

Art Works: Deutsche Bank's Commitment to Art

With a total of more than 53,000 works, the Deutsche Bank Collection is one of the largest corporate collections worldwide. Since it was founded over 30 years ago, it has been one of the most important collections of drawing and photography after 1945. The collection concentrates on artists from German-speaking countries; since the '90s, it has increasingly included international positions. Early on, the commitment was characterized by the conviction, that contemporary art facilitates the development of innovative ideas and reveals often social phenomena well before they become noticed by the larger public.

In this vein, the pioneering concept "Art at the Workplace" was developed early on in the late '70s to bring staff and clients in Deutsche Bank branches worldwide into contact with contemporary art—not only in the entrance foyers and on the directors' floors, but also in the offices and conference rooms. Works on paper form the focus of the collection in that they reflect the creative process and the "sketchiness" of making art. Of all media, paper is best suited to directly record and communicate first ideas, experiments, concepts, and sketches.

This concept has been continued under the title "Art Works." Large transparent office spaces and interconnected work stations are only some of the signs pointing to how changes on the global market and the new virtual nature of banking have left their mark on everyday corporate life. The collection's main areas of focus, presentation, and communication also react to these changes.

Special commissioned works respond to the given architectonic and communicative situation and directly reflect upon the working environment. In addition, the educational programs for staff and guests are expanded to reflect the time. Some of these are for instance the "10 x 10" series, with 10-minute lunch lectures on selected works, artists' talks; and the thematic tour "Greatest Hits," which introduces highlights from the collection.

The collection also presents new discoveries: the support of young artists through purchasing their work continues to play a main role, while the intercultural exchange with new art scenes in financial centers throughout Asia and South America is further intensified.

While the corporate collection gains in public presence with traveling exhibitions in international museums and its own presentation at the Deutsche Guggenheim, the Deutsche Bank Foundation collaborates with institutions such as the Villa Romana in Florence, which offers its young fellows ideal working conditions.

With its commitment to art, Deutsche Bank makes a sustained contribution to the cultural development of global society. The bank arouses curiosity and inspiration, brings people together and into conversation.



Takashi Murakami *1963

Smooth Nightmare Drawing, 2000, Computer print and pencil on paper

© 2000 Takashi Murakami / Kaikai Kiki Co.

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Title **Erwin Wurm** *1954

Installation Shot Taipei Biennale, 2000, Photography

© Erwin Wurm, 2008

The Deutsche Bank Collection at the IBC-C

A new home for art: while the twin towers in Frankfurt are busy being refurbished into ecological “Green Towers,” the move to the high-rise on Theodor Heuss Allee has offered the Deutsche Bank Collection an occasion to alter its presentation in the temporary bank headquarters. Along with important works by Gerhard Richter, Sigmar Polke, Georg Baselitz, and Joseph Beuys, positions from the collection are presented that mark additional milestones in recent art history: particularly Richard Artschwager, Louise Bourgeois, Eva Hesse, and Maria Lassnig, who are being subjected to a reevaluation in the current art discourse.

Since its founding, the Deutsche Bank Collection has remained dedicated to contemporary art and has reacted to social developments. It’s not only the financial world that has become more global, but the art world as well. This is documented in works by Isa Genzken, Wawa Tokarski, and Francis Alÿs, who critically examine the negative results of globalization, the media, and migration.

Artists in the collection such as Kara Walker and William Kentridge explore themes like racism and question traditional notions of cultural and sexual identity. A main focus in the presentation at the IBC-C is on current Asian positions such as the Neo-Pop works of Takashi Murakami and Yoshitomo Nara.

An altered view of the world and digital technology also bring about a change in artistic means. In the IBC-C, young international artists such as Kai Althoff, Tobias Rehberger, Simon Periton, and Ellen Gallagher show how the approach to the medium of paper has continued to develop. They combine drawing and painting with various different techniques and new aesthetic and conceptual strategies.

Photography also plays a major role in the Deutsche Bank Collection; an entire floor is dedicated to the art form. Here, Andreas Gursky and Thomas Struth as examples of the “Dusseldorf School” encounter a subsequent generation represented by Frank Darius, Delia Keller, Martin Liebscher, and Wolfgang Tillmans. Many of the artists were collected early on, long before they attained international renown.

As the word “contemporary” expresses, art lets us take part in the time—throughout 29 floors, the presentation at the IBC-C shows how vital and versatile art’s accompaniment of everyday working life at Deutsche Bank has been for nearly 30 years, as a young collection in a continual process of self-renewal.



Martin Liebscher *1964
Round Table, 2005, Photography
© Martin Liebscher

ARTISTS

Floor 29 to 27

Gerhard Altenbourg / 1926 Roedichen/Gotha – 1989 Meißen, **Richard Artschwager** / *1923 Washington, DC, **Georg Baselitz** / *1938 Deutschbaselitz, **Joseph Beuys** / 1921 Krefeld – 1986 Duesseldorf, **Louise Bourgeois** / *1911 Paris, **James Lee Byars** / 1932 Detroit, MI – 1997 Cairo, **William Nelson Copley** / 1919 New York, NY – 1996 Key West, FL, **Tony Cragg** / *1949 Liverpool, **Hanne Darboven** / *1941 Munich, **Marlene Dumas** / *1953 Cape Town, **Günther Förg** / *1952 Fuessen, **Hermann Glöckner** / 1889 Dresden – 1987 Berlin, **Eva Hesse** / 1936 Hamburg – 1970 New York, NY, **Jörg Immendorff** / 1945 Bleckede near Lueneburg – 2007 Duesseldorf, **Emiko Kasahara** / *1963 Tokyo, **Mike Kelley** / *1954 Detroit, MI, **William Kentridge** / *1955 Johannesburg, **Fritz Klemm** / 1902 Mannheim – 1990 Karlsruhe, **Barbara Kruger** / *1945 Newark, NJ, **Yayoi Kusama** / *1929 Matsumoto, JP, **Maria Lassnig** / *1919 Kappel am Krappfeld, Austria, **Markus Lüpertz** / *1941 Liberec, Czech Republic, **Reinhard Mucha** / *1950 Duesseldorf, **Takashi Murakami** / *1962 Tokyo, **Yoshitomo Nara** / *1959 Hiroasaki, JP, **Laura Owens** / *1970 Euclid, OH, **Yang Pei-Ming** / *1960 Shanghai, **A. R. Penck** / *1939 Dresden, **Simon Periton** / *1964 Kent, **Sigmar Polke** / *1941 Oels, **Neo Rauch** / *1960 Leipzig, **Gerhard Richter** / *1932 Dresden, **Klaus Rinke** / *1939 Wattenscheid, **James Rosenquist** / *1933 Grand Forks, ND, **André Thomkins** / 1930 Lucerne, CH – 1985 Berlin, **Kara Walker** / *1969 Stockton, CA, **T. J. Wilcox** / *1965 Seattle, WA

Floor 26 to 2

Kai Althoff / *1966 Cologne, **Francis Alÿs** / *1959 Antwerp, **Werner Büttner** / *1954 Jena, **Frank Darius** / *1963 Berlin, **Peter Doig** / *1959 Edinburgh, **Hans-Peter Feldmann** / *1941 Duesseldorf, **Günther Förg** / *1952 Fuessen, **Eberhard Havekost** / *1967 Dresden, **Ellen Gallagher** / *1965 Providence, RI, **Isa Genzken** / *1948 Bad Odesloe, **Andreas Gursky** / *1955 Leipzig, **Leiko Ikemura** / *1951 Tsu Mie, JP, **Astrid Klein** / *1951 Cologne, **Martin Kippenberger** / 1953 Dortmund – 1997 Vienna, **Claudia und Julia Müller** / *1964/1965 Basel, **Dave Muller** / *1964 San Francisco, **Pavel Pepperstein** / *1966 Moscow, **Neo Rauch** / *1960 Leipzig, **Tobias Rehberger** / *1966 Esslingen, **Daniel Richter** / *1962 Eutin, **Karin Sander** / *1957 Bensberg, **Matt Saunders** / *1975 Tacoma, WA, **Cornelia Schleime** / *1953 Berlin, **Andreas Slominski** / *1959 Meppen, **Wawa Tokarski** / *1968 Danzig, **Rosemarie Trockel** / *1952 Schwerte, **Gabriel Vormstein** / *1974 Konstanz, **Kara Walker** / *1969 Stockton, CA

Floor 1/Meeting rooms

Brigitte Bauer / *1959 Schwab Niederhofen, **Cecile Bauer** / *1941 Duesseldorf, **Frank Darius** / *1963 Berlin, **Gotthard Graubner** / *1930 Erlbach, **Andreas Gursky** / *1955 Leipzig, **Delia Keller** / *1977 Braunschweig, **Jürgen Klauke** / *1943 Kidling (Mosel), **Martin Liebscher** / *1964 Naumburg (Saale), **Sharon Lockhart** / *1964 Norwood, MA, **Sandra Meisel** / *1970 Karlsruhe, **Ralph Müller** / *1961 Duesseldorf, **Ralf Peters** / *1960 Lueneburg, **Herman Pitz** / *1956 Duesseldorf, **Dieter Rehm** / *1955 Memmingen, **Jörg Spamer** / *1961 Hattenbach, **Thomas Struth** / *1957 Geldern, **Wolfgang Tillmans** / *1968 Remscheid

Lobby

Frank Darius / *1963 Berlin, **Günther Förg** / *1952 Fuessen, **Andreas Gursky** / *1955 Leipzig

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Information on Deutsche Bank's art activities

www.db.com/csr

www.deutsche-bank-art.com

www.deutsche-guggenheim.de

www.db-artmag.com

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