

Lentos Kunstmuseum

Margit Palme

The Gaze

24.05. to 18.08.24

The Lentos exhibition "Margit Palme. The Gaze" offers impressive insights into six decades of work of an outstanding artist from Linz. Margit Palme's female figures assert themselves powerfully and dynamically in a world characterized by patriarchal structures. The exhibition shows around 130 works that revolve around various aspects of womanhood and present them from a female perspective.

In dynamic, sometimes provocative poses, Margit Palme's female figures strive to master their lives with skill and vigor. The artist has been using aquatint etching for more than six decades. This technique requires linear precision and color reduction. Margit Palme translates her image of women, which is based on strength and self-determination, into vivid pictorial metaphors that occasionally contain a dash of irony.

"Palme's unique contribution to women's art lies in her precise observations and studies of the real needs of women. She does not accuse, but points out. Her always self-confident protagonists portray a beautiful, enjoyable life, but also address the challenges of our time. This gives them human traits and makes them figures of identification for us all," emphasizes curator Brigitte Reutner-Doneus.

Over decades of intensive practice, Margit Palme has developed a distinctive, unmistakable personal style that focuses on the special technique of aquatint etching. "Palme's works were presented at the Zurich Biennale and have found their way into important museum collections beyond Austrian borders. This late recognition of her artistic work is an important testimony to her international significance," Lentos Director Hemma Schmutz points out.

In various thematic focuses, Palme's female figures talk about fashion, sport and leisure. However, the artist's watchful eye also falls on the obligation to wear masks during the coronavirus pandemic, on addictions, compulsions and fears that are sometimes not easy to overcome.

"With the exhibition 'Margit Palme. The Gaze' is the first major solo museum exhibition by the Linz-based artist, who was awarded the Landeskulturpreis OÖ in 2023. The majority of the works come from the Lentos own collection, which once again demonstrates the high quality of our graphics collection," says Doris Lang-Mayerhofer, City Councillor for Culture, Tourism and Creative Industries.

The exhibition is accompanied by a 272-page catalog book that vividly presents Palme's artistic creative process from the 1950s to the present day. With around 230 illustrations and text contributions by Manuela Ammer, Verena Dengler, Ulrike Müller, Teresa Präauer and Brigitte Reutner-Doneus, the book offers a wide-ranging insight into the artist's women-specific oeuvre.

The varied accompanying program focuses on printing techniques. There will be a printing workshop for everyone (June 9) and a printmaking workshop for adults (June 14), and in a special guided tour of the exhibition, artist Margit Palme and curator Brigitte Reutner-Doneus will talk about the work cycles on display (June 13).

Biography

Margit Palme was born in 1939 in Amstetten, where she grew up with her two sisters. Her childhood takes place during the last years of the Second World War and the first of the post-war period when the Russians occupy her hometown. She attends grammar school in Amstetten.

1953–56 Aged 14, she continues her education at the Vienna-Hetzendorf fashion school.

1956–61 Palme studies graphic design under Alfons Ortner, the head of the Linzer Kunsthochschule. One of her fellow students is the future Linz artist Elfriede Trautner, who like Margit is particularly interested in the etching technique. Margit adopts her artistic name Palme from the maternal side of her family.

1957 Together with Peter Kubovský, a graduate of the Linz art school and nine years her senior, Margit moves to the Egon-Hofmann-Haus studio building in Dörfel 3, Linz, which is sponsored by the Kulturring der Wirtschaft Upper Austria. The building combines workspaces and temporary accommodation for artists.

1962 Receipt of a scholarship offered as part of the Salzburg Summer Academy to attend a lithography course held by Slavi Soucek at the „Graphische Versuchswerkstätte“ in the Salzburg Residenz.

1960, 1963 Margit Palme participates in the Innsbruck Youth Culture Week during which she makes some important long-term friends such as the writer Herbert Rosendorfer and the journalist Ludwig Plakolb. She is awarded third prize at the 1963 Youth Culture Week.

1967 The first one-woman exhibition entitled *Margit Palme / Radierungen* is held at the MAERZ artists' association and is opened by Alfons Ortner. Margit Palme receives the Theodor Körner Prize, which was first awarded in 1953 in order to provide financial support for up-and-coming talent.

1968 Participation in the MAERZ *Graphics and Sculpture* exhibition organized by Peter Kubovský at the Bratří Čapků Gallery in Prague. The exhibition takes place in the year of the Prague Spring. Its political relevance is emphasised by the opening speaker, the then head of the Austrian embassy in Prague, Rudolf Kirchschläger. In return, Czech artists exhibit in the rooms of the MAERZ in Linz.

1970 Exhibition in the MAERZ Gallery on the Taubenmarkt in Linz entitled *Zeit der Dame*. The MAERZ president, architect Karl Rebhahn, gives the opening address.

1973–1999 Teaching assignment for the Textile Design Master Class at the Linz Art Academy

1978 Receipt of a scholarship from the province of Lower Austria

1979 Participation in an exhibition at the Neue Galerie der Stadt Linz on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the Kulturring der Wirtschaft Upper Austria. Among other items, Palme shows the aquatint etching *Vögel müssen Federn lassen ...* from 1979.

1982 Prize of the province of Salzburg at the 18th Austrian Graphic Design Competition in Innsbruck for the aquatint etching *Kontaktnahme*.

1986 Exhibition at the Villa Toscana, Gmunden. Margit Palme's aquatint etching *Phönix* appears on the cover of LIVA Kalendarium, the programme magazine of the Linz Veranstaltungsgesellschaft. At the same time, an exhibition of Palme's works is shown in the Brucknerhaus Café.

1993 Participation in the 1st International Graphic Art Biennale in Maastricht.

1999 Award of the title of university professor. The artist leaves the art school and retires.

2000 Award of the Cultural Medal of the City of Linz.

2002 The brochure *Sports* is published with a text by Martin Hochleitner. Participation in the *Österreichische Graphik* travelling graphic art exhibition in Halle an der Saale, Germany.

2003 Participation in the exhibition at the Lower Austrian Documentation Center for Modern Art, St. Pölten.

2004 Participation in the Paulas Home women's exhibition at the Lentos Kunstmuseum Linz, curated by Angelika Gillmayr and Elisabeth Nowak-Thaller.

2008 Participation in the exhibition *Tür an Tür* at the Nordico Stadtmuseum Linz curated by Angelika Gillmayr. Alongside exhibits from Margit Palme, the show features works by 71 other artists created in the Egon-Hofmann-Haus.

2009 Award of the Heinrich Gleißner Prize. This Upper Austrian cultural prize honours the life's work of artists.

2010 Margit Palme is represented in the exhibition *Tabakfabrik* at the Nordico Stadtmuseum Linz with the aquatint etching *The Lady is for Fire*, created in 1973.

2011 Participation in the exhibition *Im Garten* at the Nordico Stadtmuseum Linz with the aquatint *Sleeping Girl*.

2013 Generous donation of more than 560 aquatints and drawings to the Lentos Kunstmuseum Linz

2022/23 Participation with six aquatint etchings in the exhibition *What the fem*?. Feminist Perspectives 1950 to Today* at the Nordico Stadtmuseum Linz, curated by Klaudia Kreslehner. Participation with a series of aquatint etchings in the exhibition *Das Tier in Dir* curated by Manuela Ammer and Ulrike Müller at the mumok, Vienna. The exhibition reflects upon family and gender relations, socialization, domestication and colonial history.

2023/24 Participation with thirteen aquatint etchings in the Zurich Biennale curated by Mitchell Anderson and Daniel Baumann at the Kunsthalle Zurich. Participation in the exhibition Ulrike Müller. *Monument to My Paper Body* at the Ludwig Forum in Aachen, Germany, curated by Eva Birkenstock. Inclusion of twenty aquatints in the Ludwig Forum's collection. In December 2023 Awarded the Grand State Prize for Culture (Alfred Kubin Prize).

2024 Solo exhibition *Margit Palme. Der Blick* at the Lentos Kunstmuseum Linz

Program

Guided Tours

Talk with the artist

Thur 13 June 6.00-7.00pm

Curator Brigitte Reutner-Doneus and Margit Palme will guide you through the exhibition.

Cost: € 4 plus admission

Registration requested, max. 25 participants

Guided tour with sign language interpreter

Sat 13 July 4.00-5.00pm

Free admission for deaf people

Baby Tour

Tue 4 June 10.30–11.30am

A relaxed tour of the exhibition, tailored to the needs of visitors with babies. We also visit prints from the Lentos collection exhibition.

Cost: museum admission only

Children & Family

Print Workshop for Everyone

Sun 9 June 10.00am-1.00pm

With the help of stencils, we experiment with the technique of screen printing on fabric and create our own motifs. You are welcome to bring your own light-colored bags, T-shirts, etc. to print on.

With Cécile Belmont and Klaus Scheuringer

For adults with/without children and for young people

Cost: € 7/person, for families each additional person € 2, registration required

Events

Graphics Studio for Adults

Fri 14 June 4.00-6.00pm

After a brief introduction to the content and style of Margit Palme's aquatints, we will interpret her works with pencils and chalks. Working materials will be provided, but you can also bring your own.

With the artist Klaus Scheuringer

Cost: € 8, registration required

Schulen

Druckwerkstatt für Schulen

Zum Schulschluss eröffnen wir eine Druckwerkstatt im Museum: Wir lernen unterschiedliche Drucktechniken in der Ausstellung von Margit Palme und in der Lentos Sammlung kennen und erkunden ihre Wirkungsweisen. Anschließend erproben wir kleinere Druckverfahren (z. B. Stempelkunst), um eigene Ideen zu verwirklichen.

Für alle Schulstufen

Dauer wählbar: 1 Std., 1,5 oder 2 Std.

Kosten: € 4, 5 oder 6 je Schüler*in

Anmeldung/Information: kunstvermittlung@lentos.at, +43 732 7070 3614 oder online auf lentos.at

Factsheet

Exhibition title	Margit Palme The Gaze
Exhibition period	24.05. to 18.08.2024
Publication	To accompany the exhibition, the artist is publishing the <i>catalog Margit Palme. Der Blick</i> with texts by Manuela Ammer, Verena Dengler, Ulrike Müller, Teresa Präauer and Brigitte Reutner-Doneus, published by Bibliothek der Provinz, Weitra. The catalog was financially supported by the federal government, the province of Upper Austria and the city of Linz. 272 pages, € 34
Venue	Basement
Opening hours	Tue–Sun 10am-6pm, Thur 10am-8pm Mon closed, Special opening hours www.lentos.at
Admission	€ 11, reduced € 9 / € 5
Press contact	Clarissa Ujvari M: +43 650 48 49 706 T: +43 (0)732 7070-3603 clarissa.ujvari@lentos.at Ernst-Koref-Promenade 1 4020 Linz
Web & Social Media	www.lentos.at facebook.com/lentoslinz instagram.com/lentoslinz

Images

Press photos and exhibition views are available for download for the duration of the exhibition on our website (<https://www.lentos.at/museum/presse/pressekit-margit-palme-der-blick-24-05-bis-18-08-24>) for the duration of the exhibition. License-free use is only permitted in the context of current reporting on the exhibition, provided the image credits are given.