

# Lentos Kunstmuseum

## Real Wild Child

## Ideal and Reality from 1900 to Today

12.5.–5.9.2021

**The Exhibition Real Wild Child / Wilde Kindheit, with its 170 artists dating from the period of 1900 to today, documents both children's joie de vivre and their frustrations with a good deal of irony and humour. It reminds us that it is up to us grownups to give children a childhood that is worth remembering.**

At the core of the exhibition is a set of twelve video interviews that has artists reminiscing about their childhood. Richard Tuttle, Bill Viola, Georg Baselitz, Wim Wenders, William Kentridge, Daniel Kehlmann, Salman Rushdie, Patti Smith, Henning Mankell, Herta Müller, Yoko Ono and Jonathan Meese – this is the order of their appearance – talk about how their childhood experiences influenced their activities as artists. This sets the key to a children's universe in nine chapters, ranging from carefree, curious, innocent, dreamy to pubertal, overstrained, predestined, disciplined and powerless. "The artists put before our eyes a broad range both of adventures and of challenges with which children and adolescents are confronted today. With nuanced realism, often unsparingly or, alternatively, with a poignant sense of humour, they find ways of addressing complex topics without ever succumbing to patronising or moralising", says Sabine Fellner, who has developed the exhibition concept.

Alain Laboile, Heidi Harsieber, Alois Mosbacher and Fritz Simak watch their 'carefree' children, as they play games, romp around, experiment and generally mess around. What is clearly visible is the wholehearted dedication with which children will muck around, cavort in the water or test their athletic prowess by climbing, jumping and somersaulting and by letting off steam in dancing. Curiosity and wonder accompany the expeditions of children as they probe the unknown. In the chapter entitled 'curious', Mary Kelly opens up the infant's universe in *Primapara, Bathing Series* (1974–96), dominated as it is by the activation of the senses. The chapter 'dreamy' shows how children are naturally inclined to believe in the existence of supernatural powers and fairy tale characters, such as witches and ghosts. The Christ child and the Easter bunny are also credited with being real. Everyday objects are seen as animate and may morph into monsters, as Auguste Kronheim demonstrates in her woodcut series *Unheimliche Kindheit / Scary childhood* (1973). The chapter 'predestined' features works like Titanilla Eisenhart's *Die Brücke der Zeit / The bridge of Time* (2015) and Frenzi Riegling Schuh in *Schuh / Shoe in shoe* (2003-2020) that show how our own lives are swayed by the lives of the generations of our predecessors. 'The exhibition is a prism through which to confront one's own memories of childhood. It is the sheer variety of works on display that allows visitors to pick and choose and to what is most congenial to them', as curator Elisabeth Nowak-Thaller points out.

The chapter 'disciplined' addresses topics such as discipline, educational principles and resistance. In *Facing a Family* (1971), VALIE EXPORT analyses the behaviour of TV audiences and reveals how it is dominated by patriarchal patterns of education and the assignment of roles within the bourgeois nuclear family.

In 'powerless', artists such as Werner Berg, Thomas Billhardt, Christian Boltanski and Oskar Kokoschka show how utterly helpless children are when exposed to war and social deprivation.

Gottfried Helnwein and Reimo S. Wukounig provide deeply disturbing images of abusive educational methods and of abuse in general.

The thin line between innocence and seduction is addressed by artists such as Judy Fox, Franz Gertsch and Sybille Bergemann in 'innocent'. They make children adopt poses that mirror the traditional behaviour of adults. The impression that is created in this way, which is compounded by their use of well-known stereotypes from art history, is one of profound irritation.

The chapter 'overstrained' provides food for thought. While cell phones, tablets and computers allow children and adolescents to establish networks that span the globe and open up new creative opportunities for visual communication, they lead at the same time to social isolation. Julie Blackmon shows this in *The Babysitter* (2006).

In 'pubertal', artists unfold the broad spectrum of challenges children and adolescents are confronted with today. Nilbar Güreş stages *The Front Balcony* (2010) as a witty, sharp-sighted snapshot, in which two lifeworlds collide, thus revealing the traditional role assignment at work.

'Sabine Fellner und Elisabeth Nowak-Thaller present in this exhibition a kaleidoscope of extremely divergent approaches to childhood, bringing into play historical, sociological, psychoanalytical, philosophical, sociopolitical and intensely personal aspects. The show is on a par with the other thematic exhibitions, such as *Rabenmütter* (2015) and *Der nackte Mann* (2012), which the two curators jointly realised to great acclaim at the Lentos', as Lentos Director Hemma Schmutz has noted.

'The broad spectrum of the show, which is centred on childhood and puts on display 350 works of art by 170 artists, dating to the period from 1900 to today, will ensure there is something in it for everyone. From 19 Mai events and guided tours will again be possible, with security precautions in place as required. The Lentos has prepared a programme that should be irresistible for children and their families, ranging from a booklet to accompany the exhibition to a series of summer workshops', as City Councillor for Culture, Tourism and Creative Industries Doris Lang-Mayerhofer notes.

An exhibition booklet for adults and children with suggestions for playful activities in the museum is on offer to guide visitors. A summer workshop for seven- to twelve-year-olds will provide an opportunity to realise a pop-up children's republic. A cooperative venture with the Crossing Europe film festival will screen both classics from the history of film and topical works focusing on adolescence. In early June, the Lentos will issue invitations for the late-opening of the exhibition and from the end of June families are welcome again to explore the museum. Guided tours of the Kunstmuseum will be available again from 19 May. For details, go to [www.lentos.at](http://www.lentos.at)

# Program

## Opening

### Soft Opening

**Tue 11.5.21, 1-6pm**

On the first day of the exhibition, the show can be visited under observance of the general safety precautions (2m-minimum distance, FFP2-mask) from 13.00 to 18.00 with free entrance.

### Late Opening

**Tue 10.6.21, 6pm**

Official opening of the exhibition with a welcome by Hemma Schmutz, Director Lentos, an introduction by the curators Sabine Fellner and Elisabeth Nowak-Thaller, and the opening of the show by Doris Lang-Mayerhofer, City Councillor for Culture of the City of Linz.

## Lecture and Guided Tour

### "The Child an Erotic Toy"

**Sun 30.5. 11.00-13.30**

After her lecture, which will be accompanied by film clips, psychoanalyst Beate Hofstadler will lead a guided tour of the exhibition with the curators. At the same time, a creative workshop will take place, which can be attended free of charge by children of the participants (from 5 years).

Cost: lecture and guided tour € 7 plus admission

Registration required

German only

## Wild Childhood in Film

In film, the theme of childhood is omnipresent. Both classics of film history and current works deal with growing up in a variety of ways, as the supporting program to the exhibition shows.

## Film screening and discussion

### My No Family

**(Director: Paul Julien Robert, AT 2012)**

**Thu 5/27, 5-7pm.**

Documentary film about the commune Friedrichshof of the Viennese actionist Otto Muehl in Burgenland. Discussion with Paul Julien Robert, Sonja Farkas and Sabine Fellner moderated by Karin Schneider. The screening will take place in the Lentos Auditorium.

## Corssing Europe Film Festival Linz

**1.6. to 6.6.**

Acasă, My Home

(Director: Radu Ciorniciuc, RO/FI/DE 2020)

Gagarine

(Director: Fanny Liatard, Jérémy Trouilh, FR 2020)

La Última Primavera

(Director: Isabel Lambert, NL/ES 2020)

Robber Hands

(Director: Ilker Çatak, DE 2020)

Details on tickets and times: [crossingeurope.at](http://crossingeurope.at)

### **Moviemento Cinema**

Bicycle Thieves, Wed 19.5.21 (screening at City Kino)

(Director: Vittorio de Sica, IT 1948)

Tomboy, Wed 9.6.21

(Director: Céline Sciamma, FR 2011)

Details on tickets and times: [moviemento.at](http://moviemento.at)

## **Children and Family**

### **Lentos Atelier Pop-Up Gallery**

**The exhibition of the "Selfmade-artists" at the Lentos Donauatelier**

**Tue 11.5- Sun 11.7.**

For many months now, our studios and workshops have unfortunately been unable to take place. We miss the precious moments in which we were able to learn with and from children and young people how diverse and extraordinary creativity can be lived out.

We, the art education team of Lentos, ask ourselves: What has happened since then? How have children and adolescents filled out their creativity within their own four walls and what works have emerged in the process on their own initiative?

As part of the exhibition *Wild Childhood*, we invite all children and young people to show us and interested visitors their works of art. From May to July, our Danube studio will become an exhibition space for your works. Starting on May 11, you can come by during regular museum opening hours and find a suitable place for your sculptures and paintings in the exhibition setting. in the exhibition setting.

More information at the museum box office and at [karin.schneider@lentos.at](mailto:karin.schneider@lentos.at).

### **Fanta-Stick**

**Participatory installation**

**Fri 21.5.21**

**Fri 18.6.21**

**Fri 2.7.21**

**each 3-6pm**

On the occasion of the exhibition *Wild Childhood*, artist Katharina Lackner invites young museum visitors to experiment artistically and to create freely without instruction.

In the Lentos Freiraum, we will build fantastic objects and spaces with simple materials (sticks, rubber bands, tape, plastic balls, etc.). The resulting works will then be assembled into a large installation and supplemented with drawings by the artist. The installation is thus always in motion, changes, grows and can be admired afterwards in the Lentos studio.

Participation is free and possible at any time, without registration between 3-6pm.

For families with children from 3 years

Registration and information: [karin.schneider@lentos.at](mailto:karin.schneider@lentos.at)

Artist: Katharina Lackner

Guide: Cécile Belmont

### **I see something...**

**A voyage of discovery for the whole family**

**Sat 26.6. 10.30-11.30am**

With Karin Schneider and Korinna Kohout

Young and old meet (seated, at a distance) in the Lentos Freiraum to share experiences of their "journey" into the worlds of the exhibition. For this, children and adults each discover different works of art and share their musings. Max. 10 persons

Registration: [karin.schneider@lentos.at](mailto:karin.schneider@lentos.at)

Costs: Museum admission, participation in the journey of discovery included

### **Summer workshop**

**Widi, Widi, as we like it!**

**A "Pop-up Children's Republic**

**Tue 13-Fri 16.7. each 10am-2pm**

With the artists Cécile Belmont and Klaus Scheuringer

In the square in front of the museum, children are wild and free, at least in their imagination. Out of all kinds of things - boxes, blankets, boards, stones - we build caves, ships, universes. We develop a "state system", invent its rules and think about how we want to live together as children and adults. For children from 7-12 years

Cost: € 75 for all days. Please bring waterproof clothes that can get dirty!

Registration: [kumu@liva.linz.at](mailto:kumu@liva.linz.at)

In cooperation with the children's cultural center Kuddelmuddel

### **Mobile children's art book library**

A small, fine selection of books that will make you curious about art and stories. Find your favorite place in the exhibition to browse and dream.

By Klaus Scheuringer, Lentos Library

### **Hall booklet for adults and children**

The exhibition is accompanied by a free hall booklet containing detailed information about individual artistic positions as well as creative suggestions for visiting the exhibition with children.

### **Corona Superheroes**

Children and young people from all over the world were asked to show their images of Corona superheroes as part of a project at the Kunstuniversität Linz. The works will also be presented in the Lentos Foyer during the exhibition *Wild Childhood*.

A project by Rafael Kampl in collaboration with Sabine Köstler


# Artists

Uli Aigner  
Aigner/Kosakowski  
Özlem Altin  
Beni Altmüller  
Iris Andraschek  
Siegfried Anzinger  
Christy Astuy  
Iris Christine Aue  
Stephan Balkenhol  
Tina Barney  
Werner Berg  
Sibylle Bergemann  
Thomas Billhardt  
Julie Blackmon  
Hans Böhler  
Christian Boltanski  
Eugenie Breithut-Munk  
Klemens Brosch  
Vanja Bucan  
Wilhelm Busch  
Maria Bussmann  
Sevda Chkoutova  
Clément Cogitore  
Philipp Connard  
Lovis Corinth  
Maciej Dakowicz  
Nienke Deutz  
Gerhild Diesner  
Oliver Dorfer  
Isabelle Dutoit  
Albin Egger-Lienz  
Titanilla Eisenhart  
Georg Eisler  
VALIE EXPORT  
László Fehér  
Fabian Fink  
Judith P. Fischer  
Martina Fleck  
Maia Flore  
Judy Fox  
Padhi Frieberger  
Fritz Fröhlich  
Friedrich Frotzel  
Jorge Fuembuena  
Katsura Funakoshi  
Helene Funke  
Theo Garvé  
Franz Gertsch  
Glaser/Kunz  
Bernhard Gobiet  
Sofia Goscinski  
Nilbar Güreş  
Maria Hahnenkamp  
Wolfgang Hanghofer  
Heidi Harsieber  
Bertram Hasenauer  
Carry Hauser  
Gottfried Helnwein  
Frans Hofmeester  
Karen Holländer  
Irene Hölzer-Weinek  
Martin Honert  
Bernadette Huber  
Lisa Huber  
Ursula Hübner  
Friedensreich Hundertwasser  
Frederick Jaeger  
Allen Jones  
Leander Kaiser  
Eginhartz Kanter  
Mary Kelly  
Gerhard Knogler  
Oskar Kokoschka  
Anton Kolig  
Silvia Koller  
Broncia Koller-Pinell  
Michal Kosakowski  
Auguste Kronheim  
Maximilian Kurzweil  
Alain Laboile  
Katharina Lackner  
Marie Jo Lafontaine  
Erwin Lang  
Lotte Laserstein  
Maria Lassnig  
Marie Luise Lebschik  
Rudolf Leitner-Gründberg  
Doris Lenz  
Ulrike Lienbacher  
Rosmarie Lukasser  
Anna Mahler  
Sabine Maier  
Sally Mann  
Gerhard Marcks  
Pedro Marzorati  
Frans Masereel

Henri Matisse  
Matthias May  
Ferdinand Melichar  
Paula Modersohn-Becker  
Inge Morath  
Alois Mosbacher  
Koloman Moser  
Otto Muehl  
Muntean/Rosenblum  
Ernst Nepo  
Walter Niedermayr  
Rita Nowak  
Monika Oechsler  
Eamon O'Kane  
Ruth Orkin  
Burgis Paier  
Margit Palme  
Josef Pausch  
Vanessa Jane Phaff  
Monika Pichler  
Andrzej Pietrzyk  
Elisabeth Plank  
Lois Pregartbauer  
Bernhard Prinz  
Erwin Rachbauer  
Beate Rathmayr  
Carl Anton Reichel  
Frenzi Rigling  
Alexander M. Rodtschenko  
Emy Roeder  
Anton Romako  
Elisabeth von Samsonow  
Roman Scheidl  
Egon Schiele  
Markus Schinwald  
Christoph Schmidberger

Anne Schneider  
Ramona Schnekenburger  
Martin Schnur  
Claudia Schumann  
Sean Scully  
Deborah Sengl  
Marielis Seyler  
Clara Siewert  
Fritz Simak  
Max Slevogt  
Kiki Smith  
Ernst Stöhr  
Hans Strohofer  
Jock Sturges  
Monika Supé  
Wilhelm Thöny  
Viktor Tischler  
Elfriede Trautner  
Kerry Tribe  
Gabi Trinkaus  
Barbara Camilla Tucholski  
Massimo Vitali  
Maja Vukoje  
Bárbara Wagner & Benjamin de Burca  
Nurith Wagner-Strauss,  
Jeff Wall  
Bruno Walpoth  
Marijke van Warmerdam  
Gillian Wearing  
Nives Widauer  
Franz Wiegele  
Reimo S. Wukounig  
Luo Yang  
Andre Zelck  
Laurent Ziegler  
Yantong Zhu

# Facts & Figures

<b>Exhibition title</b>	Real Wild Child Ideal and Reality from 1900 to Today
<b>Exhibition period</b>	12.5.–5.9.2021
<b>Exhibition concept</b>	Sabine Fellner
<b>Curators</b>	Sabine Fellner, Elisabeth Nowak-Thaller
<b>Exhibition Venue</b>	Big Hall
<b>Exhibition design</b>	Silvia Merlo
<b>Exhibitbits</b>	Around 350 works by 170 artists, including video works, photography, installations, graphics, paintings and sculptures.
<b>Publication</b>	The exhibition is accompanied by a catalog published by Verlag für moderne Kunst in German with text contributions by Sabine Fellner, Beate Hofstadler, Elisabeth Nowak-Thaller, Robert Pfaller, Karin Schneider, Manfred Spitzer and Mariam Irene Tazi-Preve as well as a foreword by Hemma Schmutz; 216 pages, € 32.
<b>With friendly support from</b>	<b>Raiffeisenlandesbank</b>  <b>Oberösterreich</b>
<b>Opening hours</b>	Tue–Sun 10 am to 6 pm, Thur 10 am to 7 pm, Mon closed For any change in opening times, and special opening hours please check our websites <a href="http://www.lentos.at">www.lentos.at</a> .
<b>Admission fee</b>	€ 8, reduced € 6 / € 4,50
<b>Press contact</b>	Clarissa Ujvari +43(0)732/7070-3603 <a href="mailto:clarissa.ujvari@lentos.at">clarissa.ujvari@lentos.at</a> Ernst-Koref-Promenade 1 4020 Linz
<b>Web &amp; Social Media</b>	<a href="http://www.lentos.at">www.lentos.at</a> <a href="https://facebook.com/lentoslinz">facebook.com/lentoslinz</a> <a href="https://twitter.com/lentoslinz">twitter.com/lentoslinz</a> <a href="https://instagram.com/lentoslinz">instagram.com/lentoslinz</a>



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