give the floor to Rodin and the German Expressionists. Germany, the birthplace of Expressionism, and Berlin in particular, from whence came several of its most renowned proponents, is a most appropriate place to host this colloquy.

The works by Rodin exhibited in Germany and Austria in the early 1900's created a sensation and greatly contributed to the major change in direction of northern European art and literature. As Rodin's fame grew, he attracted many followers, including – to name but two - Gustav Klimt, whom Rodin met in Vienna in 1902, and Rainer Maria Rilke. Rodin's influence was far-reaching and even touched Edvard Munch, who painted his "Thinker," Henri Matisse, whose "Serf" was inspired by Rodin's "Walking Man," Constantin Brancusi, and in the literary realm Octave Mirbeau and Oscar Wilde, among many others.

We hope you enjoy Auguste Rodin: An Expressionist Eye, a journey back to the turn of the 20th Century, from whence Side by Side Gallery Akim Monet, Berlin has chosen to begin the cycle of exhibitions under the heading of **Rodin the Alma Project**.

About the Musée Rodin

The Musée Rodin contains the largest collection of the sculptor's works at two sites, in Paris, at the Hôtel Biron, and in Meudon, site of his former home, atelier, and reserve collection. Created in 1916, thanks to Auguste Rodin's donation of his works and his collections to the French State, it opened in 1919.

About the Buchheim Museum

The Buchheim Museum brings together four collections under one roof: Expressionist paintings, watercolors, drawings and prints; Ethnology and Folklore; Arts and Crafts from around the world; and works by the artist Lothar-Günther Buchheim. Changing exhibitions complement the vitality of the museum.

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About Side By Side Gallery Akim Monet

Side by Side Gallery Akim Monet GmbH opened in the Fall of 2011 in Berlin. The gallery holds three exhibitions a year curated by Akim Monet, focusing on themes that juxtapose artists from different periods in order to explore and re-contextualize works of art. By revealing thematic correlations, Side by Side Gallery Akim Monet moves beyond a singular chronological presentation to reveal converging currents and lasting influences.

We would like to express our heartfelt gratitude for their unfailing support to Madame Catherine Chevillot, director of the Musée Rodin, Paris; to Daniel Schreiber, director of the Buchheim Museum der Phantasie, Bernried; and lastly but not least, to Mr. Jérôme Le Blay of the Comité Rodin.

**MUSÉE
RODIN
PARIS**

**BUCHHEIM
MUSEUM**



Rodin
THE ALMA PROJECT

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