

Press kit

Children in Exile

Exhibition

Children of Artists in Exile from 1933 – 1945

School Workshops about Exile, Then and Now (documentation)

Programme

Discussions, films, readings, workshop presentations, school workshops

16 June – 20 July 2016

Akademie der Künste, Hanseatenweg

Press contact

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Information

Title	Children in Exile
Running time	16 June – 20 July 2016
Venue	Akademie der Künste, Hanseatenweg 10, 10557 Berlin Tel. +49 (0)30 200 57-2000, info@adk.de
Opening hours	daily 10 am – 10 pm
Admission	Free admission
Internet	www.adk.de/en/academy
Exhibition opening	Thursday, 16 June 2016, 10 am With Aydan Özoğuz, Minister of State and Federal Government Commissioner for Migrants, Refugees and Integration; Jeanine Meerapfel, President of the Akademie der Künste; Gesine Bey, curator of the exhibition; Werner Heegewaldt, Director of the Archives of the Akademie der Künste Programme: films, theatre productions, compositions by Berlin school groups and welcoming classes
Regular tours	Tuesdays – Sundays, 11 am, free admission
Curator's tours	with Gesine Bey, Thursdays, 6 pm Sundays, 11 am (no reservations required, € 2)
Special tours	also in English (prior reservations required, € 30 for groups) and for blind and visually handicapped visitors (prior reservations required) Registration for guided tours: kunstwelten@adk.de
In cooperation and with the kind support of	Helga und Edzard Reuter-Stiftung The Brandenburg Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports (MBSJ) Jewish Filmfestival Berlin & Brandenburg
Conception	Gesine Bey and Marion Neumann
Assistance	Martina Karfczyk
Texts, research, documentation	Gesine Bey
Design and realisation	Simone Schmaus, Jörg Scheil, Antje Mollenhauer and Jonas Vogler
Exhibition design	Jonas Vogler and Andrea Illig
Lectorate	Barbara Voigt and Julia Bernhard

Children in Exile is a joint programme of the education programme KUNSTWELTEN and the Archives of the Akademie der Künste.

Children in Exile

The experiences of children in flight from their homelands and living in exile are the focus of an extensive programme organised by the Akademie der Künste under the title *Kinder im Exil (Children in Exile)*. Hundreds of thousands of children are now coming to Europe as refugees, and hundreds of thousands of children in Berlin come from families that have found a new home in Germany. A documentary exhibition, related special events, and school workshops link the present with exile experiences of the past, traces of which can be found among the many estates in the extensive archives of the Akademie der Künste. The exhibition opens on 16 June, led by Aydan Özoğuz, Minister of State and the Federal Government Commissioner for Migrants, Refugees and Integration, and Jeanine Meerapfel, President of the Akademie der Künste.

In its **historical section**, the **exhibition** shows facsimiles of photographs, letters and working manuscripts from the archives at the Akademie der Künste, in particular from the estates of artists who had to go into exile with their children between 1933 and 1945. Rarely acknowledged or previously taken into account, the perspectives of children who fled with their parents are now brought to light, including the sons and daughters of Walter Benjamin, Bertolt Brecht and Helene Weigel, George Grosz, Anna Seghers, and others.

The exhibition's **present-day section** is dedicated to KUNSTWELTEN projects by artists and children about exile. Berlin school groups, also made up of welcoming classes, have utilised the archives at the Akademie der Künste since September 2015, delving into the estates and documents of Ellen Auerbach, Alfred Döblin, Heinrich Mann, Bruno Taut, et al. They have been inspired to produce films, models, texts, photographs, drawings, musical compositions, theatre productions and a crime story as a result, which even today show emigration from both sides of the coin – as a challenge, but also as an enrichment.

Talks, readings, presentations and workshops for children augment the exhibition. A broad **programme of guided tours** convey the exhibition's subject matter to both children and adults.

On the first three days of the exhibition, from 16 – 18 June, **documentary films about those who've had to flee and go into exile** are shown in cooperation with the Jewish Filmfestival Berlin & Brandenburg. The films, made between 2000 and the present, thwart expected viewpoints, allow the past to be reconsidered and make the realities they show seem alarmingly close. The films tell of a "street of migrants" in Tel Aviv, Palestinian refugees from Iraq in exile in Chile, a ship carrying Jewish refugees from Romania and the Kindertransport to Great Britain in 1938/39.

Children of Artists in Exile from 1933 – 1945
Biographical data and later careers

Stefan Benjamin, 1918 – 1972, book dealer, London

Thomas Brasch, 1945 – 2001, author and filmmaker, GDR, West Berlin and FRG

Barbara Brecht, later Brecht-Schall, 1930 – 2015, actress and costume designer, GDR

Stefan Brecht, 1924 – 2009, theatre studies scholar and author, USA

Eva Dessau, born 1926, editor, German studies scholar, Indiana, USA

Peter Dessau, born 1929, metal engineer, USA and Spain

Marty (Martin) Grosz, born 1930, jazz musician, USA

Peter Grosz, 1926 – 2006, aviation historian, Princeton, USA

George Herzfelde, later Wyland-Herzfelde, 1925 – 2011, figure skater; journalist in the USA, Canada and Switzerland

Judith Kerr, born 1923, children's book author and writer, London

Michael Kerr, 1921 – 2002, Royal Air Force pilot during the Second World War, lawyer and High Court judge, London

Matthias Langhoff, born 1941, theatre director, GDR, FRG, Austria and France

Thomas Langhoff, 1938 – 2012, actor, theatre director, artistic director, GDR and FRG

Pierre (Peter) Radvanyi, born 1924, physicist, France

Ruth Radvanyi, 1928 – 2010, studied medicine in Paris, paediatrician, GDR

Edzard Reuter, born 1928, lawyer, CEO of Daimler-Benz AG, FRG

Thomas Ruschin, born 1933, dubbing director, GDR

Anja Steckel, later Ott, 1933 – 2011, actress, Switzerland and FRG

Nadine Lucienne Stern, later Steinitz, born 1935, paediatrician, GDR

Hans Gregor Tombrock, 1930 – 1972, artist (painter) in Sweden

Marianne Weinert, later Lange-Weinert, 1921 – 2005, interpreter in the Red Army, children's book author, GDR

Konrad Wolf, 1925 – 1982, interpreter in the Red Army from 1945-1947, member of staff of SMAD (Soviet military administration), studied film in Moscow, film director in the GDR, president of the Akademie der Künste in the GDR from 1965-1982

Markus Wolf, 1923 – 2006, radio producer, diplomat, head of the foreign intelligence division in the Ministry for State Security of the GDR

Adam Zweig, born 1924, psychiatrist, psychotherapist, Switzerland

Programme

Thursday, 16 June, 10 am

Exhibition Opening

Welcoming addresses: Aydan Özoğuz, Minister of State and the Federal Government Commissioner for Migrants, Refugees and Integration; Jeanine Meerapfel, President of the Akademie der Künste; Gesine Bey, curator of the exhibition; Werner Heegewaldt, Director of the Archives of the Akademie der Künste
Programme: films, theatre productions, compositions by Berlin school groups and welcoming classes

In a Foreign World

Films and discussions

In cooperation with the Jewish Film Festival Berlin & Brandenburg

Thursday, 16 June, 7 pm

Palestine in the South

Documentary film by Ana Maria Hurtado, Chile, 2011, 52 min, OV/EnS

After the fall of Saddam Hussein, Palestinian refugees from Iraq found a new homeland in Chile, where Palestinians had already moved and settled a century before. The story of a young father of a family shows what it means to arrive in a place far away from home.

Street Shadows

Documentary film by David Fisher, Israel, 2015, 50 min, OV/EnS

A little street in the south of Tel Aviv has been home to many refugees for decades. Life is not always friendly and compassionate in the quarter.

Followed by a talk with David Fisher and Jeanine Meerapfel, President of the Akademie der Künste (in English)

Friday, 17 June, 7 pm

The Struma

Documentary film by Simcha Jacobovici, Canada, 2001, 90 min, English OV

A ship with 800 Romanian Jews on board was sunk in the Black Sea in 1942. In 2000 their grandchildren's generation searched for information about those who drowned and the background that led to this crime.

Introductory lecture by Wolfgang Benz, historian

Saturday, 18 June, 7 pm

Into the Arms of Strangers: Stories of the Kindertransport

Documentary film by Mark Jonathan Harris, USA, 2000, 113 min, OV/GeS

After the November pogroms in 1938, Great Britain took in ten thousand Jewish children. Most of them never saw their parents again. The film, awarded an Oscar in 2001, uses historical accounts, documents and interviews to trace the rescue of these children.

Followed by a discussion with writer Olga Grjasnowa and Jeanine Meerapfel, President of the Akademie der Künste

Wednesday, 22 June, 11 am

Children in Exile / Children's Lives After Exile

Gesine Bey in discussion with Andrée Fischer-Marum, Nadine Steinitz, Thomas Ruschin and Vincent von Wroblewsky, who talk about their childhoods in exile and coming to Germany with their parents – to a country unknown to them.

Tuesday, 28 June, 11 am

György Dragomán *The White King*

Novel, 2005/eng. 2007

Reading and discussion with György Dragomán

In 1986, an 11-year-old witnessed officials of the Romanian government secret service take his father away. He tried to stand by his brave mother, who was ostracized as a Jew and a dissident. He hid from her the harassment that he endured at school. Flight to another country remained the only way out.

Tuesday, 5 July, 11 am

Georg Stefan Troller *Self-description*

Autobiography, 2009

Reading and discussion with Georg Stefan Troller

Georg Stefan Troller, a Jewish boy from Vienna, fled to France in 1938, when he was 17. He successfully managed to leave for the USA a few years later. During the war he returned to Europe as a soldier of the U.S. Army, where he came to the realization that Austria was no longer his homeland: "Emigration is in fact for life." He tramped around the USA and also studied there. Later, he went to Paris, where he has lived ever since. In Germany, Troller is a highly acclaimed filmmaker and author.

Thursday, 14 July, 1 pm

Stories to Accompany Images by Lea Grundig

An 11th grade school class from Berlin-Moabit and Assaf Gruber present the results of their writing workshop.

Sunday, 17 July, noon

The Story of Mary Miller and Her Dog Yo-Yo

Based on Margarete Steffin

Max

Based on Alfred Döblin

Theatre productions and festivities with school groups from the Grundschule am Koppenplatz and the Carl von Linné-Schule, with Michael Graessner, Moritz Nitsche, Mareike Franz and Dennis Schleussner.

Tuesday, 19 July, 11 am

Stories Made in Transit – Help from Hollywood – Summer Academy

School groups from Berlin and unescorted young refugees from a youth welfare service programme in the Federal State of Brandenburg (Soziale Initiative Niederlausitz e. V.) present the results of their workshops.

School workshops about Exile, Then and Now
June / July 2016

21 – 23 June

Stories Made in Transit

Film and writing workshop with Aslı Özarlan, an 11th grade school group, and a welcoming school class from Berlin-Moabit. Based on letters written by children in exile from 1933 – 1945

4 – 8 July

Help from Hollywood

Film-photo-workshop with Aleksandra Odic, Anton Gonopolski and unescorted young refugees from a youth welfare service programme in the Federal State of Brandenburg (Soziale Initiative Niederlausitz e. V.) Encounters with documents in the film archives, which provide information about relief organizations from 1933 – 1945, as well as much personal assistance from private individuals.

11 – 13 July

Summer Academy

Narration and writing workshop with Peter Lilienthal, Berlin school groups and a welcoming school class.

Review

School Workshops about Exile, Then and Now
September 2015 – June 2016

2015

South America in Focus

Animation film workshop with Constanze Witt, Claus Larsen and a 5th grade school class from Berlin-Neukölln Encounters with the estate of Erich Arendt in the literary archives

Streets in Exile

Photography workshop with Amélie Losier and 10th and 11th grade school classes from Berlin-Moabit Encounters with the photographic estate of Ellen Auerbach in the art collection

First Explorations

Documentary film workshop with Aleksandra Odic, Anton Gonopolski and a welcoming school class from Berlin-Prenzlauer Berg Encounters with the photographic estate of Ellen Auerbach in the art collection

We'll Build a School

Architecture workshop with Jakob Michael Birn and a 6th grade school class from Berlin-Neukölln Encounters with Bruno Taut's exile estate collection in the architecture archives

The Story of Mary Miller and Her Dog Yo-Yo. Based on Margarete Steffin

Theatre production with Moritz Nitsche, Michael Graessner and schoolchildren in two 3rd grade classes from Berlin-Mitte

Visit to the Bertolt Brecht Archive and encounters with works by Margarete Steffin

The El Shatt Refugee Camp (1943 – 1946)

Workshop with Assaf Gruber, Elena Vogman and an 11th grade school class from Berlin-Moabit

Encounters with images by Lea Grundig in the art collection

2016

There, Where I was a Child

Animation film workshop with Constanze Witt, Claus Larsen and a welcoming school class from Berlin-Weißensee

Encounters with works by Judith Kerr in the Alfred Kerr Archive

Children Playing in the City

Drawing and painting workshop with Dieter Goltzsche and a welcoming school class

Encounters with drawings by David Ludwig Bloch in the art collection

How Walter Levin Became Acquainted with the Avant-Garde in Exile

Music workshop with Helmut Zapf, Susanne Zapf, the Sonar Quartett and an 11th grade school class from Berlin-Prenzlauer Berg

Encounters with sound recordings on Walter Levin and the LaSalle-Quartett in the music archives

Crime Stories in the Library

Film workshop with Marcel Neudeck and a 5th grade school class from Berlin-Mitte

A detective story about children's books from Heinrich Mann's estate library

Max

Theatre production based on a story by Alfred Döblin with Michael Graessner and Moritz Nitsche, and a 3rd grade class from Berlin-Lichtenberg

Encounters with documents by Alfred Döblin in the literary archives

Press photos

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File: adk16_Anja_Steckel_im_Zoo_c_AdK
Anja Steckel at the Zurich Zoo, 1943
 © Akademie der Künste, Leonard-Steckel-Archiv



File: adk16_Adam_Zweig_c_AdK
Arnold Zweig's son Adam at Haifa beach, 1934
 © Akademie der Künste, Arnold-Zweig-Archiv



File: adk16_Peter_Dessau_New_York_c_AdK
Peter Dessau with his father Paul Dessau in New York, around 1940
 © Akademie der Künste, Paul-Dessau-Archiv

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File: adk16_Tänzerin_im_Archiv_c_Krafczyk
Dancer at the Archives

„First Explorations“, documentary film workshop with a welcoming school class, encounters with the photographic estate of Ellen Auerbach. *Children in Exile*, October 2015
Photo © Martina Krafczyk



File: adk16_Marry_Miller_c_Zörner

The Story of Mary Miller and Her Dog Yo-Yo

Theatre production with school children, encounters with works by Margarete Steffin. *Children in Exile*, November 2015
Photo © Gerald Zörner



File: adk16_Dieter_Goltzsche_c_Krafczyk

Children Playing in the City

Painting workshop with Dieter Goltzsche and a welcoming school class, *Children in Exile*, April 2016
Photo © Martina Krafczyk

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File: *adk16_Werkstatt_El_Shatt_1_c_Krafczyk*

The El Shatt Refugee Camp (1943-46)

Writing workshop with Assaf Gruber and a 11th grade school class from Berlin Moabit. *Children in Exile*, February 2016
Photo © Martina Krafczyk



File: *adk16_Werkstatt_El_Shatt_2_c_Krafczyk*

The El Shatt Refugee Camp (1943-46)

Writing workshop with Assaf Gruber and a 11th grade school class from Berlin Moabit. *Children in Exile*, February 2016
Photo © Martina Krafczyk



File: *adk16_Palestine_in_the_South*

Palestine in the South

Film Still

© Ruth Diskin Films