

05 December 2022

## Ruth Baumgarte. African Vision at the Albertina



From December 2, 2022, to March 5, 2023, the Albertina presents “Ruth Baumgarte. African Vision”, an exhibition of nearly 70 paintings, watercolors, and graphic works by German painter Ruth Baumgarte (1923–2013)

Source: Albertina · Image: Ruth Baumgarte in her studio, late 1960s. Source: Samuelis Baumgarte Galerie, [www.ruth-baumgarte.com](http://www.ruth-baumgarte.com)

It is with works by the German painter **Ruth Baumgarte** (1923–2013) that the ALBERTINA Museum sets out to present an outstanding artist of the 20th century. At the center of this presentation in the Columned Hall is Baumgarte’s wide-ranging body of works born of travels to African countries such as Egypt, South Africa, Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, E Sudan, and Zimbabwe. These altogether **ca. 70 oil paintings, watercolors, and graphic**





— whose people she attentively observed and empathetically appreciated. She took an interest in the unfamiliar cultures of a continent that had yet to be discovered by European artists at that time. **Central to any understanding of Ruth Baumgarte’s art is the relationship between human beings and nature, the melding of figure and landscape.** On the basis of quick sketches made onsite, she would later on—upon having returned home to her studio in Germany—create vividly colorful paintings, virtuoso watercolors, and expressive gouaches and drawings.

Ruth Baumgarte produced her African images at a point in time where questions as to artistic appropriation and cultural dispossession were not yet being discussed anywhere near as broadly as they are in our present era of postcolonial discourses. But even so, her intuition was that political asymmetries manifested as a culture clash could not be resolved amidst superficial harmony but rather had to be creatively problematized in tension-filled compositions of colors. This realization gave rise to a coloristic cosmos that starts from flaming red hues and saturated orange-ocher transitioning to yellow, pink, and violet and on to decidedly violet-blue notes as it loses itself in the depths. In this way, **the very special light of African landscapes finds painterly expression, while the dissolution of forms and an allegorization of motifs tell of the artist’s uneasiness at experiencing a continent between a new dawn and persistent inequalities.**

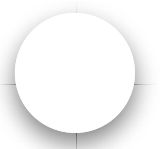
## Related content



### EXHIBITIONS

## From Rossetti to Af Klint, April exhibitions at the Tate

Apr 6, 2023



Feb 14, 2023

EXHIBITIONS

**Albertina to host an exhibition dedicated to the History of Print**

Jan 24, 2023

EXHIBITIONS

**Ruth Baumgarte. African Vision at the Albertina**

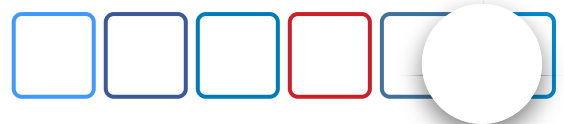
Dec 5, 2022

EXHIBITIONS

**The Albertina presents the first Jean-Michel Basquiat retrospective in Austria**

Sep 8, 2022

Follow us on:





DMCA PROTECTE

RSS 

[Contact](#)

[Art Wallpapers](#)

[Art Videos](#)

[Art Games](#)

[About us](#)

[Cookies](#)

[Legal Disclaimer](#)

[Privacy Policy](#)

[Terms & Conditions](#)

We try our best to attribute images, videos, and quotes to their creators and original sources. If you see something on TheArtWolf that is misattributed or you would like removed, please contact us. TheArtWolf participates in affiliate marketing programs and may earn a commission on sales through links to Amazon, and various book publishers. See our Terms & Conditions and Privacy Policy.

Neve | Powered by WordPress

Cookies Config.

