



Media information

Berlin

June 18, 2024

## PalaisPopulaire dedicates a solo presentation to Berlin artist Galli

From June 19 to October 7, 2024, the PalaisPopulaire will present works by Berlin artist Galli under the title *See How You Get On*. This homage to the artist, born in Saarland in 1944, features artist's books, drawings, and paintings. Also on display will be works from the Deutsche Bank Collection, which has been following her career through acquisitions since the late 1980s and owns fifty of Galli's works.

The exhibition, curated by Annabell Burger, begins with drawings from the late 1980s and early 1990s. These graphite and charcoal works forge links to art-historical references, literature, religion, mass culture, and cartoons. Galli's drawings, like her paintings, serve as a candid inventory of the human condition.

The central element of the exhibition is *Index Cards* (2002–06), a collection of around 80 drawings on index cards. Both the fronts and backs of these cards are displayed in a special architectural arrangement, offering insight into Galli's artistic vocabulary. Accompanying the index cards are numerous artist's books created over the decades, along with videos that document how literature, language, and poetry have influenced Galli's artistic practice.

The paintings in the subsequent part of the exhibition showcase Galli as a virtuoso colorist, whose works glow at night or bleed like bodies. With just a few strokes, as seen in *Lange's Painting* (1985–87), she creates pictorial spaces that remain intentionally vague.

Mushrooms, cups, or houses transform into living beings, while houses become stages, prisons, or places of refuge. Galli's world is profoundly contemporary, reflecting themes of unrest, homelessness, trauma, and violence, but also embodying radical change and the hope for new, utopian forms of community.

In 1969, Galli went to Berlin to study art, influenced by the spirit of the German Student Movement that shaped her environment: provocation, awakening, and "halligalli" (a German term meaning hustle and bustle or high life), as her self-chosen name suggests. Her impetuous and expressive painting began to emerge a decade later, coinciding with the rise of Neue Wilde artists like Rainer Fetting and Salomé. Galli's work has often been seen as a fringe phenomenon within this movement, limiting the broader recognition of her art. However, her participation in the Berlin Biennale in 2020 sparked a reevaluation among younger generations, positioning her as a pioneer. Similar to Louise Bourgeois or Maria Lassnig, Galli creates idiosyncratic, visceral art that delves into personal and collective depths.

Galli's paintings frequently depict monsters in forests or dreamscapes, as well as empty houses or stark rooms. Sometimes, only limbs, hooves, or claws are visible, with bodies appearing fused from diverse animal, human, or mythological elements. Her works explore extremes such as sublimity and ordinariness, cruelty and vulnerability.

Due to her own short stature, it was often assumed that Galli's art primarily addressed the physical experiences of short people or individuals with disabilities. However, she challenges this perception, stating: "That's understandable, but it's too narrow-minded to solely emphasize short stature. The body as a battleground impacts everyone." Her work aims to challenge common perceptions, norms, and conventions, advocating rebellion against fixed identities. Galli's art embodies courage and provocation, yet also reflects despair about existing conditions.

Following its premiere at the Kunstmuseum Schloss Derneburg, the presentation is now being on view in Berlin, where it will be complemented by a diverse program of talks, workshops, and guided tours.

Further information can be found at [palaispopulaire.db.com](http://palaispopulaire.db.com). Press photos are available at [www.photo-files.de/db-palaispopulaire](http://www.photo-files.de/db-palaispopulaire).

#Galli #PalaisPopulaire #DeutscheBankCollection

Follow us on Instagram @palaispopulaire

PalaisPopulaire  
Unter den Linden 5  
10117 Berlin  
Daily except Tuesdays 11 am – 6 pm, Thursday until 9 pm

For further information, please contact:

Deutsche Bank AG

Media Contact

Dr. Klaus Winker

Tel: +49-69 910 32249

Email: [klaus.winker@db.com](mailto:klaus.winker@db.com)

PalaisPopulaire

Sara Bernshausen

Tel. +49-30 202093 14

Email: [sara.bernshausen@db.com](mailto:sara.bernshausen@db.com)

About Deutsche Bank's commitment to art

With its involvement in contemporary art Deutsche Bank has set standards worldwide, be it with the Deutsche Bank Collection, one of the world's most important collections of contemporary artworks on paper and photography, with international exhibitions, or with the PalaisPopulaire, the bank's forum for art and culture in the heart of Berlin. For many years Deutsche Bank has been present at selected art fairs such as Frieze London, New York, Los Angeles, and Seoul.