

**Ulrike Ottinger
Cosmos Ottinger**

19.02. – 15.05.2022



Ulrike Ottinger Cosmos Ottinger

Press conference: 17.02.2022, 12 pm

Opening: 18.02.2022, 6 pm

Exhibition duration: 19.02. – 15.05.2022

Ulrike Ottinger and the Staatliche Kunsthalle Baden-Baden have one thing in common: with our location in Baden-Württemberg, we share the same habitat in the artistic context. Born and raised in Constance, Ottinger has been and still is artistically active—be it in the field of visual arts or film—almost everywhere. The year at the Staatliche Kunsthalle Baden-Baden begins with a major presentation of the internationally renowned artist's multifaceted oeuvre – as the first solo exhibition of the new direction.

Fabulous worlds, surreal settings, somber and serene elements: there is no more perfect place than Ottinger's cosmos to define a queer gaze or formulate a feminist perspective, or even better, to build a personal and political bridge uniting all these elements. Ottinger's cosmos is a galaxy in itself, an outer space, an extraterrestrial threshold that helps us understand who we are today.

As its title suggests, this exhibition features everything that constitutes the legendary Ottinger's artistic practice. This exhibition is entirely dedicated to the imagination of this extraordinary artist and, like a dictionary that defines her languages or an alphabet that deciphers her stories, it turns the pages of her diverse and long-standing oeuvre. The Kunsthalle becomes a stage, a film set, a studio, a backstage, an archive, and a living museum. Photographic images map those places in the world where she has spent her life, while installation elements and sculptural forms reflect her understanding of bodies. Cinematic formats that reflect her politics of storytelling and political statements in many different forms create interstitial spaces.

The work of this pioneer of avant-garde cinematography captivates with its unmistakable aesthetic. Her feminist view of past and current events and portrayal of queer personalities establishes a point of contact with current sociopolitical discussions.

The exhibition tour embarks from the artist's extravagant filmic worlds by means of scripts, film props, object and costume installations, fabric collages, and photographs.

It ends with a presentation of Ottinger's paintings, which she created as a young artist in Paris. With her paintings, she is considered one of the most important representatives of Pop Art in Europe. These works remind us that a critical and creative examination of issues that were already addressed fifty years ago in the student protests in Paris must be unrelenting.

From film enthusiasts to art lovers, from flaneurs to travelers, from an audience to performers—visitors to Baden-Baden will assume very different positions as the exhibition reviews the most significant stages of Ottinger's oeuvre. Reminiscences of her unparalleled films such as *Freak Orlando* (1981) or *Dorian Gray in the Mirror of the Tabloids* (1984), as well as examples of her subtle approach to direction in other fields, from photography to painting, form a storyline to understand how Ottinger remembers and reconstructs her own way of storytelling. In the context of exhibition-making, these questions are very relevant today: how do we create unique spaces of film history in a museum setting? And how can we revive these historical elements of early queer, feminist and political themes for future generations?

A selection of Ulrike Ottinger's films will be shown weekly at the Moviac cinema in Baden-Baden to accompany the exhibition. With a Kunsthalle ticket you get one free admission:

Saturday, 19.02.2022, 5 pm	Freak Orlando
Sunday, 20.02.2022, 4 pm	Paris Calligrammes
Sunday, 27.02.2022, 4 pm	Bildnis einer Trinkerin
Sunday, 06.03.2022, 5 pm	Dorian Gray
Sunday, 13.03.2022, 5 pm	Unter Schnee
Sunday, 20.03.2022, 5 pm	Die koreanische Hochzeitstruhe
Sunday, 27.03.2022, 5 pm	Johanna d'Arc of Mongolia
Sunday, 03.04.2022, 5 pm	Madame X – Eine absolute Herrscherin
Sunday, 10.04.2022, 5 pm	Zwölf Stühle
Sunday, 17.04.2022, 5 pm	Prater
Sunday, 24.04.2022, 5 pm	Laokoon & Söhne. Die Verwandlungsgeschichte der Esmeralda del Rio Berlinfieber – Wolf Vostell Superbia – Der Stolz

Sunday, 01.05.2022, 5 pm	Exil Shanghai (Part 1)
Sunday, 08.06.2022, 5 pm	Exil Shanghai (Part 2)
Sunday, 15.05.2022, 5 pm	Paris Calligrammes

In addition, there will be the opportunity to take part in a curator's tour every second Sunday from 20 February on at 3 pm, information on this can be found on our website.

On 9 and 10 April 2022, there will be a public programme dealing with the continuities of Ulrike Ottinger's work, i.e. with the topics of postcolonialism and gender justice, among others.

About the artist

Ulrike Ottinger was born in Konstanz in 1942. From 1962 to 1968, she lived and worked as a freelance artist in Paris. In 1968 she moved back to Konstanz, where she founded a film club and a gallery. Ottinger has lived in Berlin since 1973 and has made numerous well-known feature films and documentaries. In addition to her film work, Ulrike Ottinger's oeuvre also includes extensive photographic work and theater productions. In 2021 Ottinger was honored with the Hans Thoma award of the State of Baden-Württemberg.

Catalogue

An artist's book with numerous illustrations will be published to accompany the exhibition, including texts by Katharina Sykora, Hannelore Paflik-Huber and Katharina Müller.

Press contact

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You can download our press kit and image material from www.kunsthalle-baden-baden.de/presse.

Opening hours

Tuesday – Sunday, 10 am – 6 pm

Open on all public holidays except 24 and 31 December

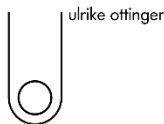
Prices: 7€, reduced 5€, Friday free entry

Staatliche Kunsthalle Baden-Baden

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www.kunsthalle-baden-baden.de



moviac

The Staatliche Kunsthalle Baden-Baden is an institution of the State of Baden-Württemberg under the auspices of the Ministry of Science, Research, and the Arts of Baden-Württemberg.



Baden-Württemberg

MINISTERIUM FÜR WISSENSCHAFT, FORSCHUNG UND KUNST

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Portrait Ulrike Ottinger
© Ulrike Ottinger



Ulrike Ottinger
Das Gastmahl der verfolgten Wissenschaftler und Künstler, 1981
Photography
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Ulrike Ottinger
Verzerrungsstudie, 1980
Photography
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Ulrike Ottinger
Die Siamesischen Zwillinge Lena-Leni, 1981
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Ulrike Ottinger
La vie quotidienne, 1965/66
Triptych, oil on wood
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