Ruth Baumgarte: Africa: Visions of Light and Colour

Albertina Museum

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DEC 08, 2022 - MAR 05, 2023



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 her travels to African countries such as Egypt, South Africa, Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Ethiopia, Sudan, and Zimbabwe. These altogether ca. 70 oil paintings, watercolors, and graphic works manifest a near magical quality when viewed in person Zimbabwean poet Chirikure Chirikure said of the artist: "She viewed the countries of Africa and their peoples not asmodels to be immortalized on canvas but as an integral part of her journey through life."

Beginning in the 1950s and until well into her old age, the artist made over 40 trips to Africa, 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.

Artists on show

Ruth Baumgarte

Contact details

Website

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Get in touch

 Sunday - Tuesday
 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM

 Wednesday
 10:00 AM - 9:00 PM

 Thursday
 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM

 Friday
 10:00 AM - 9:00 PM

Albertinaplatz 1 Vienna, Austria 1010

VIEW ON MAP

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FEBRUARY 13, 2023

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 shown in Austria for the first time.



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