

PRESS INFORMATION

THE NEW STÄDEL GARDEN

**NEW PRESENTATION OF THE SCULPTURES / FURTHER ENERGY-SAVING
CONSTRUCTION MEASURES COMPLETED / VISITORS' TERRACE PLANNED
ON THE ROOF OF THE MUSEUM**

Frankfurt am Main, 9 August 2022. From now on the newly installed Städel Garden, the Städel Museum's most prominent collection space, invites visitors to discover outstanding works of modern and contemporary art. A total of fourteen sculptures from the museum's own holdings are presented – the most recent acquisition, *Si par une nuit d'hiver un voyageur* (2017) by Elmgreen & Dragset, can be seen for the first time. In a new setting, the selection of artworks ranging from August Gaul's *The Donkey Rider* (1912) and Georg Kolbe's *Proclamation* (1912/1913) to Reg Butler's *Figure in Space* (1958/1959), Per Kirkeby's *Gate II* (1987–1991), and Tobias Rehberger's *Capri Moon* (2011) shed light on the development of sculpture over the last 100 years. Access to the Städel Garden is free of charge.

The new presentation of the sculptures was realized on the basis of a design by the landscape architects Levin Monsigny, who are known for their major project, the Museum Island Berlin. Various structural measures were implemented in the Städel Garden on an area of approximately 5,200 m²: The sculptures are now placed on their own sandstone plinths in dedicated fields planted with ivy and white flowers. In front of the main entrance of the Städel Museum, a large forecourt has been created as a central meeting place for visitors. Around the entire museum building, the ground level was raised and paved with Mayen basalt lava. In addition, energy-saving, climate-friendly LED lighting was installed on the historic Main embankment façade, which had already been lavishly restored and fitted with new windows in 2019. Seating groups, chairs, and benches are available to relax in the new Städel Garden.

To save drinking water, two cisterns were built to collect rainwater for watering the garden's green areas. In the course of this, the drainage systems were also renewed. In addition, a barrier-free entrance with a lift system was installed at the museum's main entrance, which now allows visitors with limited mobility to reach the Städel quickly and centrally. The next project will be the construction of a visitors' terrace on the roof of the Städel Museum, starting at the end of August. Completion is scheduled

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for the summer of 2023. Both building projects were designed by the architects schneider+schumacher, who were also responsible for the Städel Museum's extension, the Garden Halls for the Collection of Contemporary Art, which opened in 2012.

Philipp Demandt, director of the museum, on the new Städel Garden: "The new garden is the Städel Museum's most prominent collection space – and much more. It is part of a major masterplan that envisages important refurbishment and construction measures over the course of several years. The aim is to strengthen the Städel Museum as an art venue – both inside and out. We achieve this not only with an attractive exhibition programme, but also by dealing with energy sources, water, gas, and electricity in a responsible and efficient manner. In the spirit of sustainable museum operations, we are already thinking about tomorrow today. The fact that we, as a private museum foundation, are able to implement these necessary structural upgrades is thanks to the wonderful commitment and helpfulness of the citizens of this city. The new Städel Garden is by and for Frankfurt."

All construction measures in and around the Städel Museum are part of an energy management plan developed in-house, the aim of which is to plan in an energy-efficient manner and to implement long-term solutions for sustainable, climate-friendly museum and exhibition operations. In recent years, the Städel Museum has been able to reduce electricity consumption by converting to LED lighting technology in the collection rooms and diminish gas consumption by installing a geothermal system (2012), among other things. Construction projects already completed in recent years include the conservation of the historic Main embankment façade (2019), the renovation of the Department of Prints and Drawings (2020), and the redesign of the Old Masters galleries (2021). Currently, the galleries dedicated to the collection of Modern Art are also being converted to LED lighting technology (completion in October 2022).

The structural measures of the new Städel Garden, as well as the ancillary work in connection with these, were largely financed by private donations. The barrier-free access in the Städel Museum was made possible by the Dagmar Westberg Foundation with proportional support from the City of Frankfurt. The in-situ restoration of the bronze sculptures by Arthur Volkmann and August Gaul was supported by the Michael Hauck Foundation.



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Project Participants: Levin Monsigny Gesellschaft von Landschaftsarchitekten mbH, Berlin (design of the Städel Garten), Keller & Keller Landschaftsarchitekten, Kronberg (construction management), Conceptlicht GmbH, Traunreut (lighting concept), schneider+schumacher Planungsgesellschaft mbH, Frankfurt am Main (design of the barrier-free entrance and the visitors' terrace on the roof of the Städel Museum)

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