

PRESS INFORMATION

8 AUGUST 2023

## GRETE RING. DEALING IN MODERNISM

From Cézanne and Renoir to Liebermann and Kokoschka

FROM 30 SEPTEMBER 2023 IN THE LIEBERMANN VILLA



Bela Balassa, Grete Ring und Max J. Friedländer bei einer Auktion, 1931, Foto: Privatbesitz

From 30 September 2023, the Liebermann Villa on Lake Wannsee will be dedicating an exhibition to the art historian and dealer Grete Ring, which sheds light on her impressive life and offers new perspectives on the art trade in the early 20th century. It will highlight key moments in Ring's career, such as the spectacular discovery of the Wacker-Van Gogh forgeries in 1928, as well as her remarkable collection of French and German drawings. A selection of works from this collection – today held by the Ashmolean Museum in Oxford – will be included in the exhibition, including works by Paul Cézanne, Pierre-Auguste Renoir, Caspar David Friedrich and Edgar Degas.

Though today largely forgotten – like so many extraordinary women of her time – Grete Ring was a leading voice on the art scene of Berlin in the Weimar Republic. After completing her doctorate under legendary art historian Heinrich Wölfflin, Ring worked as a research assistant at the National Gallery in Berlin before joining the Kunstsalon Cassirer in 1921, then the leading art gallery in the German capital. After Paul Cassirer's suicide in 1926 she took over the management of the company together with her business partner Walter Feilchenfeldt. Faced with the threat of persecution by the National Socialist regime, Ring was forced to leave Berlin in 1938. In London exile she was able to successfully continue her career, opening the “Paul Cassirer Limited” dealership in 1939.

The exhibition in the Liebermann Villa presents Grete Ring's life's work for the first time. The presentation explores the art dealer's impressive network between the Weimar Republic and her time in exile in Britain. Ring was for example close friends with the painter Oskar Kokoschka, who painted her portrait around 1923. Ring was also connected to the family of Max Liebermann – she was Liebermann's niece,

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# LIEBERMANN VILLA AM WANNSEE

a close friend of his daughter Käthe and godmother of his granddaughter Maria – lending her story a special significance for the Liebermann Villa.

"Grete Ring. Dealing in Modernism. From Cézanne and Renoir to Liebermann and Kokoschka" is funded by the "Hauptstadtkulturfonds" Berlin and is under the patronage of Dr Felix Klein, the Federal Government Commissioner for Jewish Life In Germany and the Fight against Antisemitism, and Paul Smith, Director of the British Council in Germany. The exhibition will be accompanied by a publication in German, published by Sandstein Verlag and funded by the International Music & Art Foundation.

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30 September 2023 until 22 January 2024

[liebermann-villa.de/en/exhibitions/grete-ring/](http://liebermann-villa.de/en/exhibitions/grete-ring/)

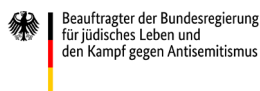
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