

# Berlin 2010 Paris

Un échange de galeries

## November 18th 2009

**"Berlin-Paris" enters the second round.** Following the success of the first year, the Berlin-Paris gallery exchange will take place for the second time in January/February 2010. Along with **Denise René, neugerriemschneider, Konrad Fischer** and **Emmanuel Perrotin**, several other renowned galleries have joined the project. Relatively new galleries such as **Chert** and **Marcelle Alix** have also joined the round. From the 15th to 23rd January 2010, the selected Parisian galleries show a choice of their programme in Berlin. From the 29th January to 6th February, the gallerists from Berlin will have their exhibitions at their Parisian partner galleries. "The positions shown in the exchange project are not artistic perspectives that are deemed to be good and are officially selected by cultural policy to promote their national image. They are perspectives that belong to an art scene whose fundamental structures are defined by the galleries in both cities." (artnet 14.01.2009) – This requirement also applies to the second exchange event. The project, originally begun as an experiment by the French ambassador Bernard de Montferrand to create a cooperation between an institution such as the French Embassy and gallery owners, artists and collectors, was successful. The number of participants has increased for 2010 by 16 galleries in total.

**The participating Berlin galleries and their Parisian partners:** **Johann König** and *jousse entreprise*, **Neu** and *Balice Hertling*, **Mehdi Chouakri** and *Galerie 1900-2000*, **Croy Nielsen** and *Marcelle Alix*, **Wentrup** and *Emmanuel Perrotin*, **Konrad Fischer** and *Nelson-Freeman*, **Kamm** and *Gaudel de Stampa*, **Chert** and *Carlos Cardenas*, **carlier | gebauer** with *Michel Rein* and *Natalie Seroussi*, **Esther Schipper** and *Nathalie Obadia*, **Gregor Podnar** and *schleicher+lange*, **neugerriemschneider** and *Kamel Mennour*, **Sommer & Kohl** and *Denise René, rive gauche*.

**Find new partners - intensify old contacts.** The main aim of the exchange at the beginning of 2009 was to network the participating German and French galleries and the artists represented by them. This was successful, as the German galleries accounted for the majority of foreign galleries at the FIAC 2009, which according to FIAC director Jennifer Flay was due in part to the "Berlin-Paris" gallery exchange programme launched at the art fair (dpa, Paris 22nd October 2009). In the coming year, these contacts will be strengthened further with new partnerships also being forged. The selection of Berlin galleries was no small feat for the director of the project, for whom it was of greatest importance to ensure that the artistic diversity of the German capital was represented by the participants.

**Through the selection process of the French galleries by their manifold German counterparts, the project hoped to mirror the diversity of the contemporary art scene in Paris.**

**Surprising cooperations and jointly curated exhibitions.** Following successful exhibitions in the partner galleries last year, the gallerists are more keen to experiment the second time round. As opposed to planning separate exhibitions in the respective cities, some of the participants, amongst others **Gregor Podnar** and **schleicher +lange**, **carlier | gebauer**, **Natalie Seroussi** and **Michel Rein** as well as **Croy Nielsen** and **Marcelle Alix**, are planning jointly curated programmes.

Unusual partnership choices make the second event equally as intriguing. For example, **Esther Schipper** will be surprising her clientele with a change of media, as the rooms that are usually furnished with conceptual work will house paintings presented by the **Nathalie Obadia** Gallery.

**Two complementary art scenes.** The still relatively new **Sommer&Kohl** Gallery has taken a generational turn and has chosen to work with the **Denise René** Gallery, a historically significant post-war gallery in France. **Mehdi Chouakri** already had the idea earlier this year of bringing the little represented classical modernism to Berlin with **Galerie 1900-2000**. The idea has proven worthwhile and promises a sophisticated change of scenery in the coming year as well, since both are partnergalleries again this year. The history of modernism will also be continued through design at the **Johann König** Gallery, who will be hosting the **jousse entreprise** gallery.

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The programmes presented by the other participants promise to be no less exciting, with their positions providing a glimpse at some new discoveries.

**Exhibition programmes for the individual galleries will be available soon.**

**Project director:** Cédric Aurelle, Art Office, Department for Culture at the French Embassy in Berlin

**Project coordination:** Annie-Claire Geisinger

The project is an initiative of the French Embassy in Germany with the kind support of the Foreign Office and CULTURESFRANCE.

French ambassador in Germany: Bernard de Montferrand. Department for Culture at the French Embassy in Germany

Head of the Department for Culture: Charles Malinas

Culture Attache: Frédérique Gérardin

## PR Contact

### Germany

#### Kathrin Luz Communication

Neumann Luz Cooperations

Kathrin Luz und Jana Strippel

Lübecker Str. 11

D-50668 Cologne

Germany

Tel +49(0)221.9235987

Fax +49(0)221.9235988

art@neumann-luz.de

www.neumann-luz.de

### France

#### Art & Communication

Maya Linsig

15 avenue Pigault Lebrun

FR-78170 La Celle Saint Cloud

France

Tel +33 6 68 08 47 14

Fax +33 1 47 95 32 77

maya.linsig@orange.fr

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2010

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**Press release : 15 January 2010**

**Rendez-vous 2010!** Following on from last year's successful venture, two leading European cities will again showcase themselves in the form of an artistic exchange between several well renowned galleries. Beginning in January 2010, 14 Paris galleries will kick off the event: from until 23rd of January they will simultaneously inaugurate exhibitions in their German counterparts spaces. From the 29th of January until February the 6th, 13 galleries from Berlin will in return to their counterparts with exhibitions in Paris. With this exchange, organised by the French and Berlin, Ambassador Bernard de Montferrand seeks to once more contribute to the development of cultural dialogue between France and Germany.

**The participating Berlin galleries and their Parisian partners are:**

**Johann König** and Jousse entreprise, **Neu** and Balice Hertling, **Mehdi Chouakri** and Galerie **Croy Nielsen** and Marcelle Alix, **Wentrup** and Emmanuel Perrotin, **Konrad Fischer** and Ne Freeman, **Kamm** and Gaudel de Stampa, **Chert** and Carlos Cardenas, **carlier | gebauer** and Natalie Seroussi, **Esther Schipper** and Nathalie Obadia, **Gregor Podnar** and schleiche **neugerriemschneider** and Kamel Mennour, **Sommer&Kohl** and Denise René, rive gauche

**If the aim in 2009 was to establish a network between galleries from Berlin and Paris,** this project, which builds upon the stronger partnerships between these galleries, expands upon and reinforces this newly founded network. Thanks to its festival-like character "Berlin-Paris" has established itself at the forefront of artistic events in both European cultural metropolises, as well as by the increased interest of international collectors, institutions, galleries, artists and friends of the project. As in the past year, the project managers have invited galleries in Berlin to take part in the project. These, in turn, selected their French counterparts independently. For the galleries this exchange offers the possibility to showcase themselves as open and innovative institutions by being able to offer an enlarged and varied program to their visitors. Each participant takes up the role of an artistic catalyst, helping to spur on the dynamism of the art market as well as solidifying the international integration.

**"Berlin-Paris" is being extended :** Not only does this year's project offer extraordinary artistic cooperations promising exciting innovations but also offers expansive and informative co-curated exhibitions. Among these include Gregor Podnar, who is working with young emerging galleries schleicher+lange, and Michel Rein, who with carlier | gebauer shows a series of high quality exhibitions present both old and established figures such as Yona Friedman and Francis Picabia as promising newcomers like Dove Allouche, Isabelle Cornaro, Clément Rodzielski. Thus, the project focuses on productive opposition, that could not complete themselves better as the two cultures represent.

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**Project coordinator:** Annie-Claire Geisinger



Ambassade de France en République Fédérale d'Allemagne

**The project is an initiative of the French Embassy in Germany**

**French Ambassador to Germany:** Bernard de Montferrand

**Cultural service of the French Embassy in Germany**

**Head of the Cultural service:** Charles Malinas

**Cultural attachée:** Frédérique Gérardin

## Programm 15 January 2010

- 11 am Press conference at French embassy, Pariser Platz 5, 10117 Berlin
- 12 Uhr Cocktail for the Press at the French embassy with the gallerists
- 13 Uhr Press-preview tour in the galleries
- 17 Uhr Official opening of the exhibitions in the galleries
- 23 Uhr Art-Party at the Club Relais, with a line up conceived by art collective Kolkoz und coop, Köpenickerstraße 126, 10179 Berlin

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## Kontakt bei der Presse

### Allemagne

Kathrin Luz Communication  
Neumann Luz Cooperations  
Kathrin Luz und Jana Strippel  
Lübecker Str. 11  
D-50668 Köln  
Tel +49(0)221.9235987  
Fax +49(0)221.9235988  
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### France

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FR-78170 La Celle Saint Cloud  
Tel +33 6 68 08 47 14  
Fax +33 1 39 69 74 87  
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