

# DIVERSITY UNITED

Contemporary European Art.  
Moscow. Berlin. Paris.

**83 artists from 35 countries presenting the diverse artistic face of Europe:**  
*Diversity United presents established and emerging artists exploring pro-European dialogues. The exhibition - with venues in Moscow, Berlin and Paris – considers subjects including freedom, dignity, respect, conflicts and dialogue, landscapes and power and political and personal identity.*

**11 November 2020 – 21 February 2021**



Slavs and Tatars, *Mystical Protest*, 2011, luminous paint, Muharram fabric, fluorescent lights, colour sleeves, cotton, 240 x 620 x 15 cm. Installation view at Ujazdowski Castle Centre for Contemporary Art, Warsaw, 2016. Photo Bartosz Górka

The Foundation for Art and Culture, Bonn and the Tretyakov Gallery, Moscow are delighted to announce the travelling group show *Diversity United. Contemporary European Art. Moscow. Berlin. Paris*. The first venue - the Tretyakov Gallery, Moscow (11 November 2020 – 21 February 2021) - is followed by venues in Berlin and Paris (2021), presenting a survey of work from across the continent. *Diversity United* is under the patronage of the State Presidents of Germany, Russia and France, Frank-Walter Steinmeier, Vladimir Putin and Emmanuel Macron.

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The exhibition showcases the strength and diversity of Europe's cultural output and highlights the importance of a united Europe during times of political uncertainty. The exhibition looks at contemporary European art after the fall of the Iron Curtain, underlining the importance of intercultural dialogue today.

It raises questions about freedom, dignity, democracy and respect whilst highlighting the continent's artistic production in the context of historically relevant and current themes, such as political and personal identity, migration, (mental) landscape, gender and equality, nationality, territory and geopolitics and social conflicts.

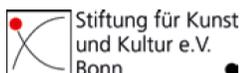
*Diversity United* is made up of approximately 200 works by 83 key European artists active today and spanning generations, genders and European regions. These include Eija-Liisa Ahtila, Monica Bonvicini, Olafur Eliasson, Aslan Goisum, Mona Hatoum, Ilya and Emilia Kabakov, Zhanna Kadyrova, Alicja Kwade, Roman Ondak, Wolfgang Tillmans, Erwin Wurm, Nil Yalter and Slavs and Tatars (**full artist list available below**).

The chairman of the Foundation for Art and Culture, Walter Smerling, and the general director of the Tretyakov Gallery, Zelfira Tregulova, head up the **curatorial committee** consisting of internationally curators, including Simon Baker (Maison Européenne de la Photographie, Paris), Faina Balakhovskaya (Tretyakov Gallery, Moscow), Kay Heymer (Stiftung Museum Kunstpalast, Düsseldorf), Pontus Kyander (writer and curator, Helsinki), Camille Morineau (AWARE, curator, Paris), Johanna Neuschäffer & Anne Schwanz (Office Impart, Berlin), Hilke Wagner (Albertinum, Dresden), Peter Weibel (ZKM Karlsruhe).

*“Europe consists of many amazing landscapes, not just geographically, but socially, politically and culturally. Artists are able to unite and form those worlds”, Walter Smerling, the chairman of the Foundation for Art and Culture, says.*

*“This multitude of artistic voices from all over Europe create an insightful image of our cultural sphere. As the exhibition is limited to 81 artists it does not claim to proportionally represent the entirety of Europe, it is instead conceived ‘essayistically’ as a portrayal of this sphere. This view of the ‘artistic face of Europe’ champions freedom, respect, dignity and tolerance, for the preservation of diversity - the right to be individual. However, the artists also demonstrate how fragile these values are and how much we must support them. With Diversity United we will create a social dialogue, to prove that communication is essential in the search for peace and understanding.”*

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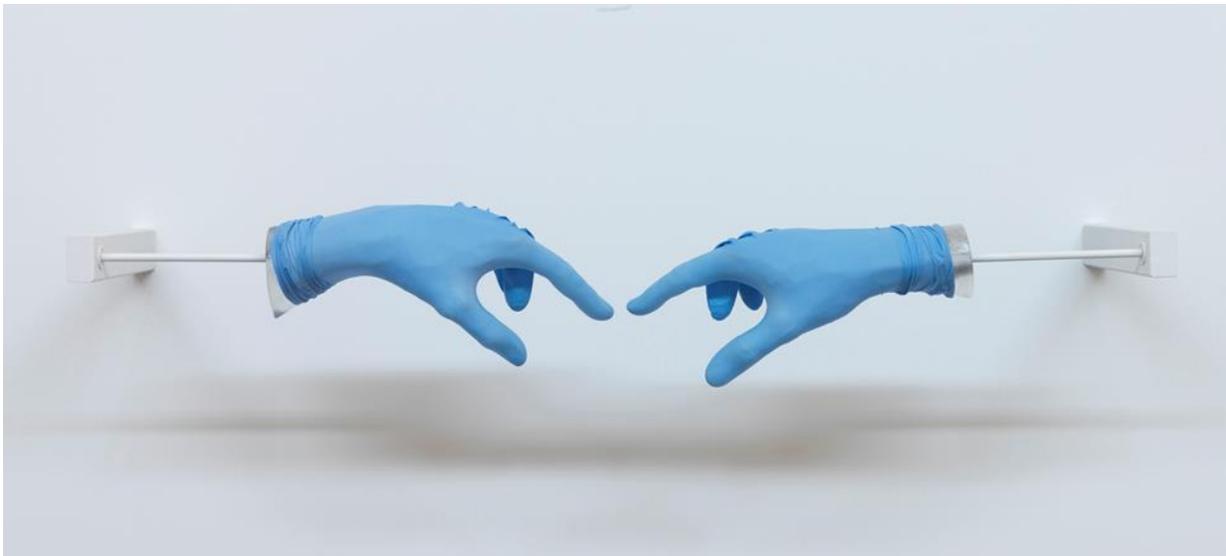


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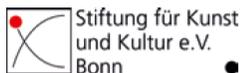
*“What can contemporary art do today, when the world looks so complex, so conflicting and divided? What is the artistic identity of Europe and what does national identity mean today?” asks Zelfira Tregulova, general director of the Tretyakov Gallery.*

*“The central question is should art develop its own way of talking about the questions which are most important nowadays? Diversity United raises these important issues, to present a broad panorama of different artistic approaches, a chorus of voices which encourages visitors to think, to analyze, to discuss, to feel compassion or experience deep emotions - thus rendering human in a world which sometimes appears hostile to humanistic values.”*



Anri Sala, *Suspended (Sky Blue)*, 2008, © Anri Sala. Courtesy Hauser & Wirth and Marian Goodman Gallery

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## Participating artists

Eija-Liisa Ahtila	Sanja Iveković	Grayson Perry
Andreas Angelidakis	Isaac Julien	Anders Petersen
Yael Bartana	Ilya and Emilia Kabakov	Agnieszka Polska
Rugilė Barzdžiukaitė, Vaiva	Zhanna Kadyrova	Tal R
Grainytė, Lina Lapelytė	Patricia Kaersenhout	Paula Rego
Georg Baselitz	Šejla Kamerić	Gerhard Richter
Blue Soup	Erik Kessels &	Ugo Rondinone
Christian Boltanski	Thomas Mailaender	Adam Saks
Monica Bonvicini	Anselm Kiefer	Anri Sala
Pavel Bräila	Peter Kogler	Fernando Sánchez Castillo
Maurizio Cattelan	Irina Korina	Tristan Schulze
Olga Chernysheva	Alicja Kwade	Katharina Sieverding
Tacita Dean	Kris Lemsalu	Slavs and Tatars
Rineke Dijkstra	Cristina Lucas	Nedko Solakov
Aleksandra Domanović	Goshka Macuga	Jan Svenungsson
Constant Dullaart	Kris Martin	Wolfgang Tillmans
Olafur Eliasson	Dóra Maurer	Rosemarie Trockel
Kristaps Epners	Annette Messager	Tatiana Trouvé
Valérie Favre	Marzia Migliora	Luc Tuymans
Pia Fries	Boris Mikhailov	Martina Vacheva
Adrian Ghenie	Richard Mosse	Ulla von Brandenburg
Gilbert & George	Ekaterina Muromtseva	Marko Vuokola
Aslan Goisum	Henrike Naumann	Rachel Whiteread
Antony Gormley	Mariele Neudecker	Per Wizén
Manuel Graf	Katja Novitskova	Erwin Wurm
Ane Graff	Ahmet Öğüt	Nil Yalter
Petrit Halilaj	Roman Ondak	Yan Pei-Ming
Mona Hatoum	Lucy Orta	
Sheila Hicks	Dan Perjovschi	

Participating artists live and work in Albania, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Kosovo, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom and Ukraine.

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## Notes to Editors

### About Foundation for Art and Culture, Bonn

Stiftung für Kunst und Kultur Bonn (Foundation for Art and Culture, Bonn) is a nonprofit organisation and was founded in 1986 as a private initiative designed to foster the arts and culture as an essential, stimulating and integral part of our civic society. The Foundation aims to “help shape society”, as the great Joseph Beuys once said. The Foundation is headed by Chairman Walter Smerling, who is responsible for numerous art and cultural projects including the establishment of MKM Museum Küppersmühle for Modern Art in Duisburg.

The Foundation focuses on the **conception and realisation of exhibitions**, the **supervision of the MKM Museum Küppersmühle**, the organisation of **discussions at the interface of culture, politics and economics** and the presentation of **art in public spaces**. Since its conception, around 300 exhibitions and other cultural projects have been realised at different national and international sites, including the “Walk of Modern Art” in Salzburg and major exhibitions

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### About Tretyakov Gallery, Moscow

Established in 1856, the Tretyakov Gallery has become one of the largest and the most visited museums in Russia. Currently the museum collection comprises of more than 190,000 objects which date between the 11<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> centuries.

The space houses a unique collection of modern Russian art as it is the only permanent exhibition space for 20<sup>th</sup> century local art in Russia. The masterworks are the artifacts of the epoch which has provided the world with the Russian avant-garde. Alongside the large-scale retrospectives of great Russian artists, the Tretyakov Gallery exhibits contemporary masters that are held in The New Tretyakov collection.

[www.tretyakovgallery.ru](http://www.tretyakovgallery.ru)

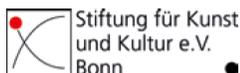
Instagram @tretyakov\_gallery #diversityunitedart #europeanartnow

Facebook @tretyakovgallery

### Patronage

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## Curatorial Committee

Walter Smerling (Chairman of the Foundation for Art and Culture, Bonn) - Speaker  
Zelfira Tregulova (General Director of the Tretyakov Gallery, Moscow) - Speaker  
Simon Baker (Maison Européenne de la Photographie, Paris)  
Faina Balakhovskaya (Tretyakov Gallery, Moscow)  
Kay Heymer (Stiftung Museum Kunstpalast, Düsseldorf)  
Pontus Kyander (writer and curator, Helsinki)  
Camille Morineau (AWARE, curator, Paris)  
Johanna Neuschäffer & Anne Schwanz (Office Impart, Berlin)  
Hilke Wagner (Albertinum, Dresden)  
Peter Weibel (ZKM Karlsruhe)

## Cooperation Partners

The exhibition is in cooperation with Petersburg Dialogue (Petersburger Dialog e.V.) and supported by the German Federal Foreign Office.

## Sponsors

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New Yorker Marketing und Media International GmbH  
Meridian Capital Ltd.

## Curatorial Advisory Board

The Curatorial Committee is assisted in an advisory capacity by well-connected representatives of the international exhibition establishment:

Bernard Blistène (Director Centre Pompidou, Paris)  
Manuel Borja-Villel (Director Reina Sofia, Madrid)  
Candida Gertler OBE (Co-Founder and Director Outset, London)  
Christiane Lange (Director Staatsgalerie Stuttgart)  
Hermann Parzinger (President Prussian Cultural Heritage Foundation, Berlin)  
Mikhail Piotrovsky (Director State Hermitage St. Petersburg)  
Peter Weibel (Director ZKM Karlsruhe)

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## Project Advisory Board

The Project Advisory Board comprises representatives from business, politics and civil society institutions, chaired by the entrepreneur Jürgen Großmann:

Kai Diekmann (member of the board, Foundation for Art and Culture, Bonn)

Andreas Fritzenkötter (Head of Communications & Public Affairs, Sapinda Germany)

Sigmar Gabriel (former Foreign Minister and Vice-Chancellor of Germany)

Martin Hoffmann (Member of the Board, German-Russian Forum/NPO and General Manager Petersburg Dialogue/NPO)

Jörg Howe (Head of Global Communications, Daimler AG)

Friedrich-Georg Knapp (CEO, New Yorker)

Stephan Kohler (General Manager, energy Eurasia)

Thomas A. Lange (Chairman, National-Bank AG)

Mikhail Shvydkoy (Ambassador-at-large / Special representative of the President of the Russian Federation for International Cooperation in Culture)

Michael Süß (Chairman, OC Oerlikon Corporation AG)

Christoph Walther (Founding Partner, CNC - Communications & Network Consulting AG)

Lars Windhorst (Lars Windhorst Foundation / Sapinda International Services B.V. (UK))

## Exhibition Details

**Title:** *Diversity United. Contemporary European Art. Moscow. Berlin. Paris.*

**Press Conference:** 22 November 2019, 12.00, TASS, 2 Tverskoi Boulevard, Moscow

**Address:** New Tretyakov, Moscow, Krymsky Val, 10

**Websites:** [www.stiftungkunst.de](http://www.stiftungkunst.de), [www.tretyakovgallery.ru/en/](http://www.tretyakovgallery.ru/en/)

**Dates:** 11 November 2020 – 21 February 2021

**Opening Hours:** Mon: Closed

Tue, Wed, Sun: 10:00 — 18:00

Thu, Fri, Sat: 10:00 — 21:00

## For press information and images please contact:

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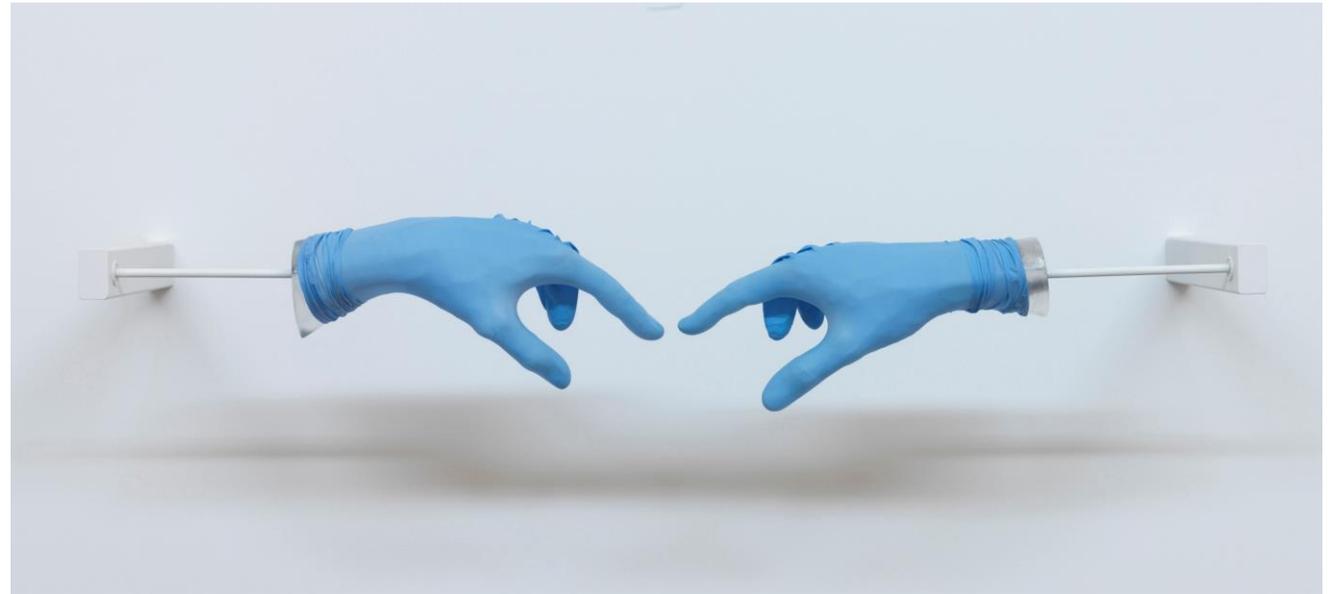
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Slavs and Tatars, *Mystical Protest*, 2011. Luminous paint, Muharram fabric, fluorescent lights, colour sleeves, cotton, 240 × 620 × 15 cm. Installation view at Ujazdowski Castle Centre for Contemporary Art, Warsaw, 2016. Photo Bartosz Górka

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Anri Sala, *Suspended (Sky Blue)*, 2008, © Anri Sala.  
Courtesy Hauser & Wirth and Marian Goodman Gallery

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Lucy + Jorge Orta, *Antarctic Village - No Borders*, 2007. Ephemeral installation of Antarctic Village, North, South East and West villages across the Antarctic Peninsula from March to April 2007, various dimensions. Image courtesy of Lucy + Jorge Orta. Photo Thierry Bal / ADAGP

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Anselm Kiefer, *Winterreise*, 2015 - .Installation: emulsion, oil, acrylic, shellac, charcoal on canvas and wood with lead objects, metal, zing, resin, wood, cardboard and charcoal, 310 x 600 x 1250 cm,  
© Anselm Kiefer

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Erik Kessels & Thomas Mailaender, *Europe Archive*, 2020 (simulation).  
© Erik Kessels & Thomas Mailaender; photo courtesy Tretyakov Gallery

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Gerhard Richter, *31. März 2015*, 2015. Oil on photo, 12.6 x 17.9 cm. © Gerhard Richter 2019

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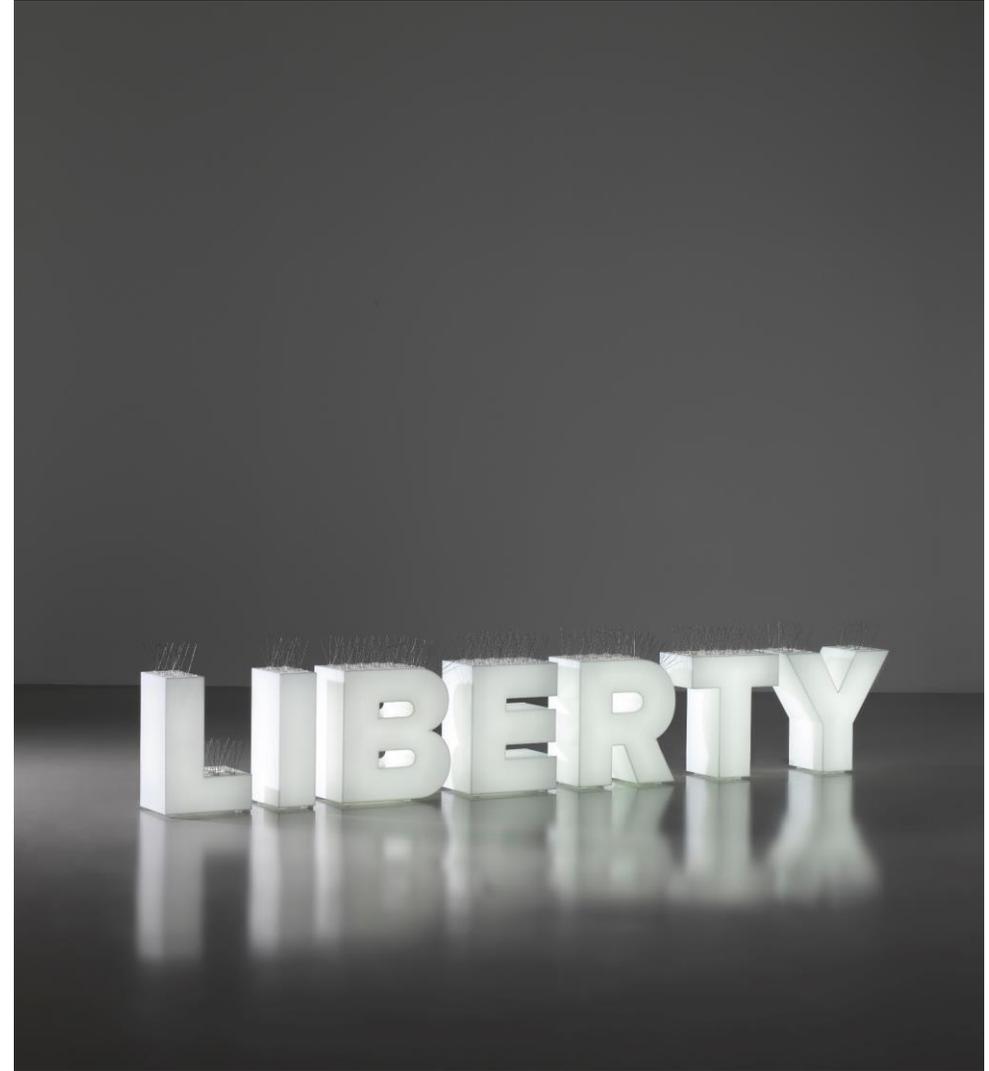
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Šejla Kamerić, *Liberty*, 2015. Acrylic glass, LED lights, metal spikes, 51  
× 293 × 20 cm, courtesy Galerie Tanja Wagner, Berlin

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