

Wolfgang Gurlitt

Art dealer and profiteer in Bad Aussee

28.3. to 3.11.24

Kammerhofmuseum Bad Aussee

In two rooms of the Kammerhofmuseum in Bad Aussee, the visiting exhibition of the Lentos Kunstmuseum Linz sheds light on the eventful life of the passionate collector and Berlin art dealer Wolfgang Gurlitt (1888–1965) and his Jewish partner Lilly Christansen-Agoston (1894–1950). Both were involved in the trade of confiscated and “degenerate” art during the National Socialist era.

Gurlitt's family bought a villa on the Lenauhügel in Bad Aussee back in 1940. Following the bombing of his apartment and art gallery in Berlin in 1943, Gurlitt and his extended family adopted the Ausseerland as their new home where he also contributed to the vibrant cultural life in the immediate post-war period.

In 1946, the internationally well-connected exhibition organiser was appointed director of the New Gallery of the City of Linz, today the Lentos Kunstmuseum. With the Gurlitt collection stored in Bad Aussee, the museum oversees a legacy that is as illustrious as it is problematic.

Over the course of his career, Gurlitt was involved in more than one hundred exhibitions in Linz, Salzburg, Alpbach and Munich. He also curated the 1949 festival week exhibition in Bad Aussee, in the course of which the New Gallery of the City of Linz / Wolfgang Gurlitt Museum was introduced to the Ausseerland with graphic works by Oskar Kokoschka, Egon Schiele, Alfred Kubin and Gustav Klimt.

With this exhibition featuring around 60 originals from the former Gurlitt collection, Lentos is once again showcasing top-class works of art in the Salzkammergut.

Artists in the exhibition

Margret Bilger, Lovis Corinth, Peter Cornelius, Anton Faistauer, Hans Fronius, Rudolf Grossmann, Gustav Klimt, Emmy Haesele, Max Hirschenauer, Hanns Kobinger, Oskar Kokoschka, Alfred Kubin, Walter Ritter, Anton Romako, Johann Scheffer von Leonhardshof, Egon Schiele, Wilhelm Trübner, Alfons Ortner

Program

Public guided tours

Sun 10.30 - 11.30am

No registration required

Curator guided tours

Thu 28.3. 11.00 - 12.00

Sun 19.5. 11.00 - 12.00

Sun 3.11. 11.00 - 12.00

The curator Elisabeth Nowak-Thaller will guide you through the exhibition she has designed. Bookings can be made at info@kammerhofmuseum.at. Details and tour costs can be found on the website kammerhofmuseum.at.

Group tour through Wolfgang Gurlitt

Duration 1 hour, minimum 10 participants, registration required, please register at info@kammerhofmuseum.at. Details and tour costs can be found on the website kammerhofmuseum.at.

Guided Tour through Kammerhofmuseum

The tour combines selected areas of the permanent exhibition at the Kammerhofmuseum with the special exhibition on Wolfgang Gurlitt. At least 10 participants, registration required. Please register at info@kammerhofmuseum.at. Details and tour costs can be found on the website kammerhofmuseum.at.

Lentos & European Capital of Culture Bad Ischl Salzkammergut 2024 Linz, Lauffen, Bad Aussee

In the context of a project entitled “The Journey of the Paintings”, the Lentos Kunstmuseum Linz contributes three exhibitions to European Capital of Culture Bad Ischl Salzkammergut 2024 within the framework of its programme line “Macht und Tradition” [Power and Tradition]. In addition to the exhibition *The Journey of the Paintings. Hitler’s Art Policy, the Art Trade and Storage Operations in the Salzkammergut in the Nazi Era* in Linz, the Lentos puts on the exhibition *Wolfgang Gurlitt* in cooperation with the Kammerhofmuseum in Bad Aussee and the exhibition *The Life of Things* in the refurbished former Marktrichterhaus in Lauffen near Bad Ischl.

The Journey of the Paintings

Hitler’s Art Policy, the Art Trade and Storage Operations in the Salzkammergut in the Nazi Era

Venue: Lentos Kunstmuseum Linz

Exhibition periode: 20.3. – 8.9.2024

Curators: Elisabeth Nowak-Thaller (Project lead, Vice-Director Lentos), Birgit Schwarz (Expert NS-Art Policy, Guest Curator)

Like no other region in Austria, the Salzkammergut served as a point of transit and salvage for important works of European art history during the Second World War, including art looted by the National Socialists. After the first bombing raids, exhibits for Adolf Hitler’s “Führer Museum” and works of art from the Schack art collection in Munich were stored in the Altaussee salt mine and in makeshift depots such as inns and churches. Austrian museums also used a mine, the Franz-Josef-Erbstollen (Franz Josef adit) in Lauffen near Bad Ischl in the Salzkammergut, as a refuge facility in 1944/45.

The exhibition features more than 80 paintings and objects that were collected, stored, retrieved and rescued in the Salzkammergut during the war years. All of the items are on loan from public museums, and their current and historical ownership status is documented in the exhibition. They include artworks that were looted by the Nazis and later restituted to their owners, as well as works of art whose origins are the subject of ongoing provenance research.

Masterpieces from the 8th to the 20th centuries by Arnold Böcklin, Goya, Edvard Munch, Lovis Corinth, Jacob van Ruisdael, Anthonis van Dyck, Giovanni Battista Tiepolo, Max Liebermann, Jakob Jordaens, Titian, Moritz von Schwind and Ferdinand Georg Waldmüller, among others, as well as a historical model of the Ghent Altarpiece tell the stories of their odysseys with many stops along the way.

With the critical intervention *Ruinenwert* by the successful German artist Henrike Naumann the exhibition is complemented by a contemporary perspective.

The Life of Things

Looted – Displaced – Salvaged

Venue: former Marktrichterhaus [Market Reeve's House], Lauffen near Bad Ischl

Exhibition periode: 27. April–1. September 2024

Curators: Hemma Schmutz (Director Lentos Kunstmuseum Linz), Markus Proschek (Guest Curator)

Press walk: 26. April, 4.00pm

Opening: 26. April, 5.00pm

Showcasing contemporary works of art, the exhibition focuses on the fate of works of art and artefacts between looting, displacement, restitution, and reconstruction. Approaches informing the show range from the discussion of colonial looting and questionable collecting activities to state sanctioned theft and expropriation and cultural genocide through looting and the destruction of cultural objects. The exhibition's focus is deliberately directed at the objects' immaterial value and the memories and (hi)stories that have inscribed themselves upon them. With Said Baalbaki, Hera Büyüктаşçıyan, CATPC / Renzo Martens, Ines Doujak, Assaf Hinden, Moussa Kone, Oliver Laric, Markus Proschek, Anja Ronacher, Dierk Schmidt, Philip Topolovac, and others.

Supported by The European Heritage Project by Peter Löw

Contributors

Project sponsor Lentos Art Museum Linz Vice-Director

Curator and Project Manager, Lentos Elisabeth Nowak-Thaller

Expert on Nazi art policy, guest curator, Lentos Birgit Schwarz

Exhibition design | Video installations Lentos Nicole Six & Paul Petritsch

Guest Curator Lauffen Markus Proschek, Director Museums of the City of Linz, Curator Lauffen Hemma Schmutz

Program management Salzkammergut 2024 Lisa Neuhuber, Martina Rothschädl

All-inclusive-Ticket



Linz and Salzkammergut

The all-inclusive ticket for € 35 allows admission to 4 exhibition venues: the three exhibitions of "The Journey of Images" and the original venue, the Salt Worlds in Altaussee (Mountain of Treasures). Available at Lentos Kunstmuseum Linz, Kammerhofmuseum Bad Aussee, Salzwelten Altaussee and online at <https://shop.museenderstadtlinz.at/artikel/all-inklusive-ticket-die-reise-der-bilder>.

The Lentos

The Lentos Kunstmuseum Linz, which opened in 2003, is an Austrian museum of modern and contemporary art. Its comprehensive collection comprises world famous paintings, works on paper, and photographs spanning an arc from classical modernity, with masterpieces by such artists as Gustav Klimt, Oskar Kokoschka, Egon Schiele, and Helene Funke, to contemporary works of the 20th and 21st centuries by artists such as VALIE EXPORT, Haus-Rucker-Co, Andy Warhol, and Maria Lassnig. In addition to the permanent presentation of its collection, the Lentos puts on special exhibitions that give an insight into many themes and epochs of art or the work of specific artists. .

Factsheet

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| Exhibition title | Wolfgang Gurlitt Art dealer and profiteer in Bad Aussee |
| Exhibition duration | 28.3. to 3.11.24 |
| Exhibition venue | Kammerhofmuseum Chlumeckyplatz 1 +43 676 83622520 8990 Bad Aussee, AT Opening hours: Mon closed Tue-Sun 10.00am-03.00pm, 24.3. to 30.6. and September, Oktober Tue-Sun 10.00am-04.00pm, July und August |
| Opening | Wed 27.3.24, 7pm |
| Credits | Curator: Elisabeth Nowak-Thaller |
| Cooperation | An exhibition of the Lentos Art Museum Linz in cooperation with the Kammerhofmuseum Bad Aussee and the European Capital of Culture Bad Ischl Salzkammergut 2024.  Lentos  Kunstmuseum |
| Images | You can find royalty-free images for download here (https://www.lentos.at/museum/presse/pressekit-wolfgang-gurlitt-kunsthändler-und-profiteur-in-bad-aussee) |
| Public transport | Use the new day public transport ticket for your journey to the Salzkammergut for € 19.90 (incl. up to 2 adults and 4 children under 15 years). Details and timetable information at oeevv.at . Information for arrival and shuttle service on site: salzkammergut-2024.at/anreise |

Press contact

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